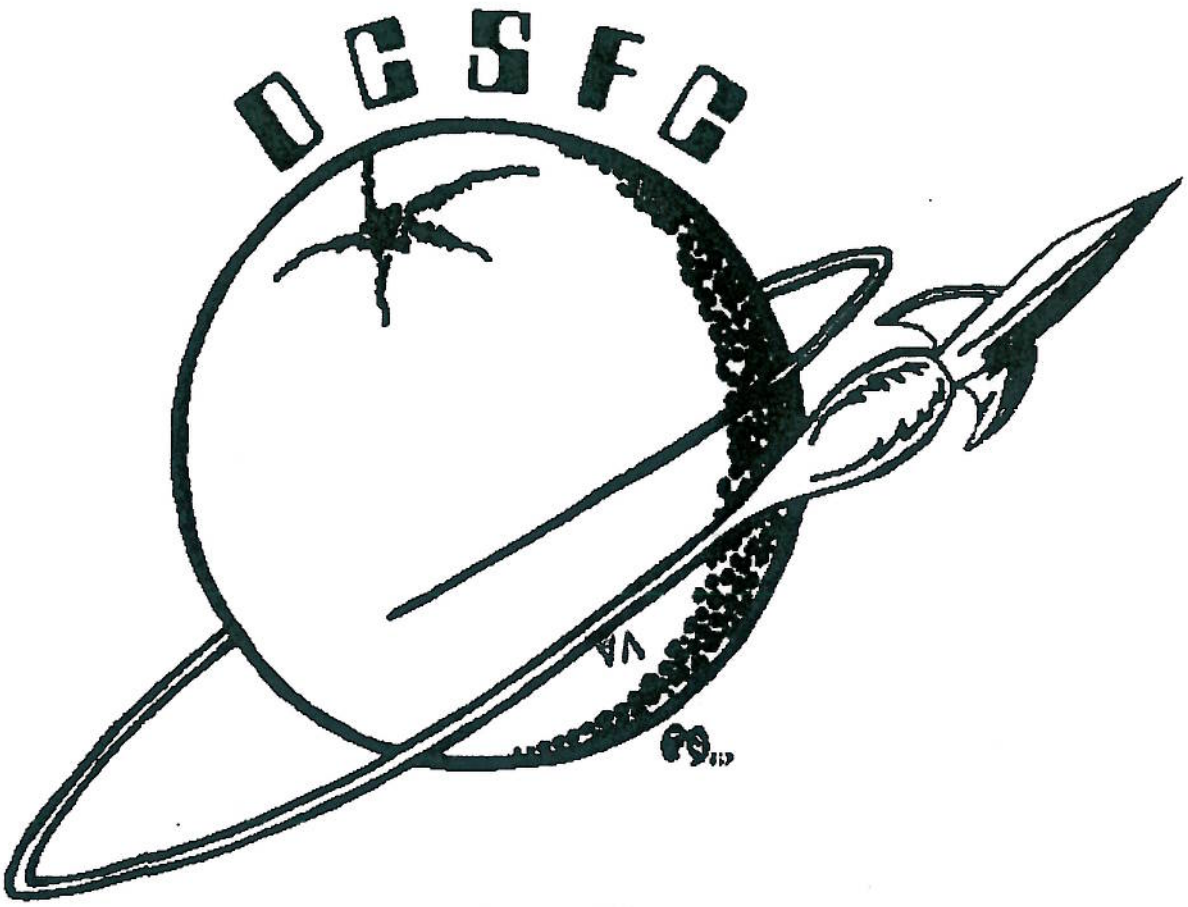


ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

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

NEXT MEETING: **March 25, 7:00 PM** **Guest Speaker: TIM POWERS**

ISSUE #33

THE ORANGE PULP

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

ISSUE #33 VOL. 6 NO. 3, March 1992

EDITOR.....Jeff Stein
ASSOCIATE EDITOR.....Dave Silva
SUBSCRIPTIONS.....Ken Williams
PROGRAM DIRECTOR.....Marcia Starke
COVER ART.....Mac McMahon

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 25th, 1992, at 7pm.
Fullerton Savings, 2400 East Chapman, Fullerton, a half mile West off the Orange Freeway.

EDITORIAL

Well, this is my second issue as editor of the Pulp. It should be getting easier and going faster RSN. I've been getting lots of ideas and submissions from members. Keep up the good work! I'm also learning to ytpe a lot better. <g>. See the article about (com)'Puters if you don't quite understand me :-)

Submissions to The Orange Pulp
Send your short story, article, or other items for publication consideration to:

Jeff Stein
1700 W. Cerritos #312
Anaheim, CA 92804

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March	25	Orange County Science Fiction Club Meeting 7:00
	29	Paperback Book Collectors Show and Sale
April	8	OCFSC Movie Night
	10-12	Jedi Knights Snow Wars at Big Bear Lake
	19	Jedi Knights Regular Meeting
	29	Orange County Science Fiction Club Meeting 7:00
May	9	Jedi Bowling Day
	13	OCSFC Movie Night
	17	Jedi Knights Regular Meeting
	27	Orange County Science Fictin Club Meeting 7:00

For JEDI KNIGHTS information call (714) 826-5625
For movie night information call the Galactic Archives (714) 693-0673 on the movie date

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

OCSFC Meeting of January 29, 1992

Greg read a list of all the programs that we have had in the past. We discussed possible programs for the upcoming year including repeat visits from speakers that we had in the past as well as new ones. We also discussed field trips to JPL and the Ackermann mansion. The ideas of videotaping a meeting for public access cable tv and/or making a video of skits were also discussed.

OCSFC Meeting of February 26, 1992

Marcia presented a video program. The first tape was Roger Ramjet, a cartoon show from the late 1960's with the same type of humor as Bullwinkle or Tom Slick but, not quite as original or funny. The second tape we voted for was titled TV Turkeys. Well, we *were* warned. Other than a surprise appearance by Deforrest Kelly on Suicide Theatre the clips were kind of boring. It is interesting to see how life has changed since the "good old days" and to look at old values in retrospect!

We continued to talk about programs for the upcoming year. About a possible field trip to Ackermann Mansion, Greg talked to Forrest J., himself! The Tesla people will bring their demonstration to the club they want a small donation to do it. We decided to charge $1 per person and fund the rest from the Orange Pulp fund.

NEXT MEETING

Tim Powers, twice winner of science fiction's distinguished Phillip K. Dick memorial award, will guest at the meeting of the Orange County Science Fiction Club March 25. The author will discuss his latest book, The Last Call, and will bring members up-to-date with his writings. Tim Powers was awarded the Philip K. Dick memorial award in 1985 for his novel The Anubis Gates, and again in 1986 for Dinner At Deviant's Palace. The award recognizes science fiction's best original paperback of the past year. His other works include On Stranger Tides, and The Stress of Her Regard. The author is one of many native Orange Countian science fiction writers.

OTHER TIM POWERS BOOKS
compiled by Dave Silva
(from the Orange Pulp of January 1988)

The Skies Discrowned	Laser #28	May 1976
Epitaph In Rust	Laser #47	November 1976
The Drawing of the Dark	Ballantine 28604	June 1979
The Anubis Gates	Ace 02380	December 1983
Dinner At Deviant's Palace	Ace 14879	December 1984
Forsake the Sky	Tor 54973	March 1986
Night Movies	Axolotl Press	1986

MOVIE NIGHTS

Feb 12 This Movie Night was rained out. If you weren't going to come with us to the movie you would have missed a good one if it hadn't rained!

Mar 11 We went to Cinemopolis to see "Lawnmower Man" . This movie, based on the plot of a dimwit turned super brain, was filled with lots of great special effects along with some good thought provoking ideas.

We usually go to a movie on the second Wednesday of each month. Call Mac McMahon at The Galactic Archives (714) 693-0673 for information on these events.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Our February Book discussion concerned two books: Starship Trooper by Heinlein and The Forever War by Haldeman. Both books concern going off to fight a futuristic war. On the surface they seemed to be virtually the same story as told by two different people although, on discussing this idea we found lots of differences in the two authors ideas about war and society. This was a very good disussion.

For March we planned to discuss a book by Tim Powers to coincide with his visit to the meeting, but we were not able to all find copies of the same book, so we will each read something different by Tim Powers for this occasion.

