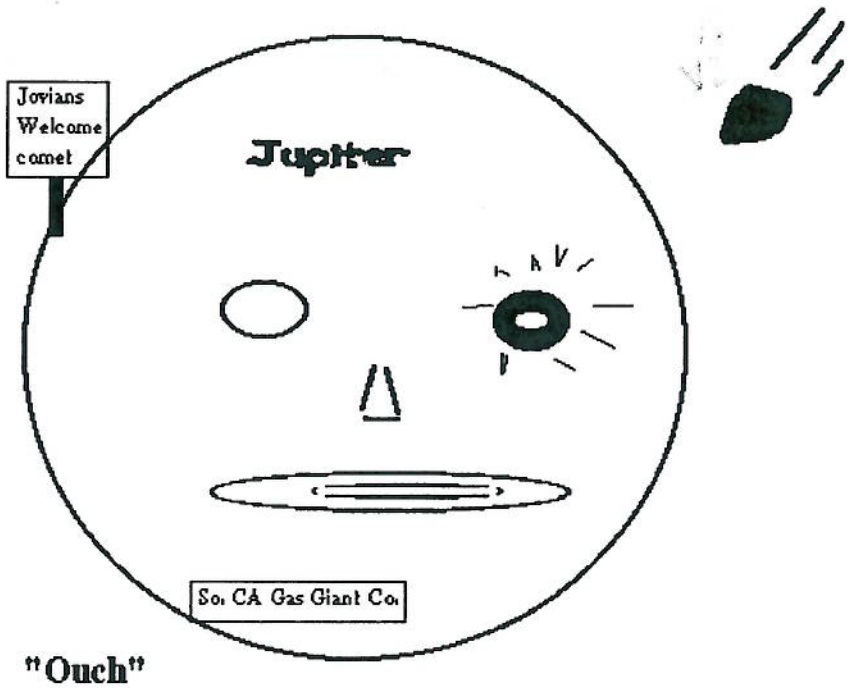


"Ouch"

ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

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

SANTA ANA, CA 927
PM
23 JUL
1994

NEXT MEETING: July 27, 1994 7:30 PM*

ISSUE #47

THE ORANGE PULP

* Doors open 7:00 P.M. (oh, if only those doors could speak)

THE ORANGE PULP

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

ISSUE #47 VOL 8, NO. 4, July 1994 (pre remaindered edition*)

EDITOR	**Jeff Stein (Let's keep my secret identity a secret)**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR	**Dave Silva**
SUBSCRIPTIONS	**Ken Williams**
PROGRAM DIRECTOR	**Marcia Starke**
OCSFC LOGO	**Mac McMahon**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, Jul 27, 1994, 7:30 PM at The Usual Place, 2400 East Chapman, Fullerton, a half mile west off the Orange Freeway. (SE corner of Chapman and St. College in Fullerton)

The Reading Orbit Discussion Novel:

***Agent of Byzantium* by Harry Turtledove**

* if you bought this cover without a newsletter, you were ripped off.

The Chief Speaks

Well!, we really had a great time at Elise and Ross's video party. In case you missed it, there were enough videos there to keep all of us busy until 1996 (or until Betamax becomes popular again). The food just kept coming and coming with both early and late arrivers bringing their favorite dishes. There was also a computer with full multimedia capabilities and the latest CD-ROM spectaculars for our pleasure. One room was showing the "B" rated videos, none of whose titles I remember, but the pictures are very fresh in my mind (something about Vampire Vixens from Pluto?). The other room had more moderate showings like The Seven Faces of Dr. Lao (probably something about health care reform). **Thanks Elise and Ross! It was terrific!**

Mail to the Chief

You have won one of four fabulous prizes!

*** An attending membership to Bore-o-Con**

*** A free book "Is Disco Really Dead?"**

*** An attractive set of lost luggage**

*** A genuine UFO medical test kit**

And, the really best part is that all you have to do to claim your prize is drive to our special prize acceptance place and listen to a short presentation about something that you probably already know

See the kinds of letters that I have to print!, now somebody write!

SUBMISSIONS TO THE ORANGE PULP

Send your letter, short story, article, or other items for publication consideration to:

Jeff Stein

1700 W. Cerritos #312

Anaheim, CA 92804

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jul	27	Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30
	30	Jedi Knights Procrastinators 4th of July party
Aug	10	OCSFC Movie night
	21	Jedi Knights regular meeting
	31	Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30
Sep	14	OCSFC Movie night
	18	Jedi Knights regular meeting
	28	Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30

For Jedi Knights information call (714) 826-5625

For Movie Night information call the Galactic Archives (714) 693-0673

For OCSFC information call (714) 552-4925

USS Spruance (909) 860-5067

Previous Meetings

Andre Bishop of Beam Aboard Enterprises was our guest speaker for May. He and his company would like to build a Star Trek themed hotel shaped like The Enterprise. This simulation would give participants the feeling of actually being the captain and commanding from the bridge.

In June we had Sherwood Smith and Dave Trowbridge authors of *Phoenix in Flight* a five book series which they described as "space opera". The series is not complete and will not end even after the fifth book because they plan to use the same universe in other ventures.

July Meeting

Anyone who is in to Science Fiction knows our next guest speaker, Harry Turtledove. He has written novels and short stories and has appeared at many SF conventions. His story *Down in the Bottomlands* is currently a Hugo nominee in the Best Novella catagory.

August Meeting

So far there is no speaker or program secheduled for August. That is to say that we just don't have anything prepared for that month's program. In other words there'll be no program for the month of August unless there is a change in plans or preparation for that month. I think we all need a rest.

Future Meetings

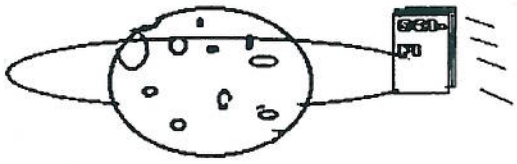
In September John Rigoni is scheduled to speak to us. John may speak about model building, photography, or any number of things. The back of John's head was recently showcased on A&E's Biography of Gene Roddenberry. Steve Sansweet has been scheduled for our October meeting. He was unable to be here earlier in the year due to illness. We hear that he now has some exciting new things to tell us about Star Wars and the collecting thereof. In November, artist Bob Kline is scheduled to come and speak to us. Finally, as if you didn't know, there is no meeting in December.

Movie Nights

I don't remember if we actually saw a movie in June, however in July we saw Wolf. (As if we weren't still tired of vampires from all that attention to Dracula last year). Wolf is set in modern times and is about a publisher who is bitten by a wolf (vampires are never mentioned in this movie) ((this gives the term "slush pile" a whole new meaning)). There really seemed to be a lot missing from the story and they could have done a better job by making the movie a little longer and explaining a few things.

The club movie night is usually the second Wednesday of each month, but due to film schedules and our schedules and our attitudes and the conditions of our cars and the weather and the phase of the moon and the price of butter, it has become very tentative. It is important to call ahead if you want to attend the movie with us.

The Reading Orbit



Ursula K. Leguin's *Always Coming Home* was our discussion book for May.

Phoenix in Flight by Sherwood Smith and Dave Trowbridge was our book for June coinciding with the authors' visit to our club

For July Harry Turtledove's *Agent of Byzantium* will be our book to read and discuss.

No other books have been firmly scheduled, but we may be reading *Terminal Compromise* as one of our next books. This will give us all the experience of reading a novel off the computer.

More Stuff

Con-o-Zoic

The Orange County Science Fiction Club had a table at the Friday night "Dino Night" party and ice cream social. Convention members won prizes from behind the Orange Curtain and were told about OCSFC.

Video Party

The video party was great! See page 2 for a fuller report.

ConAdian

I guess you already know if you're going to this 1994 worldcon by now so there's no point in making a big deal out of it here.

LOSCON

This is closer to home. It'll be at the Burbank Hilton again this year. If you haven't registered yet, don't forget.

If you didn't recently get a progress report, I'll try to bring mine to the meeting so you can see it for more information.

Editors' note: Fred Cropper saw my plea for submissions to the Pulp and wrote this very nice article. He sent it to Ken Williams. Ken typed the article into his computer and sent it to me through Compuserve E-Mail (via Columbus Ohio). Thanks to both Fred and Ken for making my job easier. Fred also sent a story which will probably be in the September Pulp.

THE MANY LIVES OF LAMONT CRANSTON

by Fred Cropper

THE SHADOW (alias Lamont Cranston) is fast becoming a folk hero of epic proportions, particularly with the new SHADOW movie with Alec Baldwin.

What most people don't know is that this pulp and radio hero began his radio career in 1930 and his pulp career in 1931! The pulp stories lasted until 1949; the radio show until 1954.

Walter B. Gibson (aka Maxwell Grant) penned a humongous 285 SHADOW novels between 1931 and 1949. During one period he produced two a month (60,000 words each)! He complained about his fingertips getting very sore and even bleeding sometimes.

Several other writers did some SHADOW novels, but Gibson performed the herculean feat of doing 285. At approximately 60,000 words a novel that's over 17,000,000 words ---- whew!!!!

Then in the '60's and '70's, THE SHADOW rose again and now the new movie.

A brief rundown of THE SHADOW's lengthy career:

Pulps and novels: 1931 - 1949

1963 Belmont - 9 new SHADOW novels 1964 Archie Comics - a comic book 1966 Grosset & Dunlap - 3 hardcovers of the original pulp stories 1969-70 Bantam - 7 reprints 1973 A new comic book Tempo books - 1 novel 1978 Jove paperbacks - 23 of the original novels

RADIO

1930-1954 Radio programs with 110 radio stations still broadcasting the original programs in 1964

MOVIES

1931 Universal - 6 short two reelers 1937 Grand National - THE SHADOW STRIKES 1940 Columbia serial - THE SHADOW 1946 Monogram (B) - THE SHADOW RETURNS 1959 Republic (another B) - THE INVISIBLE AVENGER 1994 THE SHADOW - starring Alec Baldwin - sure to be one the blockbuster movies of 1994!

So goes THE SHADOW - probably one of the most durable heroes of all time!

HELL'S CARTOGRAPHERS

Edited by Brian Aldiss & Harry Harrison

Reviewed by Dave Silva

One reason we try to get writers as guest speakers for OCSFC meetings is that they are invariably entertaining speakers. I can't think of one that wasn't. SF writers have an infectuous passion for what they do. Fred Pohl makes the observation that science fiction writers are, almost always, either dead or still writing.

Hell's Cartographers. Harper & Row, 1975, is a collection of six autobiographical sketches by Robert Silverberg, Alfred Bester, Harry Harrison, Damon Knight, Frederik Pohl, and Brian Aldiss. Each one runs about 40 pages and in the back of the book each author briefly outlines his writing schedule. Although this book is 19 years old, most of the contributors are still very active in SF. In certain respects the fact that this was written in 1975 makes it very interesting. Each writer was very much aware, at that point in time, that the books he wrote weren't going to make the best seller lists. There was no expectation that they would write that one blockbuster that would make them rich. Damon Knight and Harry Harrison often stayed with friends, because they were broke until their next story sold. They all wrote science fiction because that's what they liked to write. It was very much a grind it out process; if you sold enough stories, and got some reprint royalties here and there, you could make a living. Silverberg was the youngest and financially the most sucessful of this group. He wanted to be a writer at an early age, was published by the time he was nineteen and except for editing books, never held any other type of job. Five days a week he would average 25 pages in four hours of writing. Most of his career he never revised a word, and he sold everything he wrote. Bester would work on some books for years, tinkering around and sometimes making radical revisions. Aldiss always sent his manuscripts to a professional typist before submitting it.

Pohl and Knight both have fond and amusing memories of their days in the Futurians. Knight recalls, "The Futurians had their own official religion, invented by Wollheim; it was called GhuGhuism, and began with the cracking of the Cosmic Egg. It had Vesta Virgins, whose virginity was perpetually renewed, and other features I have forgotten. Wollheim also invented a private language to read the Gholy Ghible in, but he was the only one who could read it."

A really comic scene is Bester's first meeting with John W. Campbell. It was in 1950, and Bester had written a story with Freudian overtones. Campbell bluntly informed him, "You don't know it, you can't have any way of knowing it, but Freud is finished." Campbell went on to explain that he was publishing "Dianetics", by L. Ron Hubbard in the next issue of Astounding and insisted that Bester read the entire text, right then and there, in his office.

Trying to find common bonds among SF writers is difficult; they're so diverse. They tend to be intelligent, idealistic, have a broad range of interests and a good sense of humor and the absurd. All of them were voracious readers at an early age. Aldiss expressed the hope of doing an additional book using six different authors. I don't know if he ever did, but I enjoyed this one and would read one with a similar format.