

STATE OF THE BCSFA/WCSFA ARCHIVES -- 28 January, 1996.

by R. Graeme Cameron (Acting Archivist).

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RECEIVED FROM ARCHIVIST GERALD BOYKO:

by Club President Clint Budd (26 January 1996) & transferred to R. Graeme Cameron (27 January, 1996)

- One box of fanzines (1975-1980), one box Convention material & one box of BCSFAzines. Total weight: 52 LBS.
- One box extra fanzines including "complete set" VANAPA. Total weight: 44 LBS.
- One box tradezines & miscellaneous papers. Total weight: 62 LBS.

BCSFAZINES:

Goal: To preserve two copies of each issue in filing cabinet (donated by Eugene James), each issue double-set in a separate envelope, clearly labelled, and in date order. One copy never to leave premises, other copy available for loan or display. In addition, to catalogue contents and contributors of entire run, ultimately to be on file in searchable database.

#1 to #13:

- STATUS: NONE.

#14 to #110:

- STATUS: STRONG. Double copy sets madeup (a few exceptions) with extras left over.
- I selected best condition copies for archives.
- I also set aside some extras for future fan room displays at Cons.
- Of the remainder, Vaughn Bode cover issue, William Gibson cover issue, and William Gibson Interior art issues probably of particular value. To auction or sell?

#111 to #191:

- STATUS: WEAK. 15 issues missing, 39 single copy only, 26 double copy.

#192 to #272:

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- STATUS: NONE. (2 or 3 exceptions: single copies)
- Adding in extras on hand, results in 22 issues missing, 12 single copy, 44 double copy.

CONCLUSIONS:

Archives are missing 44 issues. Some of these may be in the other half of the archives not yet transferred. If not, my own collection is a complete set except for #1 & #7, so I can provide photocopies for 42 of the 44. Old time members may possibly provide photocopies of #1 & #7.

FANZINES:

Goal: to organize and catalogue zines for research, display, and ultimately -- with appropriate safeguards -- for lending to members.

In general, a bunch of zines from the '70s & '80s. Some are slowly turning brown with age. About ten were turning green and dissolving -- these were trashed to prevent infecting others with mold? Martian slime? Whatever it was....

The bulk of the material is a wide assortment of Canadian, British, American & Australian zines. These are not in sets or runs, but average one or two sample issues only, with some exceptions.

The remainder are club tradezines such as Pulsar, Westwind, Dataphile, Texas SF Inquirer, etc. I had expected complete runs for the (approx) ten year period between Gerald becoming Archivist and my becoming editor, but in fact the material is spotty and far less than I had anticipated. For example, only 16 issues of Ottawa SF Statement (during my 6 years as editor I received at least 50, I think....).

NOTABLE FANZINE ITEMS IN ARCHIVES:

- 6 issues of Susan Wood's perzine AMOR, donated by Vera Johnson.
- 28 issues of VANAPA (out of total run of 35), donated by Fran Skene?
- 4 issues of BC APA.
- 4 issues of THE SFA DIGEST (splinter BCSFAzine by Jim Welch.)
- 17 issues of NEOLOGY (out of Edmonton club).
- 20 issues of Harry Warner Jr. FAPA contributions.
- 11 issues of OSFIC NEWSLETTER (now defunct Ontario club).
- 3 issues of THE CENTRAL GANGLION (early Garth Spencer newszine).
- 6 issues of THE MAPLE LEAF RAG (Garth's Casper winning newszine).

CONCLUSIONS:

Perhaps the second half of the archives not yet transferred contains more zines. At any rate I have kept all tradezines received from 1989 to date. I will sort and collate with the above. Expect a simple catalogue listing issues & dates within a year. A more detailed catalogue listing contents and contributors will have to wait, as cataloguing BCSFAzine is my first priority.

I intend to make it possible to easily access all the zines in possession of the club, so that none remain "buried" and impossible of access.

Some of these zines I hope to display at the upcoming V-Con 21.

SPECIAL ITEMS:

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- Complete Guide To SF Cons -- by Filthy Pierre.
- The Paranoid Delusions Of Frank Skinnerman.
- Fan Zindex (Index of Fanzines).
- Program Book for stage production of 'The Enchanted Duplicator'.
- Guide To Science Fiction & Fandom (by Edmonton Club).
- Ad Astra Operations Bible.

Y-CON MATERIAL:

Goal: to maintain a file of all surviving material, each convention in a separate folder, in archive filing cabinet. For ease of research, to catalogue said items.

STATUS: MEAGRE. Preliminary look reveals only 6 program books, some flyers and progress reports, assorted letters of the "sorry, can't make it" variety, and various 'stuff'. I will investigate material more thoroughly soon. In general though, very disappointing. Maybe more will show up when second half of archives transferred.

CONCLUSIONS:

My own collection of Y-Con material is far more comprehensive. (For example, I have originals or photocopies of all Y-Con program books except 2nd con.) At this point, my collection is the definitive one. I propose to collate archive material with my (more extensive) collection and loan said items to archives for research purposes, ultimately to donate.

ASSORTED OTHER CONVENTIONS:

Goal: to maintain for research & display purposes.

Pile of stuff includes some Worldcon program books & progress reports, plus same for other cons, like British Eastercons, Novacons, etc. I believe most of this material was donated by Fran Skene & Vera Johnson.

CONCLUSIONS:

Low priority. I will sort & catalogue eventually.

Items may be of use to Y-Con Committees looking for ideas.

ITEMS LOOKED FOR BUT NOT PRESENT:

(With maybe a few exceptions.)

- Financial Records.
- WCSFCCA records.
- BCSFA records.

CONCLUSION:

Hopefully will show up in 2nd batch.

ITEMS PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN ARCHIVIST REPORTS BUT NOT PRESENT:

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FROM BCSFAZINE #81 (March 1980):

- (from Ed Beauregard) "3 boxes of receipts, financial statements, reproductions of covers of Modern Electronics from 1911, letterheads from Westercon 30, letters, fanzines, posters & papers from past V-Cons, and other things, including V-Con 5 program books. (The executive has empowered me to sell the extras)."

COMMENT: Some of the above may be present, but less than 1 box worth.

- (from UBC SF Club) "donated a copy of STAGE ONE, the fanzine published years ago by our original members."

COMMENT: Not present. I have one given to me by David New. Will photocopy for archives.

FROM BCSFAZINE #82 (April 1980):

(from UBC SF Club)

- "#1, 2 & 3 of 1970 - 1971 UBC SF newsletters.
- Minutes of one of first BCSFA meetings.
- Minutes of second UBC SF meeting.
- UBC SF Constitution (1968).
- 1969 - 1970 year end report by Daniel Say.
- Plans for a SF festival (birth of V-Con?).
- Transcript of Mike Bailey Interview of Ursula K. LeGuin.
- Letters from Asimov & LeGuin.
- Article "A Basic SF Collection" by Alexi Panshin."

COMMENT: None of the above present. However, I have copies of UBC SF newsletters mailed to me as member at the time, and I can provide photocopies.

FROM BCSFAZINE #83 (May 1980):

- (from Ken Wong) "copy of UBC SF newsletter #4."
- (from Fran Skene) "4 boxes of material."

COMMENT: #4 newsletter not present. However, many of the fanzines & other con material in the archives probably derive from the above donation by Fran.

FROM BCSFAZINE #89 (November 1980):

(from Gerald Boyko)

- "Fandom Directory 1980.
- Scientifriction 11 fanzine."

COMMENT: not present. Gerald also talks about: "When A.E. van Vogt was GoH at V-Con 6 there was a "Comments Book" in which convention goers were invited to write their comments.... That

comments book should be in the archives. It is probably buried and forgotten in some corner of someone's home, so let's everybody search and see if it can be found...." This book is now in the possession of Gerald, and I agree, it should be in the archives.

