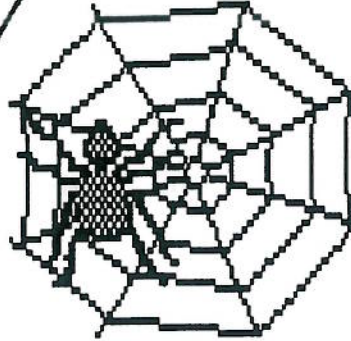
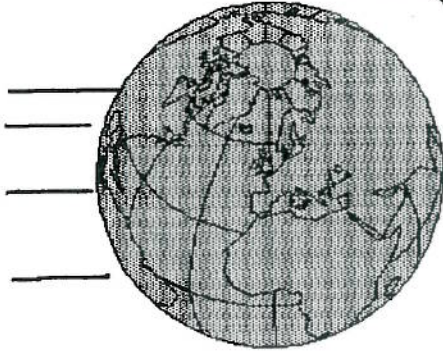


Welcome to **MY**
World Wide Web (heh heh heh)



SPACE SPIDERS!

ORANGE COUNTY
SCIENCE FICTION CLUB
P.O. Box 9225
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-9225



NEXT MEETING: November 29, 1995 7:30 PM*



ISSUE #55

THE ORANGE PULP

* Doors open 7:00 P.M.(What if the doors opened and there was nobody there to go inside, would the doors really have opened?)

THE ORANGE PULP

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

ISSUE #55 VOL 9, NO. 6, November 1995

EDITOR Jeff Stein (Editors relax with yogurt and "editation")
ASSOCIATE EDITOR Dave Silva
SUBSCRIPTIONS Marcia Starke
PROGRAM DIRECTORS Marcia Starke and Greg Funke
OCSFC LOGO Mac McMahon



Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 29, 1995, 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: "Ubik" by Phillip K. Dick

The Chief Speaks

Well, another year is about to have passed*. I see from the ancient data base that all who subscribe to this orange rag are about to expire, or rather, their subscriptions are about to expire. In other words, it's time to renew, which you can do by seeing Marcia at the meeting and giving her the \$6. For that mere pittance, you get 6 more issues of this wonderful publication. That's 18 pieces of paper, some of them the extremely rare orange type, with copying on Both Sides! Some of the exciting things the 'Pulp has planned for next year:

- Mail to the Chief (In case I actually get any)
- Calendar of Events (If you haven't memorized them by now)
- Meeting Program
- Meeting Location (If we ever move, you'll never find us without the 'Pulp)

*I was trying to use the present perfect tense, but since the present isn't perfect I was too tense.

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 Compuserve: 72437,3435 or Internet : 72437.3435@compuserve.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov	24-26	LOSCON- Burbank Hilton
	29	Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30
Dec	13	Movie Night
	17	Jedi Knights Regular Meeting
	25	Christmas
	27	Orange County Science Fiction Club, NOT!
Jan	10	Movie Night
	21	Jedi Knights Regular Meeting
	25	Christmas total recovery day
	31	Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30

Remember: No OCSFC meeting in December! (This is the last time I'm going to tell you, this year!)

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

Previous Meetings

In September Tim Powers was our speaker for the evening. (Jim Blaylock was also scheduled to be there but apparently he was unable to attend) Tim discussed his recent teaching session at Clarion, about the kinds of problems he found with the up and coming writers abilities, his reactions, and how he would have dealt with those problems. He also talked about *Last Call*, a book he wrote which was a recent choice by the OCSFC Orbit reading group.

Our good friend Rhondi Salsitz was the guest for October. She didn't have any set plan on what to talk about, she just sat down and talked to us. Writing under the name Elizabeth Forrest, she seems to be gaining a great deal of recognition in the writing world. She brought her resume to the meeting listing 38 novels between 1982 and 1996. Her next book, due May 1996 is *Killjoy*.

November, & not December **And January too**

In November, I am told that we have a guest from MUFON (Mutual UFO Network). Jan Harzan, Director of Investigations will be the speaker.

