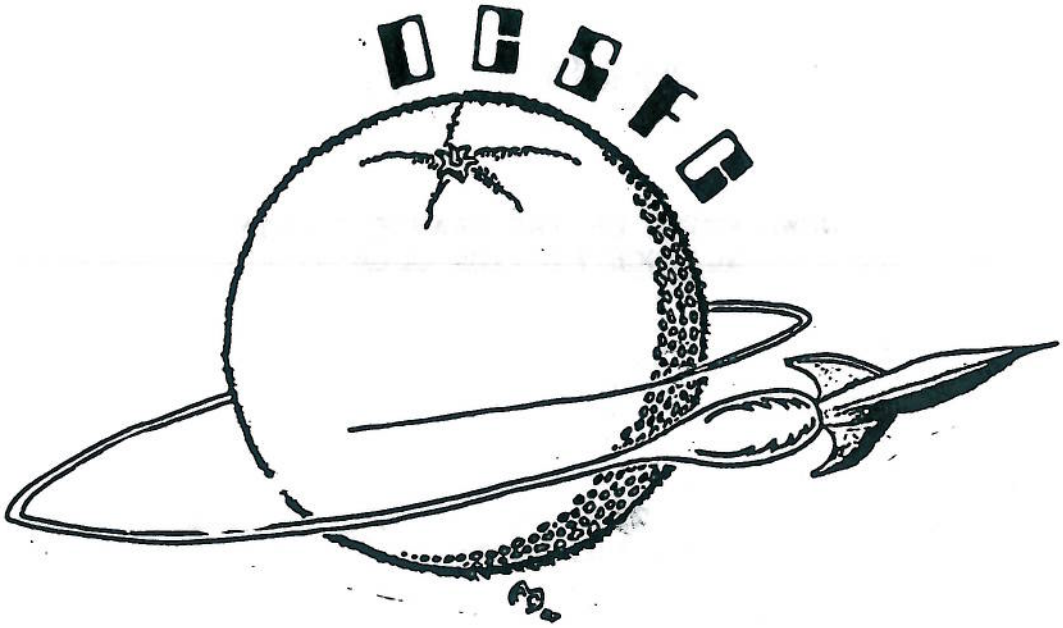

ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

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

NEXT MEETING: Jan. 30th, 7p.m

OCSFC CALENDAR

ISSUE #26

OCSFC CALENDAR

ISSUE #1, JANUARY, 1991

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

One year subscription fee $5.00 for 6 issues. Mail subscriptions to: Ken Williams, 5727 E. Stillwater Av. #9, Orange, CA 92669.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, Jan. 30th, 1991, at 7pm. Fullerton Saving, 2400 East Chapman, Fullerton, a half mile West off the Orange Freeway.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The relationship between dues and subscription costs was brought up again. After much debate we voted, as we always have in the past, not to have annual dues as such. Instead we decided to increase subscription to the OCSFC CALENDAR, as it will henceforth be known, to $5 a year. At $5 a year we should have a small surplus that could help finance a club party, or dinner. It was agreed that we don't want to have surpluses for their own sake, but want to use them for something we can all enjoy.

There were some subtle philosophical reasons for doing it this way, which I will try to summarize. We didn't want to exclude anyone from our meetings on the basis that they weren't an official dues paying member. It was, however, agreed that receiving the OCSFC CALENDAR constituted a personal commitment to membership, because members need to receive information on when meetings take place and what activities the club has scheduled.

Greg mentioned that some people new to the club have viewed us as a somewhat closed, cliquish group...and we should make extra efforts to get to know new members and make them feel welcome. If you have a friend who likes science fiction invite them to a meeting. Another good suggestion was that we should try to schedule more excursions this year.

JANUARY MEETING

Our program director, Marcia Starke, will be asking for some imput from the group mind on programming and special events for 1991. We would like to try to set up some guests well in advance and sort of block out our programming for the year. Some ideas have been a trip to see IMAX and an interclub party.