FROM BCSFAZINE #90 (December 1980):

- (Re death of Susan Wood on Nov 12): "Gerald Boyko reports that the BCSFA archives will be receiving a donation of fanzines from Susan Wood's collection. When he receives the collection, he will report in more detail."

COMMENT: As far as I am aware, no list of items donated was published in BCSFAzine. Some of the zines in the archives may derive from this donation. However, the only items BY Susan are the issues of AMOR donated by Vera Johnson. If the donation from Susan Wood's estate included any zines BY Susan, they are not present in the material so far transferred.

FROM BCSFAZINE #93 (March 1981):

(From Executive Meeting Minutes):

- "Gerald's archivist report, #5, unpublished, was discussed, as well as Jo-Anne's letter to him, re Susan Wood's collection. 'Nuff said."

COMMENT: Arrrrgh! What was in the donation from Susan's collection? And what was at issue re Jo-Anne's letter? Was the donation dispersed? What was discussed? Arrrrgh! *JO-ANNE HELPED SUSAN'S MOTHER SORT SUSAN'S POSSESSIONS FOR 10 DAYS. SUSAN WOOD ZINE COLLECTION WERE DONATED TO ARCHIVE COURTESY OF SUSAN'S MOTHER, AS CHOSEN BY JO-ANNE.*

FROM BCSFAZINE #154 (March 1985):
(describing notable items in archives):

- "The only mint set of our club T-shirts in existence."
(Comment: Not present. Gerald told Clint they were stored in Garbage bags 'at home of a member of the executive' and thrown out by accident? [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED])
- "ENERGUMEN by Susan Wood...."
(Comment: Not present. One copy or a set? Part of her estate's donation?)
- "INCOMPLETE TERRY CARR' a fanthology of some of his best fan writing."
(Comment: Not present. However, I bought a copy at Ditto 8 & can make it available.)
- "WARHOON original issues from 1950's & 1960's of what is generally considered one of the best fanzines ever."
(Comment: Not Present. Darn!... I acquired one copy at Ditto 8 & can loan on occasion.)
- "FANTARAMA by Vaughn Fraser."
(Comment: 2 copies of 1 issue present. Were there others?)
- "THE ENCHANTED DUPLICATOR, a fan classic originally written in 1954 by Walt Willis & Bob Shaw, reprinted continuously since then."
(Comment: Not present. Unless he's referring to the program book of a stage production.)
- "A HISTORY OF THE HUGO, NEBULA & INT'L FANTASY AWARDS by Donald Framson."
(Comment: Not Present. Unless buried in con material. Will check.)
- "ALL OUR YESTERDAYS by Harry Warner Jr. Book with photos on 1940s fan history."
(Comment: Not present. I own a photocopy however, & can always loan.)
- Gerald also writes: "Some things are on indefinite loan to the archives from my personal collection" but does not state what they are. So presumably any or all of the items listed in #154 could well be his.

THESE PROPOSALS LUTED IN BCSFAZINE #94
PROPOSALS CONCERNING BCSFA ARCHIVES April 1981,

THE ARCHIVIST SHALL:

- A. Safely store and maintain all items and materials designated for the Archives by BCSFA.
- B. Sort, catalog, file and otherwise put in order the material accepted into the archives. E.G., present categories are: BCSFAZINE, Fanzines, Fan Clubs & Organizations, Pro Zines, Vancouver Comic Book Club, UBC SF Club, Star Trek, Society for Creative Anachronism, Correspondence, Addresses, Buying Information (catalogs, etc.), Badges & Cards, Conventions, Financial Receipts & Papers, and Secret.
- C. Change and modify the categories in "B" above as the Archives grows and expands. E.G., If Harlan Ellison decides to donate all his original manuscripts to BCSFA then room will be made for these.
- D. Make available to members in good standing all appropriate items in the Archives. In this context the word "appropriate" indicates any item the Executive does not deem to be of an antique quality or confidential nature would be appropriate and thus available to the general membership. Anything deemed confidential would be placed in a separate file and not made available without the consensus of the Executive. E.G., Items of a sensitive nature to some people in the present but of historical significance for the future could then be saved.
- E. Use his or her discretion to decide which appropriate items may be loaned out and which can be viewed only at the Archives.
- F. Require borrowers to sign for items lent out. Non-BCSFA members require Executive approval.
- G. Actively pursue ways to improve and expand the Archives. In this regard the Archivist will submit proposals to the Executive. If the Archivist thinks a decision to improve the Archives cannot wait till the next Executive meeting then he or she shall contact the President to decide on a course of action. E.G., If a special collection became available for purchase but must be bought immediately or be sold to someone else.
- H. Donations will be listed on a separate paper. A copy will be given to the donor and to each Executive member. Donations can be permanent or on indefinite loan. E.G., Fans who want to share what they have with other fans but don't really want to part with items permanently can donate these on indefinite loan and get the items back whenever they want.
- I. Once a year write a "State of the Archives" report. This will be published in BCSFAZINE, or as a supplement to BCSFAZINE, or whatever other form is decided upon from consultation with the Executive.



THESE PROPOSALS ADOPTED IN APRIL 81 EXEC
ARCHIVES EXPENSES MEETING.

ARCHIVES EXPENSES

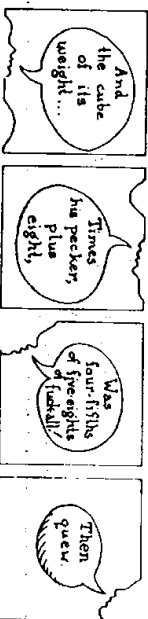
- A. MINOR EXPENSES: Archivist will keep records and receipts for minor expenditures. Whenever this totals \$10.00 or thereabouts, the Archivist will apply to the Executive for reimbursement. E.G., For tape, marking pen, index cards, etc.
- B. MAJOR EXPENSES: Proposals will be submitted to Executive. The Executive will decide if proposals are important enough to warrant presentation to the general membership. E.G., For possible relocation of Archives in the future BCSFA should consider buying file cabinets. The present file cabinets are on loan from the present Archivist.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF ARCHIVES

- A. Every February the Executive will review organization of the Archives and decide on what changes and amendments to make. The meeting at which this will take place will be publicized in advance in BCSFAZINE, with notice given that anyone interested in applying for Archivist should attend to learn what the duties are and to suggest changes.
- B. Executive will ratify the new paper of Archives duties and related matters, then call for applicants for position of Archivist.
- C. Executive will hold a closed meeting to choose the Archivist for the next term. If no one else has applied for the position the Executive will do one of the following:
 - i. Announce there is no suitable applicant who is willing to be Archivist, and put the Archives in storage.
 - ii. Present the problem at the next general meeting to find a solution.
 - iii. Reaffirm the present Archivist as holder of that position for another term.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- A. The electronic segment of the Archives (audio and visual tapes) are the possession of Al Betz. As Al has equipment and expertise in this area it might be a good idea to have him Archivist of Electronic Segments, if Al will consent to this. BCSFA may wish to purchase copies of Al's tapes.
- B. Material from V-Cons and Rain cons are gathered on a haphazard basis. The Executive might want to make a formal request that every convention connected with BCSFA save one copy of everything for the Archives; also that after a con committee disbands, all of its records, papers and correspondence be donated to BCSFA.