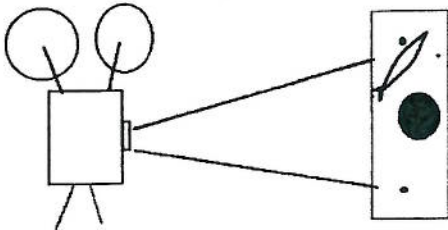
note: in past years we've ad our big, book sale in November. We are discontinuing it since it never really amounted to anything. However, feel free to bring used books for sale to any meeting.

December meeting? **NO!** (OK I told you again

In January we will have an open meeting to discuss what we all want to do in the upcoming year.

MOVIE NIGHTS

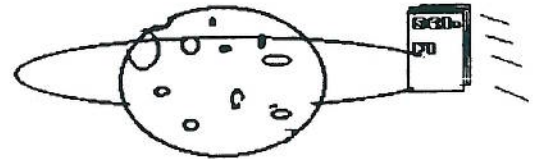
We were not able to attend a movie in October or November due to timing of SF movies, schedules and general apathy. (Note: general apathy has been promoted and shall now be referred to as Generalissimo Apathy) Anyway, we'll get to see a movie sooner or later. If you're interested in attending with us, we usually plan to go on the second Wednesday of the month, in the evening. Call the phone number on the previous page for information about if, when, and where we'll be going.



THE READING ORBIT

For November, the book is *UBIK* by Phillip K. Dick

The next meeting won't be until January, The book for that meeting will be *Lethe* by Tricia Sullivan



Hey, What's going (C)on there?

UNICON -November 4, 1995 Irvine. It's FREE. I went there. It would have been wonderful were it not cancelled. {sigh}

LOSCON- November 24-26 Burbank. By the time you read this you will either be there, or will have missed it.

L.A. con III Aug 29- Sep 2 1996 \$110.(through December 31, rates higher at the door) L.A. con III P.O. Box 8442 Van Nuys, CA 91409. Or write to the E-Mail Infobot through internet: lacon3-info@netcom.com

1997 Worldcon : San Antonio, LoneStarCon II

1998 Worldcon: Baltimore

BELINDA'S STORY by Fred Cropper

Belinda and Maria, sisters, had a cleaning service. They cleaned houses and they were the best. If you'd had your house cleaned by them you could be sure the place was really clean.

They advertised in the church bulletin and got several satisfactory jobs that way. They charged \$40 a cleaning and believe me that was a real bargain.

They had got a new job, an apartment, from John Silk, who was about to depart for a week on business.

The girls had a house to clean on the day he wanted but since it was an apartment, Maria thought Belinda could do it alone and she could clean the other house which had been cleaned the week before so there wouldn't be a lot to do.

John had mailed a house key to the girls. Belinda went to the apartment on the designated day and unlocked the door. The weather was hot outside, almost 90 degrees. But as Belinda stepped into the dark apartment, it was very cold in the living room. She could see her breath in front of her.

All of a sudden there was a loud moaning sound coming from the bedroom. Belinda was frightened out of here skin! a whitish light, very dim, was coming through the semi-open bedroom door. Belinda was paralyzed; she couldn't move. An apparition floated through the bedroom door. Belinda knew she was seeing a ghost. The high pitched moan seemed to denote a woman.

Belinda finally got herself together and bolted from the apartment. She didn't know Maria's number at the other house so she called Rudy, her friend. What Belinda didn't know was that Rudy has studied with a Curandero in Venezuela and knew quite a lot about ghosts, evil spirits and such.

He gathered up some chicken bones, conveniently left over from El Pollo Loco and some feathers from an old hat of his mother's. He was ready. He met Belinda and they went back to the apartment. As they went in the door the ghost appeared again, very agitated this time.

Rudy was very calm as he began to arrange the chicken bones and feathers. He spoke an incantation which translated meant; "get the hell out of here".

Suddenly the ghost disappeared in a puff of smoke and the room went back to a normal temperature.

