

December 31, 1970

Greetings People of the Future!

Let me tell you what it was like at the beginning of America, when America was born.

I'm not talking about seeing the Continental Congress in session or watching Jefferson and Franklin working on the Declaration of Independence.

I'm talking about when modern America was born.

You know ... a land where entertainment is king ... a full-blown consumer culture ... freeways and strip malls with a Taco Bell on the corner.

From the perspective of this last day of 1970, it looks like a new era has recently gotten underway in America. I've decided to make this time capsule to commemorate the beginnings of this new America.

That's what you're looking at right now.

I'm making this time capsule for you people of the future because I have a feeling that all the crazy and amazing things that have been going on here in Orange County are going to have far-reaching, long-lasting consequences.

I started keeping a journal in the summer before eighth grade, about four and a half years ago back in the summer of 1966. Today, as 1970 ends, I'm halfway through my senior year in high school. Over the past few days I've selected a batch of my journal pages to put into this time capsule, along with illustrations I got from here and there or that I made. Because I like history (it's a form of educational time travel), I'm also throwing in essays I've written about Orange County history, essays that include crucial nuggets of information that will otherwise be forgotten. It's the kind of information that has hidden significance.

I've got a feeling that all the stuff in this time capsule has a mysterious wider significance.

Mark my words!

– Someday the whole country will be a lot like Orange County!

Yeah, I already see it happening ... it's spreading.

HOPE YOU ENJOY IT!