Our book discussions usually take place after the main meeting at the restaurant across the street.

PAPERBACK COLLECTORS SHOW AND SALE

Mainly for collectors or people looking for a hard to find book, this show will be held March 29, 1992 at the Mission Hills Inn in Mission Hills from 9:00 to 4:30. The admission charge is $3.00 . There will be authors to sign books. OCSFC Members Greg and Graham will both have tables for this event. The Mission Hills Inn is at 10621 Sepulveda.

(com)'Puter Stuff

by Jeff Stein

One nice thing about the computer revolution is that is bringing back the fine art of written correspondance. Users of bulletin boards as well as large computer networks like Compuserve and Genie can "talk" to each other through electronic mail and online conferences. In order to "talk" , however, they have to type and put their thoughts into written form. Many new abbreviations and ideas are coming into general usage from this form of communication.

One problem online computer users have is that the person reading their message cannot see the senders face. If the message writer were to say "You are a no good bag of bytes" the reader would not know if the writer was kidding or serious. He might have to reply with "You'd better smile when you type that"! Instead the writer of the message can append a "<g>" to his message as an abbreviation for "grin" to avoid trouble. Some of the emotion abbreviations are as follows:

<g>	Grin
<g,d&r>	Grinning, Ducking and Running

Some emotions are little pictures made out of the letters on the keyboard. These are called emoticons. You have to look at them sideways to see the face:

: -)

: - {}

Other abbreviations for frequently used phrases and lazy fingers are:

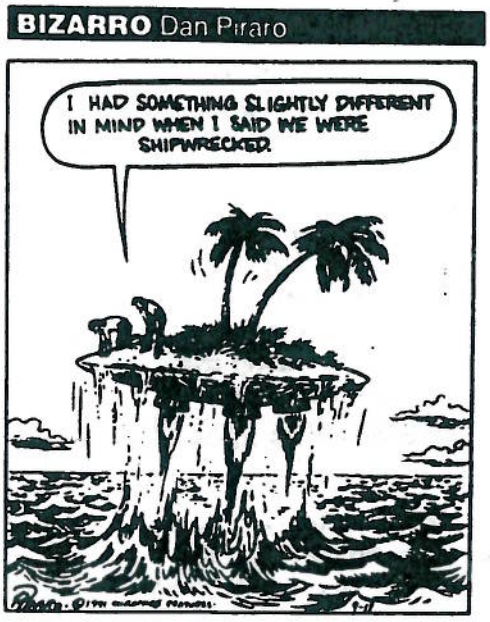
brb	Be Right Back (necessary for online conferences if you leave the computer)
DSPSG	Drooling, Slobbering Patrick Stewart Groupie
GMTA	Great Minds Think Alike
LOL	Laughing Out Loud
ROFL	Rolling on the Floor Laughing
TNSTAAFL	There's No Such Thing As A Free Lunch
RSN	Real Soon, Now
SMOF	Shakers and Movers of Fandom

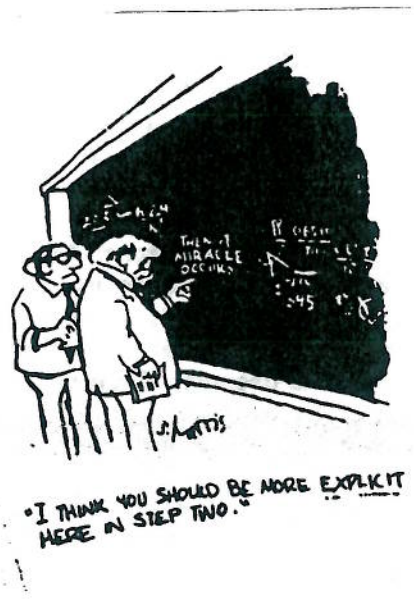
Check It Out!

