

ORANGE COUNTY SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

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155VE # 29

Orange Pulp

The Newsletter of the Orange County Science Fiction Club

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July 31st Meeting

As those of you who were at the May meeting know, Rhondi Vilott Salsitz was scheduled to be our guest. Due to a mix-up we had two guest speakers. Rhondi graciously rescheduled her guest spot for the July meeting, which we really appreciate.

Before Rhondi speaks the upcoming club party on August 17th (see article "Quasi- annual OCSFC Party"). There are a number of details to be worked out, such as, food, drink, activities and getting some idea of how many people will be coming. Hope to see you there!

June Meeting.... a success?!

June was an open meeting and broke up at about 8:30, only to be continued accross the street at Coco's. Marcia Starke announced a party to be held at her home, with details to be furnished later. We discussed the possibiltiy of club members as guest speakers in future club meetings. We've done that several times in the past and it has worked out well.

There wasn't much discussion on the "Book-of-the-Month". Samuel R. Delany's, "Stars in My Pocket Like Grains of Sand", was so unreadable

see DELANY p.3

Quasi-annual OCSFC Party

Marcia Starke will be hosting a OCSFC party at her home starting at noon on Saturday, August 17th. The address is 12371 Merrill St., in Garden Grove (that's page 16 C4 in your Thomas Guide, just west of Harbor and north of Garden Grove Blvd.). There's a pool so bring your swimsuit if you want. Also, there will be two VCR's going...liberally stocked with Marcia's classic collection of obscure and offbeat SF films. This promises to be the OCSFC social event of the year so clear your calendar for August 17th!

As fate would have it, the Jedi Knights have scheduled their "Water Wars" event at Prado Dam, for August 17th and any OCSFC member who is interested in going can call (714) 826-5625 for information. Likewise Jedi Knights members are welcome to attend our quasi-annual party, or maybe for a busy day and evening attend both!

The Rocketeer

Seven of us saw "The Rocketeer", at the AMC Fullerton, on July 10th. It was great fun, with spectacular special effects. As good as advertised.

From now on the OCSFC movie night will meet at 7pm at Galactic Archives, 5219 E. Orangethorpe, Anaheim Hills. Mac McMahon and others felt 6pm was too early for most people. On August 14th we will see Terminator 2, either at Cinemopolis or AMC Fullerton.

SFC

May Meeting Roy Lavender: A Life in Fandom

Sometimes clothes make a statement about a man. Roy Lavender usually wears an immaculately neat jump-suit and he's a casual kind of guy, without pretensions. With the white hair and distinguished features, in a business suit, he might be taken for a corporate CEO.

Some people are drawn to science fiction from an early age because of an intense interest in science. How would the world change if you could put a satellite in orbit? Which leads to the question..."How would I get a satellite into orbit?" Roy talked about hiding some of the old SF magazines in his room and reading them on the sly. If his parents had seen beyond the garnish, sometimes sexually provacative covers, they would have discovered a world of intriguing scientific ideas between the covers. Eventually, Roy went to work for NASA as a design engineer. He worked on the gravity accellerator centrifuges and designed some of the equipment that went to the moon on the Apollo program. After the manned space program went into decline he worked for JPL.

One of the first things Roy did, when he moved from Ohio to the Los Angeles area, after World War II, was to join LASFS. For those of you interested in the early days of fandom, one of the classic books on the subject is Harry Warner Jr.'s, "All Our Yesterdays". Roy explained that the term "First Fandom" got it's name after newcomers started bragging that they were an advanced form of fandom, such as 4th fandom or 7th fandom. He also explained the two states of fandom: FIAWOL...Fandom Is A Way Of Life, and FIJADH...Fandom Is Just A Damned Hobby. Since LASFS meets every week it became a way of life. Your friends were members, your social activities were club activities, you worked together on running a convention or getting out a fanzine.

Roy passed around a number of old photos of fan groups which were sprinkled with well known names. When asked how members of first fandom differed from today's fans, Roy replied, "We were more dedicated readers." I think Roy is right. A lot of fans now are into TV, movies, gaming, filking etc. A special thanks to Roy for being our guest and sharing with us his memories of early fandom!