Well, it turned out a lady had been murdered in that apartment back in the 1950's by her husband and she was apparently haunting the place. The lady was from Mexico, the same town Belinda and Maria came from! I guess that's why she appeared to Belinda and not John Silk.

Belinda and Rudy decided not to tell anybody other than Maria about the ghost. Who would have believed them?

THE END

Author's note:

This story was written at the request of a certain young lady. "Write a story about me," she said. She is slender with short dark hair and dark eyes. She isn't really beautiful, but with a slight gap in her front teeth (like Lauren Hutton, the model) and dimples when she smiles, which is often, I'd call her adorable. Also, when you talk to her she pays rapt attention to what you say. How could I refuse her request?

Oh, by the way, a Curandero is a latin witch doctor.

WHY DON'T THEY ANSWER OUR CALLS?

By Dave Silva

At the last meeting we were discussing the first confirmed discovery of planets outside our solar system. A monumental achievement by the Hubble Telescope in detecting two Jovian sized planets circling a star. Other pictures from the Hubble, recently shown on television, show stars being born in the swirling gas of the Eagle Nebula, 7,000 light years from earth. We are again reminded that our little neighborhood isn't as unique as we might have thought. With these new discoveries it becomes increasingly clear that our solar system isn't an isolated fluke of nature, but that Earth is simply one of billions of planets, in our Milky Way Galaxy, with the potential of sustaining life.

Radio Astronomer, Frank Drake devised a formula to estimate the number of technical civilizations in our Galaxy. The Drake equation uses letters to represent factors necessary to sustain intelligent life. If you recall Carl Sagan's PBS series, "COSMOS", he used a formula similar to Drake's in answering this question. Of course, the factors are many and the conclusions often subjective however, it seems the logical way to address the problem. I believe Sagan estimated 4 or 5. Others have made guesses ranging from 10,000 to 1. Assuming recent reports that we are currently visited by aliens, who enjoy abducting people for genetic experiments, lacks compelling evidence; then we are the one and the other 9,999 are speculation.

SETI, Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, is a number of projects using radio telescopes to broadcast at 1,420 MHz. This is based on the frequency emitted by the hydrogen atom when it reverses its spin, since hydrogen is the most common element, it is the most likely to be recognized and decoded. Frank Drake was the first to attempt radio communication with aliens in 1960, from an observatory in Green Bank, West Virginia. Since then, bigger projects with more channels have tried contact without success. In 1985, Oak Ridge was broadcasting on a million channels. NASA started the Microwave Observing Program (MOP), in 1992. JPL also, started their search in 1992. A private program, funded by the Planetary Society, searches the northern sky, twice each year, to detect incoming signals.

So, the question is, "If you're out there, why don't you answer our calls?"

Beside all the dedicated Radio Astronomy signals, we're pumping a constant stream of radio and TV signals out into the Galaxy at the speed of light. Everything from "I Love Lucy", reruns to "Rush Limbaugh". If anyone is listening, and can figure it out, they know all about us. They know about World Wars, the holocaust and atomic bombs. Noble prize winner, Sir Martin Ryle, has pleaded that we not send out these signals that give our location away. Ryle contends that direct contact with an advanced civilization could be very dangerous.

One possibility is that there are intelligent aliens out there who simply don't have radio. If aliens had been hailing us at 1,420MHz, just a 100 years ago, we would never have known it. There could be aliens 40 light years out where the signal is yet to reach, or they may have just received Frank Drake's message and we won't get their return call for another 25 years.

Some of the factors in determining the number of technically advanced civilizations are; How many destroyed themselves when they developed nuclear weapons? How many succumbed to environmental collapse due to overpopulation? How many just got hit by a meteor, or a solar flare? As long as you're stuck on one planet, given enough time, something really bad can happen.

One of the most difficult factors to calculate is the probability that intelligent life will evolve in any given ecosystem, and how long it will take. In our case we know that out of the myriad life forms only one evolved, it took a long time, and it's a recent event. We've come a long way in a short time. Maybe we're lucky that we have this opportunity and should make the most of it. Maybe there is someone out there who will if we don't.