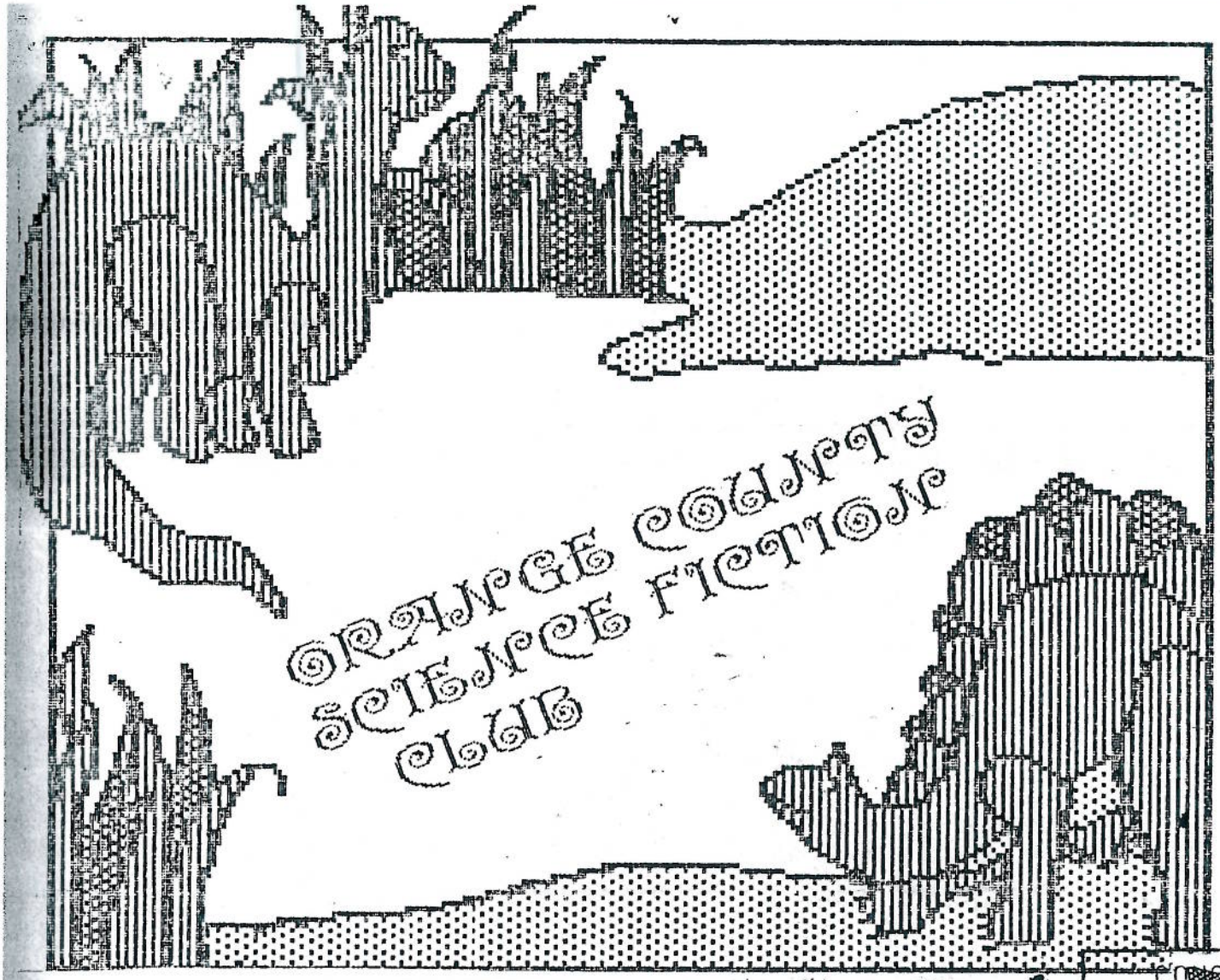

ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

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NEXT MEETING: Nov 28th, 7p.m

ISSUE #25

THE ORANGE PULP

ORANGE PULP

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

ISSUE #25, VOL. 5 NO.1, NOVEMBER, 1990

EDITOR..... Dave Silva

PRODUCTION..... Elise Edgell

SUBSCRIPTIONS..... Ken Williams

PROGRAM DIRECTOR.... Marcia Starke

COVER ART..... Print Shop Graphics

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, Nov. 28th, 1990, at 7pm. Fullerton Savings, 2400 East Chapman, Fullerton, a half mile West off the Orange Freeway.

LAST ISSUE OF ORANGE PULP

by Dave Silva

At the October meeting I announced the Orange Pulp would suspend publication with the November 1990 issue. Most of the subscriptions lapse with this issue. Refunds will be made to those with paid for issues due them.

It was a little over four years ago, at the WorldCon in Atlanta, that I decided to try a newsletter/fanzine. Bill Hilburn, Elise Edgell and I had attended a panal on "What Makes a Good Science Fiction Club." At that time the club was starting to grow and we were brainstorming ideas on what direction it should take.

My objectives for the "Orange Pulp" were to provide a forum of expression and communication for the club members that would act as a focal point for bringing the club together. Aside from reviewing the meetings and activities of the club, reporting on the work of the many fine writers we have in Orange County, I wanted to publish something that any science fiction fan would find entertaining to read. In the early years of the "Orange Pulp" I think it often succeeded in doing this. It was fun to do and I hope you enjoyed reading it over

the years.

One of the incentives for launching the newsletter was that we were spending 25 cents every two months to notify members of upcoming meetings. Since there were no dues, Greg and Graham used to dig into their pockets for postage. There is still a need to send out a notice of meetings and activities, and consequently, a need to finance the postage. Instead of receiving the Orange Pulp, every two months, members will receive the OCSFC BULLETIN, which will cover the essential club news and announce events of special interest; such as signings, excursions, conventions, etc.

In some ways the operation won't be changing much. I will continue to write the OCSFC BULLETIN, Elise will print and mail it, and Ken will do the labels and keep the club roster updated.

NOVEMBER 28TH MEETING

The next meeting is going to be an important one and I hope you'll attend. We are going to discuss the future direction of the club and whatever porposals come up we'll resolve them by a vote. Between this activity maybe we'll watch Star Trek TNG.

If you haven't come to a meeting in a while it might be because the club doesn't offer you what you were looking for. If so, I hope you will be at the meeting and let your views be known. Does the club need more structure? I'm sure it needs more in the way of activities to keep members involved and in touch between monthly meetings. But what kind of activities? And how should they be organized? Another question to resolve is will there be a December meeting, since it falls on the 26th.

ELIZABETH CHATER AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting was one of the smallest turnouts in recent years for OCSFC. This was the night Star Trek had it's, long awaited, season premier. Also, the name Elizabeth Chater, while highly respected, is not widely known in the science fiction field. Being a creative writing teacher at San Diego State, for many years, speaking to groups large and smal comes easy to Elizabeth. She spoke with a positive intensity that flowed without missing a beat.

After a research career in archaeology, Elizabeth got married and settled down to support her husband's career. In late 1956 he suggested she get an outside job. She said, "Yes, dear." She read science fiction and felt with her science background she could write the sort of fiction she read in the magazines. The first story she submitted to editor Hans Stefen Santesson, at Fantastic Universe was, "Ugly Earthling." He bought it with the provision she use the pseudonym Lee Chaytor. At that time there was still a prejudice on the part of readers about women writing science fiction, also he felt Chaytor was easier to pronounce correctly.

Here are a list of the stories she wrote for Fantastic Universe:

UGLY EARTHLING....FEB 1957
TREASURE OF MARS....AUG 1957
EARTHLINGS'LL GIT YOU IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT (verse)....OCT 1957
BAIT FOR THE TIGER....MAY 1958
OPERATION DISASTER....OCT 1958

She also wrote romance and mystery short stories during this period. Eventually, her husband suggested, "Why don't you go back to school and get your masters degree. So she enrolled at San Diego State as a student, but had more ambitious plans. Elizabeth felt she would be a good creative writing teacher and applied for the job. They told her that they required someone with a Phd., or at least a masters for that position...and besides the position was filled.

A week later they called her to say their creative writing teacher had suddenly quit on them and they were desparate enough to give her the job. That was the beginning of another career that lasted till mandatory retirement. Elizabeth also got that MBA holding a straight "A" average.

