ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

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

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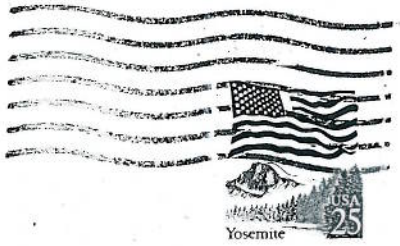

NEXT MEETING: May 30th, 7p.m

ISSUE #22

THE ORANGE PULP

ORANGE PULP

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

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Publication rights for all submissions remain the property of the author or artist. Deadline for submissions for next issue of the Orange Pulp, July, 15th. Mail submissions to Dave Silva, 19323 Andrada Dr., Rowland Hgts., CA 91748. One year subscription fee $3.00 for 6 issues. Mail subscriptions to: Ken Williams, 5727 E. Stillwater Av. #9, Orange, CA 92669.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May, 30th, 1990, at 7pm. Fullerton Saving, 2400 East Chapman, Fullerton, a half mile West off the Orange Freeway.

APRIL MEETING

No formal programming. The meeting was well attended and we just formed a big circle and talked about SF and some of the movies that were out, or soon to be released. This was shortly after the Hubble telescope was launched and Dick Nordrum read a excellent poem that was apropos to that historic event. There were books for sale and late night snacks at Coco's.

MAY 30TH MEETING

This will be another open meeting. If you have anything to sell, trade or just show off bring it with you. If you have a friend who likes science fiction bring them too.

ORANGE PULP

JUNE 27TH MEETING

Screenwriter Terry Black will be our special guest for the June meeting. Terry's last film credit was **DEAD HEAT**, a fantasy-mystery-comedy, starring Joe Piscopol.

Don't miss this one! Especially, if you are interested in film writing and movies.

U.F.O.s

MARCH MEETING

"There are UFOs....and there are flying saucers", said Robert Achzehner, our OCSFC guest at the March meeting. "If you're looking out at the night sky and you see a light that moves sharply up and down, like a bouncing ball, or if that light makes a rapid movement, that no aircraft would be capable of, and disappears. Then what you're observing is a flying saucer."

It was in Louisville, Ky., some 35 years ago, that Mr. Achzehner first saw a distant light in the sky that reacted in exactly that manner. This has led him on a life-long quest to unravel the mystery behind these alien visitors. While he has never personnally met an E.T., he has had numerous sightings, some of them close up. Robert brought a number of photographs of flying saucers that he claims to be authentic. Also, he displayed a variety of books on the subject, and a metal shard, with strange electro-magnetic properties, that he said was part of a flying saucer that had crashed.

One member skeptically asked our guest if there were any sightings that he didn't believe were flying saucers? Achzehner admitted there were a few cases of people who were totally "looney tunes", but conceeded that he believed most claims of close encounters with aliens were genuine. Futhermore, he claimed that abductions by aleins were far more common than the public realized, and that some of these abductions were being done by a race of amoral aleins, who were attempting some sort of genetic cross-fertilization with humans; as in Whitley Strieber's book "Communion". How many different types of aliens are there? Achzehner says he's not sure, but there are more than a hundred different descriptions of aliens.

There was discussion, during and after the meeting about the "Roswell Incident". There is no question there was a government cover-up. To some Roswell represents a strong link in a chain of circumstancial proof that aliens are visiting Earth, to others it just raises a lot of unanswered questions. Most club members, who have never had a close encounter, are still looking for irrefutable evidence to solve one of the most intriging dabates of our time.

CHASING THE BIRD

by Fred Cropper

My first meeting with Harlan Ellison was back in the late 1960's. Sherry Gotlieb had a new store specializing in science fiction, A CHANGE OF HOBBIT. Then it was in back of a chinese laundry, in West Los Angeles. My wife had gone with me to an autograph signing that Harlan was doing.

She insisted on carrying some books and Ellisonia I'd brought to be autographed. Harlan said to me, "Does she walk three steps behind you, too?"

"What?" I said, not understanding. Then I got it and became very embarrassed. Later, Harlan read his award winning story, The Whimper of Whipped Dogs. Before I left I got a list of Harlan's book wants.

Thus, began a business relationship, whereby I searched for tomes, mostly paperback, to fill in Harlan's library. Surprisingly these books were mostly mystery and suspense novels. He was collecting books by Jim Thompson, Charles Williams, Vin Packard and Richard Stark, all of whom had written for Gold Medal. Richard Stark was a pseudonym for Donald Westlake, whose tough-guy novels were way above most of his comic novels. Anyway, I scoured bookstores and thrift stores looking for books on Harlan's list...and surprisingly found quite a few. Now after twenty years I'm still looking for books for Harlan. The last one I found was about three years ago, a Charles Williams novel.

After our initial meeting I was shipping books to Harlan to be autographed. Somehow around Christmas one shipment got lost in the mail, never to be seen again. From then on I drove over to his house, aptly named ELLISON WONDERLAND, jam-packed with books and phonograph records (he's done a lot of record reviewing). To say to house is cluttered is an

understatement.

On one of my visits I met Michael Moorcock and he autographed Behold the Man for me. On another occasion Harlan organized a "save the store" benefit for Sherry Gottlieb and he was the MC. Such S-F luminaries as Theodore Sturgeon, Ray Bradbury, Larry Niven, David Gerrold and Jerry Pournelle were there. It was a very successful day, mostly because of Harlan's efforts.

If you want to know what Harlan is reallly like, he is an incredibly nice guy, extremely generous, and will praise good work to the sky...as he did with Richard Matheson's movie Legend of Hell House. Many a down and out writer has spent weeks, and sometimes months living at Harlan's house. I think what makes Harlan a "controversial" person is, most of all, that he cannot tolerate ignorance and stupidity, and he has very strong opinions about the underdog.

Also, Harlan cannot tolerate mediocraty or compromise in his own work. When he is on a writing project that goes astray he will not let his name be used in the credits (e.g. The Starrlost), but instead uses the pseudonym Cordwainer Bird.

ORANGE SEGMENTS

Orson Scott Card received three Hugo nominations. Prentice Alvin - novel, Dogwalker - novelette, and Lost Boys - short story. I'll lay odds he gets a nomination again, next year.

In what appears to be a new award (not a Hugo), James Gurney is nominated for Best Original Artwork, for his striking cover of the Tim Powers novel The Stress of Her Regard.

Dean Koontz novel Midnight, was nominated for the Bram Stoker award.

J. Michael Straczynski, of Hour 25, will be signing Othersyde at Dangerous Visions, June 9th, from 2-5pm. He has also turned in a script to Warner Bros., for the mini-series V: The Next Chapter. I've heard the new "V" series will be substancially better than the original(could it possibly be worse?).

Arthur C. Clarke & Gregory Benford will have a new book out in July. Beyond the Fall of Night, Ace, hc $19.95. This is, in some ways, a sequel to Clarke's Against the Fall of Night.