

SPECIAL MATH ISSUE

In This Issue we cover:

- The World where $2 + 2$ isn't quite 4 (Incidentally this is the same place where WordPerfect was designed)
- Fractions and parts thereof:
- Percentages and Interest (compound, of course)
- The worlds most difficult algebra problem: find x

- And finally, why is the mere mention of:

$$\frac{5}{2} + \frac{2}{3}$$

causing everyone to start doing math in their head?

just kidding of course! (next issue we take up English grammar or "why is the present tense")

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



NEXT MEETING: September 27, 1995 7:30 PM*

ISSUE # 54



THE ORANGE PULP

* Doors open 7:00 P.M.(notice, we never mention what time the doors close)

THE ORANGE PULP

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SCIENCE FICTION CLUB

ISSUE #54 VOL 9, NO. 5, September 1995

(if you're counting in hexadecimal, that's 36)

EDITOR Jeff Stein (no experience necessary)
ASSOCIATE EDITOR Dave Silva
SUBSCRIPTIONS Marcia Starke
PROGRAM DIRECTORS Marcia Starke and Greg Funke
OCSFC LOGO Mac McMahon



Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 27, 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)

NOTICE

We are using new procedures to circulate The Orange Pulp. If you received this newsletter in the mail without an address label you might just want to wonder how it got there.

The Chief Speaks

OK, Intersection is over and we're all back home. Dave wrote a very nice article on this worldcon for all us 'Pulp readers. Now starts the period of anticipation. Next worldcon promises to be the biggest one in history and it will be right here in our own back yard at the Anaheim Convention Center. I hope you can all attend and that the OCSFC can participate in some way to let people know that we are here.

Mail to the Chief

-This space reserved for mail-



Alright, I'm not going to let the lack of mail keep me from replying. Yes, whatever you would've said would've probably been right or wrong. I would probably point out a few other ways of looking at the problem and then see if you change your opinion which, of course, you wouldn't (or at least your letter wouldn't) but at least we would have communicated.. So There!

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

Sept	27	Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30
Oct	11	Movie Night
	15	Jedi Knights Regular Meeting
	25	Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30
Nov	8	Movie Night
	19	Jedi Knights Regular Meeting
	29	Orange County Science Fiction Club 7:30

Remember: No OCSFC meeting in December! (OK, OK I'll remind you again)

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

Don Lagerberg, professor at Cal State Fullerton was our guest speaker for July. His talk and show centered around the use of the "composite" as a means to produce special effects in all kinds of media. He brought examples of this technique dating back to the 16th century and showed that it is still being used in special effects for movies and television today.

August was scheduled to be an "open" meeting. I wasn't there, but I hear that you all had a good time without me. In fact I hear that you had a *very* good time without me. In fact... oh, forget it.

September, October, November, & not December

Our September meeting will feature **two** guests Tim Powers and Jim Blaylock. Both are very popular SF authors who have been previous guest speakers to the OCSFC.

October will follow with another author friend. Rhondi Vilott Salsitz will tell us about her new novel Death Watch under the name Elizabeth Forrest.

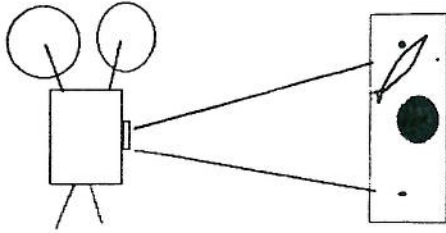
In November, I am told that we have a guest from MUFON (Mutual UFO Network). Joe Harzan, Director of Investigations will be the speaker.

note: in past years we've had 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!**

MOVIE NIGHTS

August- Water World. What would it be like if the polar ice caps melted and most of the Earth was submerged in water. What would life be like? How would mankind survive? These are the kind of questions this movie tried to answer. In my opinion, they mostly just spent lots of money on scenery, effects, and music; but they didn't do a very good job of telling a story.



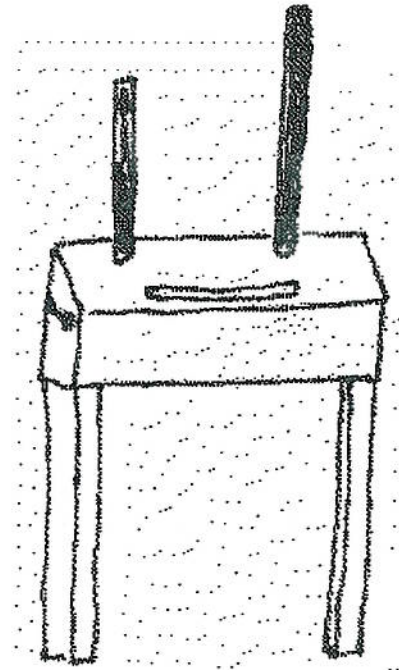
September- I don't think anyone went out for an "official" movie night this month