After teaching a number of years, a student rebeled at a writing assignment saying, "How can you teach writing a novel when you've never written one yourself?"

She had quit writing for publication when she started teaching because of ethical considerations. When you're reading other peoples ideas all the time it's all too easy to be accussed of taking some, or part of a student's work. Nevertheless, she rose to the challenge and told the young man, "Okay, you write a novel and I'll write a novel...and we'll see which one gets published. He never finished his novel. She not only finished her novel, but sold it the first time out. That began another career for Elizabeth Chater. Her 22nd novel will soon be out at the bookstores. Most of these novels have been romances

and in all the romances she has patterned the hero after her late husband. That's certainly a beautifully romantic concept.

You would think that's enough careers for anyone's lifetime, but now, at age 81 she's working as a lecturer. It's apparent the secret to her success goes beyond talent, it's her enthusiam for life.

OCTOBER MEETING

We got a pretty decent turnout, considering it was Halloween. Some of us probably just needed a place of refuge from all the Bart Simpsons and Ninja Turtles. Roland and Benita Gagne were there. After helping to get Fandom Network off to a solid start Benita will be leaving most of the work to others, but will still remain active in the Jedi Knights and OCSFC. Marcia Starke brought up the planned Orange County SF Club panal at LOSCON 17 (see LOSCON 17 article) and we got some input on that subject from our group mind. We ended the evening by watching Star Trek TNG.

ALAN BRENNERT SIGNING AT ALADDIN BOOKS

Alan Brennert will autograph HER PILGRIM SOUL AND OTHER STORIES Saturday, December 15th from 12 noon to 2pm at Aladdin Books. Aladdin Books is located at 122 W. Commonweath Ave., in Fullerton. For more information, call (714) 738-6115.

Mr. Brennert is the author of TIME and CHANCE, a well-received contemporary fantasy novel published earlier this year, as well as two previous novels, KINDRED SPIRITS and CITY OF MASQUES. HER PILGRIM SOUL is his first collection and includes stories originally published in THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION, TWILIGHT ZONE, AND PULPHOUSE. The title story was dramatised by Brennert for CBS's revival of THE TWILIGHT ZONE. Most recently, he has adapted it for the stage. It will form the basis of WHAT IF?, a multi-storied musical fantasy premiering next Spring in New York, and featuring music by Alan Menken, award-winning composer of THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS and THE LITTLE MERMAID. In addition to writing many of the best TWILIGHT ZONE episodes, Brennert's television work includes CHINA BEACH, SIMON & SIMON, and BUCK ROGERS. He is currently writing for MY LIFE AND TIMES, an upcoming series from Ron Koslow, the creator of BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

LOSCON 17

LOSCON 17 will be held Nov. 23-25, the three days following Thanksgiving. It will be at the Buena Park Hotel, 7675 Crescent Rd., near Knott's Berry Farm. This will be the first time LOSCON has been held in Orange County. Barry B. Longyear will be the GoH. Admission will be $25 at the door. I'm sure there will be daily rates too.

Our program director, Marcia Starke, called Mike Glyer, of LASFAS, and arranged to have a panel on Orange County fandom. The panal will be held on Friday, Nov. 23rd, at noon. Check program guide for location. Marcia Starke will moderate the panal and the four Orange County science fiction clubs will be represented by: Dave Silva from OCSFC, Carol Ownings-Alves from the Jedi Knights, Paul Bennett from Star Trek Federation and Jan Hoyle from Star Trek Association of Irvine.
If anyone ever writes a history of fandom in Orange County this panal represents a significant first. Each club will get a chance to present its background and the type of experience it offers to members. Star Trek Asso. of Irvine is a college club, which restricts their membership, but the rest of the clubs may stand to gain new members from this panal.

To put it bluntly, LASFAS is the best organization in the world at putting on a SF Con., although Boston puts on a first rate Con too. It's a matter of size and experience; if you were at San Diego or New Orleans you know what I mean.

If you drop by the huckster room you'll find Greg Funke and Graham Volker selling paperbacks, from reading copies to rare old collectables.