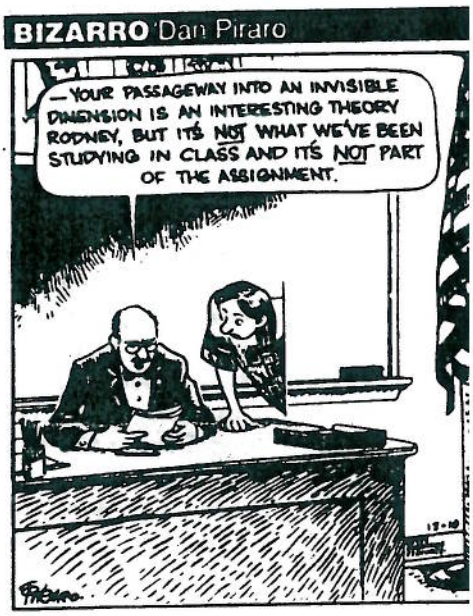
(then, check it back in)

OCSFC member Estelle Williams is now in charge of the Haskett branch of the Anaheim Public Library. As a good SF&F fan she has just ordered several Hugo and Nebula award winning books and says that she can order others as needed. The Haskett branch is located on Broadway between Magnolia and Dale. So stop by and check something out.

A Couple of Cartoons from the Catherine Collection







NEXT ISSUE

The May issue of the Orange Pulp will feature an OCSFC 10th anniversary retrospect by Dave Silva. The article was rescheduled from this issue to more nearly coincide with our anniversary party scheduled for June.

CHILD OF TIME
by Isaac Asimov and Robert Silverberg

Reviewed by Dave Silva

Most writers would probably tell you it's a mistake to take one of your short stories and try to expand it into a novel. Although this might seem like an easy way to get out a novel, it often doesn't work very well. The logic behind writing the idea as a short story, in the first place, is that the concept fits the length. An example of this is Stephen King's gripping short novelette "Children of the Corn". When they expanded "Children of the Corn", into a full lengthe movie it seemed padded. There were long, lurking chase scenes to stretch the movie out. A friend of mine, who sold real estate, once told me that nine out of ten houses with room additions look "added on to".

There are nearly always exceptions to every rule. "Child of Time" is an excellent novel, neither too short, nor too long. Maybe it's because both, Asimov and Silverberg have had extensive experience as editors that they knew this would work. The novel was based on Asimov 's I958 short story, "The Ugly Little Boy". Statis Technologies Ltd. has developed a method of bringing objects back from the dlstant past. Of course, there are limitations, the object can't be too large they can't scan the recent past, and also, the object must be confined to a relatively small area in a time statis field.

"Child of time splits along two alternating story lines. First, there is the story of Timmie, a neanderthal boy about 5 years old. He is snatched from 40,000 years in the past to become a prisoner of modern day scientific curiosity. Dr. Hoskins, a scientist who reluctantly becomes Statis Technologies CEO, is torn between doing what is best for a little boy and dealing with Timmnie as a corporate asset. Hoskins is responsible for hiring child care specialist,Edith Fellowes, who becomes Timmie's teacher, surrogate mother and protector. Miss Fellowes spends most of her time in a small set af rooms, where Timmie is confined to the statis field that links him to the past.

What is a neanderthal child worth? In a society which measures nearly everything in dollar values that becomes a central issue in the story. Asimov (I'm fairly certain he wrote the modern day chapters in this story) works with some pretty shakey scientific material about neanderthal man. He makes it clear we don't really know that much about this other branch of the human race. As was the prevailing scientific opinion, characters in the book state that homo sapiens were not descendants of neanderthal, but that they were a separate and distinct branch of humanity. Since the time the book was published, late in 1991, that theory is now in doubt. Recent research indicates there were errors made in tracing our ancestory through the maternal DNA link. Also, there is new evidence about neanderthals that shows that we might be their descendants after all.

The other part of the story (which I believe is written entirely by Silverberg) follows the small neanderthal tribe That Timmie came from. Their aging chief, Silver Cloud, leads them through very uncertain times. There are the others (that's us), who are becoming more numerous, taking the good hunting grounds the people used to occupy. This is made more acute as the spreading ice age across Europe. Silverberg uses Indian names for his characters; like She Who Knows, Blazing Eye, and Keeps The Past. Since we know virtually nothing about neanderthal language this works very well. The characters seem real and believable, and there is a lot of subtle humor in their relationships.

"Child of Time", was published by Gollancz and should be out in an American edition soon. It is enjoyable, easy reading. I also recommend their previous collaboration "Nightfall", which expanded another Asimov short story, from the September 1941 issue of Astounding.