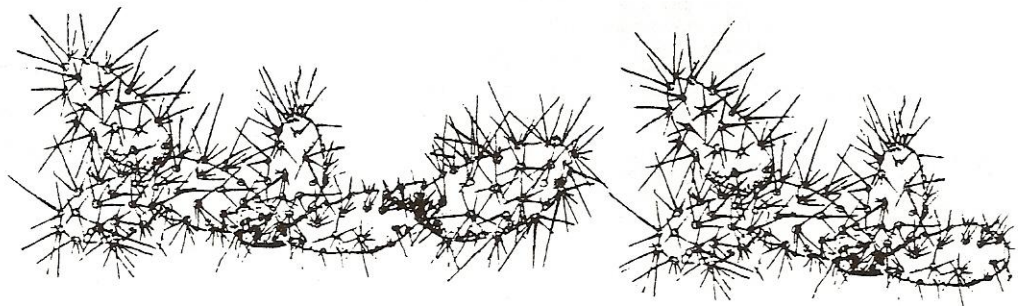


OPUNTIA

37.2



ISSN 1183-2703

OPUNTIA is published by Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Available for \$3 cash for a one-time sample copy, zine trade, or letter of comment on a previous issue. Whole-numbered issues are sercon, x.1 issues are reviewzines, x.2 are indexes, and x.5 are perzines.

EDITORIAL: Up until now, the few x.2 issues of this zine have been for indexes of OPUNTIA. I have begun to compile indexes of other zines in my collection, and this issue is the first of that effort. And an effort it is, not so much the labour of paging through each issue and jotting down notes, but trying to get a reasonably logical set of headings. I didn't always succeed, but will update as time goes by.

I have started with those zines which I have a complete run of, and will add partially-completed sets later. My method is to first go through the set and mark up the index on 3x5 index cards. This may seem nonsense in this day of computers, but I have never had a deck of cards crash on me, as my Windows 95 has done twice already. More importantly, cards will be compatible always; computer applications are not.

From the cards, I have typed up each index on a zine-by-zine basis, and those indexes will appear here. I will then merge the indexes into a single index for publication as the "Cumulative Subject Index To Canadian Zines", which will be reprinted at intervals in other places. OPUNTIA will be included in that cumulative index, but will be the only one I will update here as well. The cards will be filed by zine, and kept as a worst-case backup.

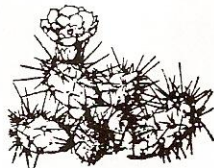
It is said among SF fans that all knowledge is found in fanzines, but as I soon discovered, just try and find it when you need it. There have been fanzine indexes in the past, and my efforts to index modern Canadian zines is a continuation of that. 'modern' because I don't have many of the old zines, 'Canadian' because no one else is doing it, and 'zines' because I cast my net wider than just SF fanzines.

I use these indexes for my own purposes, and thus I only index by subject. Author and title indexes are useless. I never have any need to sort out what a particular contributor wrote for a zine, and most titles do not give any indication what the article was about.

These indexes ignore minor stuff such as editorials and other ephemera. I would appreciate notice of errors or lost cross-references.

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From 1988 to 1993, the ConVersion Society of Calgary published Xeno-File. (It was variously spelled with or without a hyphen or second capital letter.) In its dying year it became a joint project of several SF convention running societies, of which only the ConVersion group remains active. The first three issues were edited by Cris Stroup (no 'h' in her first name) and the next seven by Ron Currie. Sheldon Wiebe edited the last three issues, the final one of which was combined with the ConVersion Ten programme book. Most of the issues were undated; I have approximated some of the dates by internal evidence of the issue.

The numbering sequence of this zine will make any librarian grind her teeth. In order to index contents logically, I have had to convert all numbering to a whole number system as below. In the index, references are to issue:page. For example, 10.0:3 means issue 10.0, page 3.

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|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
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| 1 2 | 2 | 1988 June |
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| Issue #7 | 7 | 1990 Autumn |
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| 10 | 10 | 1991 Summer |
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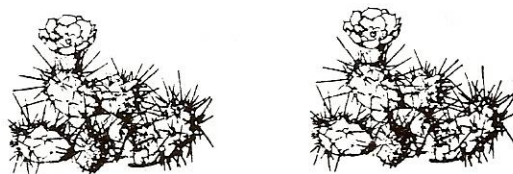
compiled by Dale Speirs

MLR was a newszine published out of Toronto by Michael Skeet. Its name is derived from the initials of its spiritual predecessor MAPLE LEAF RAG, which had been published by Garth Spencer of Vancouver. After MLR ceased, XenoFile attempted to act as Canada's SF newszine, but in turned died a couple of years later.

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This zine was published by Scott Patri of Cumberland, British Columbia. It was noted in particular for its anti-Star Trek fandom campaign.

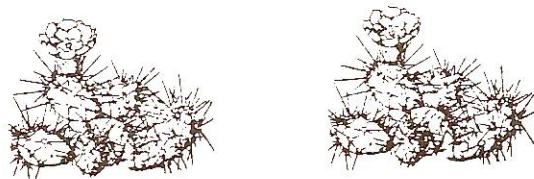
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