The Theremin by Marcia Starke

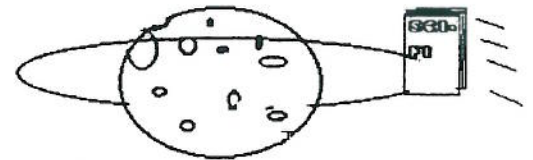
Remember those great science-fiction movie soundtracks from the 50's and 60's? There was one instrument that said it all for spooky, creepy, outer-space type musical stylings... the theremin. The theremin could be considered the first "electronic" effect instrument. It was basically a small console box with legs. Inside the box were a bunch of radio tubes. Connected on the outside to one or two long rods. You played the theremin by passing your hands up and down the rods.

The theremin has an interesting history. It was invented by Leon Theremin, an American that was imprisoned and executed in a Russian gulag in 1945. There has been a documentary filmed about him and the instrument, "Theremin: An Electronic Odyssey", which has recently been premiered in L.A.

There was an LP out sometime ago (70's or 80's) or theremin music. I do not know if a CD has been made (I'm going to find out). I have the LP in storage. Meanwhile, you can find some theremin music on various soundtrack CD's (The Day The Earth Stood Still), specifically the specialty company that issues soundtracks from various science-fiction movies (the name escapes me at the moment).



THE READING ORBIT



I'm afraid I don't know what the book for the month is going to be, or even if one was selected while I was gone so I will just give a generic message here.

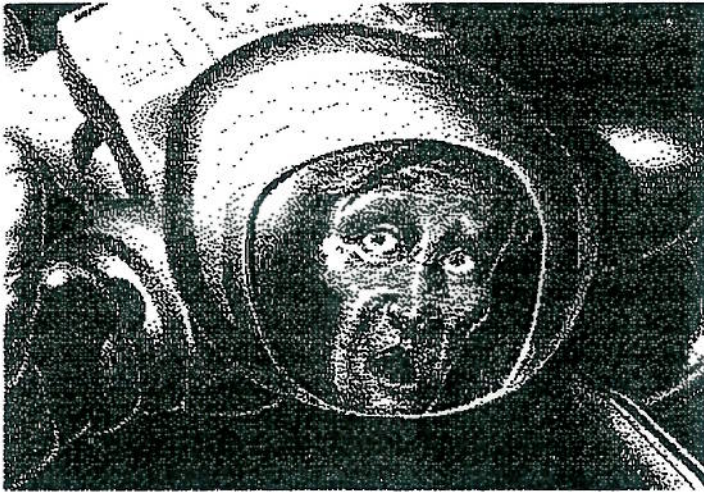
It really is fun to read a book or story as a group and discuss it afterwards. You can get a lot more out of the story by listening to things that others may have picked up that you haven't noticed. These discussions can also give you insights on how the author created the story and what makes it work (or not work).

If you have a favorite story we can all read and discuss or if you know of one you would like to read, please let us know at the next meeting.

SPACE QUEST 6

Roger Wilco in The Spinal Frontier

This computer game from Sierra surprised me when it appeared on the shelf of the computer store. I thought that the adventure game had been cast aside in favor of "shoot-em-up" type games and (yuck) Edutainment. In this CD ROM game Roger begins by being stripped of all rank that he aquired in previous adventures and is once again the space ship janitor. The adventure really starts when he is beamed down to a planet for R & R: First a transporter malfunction leaves him buried half way in the street and he (actually, you, the player) has to find a way to get out. The adventure continues taking the player through the night club, arcade, hotel, and liquor store on this sleazy vacation planet. The arcade features a game which you get to play called "Stooge Fighter" in which you choose one of TheThree Stooges (yes, THE Three Stooges) and you get to fight against one of the others chosen by the arcade game. Roger is further taken to other places line The Information Superhighway, Windows, and finally on a trip through a human body in microscopic form. All the adventures had puzzles to solve to continue and they were all very funny. The use of the CD ROM media allowed the game to be full voice and full action. It played very well on my computer. I was very pleased that it loaded from DOS rather than Windows which, in my opinion, improved the performance. I must confess that I needed help with some of the puzzles, which I readily found on Compuserve.



