

# 1989 ORANGE PULP AWARD

## SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

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

NEXT MEETING: JAN 31st, 7pm



ISSUE #20

# THE ORANGE PULP



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## NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY: SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

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NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, Jan. 31st, 1990, at 7pm. Fullerton Saving, 2400 East Chapman, Fullerton, a half mile West off the Orange Freeway.

### NEXT MEETING: JANUARY 31st

We're going to do what we usually do, socialize, meet old friends and talk about science fiction. If you have books to sell, or anything of interest, bring it along. We will discuss any proposals for club excursions in the near future. There will be no organized program.

### FEBRUARY 28th MEETING

No scheduled program, as yet. If you meet on the last Wednesday of the month, what is the probability that the first two meetings of any year will fall on the last day of the month? Answer next issue.

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CHERYL J. FRANKLIN  
November Meeting

Cheryl J. Franklin is a native Californian, born in Pasadena. A graduate of Redlands Univ. with a math degree, she has been working for Rockwell as a systems analyst. Like the late Robert Heinlein, Cheryl started writing due to an illness. Because of blurred vision reading was difficult, so she began writing, and once she started she found she enjoyed the process of creating her own characters and events. After five years she completed her first attempt at fiction, a novel titled "Fire Get".

"I sent it to DAW and much to my amazement they accepted it. I've learned a lot about writing from the Wollheims and enjoy writing for DAW, which despite being owned by New American Library is run very much like a small family owned business."

Cheryl starts with the characters, learning from them about the world around them. Often she writes scenes and bits of dialog she may never use...simply to get a better understanding of their nature. She started reading adult fantasy because her father would bring home copies of "Astounding" and "Unknown Worlds" each month. Tolkein is her favorite writer. So, despite her aerospace and math background she likes to write adult fantasy that is logically consistent. However, her latest novel, "The Light in Exile" (DAW Jan. 1990) is more science fiction with fantasy overtones.

Her second novel, "Fire Lord", is a sequel to "Fire Get". Cheryl expressed some anxiety on writing her second novel. She hadn't expected to sell her first novel so easily, and suddenly there were people reading what had been her private creation. One of the hard things about writing part time is working on a great idea and having to go to work. Cheryl loves writing and plans to continue on a part time basis.

Cheryl Franklin is a very easy person to like and a much better speaker than she probably thinks she is. We certainly enjoyed meeting her.

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## FRED CROPPER WINS ORANGE PULP AWARD

The presentation of the third annual Orange Pulp Award to Fred Cropper, for Orange County Fandom's Writer of 1989, was an



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especially memorable event for me. This was the first club meeting Fred had ever been able to attend; he works nights raising money for charities, so it was the first time most club members ever had the pleasure of meeting him. Fred and I have run up some sizable phone bills over the past two years, but had never seen each other. Thanks to Greg Funke we conspired to get him to a meeting without letting the proverbial "cat" out of the bag.

Over the past two years we've enjoyed Fred's stories on collecting, his biographical sketches of SF writers, (I particularly liked the one on Frederick Brown) his collaborations with Greg Funke and the SF quizzes. Fred Cropper also has a wide range of interests outside of SF, and is an aficionado of jazz and mystery writers of the 1950's.

Also, I want to thank Marcia Starke, Elise Edgell, Ken Williams and everyone who contributed to keeping fandom alive in Orange County.

## CHARLES INGRID HITS B. DALTON TOP 10

Rhondi Salsitz, writing under the name Charles Ingrid, broke into B. Dalton's top 10 list this month with "Return Fire", the 5th book in the "Sand Wars" series.

On Saturday, Jan. 20th, Rhondi and Alan Brennert, whose latest book is "Time and Chance", shared the signing table at Aladdin Books. Besides signing all the books in her popular "Sand Wars" series, Rhondi has a new action-adventure novel out titled "The Marked Man" from DAW. "The Marked Man" is a post-holocaust tale set in California.

Due out August of this year is "Challenge Met" the 6th, and probably, last book in the "Sand Wars" epic. Rhondi has also sold a 300,000 two book novel to New American Library titled, "The Braided Chain".