There is no set program for the FEBRUARY 27TH meeting. We will try to work this out from ideas at January meeting.

OCSFC MOVIE NIGHTS

If you want to see a science fiction or fantasy movie with other OCSFC fans meet at: Mac MacMahon's Galactic Archives, 5219 E. Orangethorpe Av., in Anaheim. Time: 6:30pm, Feb. 13th and Mar. 13th. Choice of movie will be selected at that time from best available films by mutual agreement.

DEAN KOONTZ RECEPTION

The Book Carnival, at 870 N. Tustin Av., in Orange, came up with a novel idea for a signing. It was a meet the author reception in the parking lot behind the bookstore, from Noon till 5pm, on Sunday, January 12th. The last time Dean held a signing at Book Carnival the wait in line was up to 3 hours long. Dean felt something less arduous needed to be devised.

I received a card announcing the publication of his latest novel "Cold Fire", about a month before the reception. The card said if I ordered a copy Dean would sign it, and it offered a choice of ways the book could be inscribed. So, when I got down to Book Carnival I presented the card with the order number they had given me...picked up my pre-autographed book and walked around to the back parking lot, where a large crowd of people encircled Dean. Didn't look like there was anything to keep people who hadn't bought a book from wandering in. The idea was that the author could talk to his fans in a more relaxed atmosphere, without the distraction of constantly signing books. Dean tried to meet and talk with as many people as possible, so probably on balance it worked out okay. Tim Powers and his wife were there and he told me he was going to be the Guest of Honor at the upcoming CONFUSION, a SF and comics con to be held in San Diego sometime in February.

SMALL WORLD DEPARTMENT
by Ray Bowman

(Note: This is an item out of Ray Bowman's last catalog. I hope he doesn't mind me sharing it.)

We acquired our siamese cat, Cecelia, as a visual aid in our daughter's sex education. After observing her in action for several years, I can only hope my daughters are selective in what they learn from Cecelia. When she indicated in her usual insistent manner last week that she desired some male companionship, we decied another litter of cats would be a nice Christmas gift. So we set out for a friend of a friend's house about 20 miles to the west.

What we found was a real cat house. You woundn't believe how many cats this lady had. In addition to the special friend Cecelia was looking for, there were uncounted mother cats and kittens littering the premises. Terri, the resident tom, obviously knew his thing. He took an interest in her right away, but she crawled under a chair and hissed and spit and wouldn't let him or anyone else come close. (Of course, if you know anything about Siamese cats, you'll recognize this is pretty close to their regular behavior) I think she had her heart set on one of those toms she had seen earlier prowling our back yard. They are tattooed, wear leather and chains, and ride Harleys.

As we waited to see if the cats would kill each other, I commented to the cat lady that she really had a lot of cats. She agreed, and said she really loved cats. Her whole family liked cats as well. Why her uncle Bob was a writer and even wrote about cats! Perhaps I had heard of him. His last name was Heinlein, she said.

I remarked that if I stretched my memory to the fullest, I might recollect such a person. But it seemed to me that he wrote science fiction. She agreed he wrote some really weird stuff as well, but his first love was writing about cats! She then spent 20 minutes telling me the plot to "Door Into Summer". I vaguely remembered a cat, but didn't realize he was the hero of the story.

I asked what else she had read of his. She said she had started "Stranger in a Strange Land", but hadn't gotten to the end. Presumably their weren't enough cats in it. Her family was most proud of that one because it had gotten Heinlein an invitation to speak at the Berkeley commencement sometime in the 1960's. (at this point we found out he was really her great Uncle Bob) She thought this was humourous because the students apparently expected a long haired hippie to show up. Instead, they were addressed by a well dressed, older man who shared their values of individual freedom and creativity, but who stubbornly insisted on a strong code of personal responsibility as well.

Postscript: Cecelia didn't get pregnant, so they never knew if she would have kittens that could walk through walls.