

ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

5727 E. Stillwater Av. #9
Orange, CA 92669

NEXT MEETING: JANUARY 26, 1994 7:30 PM*



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

ISSUE #44



THE ORANGE PULP

* Doors open 7:00 P.M. PST (or 8:00 P.M. PDT for those who never changed)

← Removing Staples Voids Warranty (See Inside) →

THE ORANGE PULP

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

ISSUE #44 VOL 8, NO. 1, JAN 1994 (Collectors Edition*)

* provided the staples are in place

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| EDITOR | Jeff Stein (OK, you can call me chief, for now) |
| ASSOCIATE EDITOR | Dave Silva |
| SUBSCRIPTIONS | Ken Williams |
| PROGRAM DIRECTOR | Marcia Starke |
| OCSFC LOGO | Mac McMahon |



Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 26, 1994, 7:30 PM at The Usual Place, 2400 East Chapman, Fullerton, a half mile west off the Orange Freeway. (SE corner of Chapman and St. College in Fullerton)

The Reading Orbit Discussion Novel: *Glory Season*
by David Brin

The Chief Speaks

“Alright class, let’s all write a composition about what YOU did over the holidays” Don’t you just hate assignments like that! They don’t prepare you for anything except writing editorials for The Orange Pulp. Well here goes:

Since the last Orange Pulp, I’ve been to LOSCON where I helped to create the first frog in space (actually, the experiment was a failure; probably caused by the first sea turtle in space). I went to a book signing at Aladdin books and met Harlan Ellison and read his new novella *Mefisto in Onyx*. I was interviewed by Valerie Takahama of the Orange County Register for an article about book discussion groups. (I understand that I missed getting the article and I hope someone brings it to the meeting). And finally, I just lived through an earthquake.

Our Meeting Place

Greg was able to reserve our "clubhouse" for all the meeting dates in 1994 so we will continue to be meeting at "the usual place"

Staple Warranty

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Mail to the Chief



Dear Editor:

I keep reading in the L.A. Times reports about how much aliens are costing us and draining away our taxes, and I just don't understand it. After all, the one group has eliminated the government subsidy to the dairy farmers all by itself with their vast consumption of sour milk -- so what was formerly thrown out is now bought at premium prices. (And I would add with envy how nice it must be to shop and not worry about expiration dates!) Also, they've helped save a portion of the sagging beauty parlor industry which was practically ruined when long, fake nails went out of fashion. Now these former manicurists are making a good living doing head buffing and head spot accentuation. And let's not forget that these aliens can't go near the ocean so even if our population grows, our beaches stay less crowded.

Then there is the other group. Sure, we had a tough time talking them out of world domination, but now that they're good, law-abiding (and tax-paying) citizens, I say, let by-gones be by-gones. And just look at how they've reduced our pesky rodent population -- that's been a god send to the inner cities.

ALIENATED IN L.A.

Dea Alienated

They say that they like sour milk, but have you ever personally seen them drink it (or chew it as the case may be?) and as far as world domination goes, you know we have nothing to worry about. The world is actually being dominated by cats.

SUBMISSIONS TO THE ORANGE PULP

Send your letter, short story, article, or other items for publication consideration to:

Jeff Stein

1700 W. Cerritos #312

Anaheim, CA 92804

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|-------|-----|---|
| Jan | 22 | Signing by Richard Laymon at Aladdin Books |
| | 26 | Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30 |
| | 29 | Jedi Knights Procrastinator's New Years Party |
| Feb | 9 | OCSFC Movie Night |
| | 12 | Jedi Knights Mystery Tour, AckerMansion or IMAX |
| | 20 | Jedi Knights Regular Meeting |
| | 23 | Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30 |
| March | 4-6 | Con-Dor (San Diego) |
| | 9 | OCSFC Movie Night |
| | 20 | Jedi Knights Regular Meeting |
| | 23 | Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30 |

For Jedi Knights information call (714) 826-5625 (NEW NUMBER!)

For Movie Night information call the Galactic Archives (714) 693-0673

For OCSFC information call (714) 552-4925

USS Spruance (909) 860-5067

November Meeting

OCSFC member Janet Alvarez brought some of her wares to show us and demonstrated just how she makes her dragons. Thanks Janet! it was great!

December Meeting

Just like we predicted there was no meeting in December. (Unless they had one and didn't tell me (naw, they wouldn't do that (would they? (naw, but...))))

January Meeting

This is the meeting where we discuss what we will be doing the rest of the year. So bring ideas for things you would like to do. I know that Greg already has asked a couple of people to come and do programs for the club. And as a bonus, just for coming to this meeting Marcia *may* bring her hula hoop.

MOVIE NIGHTS

December

Even though there was no meeting in December, we had a movie night. We went to see Addams Family Values. It turned out to be a very funny movie with a lot of little inside jokes and gags. I would recommend it highly.