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

UNICON -November 4, 1995 Irvine. It's FREE

LOSCON- November 24-26 Burbank

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 (Sloooowly I turn, step by step, inch by inch (no, wait, that's Niagara Falls))

INTERSECTION: THE SCOTTISH WORLDCON

By Dave Silva

The Moat House, convention hotel of the 1995 WorldCon, is a silver-green, 16 story glass structure, overlooking the river Clyde, on the edge of Glasgow. It stands in stark contrast to the ancient spires and pollution stained brick buildings of the city. The Convention Center, conveniently adjacent to the Moat House, had a hall big enough to house the art show, Hucksters, exhibits and a string of food stands, all in one building. Also, there were two auditoriums, another hall and a mall area that was covered by a giant greenhouse.

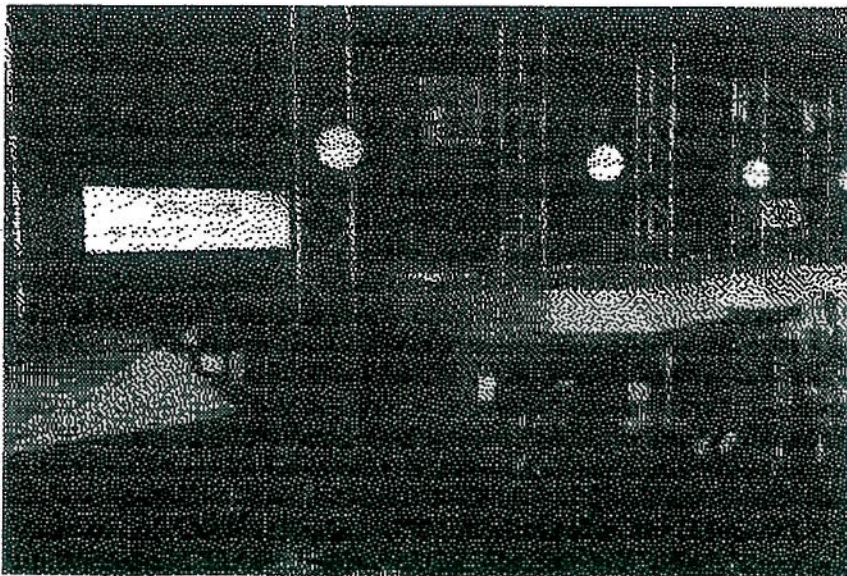
What has been a hot summer for Scotland (to them 80 is really hot) turned cool and rainy when the Con started. I should have prepared better; the wind off the river Clyde cuts right through California clothes.

Seating for the masquerade was excellent. For a change the Masquerade seemed too short, having only 28 entries. The Hugos were held in the same auditorium and were ably hosted by husband and wife writers, Peter Morwood and Diane Duane. Connie Willis stole the show with a very funny routine as a presenter. Not that she needs a second career, but she could do well as a stand-up comic. Mike Resnick, who won best novella for, "Seven Views of Oldivai Gorge", expressed relief at winning, because he could have been the first person to be nominated for four Hugos and get shut out. As you may know by now, John Brunner suffered a massive stroke on Friday, while attending the Con, and died shortly after. His long time friend Bob Silverberg eulogized Brunner at the Hugos, remarking on the similarities in their careers. Both were prolific writers in the '60s and '70s and Silverberg had been called the American John Brunner by the British press. Rather than a moment of silence, the audience gave Brunner one final standing ovation.

About 4,200 attended, yet because of the facilities few events were overcrowded. The worst problem with programming occurred because they erected four temporary rooms for panels inside one of the halls. The rooms were close together and had no roofs, so if you were in one room the noise from the other 3 rooms washed over you.

The first night at the Moat House we were awoken at 4:30 a.m. by beeping alarms and a voice message, telling us to evacuate the hotel. We hurriedly dressed and took the stair well down from the 8th floor to the parking lot. After standing in the rain about 10 minutes they told us it seemed to be a false alarm and we took the stairs back up to our rooms. Despite jet lag, I couldn't get to sleep which was just as well, because an hour later we had to go through the same routine all over again. We never found out what really happened.

There were signs in the rooms saying you should close the door while taking a shower, I suspect the steam sets off the smoke detector if you don't.



The Moat House was more than a mile from the nearest hotel, so a lot of people were using the shuttle buses, which ran every half hour. There was some programming at other hotels, notably a fannish play, "The Sand of Music", a semi-musical version of Dune. Since eating at the Moat House was very expensive we would take the shuttle into Glasgow, which has a wide variety of restaurants. For some reason the Scots are really big on pizza and pasta. They eat a lot of lamb too, which isn't surprising since sheep outnumber people.

It was a good WorldCon and a good trip for Marcia and me. We spent two weeks after the con touring the British Isles by bus. Toward the end I had seen all I wanted of castles and buses and was ready to come home.