## DEAN KOONTZ SIGNS AT BOOK CARNIVAL

This was the one and only signing for Dean's new hardcover "The Bad Place". The signing was limited to only that book; a wise decision since the line was hours long. "The Bad Place" is certain to be one of 1990's best selling books.



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## Signings at Aladdin Books

Time: Feb. 10, 12:00-2:00pm.

Place: Aladdin Books, 122 W. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton.  
Phone 738-6115. S.P. Somtow (pseud. of Somtow Sichaikitkul) will be autographing MOON DANCE (Tor, \$24.95), an epic horror novel of werewolves in the 1880's Dakota territories. Other novels by Somtow include VAMPIRE JUNCTION, THE SHATTERED HORSE, and MALL WORLD.

In addition, Orange County resident Bentley Little will sign his first horror novel, THE REVELATION (St. Martins, \$17.95). He is a graduate of Cal State Fullerton and has had short stories published in numerous horror magazines, including THE HORROR SHOW and NIGHT CRY. A second novel has been sold to New American Library.

### THE PCL BOOKSTORE

(not to be confused with PTL)

by Fred Cropper

If you could die from extreme right-wing-itis Jim Brown would at least be in a wheel chair by now.

Jim Brown owned the PCL Bookstore (Paperback Circulating Library). Jim Brown had one outstanding quality...he was a real asshole. He hated collectors and was liable to kick you out of the store if you even looked like a collector. He always had right wing literature, of a John Birch nature, and tried to foist it on his customers, free of charge.

Why would anyone go into this bookstore? Well, Jim Brown had some really collectable jewels: Essex House Philip Jose Farmers (last priced at \$100 per); Harlan Ellison Regencies, and other esoterica. You could get them out of the store, usually one copy at a time, but only after promising to bring them back for trade after reading. His usual greeting was, "Where are those books you took last time?" As I said Jim Brown was a Real Asshole!

My only run-in with Jim came about because of Harlan Ellison. I had been running a search service for Harlan, who had given my name to Herbert Kastle, whose book, COUNTDOWN FOR MURDER was hopefully going to be turned into a movie. Herb Kastle had called me to get copies. I soon found out Jim Brown had five copies of the book. Jim allowed me to buy two. You can tell I was on good terms with him. However, my greed caused



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me to screw-up badly. I sent a friend in to buy the others, and although Jim sold him the books, he told my friend, "Tell Fred not to come in here anymore."

Well, I wrote a real ass-kissing letter apologizing for breaking the rules. When my friend next visited PCL Jim told him I could come back.

Shortly after, I moved to El Paso so I didn't see Jim Brown for three years. After moving back PCL was one of my first stops. Jim welcomed me with some right-wing books by Phyllis Schafley, a rabid anti-feminist. He still had a lot of good stuff. No doubt re-acquired by browbeating his customers.

I remember Greg Funke telling me about acquiring three copies of an Essex House novel at Jim's store. It took him three trips...60 miles each way. That's a lot of gas!

In the mid-80's Big Jim quit the bookstore business. His rent shot up so he decided to retire and go live with his two sisters in Newport Beach. He sold some of his collection to other bookstores, but the bulk went to the Salvation Army. They carted books out to the Salvation Army truck in laundry baskets. I almost cried when I heard about it. I still occasionally see the PCL stamp on books at Salvation Army Thrift Stores.

I often wonder what happened to Jim Brown. Maybe he joined the Salvation Army and is passing out John Birch Society tracts along with the Salvation Army ones.

## Can All SF Channel Succeed?

The Los Angeles Times carried a full page article on the proposed all Science-Fiction Channel in the Dec. 15th edition. Mitchell Rubenstein, who has owned and operated cable companies, plans to launch the venture in about a year. According to Rubenstein's estimate, a new cable channel needs to start up in about 6 million homes and expand to 25 million in three years time to succeed.

Rubenstein seems to have a realistic idea of what it will take to make a go of it in the increasingly competitive cable field. Market research studies are promising and 20% of all video rentals are SF, fantasy and horror. The all SF channel will have original programming (mixed with re-runs) that will include game and talk shows, documentaries, cartoons and "Isaac Asimov's Universe" an anthology series created by Asimov. Asimov, Roddenberry and Martin H. Greenberg will serve as advisors for the new channel.