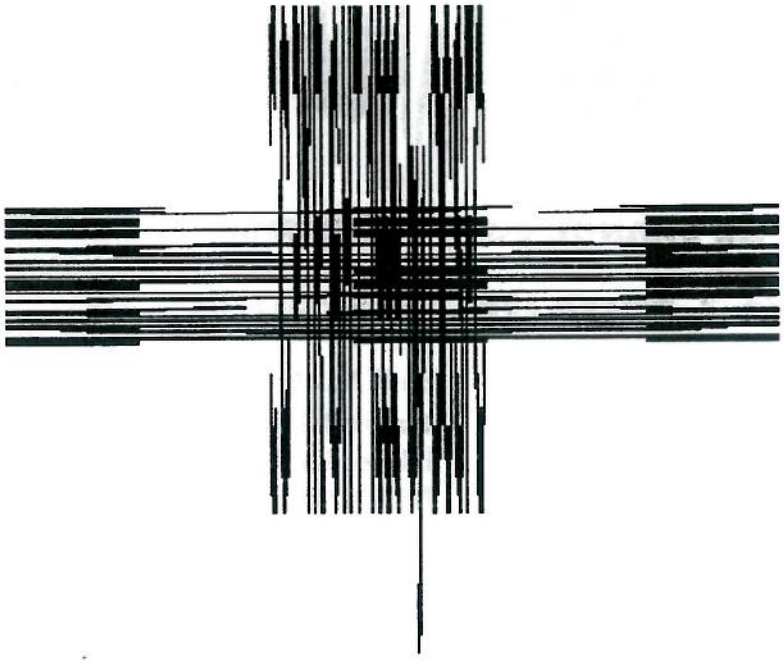
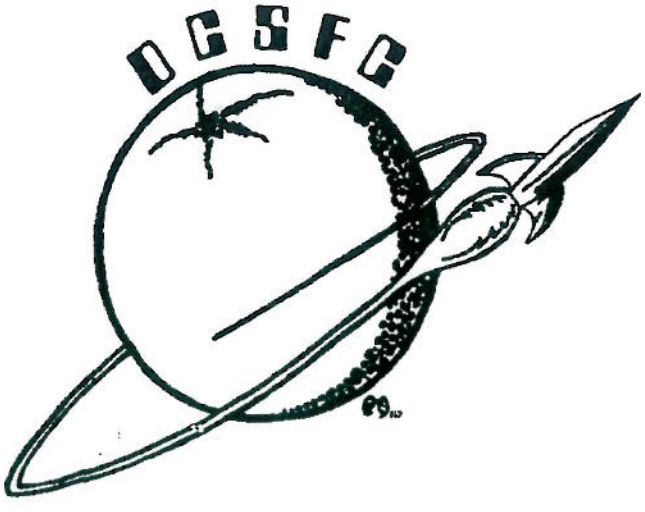


Orange County
Science Fiction Club
P.O. Box 9225
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-9225

Next Meeting: March 31 1999, 7:30 P.M.*



ISSUE#75

THE ORANGE PULP

***Doors Open 7:00 PM** (Through these portals pass Orange County's finest somethingorothers)

THE ORANGE PULP

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

ISSUE #75 Vol 13, No. 2, March 1998 (not collectible)

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The Chief Speaks

Sorry for the delay in getting this issue out, I had some personal problems to take care of. We have *finally* reached the end of Tim Cassidy Curtis's story *Stardust*. I have been given another short story by Tim which I will put in the May 'Pulp, but after that.... You tell me!

Linda Alvarez loaned me the picture she had drawn of herself by Kelly Freas, you'll find it on page 3. Dave Silva has once again contributed a well written and informative article. This is something I have always wondered about in SF. Why do society's form "other planets" seem to all have a one world government?

The nominee's from the Nebula ballot are also here for your information. This is the award given by SFWA.

SUBMISSIONS TO THE ORANGE PULP

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

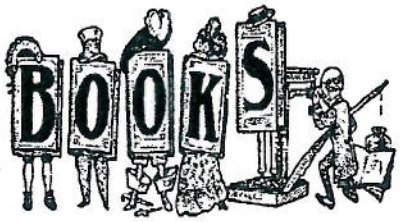
JEFF STEIN
1700 W. Cerritos #312
Anaheim, CA 92804
or by EMAIL to
72437.3435@compuserve.com

Previous Meetings

January: Jim Blaylock, a terrific program as always

February: Dick was very enthusiastic about our speaker, Jonathan V. Post in his E-Mail to me and we had a very enjoyable time with this prolific writer and poet.

Upcoming Meetings



March: How many times have you had to put up with the "no talking" rule? Especially in librarys, classrooms, and other places when you had something you really wanted to say?! Well, all that's about to change because we have no guest speaker for this month and we will be allowed to talk to each other!

April: Nobody's on line yet

Falling Free by Lois McMaster Bujold was to have been the book to be discussed for March. It is being pushed back until April.

Our own Janet Alvarez as seen by Kelly Freas

****
1998 SFWA Final Nebula Awards™ Ballot
****
Nebula Final Ballot

Editors Note

I don't think we have any members who vote for the Nebula Awards. This listing is from the SFWA web site and is presented for information only.

Novels:
* Asaro, Catherine: The Last Hawk (Tor, Nov97)
* Haldeman, Joe: Forever Peace (Ace, Oct97)
* McDevitt, Jack: Moonfall (HarperPrism, Apr98)
* Turtledove, Harry: How Few Remain (Del Rey, Oct97)
* Wells, Martha: Death of the Necromancer, Avon July 98
* Willis, Connie: To Say Nothing of the Dog (Bantam Spectra, Jan98)

Novellas:
* Asaro, Catherine: Aurora In Four Voices (Analog, Dec98)
* Davidson, Avram & Davis, Grania: The Boss In the Wall (Tachyon Publications, Aug98)
* Finch, Sheila: Reading the Bones (F&SF, Jan98)
* Fintushel, Eliot: Izzy and the Father of Terror (Asimov's, Jul97)
* Gerrold, David: Jumping Off the Planet (SF Age, Jan98)
* Landis, Geoffrey A.: Ecopoiesis (SF Age, May97)

Novelettes:
* Feeley, Gregory: The Truest Chill (SF Age, Nov97)
* Klages, Ellen: Time Gypsy (Bending the Landscape: SF, Overlook Press, Oct98)
* McGarry, Mark J.: The Mercy Gate (F&SF, Mar98)
* Rusch, Kristine Kathryn: Echea (Asimov's, Jul98)
* Williams, Walter Jon: Lethe (Asimov's, Sep97)
* Yolen, Jane: Lost Girls (Realms of Fantasy, Feb98)

Short Stories:
* Brust, Steven: When the Bough Breaks (The Essential Bordertown, Tor, Sep98)
* Fowler, Karen Joy: Standing Room Only (Asimov's, Aug97)
* Goldstein, Lisa: Fortune and Misfortune (Asimov's, May97)
* Landis, Geoffrey A.: Winter Fire (Asimov's, Aug97)
* Rogers, Bruce Holland: Thirteen Ways to Water (Black Cats and Broken Mirrors, Martin Greenberg and John Helfers, Ed., DAW, Jun98)
* Wentworth, K.D.: Tall One (F&SF, Apr98)

The Nebula Awards are voted on, and presented by, active members of the Science Fiction and Fanasy Writers of America, Inc. Founded as the Science Fiction Writers of America in 1965 by Damon Knight, the organization began with a charter membership of 78 writers; it now has over 1,000 members, among them most of the leading writers of science fiction and fantasy.

The Awards will be announced at the 1999 Nebula Awards Weekend to be held in Pittsburgh, PA on April 30 - May 2, 1999.

Stardust

by Timothy Cassidy-Curtis

copyright 1998 by Timothy Cassidy-Curtis

Chapter 18

"GET US OUT OF HERE, NOW!!!" Patina Star ordered.

The Zoe's helmsman, being in complete agreement, brought the Zoe, and the James, now connected with it, around, perpendicular to the shock line, which approached quickly, and was only seconds away. That didn't matter, as the Team Ship formation of the St James, and St Zoe, engaged a full Mag Ten drive. With the James locked in, both were one with the same artificial gravity and hyper speed fields, as the double ship sped away at ten billion gees. It was gone in a shot.

Chapter 19

Fire Corp star ship refurbishment facilities were known for taunting captains to repair their own ships. It was deliberate; the major facilities could easily be overrun by minor repair demands. That's why Admiral's command them, to taunt freely.

Admiral Mat Hall commanded the Ophuchi facility. He did a detailed scan of the James. He let us in without a word.

Relationships were not discouraged between crew of the James and Zoe. In fact they were welcomed; caring about a loved one on the other Team Ship improved motivation and teamwork. Soon, Jeff Coshocton and Ellen Meigs were an item. Rumors, the nice kind, spread like wildfire aboard both ships. Jeff and Ellen didn't seem to notice, as they soon became frequent partners in Catch-A-Ship.

The James' First Officer recovered, as well as the ship's Chief Engineer. Dr. Flemeau was in a most amusing position of ministering to his boss, the Chief MedicalOfficer. The CMO was, in Flamer's opinion, the worst patient he has ever had. Good.

Chapter 20

... and as her amber eyes catch my gaze, I lower her gently to the cool white sand of the beach. I can hear her sighs wash into the surf of the sea as I caress the small of her back and gently nuzzle her neck. Her leg falls on my thigh, and I can feel the heat pulsating from between her...

The comm buzzed.

"Admiral," came the tinny voice of Captain Star-Space-Star, "its Cochocton and Meigs."

I raised my eyebrows.

"They hit level eleven."

THE END

FUTURE OF THE NATION STATE
by Dave Silva

We are all familiar with the "Federation" and its role in the various Star Trek series. The Federation can act as the unified military force of its member planets and can form alliances with old enemies like the Klingons and the Romulans. Just what the powers of the Federation are, who makes the decisions and how democratic the process is, is deliberately vague so the writers don't get locked into some specific box. Star Fleet
can issues directives that Deep Space Nine must implement in its policies toward Bajor. Although Star Fleet owes its loyalty to the Federation we get the impression that individual planets are pretty much autonomous.

Since the geo-political model of present day Earth is the nation state, and we have lived our entire lives under this system, you might think aliens would just naturally adopt such an obviously good system. Not so!
It is the job of SF writers to come up with interesting alternatives to what humans commonly use. Using examples from Star Trek, because we are all familiar with that universe, you find the Vulcans and the Romulans are both one world governments, with the Romulans being more authoritarian and less open than their Vulcan cousins.

The Bajorans have a benevolent theocratic one world government. Their rivals, the Kardasians have secret governments running in the background, like the Obsidian Order, which is constantly pursuing machiavellian plots. Even more monolithic is the mind sharing Founders, who have a pure democracy that rejects any central authority but the will of the majority. Then there is the Borg with their hive based culture that rejects
individuality for the good of the collective. Both the Founders and the Borg remind us of communist systems.

The Negus is the central power in the Farengi government and exists as a sort of cross between Alan Greenspan and the Pope. However, the Negus is only revered as long as the economy prospers. The Klingons are like humans, clan oriented and very competitive. Klingons will unite against a common foe but are generally at each others throats.

Why are these alien cultures SF writers create rarely as diverse and fragmented as our own? Perhaps writers create a more monolithic profile for aliens (such as all Kardasians are treacherous and all Farengi are
greedy) because to create twenty different sub-cultures within an alien race would be far too complex for an hour TV show. Although it would be interesting if there were segments of society on Bajor that were as different an Italians and Eskimos. There are novels such as "The Diamond Age," and "Snow Crash" by Neil Stepheson, where the nation state has disintegrated because of the influence of multi-national corporations and the globalization of television and the internet. Right now I find it hard to imagine anything replacing the nation state in the near future, but this is a time in history when things can change fast.

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Good Friday	3 Passible Saturday
4 Reasonable Sunday (also Easter)	5 You can't really say anything nice about Mondays	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 OCSFC	29	30	

1999

May

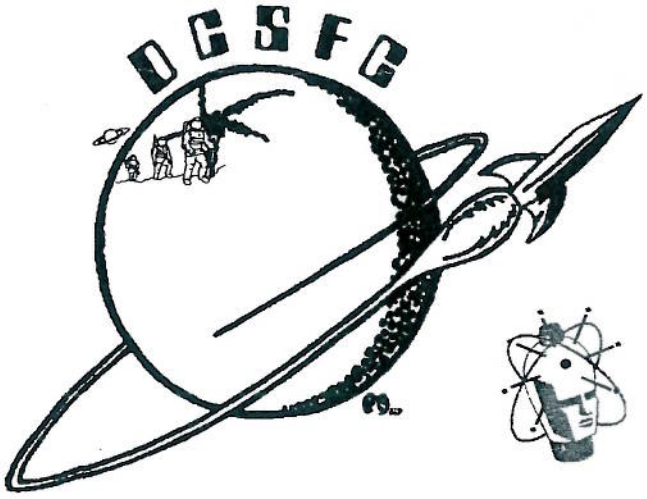
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 May the fourth (be with you) (ok it's an old one)	5	6	7	8 Mother's Day
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Star Wars: The Phantom Menace Opens	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 OCSFC	27	28	29
30	31 Memorial Day					

1999

Orange County Science Fiction Club

March 31: Open Meeting

April 28: Open Meeting



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