January

Our January movie was The Ghost In the Machine. Good special effects, good acting, but even that was not good enough to make up for a bad story. You've all seen similar plots: somehow someone's soul gets stuck in a computer (or the computer gets its own soul) and runs amok controlling everything. This movie might have been saved if it had been set in a future time, but it was obviously done in the present. Computers just don't work that way and today's audiences are sophisticated enough to know it.

The club movie night is usually the second Wednesday of each month, but due to film schedules and our schedules it has become very tentative. It is important to call ahead if you want to attend the movie with us.

Supergalactic Staples!

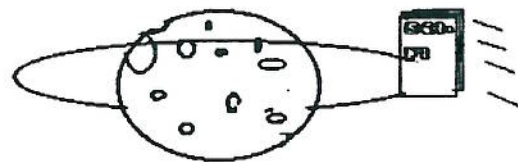


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THE READING ORBIT



Our reading for November was *Barnacle Bill The Spacer*, by Lucius Shepard. The discussion did not last very long due to the lack of members who read the story. There was no reading for December, however for January we have a 560 page novel *Glory Season* by David Brin. It is possible that we will not be able to discuss this either due to people not being able to finish it in time. As of today I am about half way through the book. I found it to be quite difficult during the first chapter but it got a lot more interesting very soon after that. I'm making that comment so that if you're just starting to read this book you will continue. It seems to be worth it.

MORE STUFF

The Hugo Awards

As you know the Hugo is a SF award voted on by the members of world con. Many people are not going to go to the the next worldcon at Winnipeg and would like to participate in the Hugos. If you were a member of ConFrancisco you are still eligible to vote on the Hugo nomination ballot. My understanding is that you will get one in the mail from the ConFrancisco people. If you want to see a list of suggested books and stories, I have a couple of them and will bring them to the next meeting.

Con-Dor

If you want to attend a regional convention Con-Dor is a pretty good one. At the Town and Country Hotel in San Diego, this con has all the benefits of big name guests and small crowds. This years GOH's are Jerry Pournelle and Rick Sternbach. Note Con-Dor will be held March 4-6 1994. This is a change from the previously publicized date.

LOSCON

Some of us attended LOSCON over the Thanksgiving weekend in it's new home at the Burbank Hilton. The convention was fine as was the dealers room and the hotel. There was a lack of nearby eating establishments, though. This will probably be the location of LOSCON for the next few years.

The SCI-FI Channel

I don't know why, but the sci-fi channel, which is supposed to be a "channel that you pay extra for" on my cable system has been unscrambled since the end of last year. I'm not complaining! I have used the opportunity to get a good look at it. It appears to be becoming quite a good source for SF news as well as a place to see some of the old shows dumped by the other stations. The Sci-Fi channel also has some new shows planned just for them.

ConoZoic

The Westercon for 1994 will be in our area this year at the Los Angeles Airport Hilton and Towers, July 1-4.

ALL THE SF YOU EVER WANTED TO SEE...AND

MORE!

by Dave Silva

This year will have more SF on TV than ever before. Even if your cable system doesn't carry the Sci-Fi channel there promises to be more SF than any sane person would want to watch.

A recent TV Guide, issued Jan. 15-21, was a special SCI-FI issue. Along with a variety of articles on current and upcoming SF shows, TV Guide began a series of weekly articles by their new sci-fi columnist, Glenn Kenny. The major thrust of Mr. Kenny's article was that what will be known as the golden age of sci-fi on the small tube appears to be at hand.

Not only do I agree with Glenn Kenny, but would also ask, what took it so long? Shouldn't the golden age of SF have started shortly after the success of Star Trek? Certainly, they should have seen the mass appeal of SF after Lucas did Star Wars?

One of the major reasons for the recent upsurge of SF on TV is simply the cost of special effects. Soon to be seen series, such as Babylon 5 and Shatner's TekWar would be much too expensive for TV if the cost of special effects hadn't come down dramatically. Many of those stunning effects on Babylon 5 are cheaply done on an Amiga computer. It's hard for TV to ignore the success of films like Jurassic Park and others that have relied so heavily on special effects.

Possibly, TV is turning to SF and Fantasy in desperation. The public will only tolerate so many cop shows, with rare exceptions they're turning off westerns and mystery shows to watch cable. Variety shows have gone the way of the Dodo and the failure rate among sitcoms is alarming. Maybe they've noticed that shows like Lois and Clark and the X-File are refreshingly different enough to attract viewers from the same old stuff. Also, during the last few years, STTNG has set a standard of quality that new SF shows must compare themselves to. It used to be that TV would put on some cheap piece of crap like Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea and then say "Well, we gave them science fiction and they didn't like it!" They didn't understand SF and often seemed incapable of telling a good show from a bad one.

As of now I'm still waiting for my cable system to include the Sci-Fi channel and am hoping to see that golden age of sci-fi on TV.