ITEMS DONATED BY R. GRAEME CAMERON:

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- 'The Art Of Peregrin', selected art by Sara Brearley, plus booklet for her memorial service held 21 December, 1994.
- 'The Elrons File', Information on assorted Elrons Awards ceremonies over the years. Will be updated as required.
- 'The Second Saturday Scoop', file of notices for upcoming monthly parties often attended by BCSFans, circa 1991 to 1995.
- 'Legal Opinion re Film Copyright', jointly paid for by WCSFCCA & Noncon Society, September 25, 1987, by Snyder & Company, Barristers & Solicitors.
- Whole bunch of BCSFA & WCSFA minutes, to be collated with same from Archives when it arrives.
- Notes on WCSFA & WCSFCCA originally prepared by Garth Spencer.
- "Fun Times Magazine", McDonalds magazine for kids, featuring Stan Hyde's daughter Sarah & Son Owen with display of monster models. Exhibits fannish sense of wonder we all used to have as kids, and maybe still do, if we're lucky.
- copy of "The Fantiquarian Chronicler", my ongoing contribution to FHAPA. To be added to as further volumes written.
- "Main Meal File", printout of conversations on "Burger Bar" club BBS Jan-Feb 1994.
- "Writer's Forum", same as above, Dec 1993 to Feb 1994.
- "BCSFA General Interest", same as above, Jan-Feb 1994.
- "Opinions & Arguments", same as above, Dec 1993 to Feb 1994.
- V-Con 19/Westercon 44 T-Shirt.
- A catalogue of V-Con videotapes & reel-to-reel audio tapes from the BCSFA electronic archive. The BCSFA electronic archive is separate from the BSCFA/WCSFA archive and remains, as always, in the care of Alan Betz, Social Secretary for Mr. Science.

EVENTUALLY TO BE ADDED:

- Final (?) version of "Weirds Did it! The Chronicles of BCSFA", my history of the club to be completed at some distant point in the future.

CONCLUDING REMARKS:

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Based on the above listing of items held in the archives in the past, the portion transferred to me appears to be very incomplete. However, there still remains a second batch yet to come, and hopefully it will contain the bulk of the material anticipated, particularly club records and the like.

Overall I am surprised at how little material there is. On the other hand, this makes it easier for me to put it in order and store.

To be fair to Gerald, much of the material was already in order. BCSFAzines were in order by date, and fanzines generally were arranged by country and by name of editor. The rest of the stuff is easy enough to sort.

As I understand matters, once the transfer is complete, I will be the new archivist. This I am prepared to be for the foreseeable future, until such time as the archive is passed on to someone else, or placed in a 'permanent' home such as a university or a library. (I state for the record, however, that I would like to hang on to my 'indefinite' loan V-Con material until such time as I have completed writing up the history of V-Cons, but ultimately I will be willing to donate.)

The physical infrastructure of the archive is one filing cabinet (donated by Eugene James) in which I will keep the BCSFAzines, V-Con material & club records, and assorted kitchen cupboards & livingroom shelves where I will keep the rest of the stuff (mostly fanzines.)

How to differentiate between my zine collection & the club's? I propose to either stick coloured dots on the club's zines (or mine), or have a stamp made up saying something like "Property of the BCSFA/WCSFA Archives."

I am quite keen to be the new archivist, mainly because I want to use it for research when working on my club history, or writing articles for BCSFAzine and/or FHAPA (The Fan Historical Amateur Press Association.)

To that end I intend to convert it into a working tool for research in which every item is catalogued and listed as to location. This will make it easy to access any item virtually in an instance. This of course will also make the archives much easier of access for purposes of selecting items for display at V-Cons or club meetings, or for loaning to interested members.

I caution that it will take me awhile to convert the archives into a usable tool for said purposes. I will keep you informed. First to be ready will probably be the catalogue for the BCSFAzines. Next will be a simple listing of zines, followed by a detailed catalogue at a later time. And at some point, a catalogue of V-Con Material. Club records will also receive priority treatment. And of course, eventually there will be a catalogue of the catalogues! (That's a joke, I think....)

Cheers!

The Graeme (WCSFA SECRETARY & ACTING ARCHIVIST.)