

Note: This is actually a UBC SFFEN Newsletter, one of seven preserved in the BCSFA archive (covering the years 1970 to 1972 – by no means a complete set for that period), but because it is almost exclusively devoted to the activities of the B.C. SF Association, I have always thought of it as the ‘first’ BCSFAzine – R. G. Cameron, BCSFA Archivist.

WE, THE MANAGEMENT ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE FIRST NEWS

LETTER TO BE DONE ON A GESTETNER.

WRITERS: Mike Baily and John Park.

SPECIAL EFFECTS: Brian Grainer.

Please feel free to join the Bcsfa convention which will be held April 9-10, 1971, at the Hotel Georgia. The guest of honour will be Ursula K. Le Guin whom you will remember from our last newsletter. The cost is \$3.50 for those attending and, will by its own bootstraps be raised to \$5.00 on April Fool's Day. However, sufficiently entertaining excuses will be heard. At this time we have members attending from California, Oregon, Washington, Alberta, and even B.C.

Events begin on Friday with a get together party and a panel on some irreverent topic. Strange liquids of obscure origin will be available at this party to those who can prove to be over 19. The next morning, various university professors, fans and groupies will participate in panels and talks, interspersed with films. Later in the day Mr.s Le Guin will give a talk on Style in Fantasy. Just before the au revoir party there will be a special mystery event.

While you weren't looking, the BCSFA held two meetings. One on March 21, at the library again, the other, much more informal, in a secret apartment, M2304 1600 Beach Avenue. As an aside, I'd like to recommend that anyone intending to ride in a car driven by our president, Rob Scott, leave your life in a safety deposit box first.

At the library meeting – all you UBCers, you are also BCSFAers – a Sun reporter infiltrated disguised as a nubile female. Later a Sun photog sauntered in, but he didn't want to take a photo of our own Ad Hoc Human Pyramid Committee, and left in bewilderment.

We showed two films; UNIVERSE, whence Stanley Kubrick obtained many ideas for 2001, and STAR TREK BLOOPERS, a comedy of non-sliding doors and practical jokes. Also we showed a number of slides taken at conventions.

Of course the highlight of the meeting was the traditional appearance of James P. Vagina, the Galactic Overlord. For those of you not yet deep enough into the secrets of fandom, Clifford Simak based his Hugo winning novel, WAY STATION, on Jim's life. Right after the civil war, Jim was made Galactic Overlord, and recently it has been traditional for him to put in a token appearance at every official SF meeting in the world. At the library, a gentle flourish of trumpets wavered through the auditorium and (for those who wish to stay ahead in their fashions) Jim materialized slowly wearing chartreuse tights, Arcturus feather boots, an irrcandescent green stripe vest, and a pair of Cool Rays. He had a somewhat harried look and allowed that he would make a special appearance at our convention.

By the way, at the March 21 meeting, as predicted in our last issue, we elected Rob Scott as Vice-Chairman, John Park as Publications Officer, Bob Marshall as Librarian and Lin Carter as Literary Advisor. We also learned of something called Intermedia which has some free facilities we may use for our fanzine.

The next day, the Sun Reporter presumably having escaped, but still incoherent from the ordeal, Rob Scott received a phone call from the Sun asking for a press release. The edited version appeared in Tuesday's edition on page fifteen. (You say you missed it?)

At Sunday's meeting we made arrangements to meet at the secret apartment of the world's greatest pseudo-intellectual, R. Graeme Cameron, ostensibly to criticize each other's works. Brian Grainer couldn't attend as he was tied up in the office, so we took his complete works in the softbound edition. (Hey gang, whyfor did you write criticisms of my hereditary, breeding, background, etc., on the backs of my stories - that wasn't very nice - Brian). RG Cameron accidentally asked Melez Massey to criticize his works, a mistake he won't make again. At this meeting one of the potential BCSFAers casually mentioned that she had had some works published in magazines. The highlight of the evening was the showing of some green movies. Some highly unusual positions and actions were shown. Free Booze was also in attendance, although he denied it.

If you weren't pone of those invited to Harlan Ellison's Special Soiree at the Cave on Thursday, show up at the office and you may be lucky next time. (Since the Cave is known as the wonderland of Vancouver's nightclubs, perhaps Harlan's evening out should be called Ellison Wonderland???). Incidentally, Harlan denied all rumours that he is engaged to Bobbie Gentry.

We intend to publish a FANZINE around the end of May. Anyone (ANYONE) with anything (ANYTHING) to offer - but especially fiction, poetry, REVIEWS, artwork, volunteers to report convention events - should contact John Park c/o UBC SFFEN Sub Box 75, UBC Van 8.

POINT TO PONDER: Who let Harlan out of his cage?

This newsletter is dedicated to ourselves, without whom this whole mess would have been impossible.

May the marvelous member of the blithering blue blorg family tickle your fancy (or whatever your girl friend's name is)

REMEMBER THE BCSFA MEETING ON APRIL 4TH AT THE VANCOUVER

PUBLIC LIBRARY AT 2:00 PM BRING FRIENDS

SUNDAY, APRIL 4, VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY