Orange County
Science Fiction Club
P.O. Box 9225
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-9225

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PM
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1998

USA
First-Class Rate

Next Meeting: January 27 1998, 7:30 P.M.*

ISSUE #74

THE ORANGE PULP

***Doors Open 7:00 PM** (The way to a building's heart is through its doors)

THE ORANGE PULP

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

ISSUE #74 Vol 13, No. 1, January 1998 (another day, another Euro)

Editor **Jeff Stein** *(another day, another day)*
Associate Editor **Dave Silva**
Subscriptions and Circulation **Marcia Starke**
Program Director **Greg Funke, Dick Nordrum**
OCSFC LOGO **Mac McMahon**

Phone Numbers:
Orange County Science Fiction Club: (949) 552-4925
Jedi Knights: (760) 244-9593
Galactic Archives: (714) 693-0673

The Chief Speaks

The characture above is of me as done by Kelly Freas at LosCon. It is used here with his permission. It took a whole year to get it done. Well, it only took a few minutes to get it done. But I paid for it a year in advance.

I want to congratulate Dave Silva on sending his story to me via E-Mail. He saved $0.33 and a diskette.

I saw Star Trek: Insurrection a couple of weeks ago. It was a typical ST:TNG episode extended to feature film length. I think a more appropriate title would have been Star Trek: Liposuction but that's just my opinion.

If you haven't paid your yearly fee for the meetings or for getting the 'Pulp see Greg and/or Marcia at the meeting.
Hey, I can make really small type with this thing. Is anybody still out there? How about now I'm shrinking, oh no that's what viruses look like...

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
or by EMAIL to
72437.3435@compuserve.com

Previous Meetings

November: This turned out to be an open meeting. It's a good thing we all like to talk to each other

December: .Truthfully now, where did you guys meet?

Upcoming Meetings

January: Jim Blaylock will be our speaker.

February: .No info yet. but it's going to be great!

Winter Tides by James Blaylock will be the book for January. We normally discuss the book for the month at the restaurant after the main meeting is over.

I would like to also discuss *Not to Mention The Dog* by Connie Willis since we didn't get a chance to do that last time.

NESFA 1998 Hugo Recommendations

28 December 1998 -- mlo

NESFA continues to maintain a list of Good Stuff to read. Any NESFA member who reads something that they would like to recommend to others to be considered for a Hugo nomination can add it to the list. We will publish it from time to time in Instant Message and on the nets. (Feel free to reproduce it provided you reproduce it intact!) It's neither definitive nor complete, but it contains the stories, novels and non-fiction works that a bunch of well-read fans feel may be worthy of a Hugo nomination.

Novels			
Earth Made of Glass	John Barnes	Tor	mlo, pg, ec, arl
Dinosaur Summer	Greg Bear	Warner Aspect	mlo, po, kp, ec
Rogue Star	Michael F. Flynn	Tor	pg, mh
Brown Girl in the Ring	Nalo Hopkinson		ebh
Moonfall	Jack McDevitt	Harper	arl
Antarctica ('97)	Kim StanleyRobinson		pg
Children of God	Mary Doria Russell	Villard	mlo, po, pg, jam, ec
Island in the Sea of Time	S. M. Stirling	Roc	ca, daa
The Death of the Necromancer	Martha Wells	Avon	pg, pal
To Say Nothing of the Dog	Connie Willis	Bantam Spectra	jam, pg, arl, gf
Darwinia	Robert Charles Wilson	Tor	ca, daa, arl,po, mlo, mh, ec
Novella			
Get Me to the Church on Time	Terry Bisson	Asimov's 5/98	ca
Story of Your Life	Ted Chiang	Starlight 2	ca, gf
The Summer Isles	Ian R. MacLeod	Asimov's 10-11/98	ca
The Cuckoo's Boys	Robert Reed	SF Age 9/98	ca
Novelette			
The Question	Ben Bova	Analog 1/98	ca, gf
The Allies	Mark S. Geston	F&SF 5/98	ca
Getting to Know You	David Marusek	Asimov's 3/98 ('97 reprint)	ca
Waiting for the End	Robert Silverberg	Asimov's 10-11/98	ca
Taklamakan	Bruce Sterling	Asimov's 10-11/98	ca
Divided by Infinity	Robert Charles Wilson	Starlight 2	ca, mlo,gf
Short Story			
A Game of Consequences	David Langford	Starlight 2	mlo
Maneki Neko	Bruce Sterling	F&SF 5/98	ca
Wild Minds	Michael Swanwick	Asimov's 5/98	gf
Non-Fiction			
Northern Dreamers	Edo van Belkam	Quarry Press	ca
Spectrum 5	Cathy Fenner & Arnie Fenner	Underwood	ca, ged
Dramatic Presentation			
The Truman Show	ca, daa, jam, pf, sls		
Sliding Doors	ca		
Dark City	ca, daa, gf		
In the Pale Moonlight st:ds9	jam, ec		
Far Beyond the Stars st:ds9	jam, ec		
Wrongs Darker Than Death or Night st:ds9	jam, ec		
Pleasantville	ca, daa, sls, pf		
Practical Magic	sls		
Six String Samurai	ca, daa		
Star Trek: Insurrection	pf, ged		
Other Good Reads			
Novels			
In the Garden of Iden ('97)	Kage Baker	Harper	pg
Foundation and Chaos	Greg Bear	mlo, arl, ec	
Komarr	Lois McMaster bujold	Baen	mlo, arl, sl, pg, ec, gf, daa
Helm	Steven Gould	Tor	mlo, ca, ec, daa
Newton's Cannon	J. Gregory Keyes	DelRey	ca
Deepdrive	Alexander Jablokov	pg, mh, ec	
Moonfall	Jack McDevitt	Harper	arl, pg, ca, mh, daa
Song for the Basilisk	Patricia McKillip		po, pal
Circle of Magic: Sandy's Book	Tamora Pierce	Scholastic	pal
Circle of Magic: Tris' Book	Tamora Pierce	Scholastic	pal
Factoring Humanity	Robert Sawyer		pg, ec
Island in the Sea of Time	S.M Stirling	Roc	mlo, kp, ec, po, ec, gf
Six Moon Dance	Sheri Tepper		esa
Ports of Call	Jack Vance	Tor	mlo
Empire of the Ants	Bernard Weber		pg, ca
The Death of the Necromancer	Martha Wells	Avon	gf
To Say Nothing of the Dog	Connie Willis	Bantam Spectra	mlo, arl
Darwinia	Robert Charles Wilson	Tor	arl

Key to nominators: arl: Tony Lewis, by: Ben Yalow, ca: Claire Anderson, cjh: Chip Hitchcock, cle: Chris Logan Edwards, daa: Dave Anderson, dea: Deb Atwood, ebh: Lisa Hertel, ec: Elisabeth Carey, ecl: Evelyn Leeper, esa: Ted Atwood, ged: Gay Ellen Dennett, gf: George Flynn; jam: Jim Mann, jb: Judy Bemis, jr: Joe Rico, js: Joe Siclair, kp: Kelly Persons, mdh: Mark Hertel, mlo: Mark Olson, pal: Paula Lieberman, pf: Pam Fremon, pg: Paul Giguere, po: Priscilla Olson, rb: Ray Bowie, rk: Rick Katze, sl: Suford Lewis, sls:Sharon Sbarsky

Stardust

by Timothy Cassidy-Curtis

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Chapter 14

Virtual reality was total immersion in a strange world.

Jeffery Coshocton was in that world. It wasn't really strange; he was required to maintain his skills in here on a frequent basis, most enlisted had to. But it wasn't a game. That had him worried. Fortunately, Charlie Medina, who was working support, had piped in several sessions of the popular video game which simulated this operation. Jeff had him jack the level up to six. Jeff made all of them...except one. That was pretty good, but it almost unnerved Jeff. "I missed one." was all he said.

Charlie was about to say something when the acquisition signal lit. The Zoe was in place. Charlie put Jeff into operations mode.

Chapter 15

There were stars all about him. That's what Jeff wanted from Fire Corps service; the stars. And they were his. Jeff allowed a moment of awe. Than, from out of the starry dark, came a sweet voice.

"Hello, Jeff."

Jeff looked over and saw Ellen Meigs, floating in space. She seemed to be moving about; how was he to get a hold of anyone here, with all this motion?

Jeffery must have been talking out loud because Ellen, or at least her image, took on a pout.

"Hey, big boy," she said "they told me you were good."

Jeff blushed, and wondered if it got translated in virtual.

It must have. "C'mon, this can't be so hard. What level are you at?" she asked.

"Ten," Jeff said. Ellen looked impressed. "How about you?"

"Just finished ninth." she said. Jeff smiled. Catch-A-Ship was even more fun with an equally skilled partner.

Ellen held her arms open to him. "Time to get to work."

Chapter 16

"That's...it,...Admiral." Star said in a strained voice "It's...now...or...never."

The safe zone was almost at the James's hull. The Zoe, with full maneuver capabilities, was also having difficulties. It was rough. It was time.

"Zoe, move in. Now." I commanded.

Patina Star's best pilot aboard the Zoe suddenly swooped in towards the James. There would be one chance for Coshocton and Meigs.

I hoped they were as good as everyone said.

The two ships came within range, but there was no movement in either of the monstrous capture arms, controlled by Jeff and Ellen. The Zoe hung there, tantalizingly close, and stayed for what seemed to be an eternity. I was wondering what was taking Jeff and Ellen so long. Then it happened; the James' hull busted through the safe zone.

Chapter 17

"C'mon, Ellen, crank it up to level ten." Jeff coached. There were emotional and mental preparations everyone made for Catch-A-Ship. Ellen looked visibly frightened, despite her soothing talk a moment ago. The ship's jostling had gotten much worse.Ellen closed her eyes a moment.

Then she appeared to swoop towards Jeff. He was already cranked up and guessed the area she would be in, when she came in range. That was his secret, if she just stayed in that area.

There she was. For just a moment, she just hung there. She opened her eyes, and locked on Jeff's. They gazed into each other's space-deep pupils. The time was...

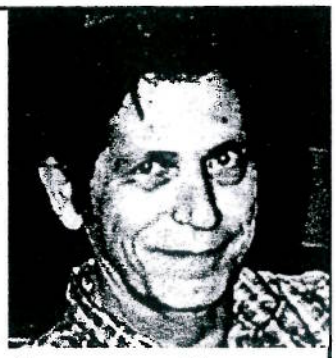
Now!

Jeffery Coshocton swung his arms up and about aiming for Ellen's mid section. His arms were moving towards behind her back. At the same time, Ellen's arms moved, one in over his head, and came down, to lock around the arms which were about to lock around her, the other came under and up.

Jeff was violently thrown downwards, but by that time he had a grip on Ellen. Ellen had also gotten her arms crossed, one from the top, one from the bottom, in an unbreakable embrace. They held each other tightly, with all the forces in the universe tearing them apart. The more they were forced apart, the more they held on. Their faces less than an inch from each other in the virtual world.

No force would unbind them, now.They kissed.

Civilization is a Useful Thing
By Dave Silva



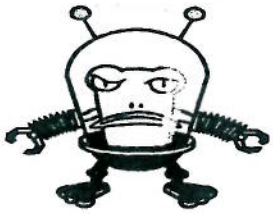
One of the recurring themes in SF is the collapse of civilization. In Octavia Butler's novel "Parable of the Sower," civilization hasn't totally collapsed but the lives of most people is pretty desperate. Butler doesn't spell out all the historical details, but she presents a Southern California plagued by global warming, overpopulation, water and food shortages, unemployment crime and drugs. The protagonist, an empathic young black girl, Lauren Olmina, lives in an enclave walled off from the lawless outside. People in the community don't go outside without a gun because you will get killed, robbed, raped or eaten by wild dogs. The "community" survives through cooperation and raising most of their own food, but there is always talk of heading north to Oregon, or Canada, where it is safer and you can get jobs that pay money. Also, they talk of joining larger enclaves that are better protected from the desperate crazies on the outside.

In David Brin's "The Postman," he makes the forceful point that if you suddenly took away all the comforts and gadgets of technology we would really miss it. His post nuclear holocaust world is starker and less textured than Butler's California of 2027.

De foe's "Robinson Crusoe," is an early example of being deprived of civilization and having to be resourceful enough to survive. The classic "The Lord of the Flies," shows how quickly civilized norms can vanish. In Olaf Stapledon's "Last and First Men," (1930) civilization collapses (the first time) because the social fabric is so dependant on cheap energy and falls apart when the seemingly endless coal fields in Antarctica run out.

Naturally we in science fiction think more about the benefits of technology than most people. We are more aware that we need to take long range measures to protect our way of life in the future. If anyone doubts the value of technology consider that in the year 1,000 the individual life expectancy was 35 years, in 1935 it was 60 years and in 1997 life expectancy was 79 years.

Albert Einstein said, "I know not with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones."



February

1999

Sunday	*Monday*	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*	*Thursday*	*Friday*	*Saturday*
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Con-Dor	13 Con-Dor
14 Con-Dor Valentine's Day	15 President's Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 OCSFC 7:30	25	26	27
28						

March

1999

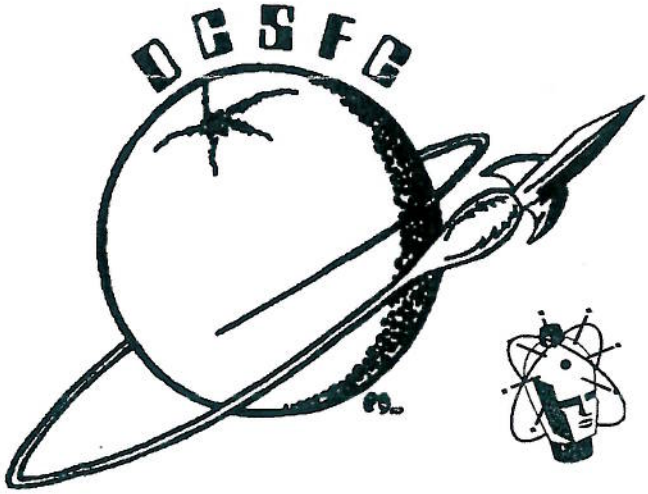
Sunday	*Monday*	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*	*Thursday*	*Friday*	*Saturday*
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Next week was the week that was.	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Spring has sprung
21	22	23	24	25 Victoria's Secret: It's a Cookbook!	26	27
28	29	30	31 OCSFC 7:30			

Orange County Science Fiction Club

January 27: James Blaylock

February 24:

March 31:



The Club meets at the usual place, in the community room of 2400 E. Chapman, Fullerton, A half mile west off the 57 freeway (corner of Chapman and St. College)

For Info: (949) 552-4925

Last Wednesday of Every month except December