OCSFC

The Return of Ender Wiggen

"Long awaited publishing event!" in an age of bestselling hype has become an overworked phrase. Not so in the contiuing saga of Angrew (Ender) Wiggen. Orson Scott Card's new book "Xenocide", might be considered a disappointment if it doesn't win both the Hugo and the Nebula awards, as the two preceding novels in the saga did. Since March of '86, when "Speaker for the Dead" came out, Card has been occupied with "The Tales of Alvin Maker", publishing three in that series. It's been a long wait for those who wanted to know what will happen to Ender and the Hive Queen.

Several OCSFC members attended the Orson Scott Card signing at Book Carnival on the 14th. The line was long but not overwhelming. About a 30 or 40 minute wait. It had been two years since Card had last been in California, when he signed at the now defunct Change of Hobbit. If you're going to the WorldCon in Chicago, or next year in Orlando, you can see him there.

This has been a whirlwind, killer of a promotion tour for Card, flying to a different city each day for sometimes two autographing sessions a day. He's a very upbeat kind of guy and appeared to be having a great time talking with the fans. One guy in line was shifting around his books to be signed and they all tumbled to the floor. Card light-heartedly quipped, "I hope that isn't a commentary on my writing." We were glad to hear there will probably be three more books in the "Alvin Maker" series. I highly recommend "Seventh Son", "Red Prophet" and "Prentice Alvin". They are one continuous story and are the best thing on an alternate history theme I have ever read.

DELANY: Grainy Stars

Continued from pg. 1

that no one finished it. Michael Bishop had a blurb on the back cover, "Unmistakably the work of a genius". It makes me wonder if Bishop was able to read the whole book. There's no question about Delany having literary ability, however, a novel needs to have a story that carries the reader along in a compelling way. Delany doesn't choose to do that here. There are some very interesting ideas in this novel, but it wanders aimlessly without a plot or characters that a reader would care about.

The novel for discussion at the July meeting is Theodore Sturgeon's "Venus plus X" and it looks much more promising.

August 28th Meeting

OCSFC member Mac McMahon will be the speaker at our August meeting. The topic will be SF and Fantasy gaming. In recent years gaming has become a common activity at all the big Cons. Over the years we've had speakers on just about every aspect of science fiction, but never on gaming. As the owner of Galactic Archives, Mac sells a variety of games and gaming paraphernalia, and he has a room in the back where games are played.

OCSFC

Behind the Orange Curtain Party

Benita and Roland Gagne organized this interclub bookcrawl for the Jedi Knights and OCSFC, that took place Saturday morning, June 22nd. There were about a dozen of us attending, with Roland and Benita being members of both clubs.

One thing that made this a successful outing was a carefully planned itinerary. At moments it reminded me of some of the bus tours I've taken. Benita would say things like, "Okay, it's 12:15. Is any one still in Fowler's", and she would silently take a nose count to see if there were any stray lambs missing. "Alright, everyone stand over here for a group picture and then we'll head over to the Book Cellar."

You have to do it that way to make it work. We visited five bookstores in one day, with an ample allotment of 45 minutes at each store. The Book

Cellar gave us a generous discount of 30%. Some people are suckers for a discount and I pigged out! We had lunch Knowlwoods, a sim-open aired place that specializes in burgers and sandwiches. Their pastrami is so juicy it takes 4 or 5 napkins. Our last book store was Galactic Archives, where there were refreshments and some hard to find goodies to buy.

Some of the group ended up at Anaheim Recreation Center around 3:30. There they played a round of battle boats. In battle boats two people, a driver and a gunner, man a slow, fiberglass boat with an electric motor. They steer around inside a big swimming pool and shoot plastic balls from a cannon at the other boats, while trying to avoid getting hit themselves. To complicate matters there are people trying to hit you from cannons mounted at the edge of the pool. It was a good outing.

Author of the Month: Julian May

"First and foremost I'm an entertainer, a teller of tall and grotesque and marvelous tales. My stuff is melodrama; Puccini could have set it to music. What you get from my books is bizarre futurism, violence, sneaky mythic analogs, sex, humor, teleology, and thundering action. I love that kind of science fiction. I wish there was more of it around today."

The Faces of Science Fiction, Bluejay books 1984

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, July 31st, 1991, at 7pm. Fullerton Savings, 2400 E ast Chapman, Fullerton, a half mile West off the Orange Free way

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Suscriptions to the Orange Pulp are \$5.00 a year for six iss ues and include club membership. Make checks payable to Ken Willia ms, 5727 E. Stillwater Ave. #9, Orange, CA 92669. The number at the top of the label will tell you the last paid issue number.