

De
Profundis
Ad
Astra

DE PROFUNDIS 341



colophon

De Profundis 341— May, 2001. Editor: **Marty Cantor**. Production Assistants: **Bob Null** and **Phil Castor a**. Mailing List: **Liz Mortensen**. Mailing Labels: **Fuzzy Pink Niven**.

De Profundis is the official newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601, USA). Our telephone number is: (818) 760-9234. Our web site is: www.lasfs.org. *De Profundis* is available to active LASFS members, Patron Friends of the LASFS, voluntary active LASFS members, and in exchange for other fanzines. VAMs are available for \$10 per year, payable to LASFS, Inc.

Westercon is a service mark of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, Incorporated (LASFS, Inc.), Worldcon and NASFIC are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society (WSFS).

We want any news of interest to LASFS members (no poetry or fiction). Send items to the LASFS address *c/o De Profundis* or leave them in the *De Profundis* mailbox at the clubhouse. The editor, Marty Cantor, can be reached at the clubhouse on Thursday evenings or at his address: louishoohah@netzero.net. Deadlines are a bit fluid, but mid-month Thursdays are probably it.

Address corrections should be given or sent to the LASFS Treasurer at the clubhouse.

Due to the press of other material there is currently no space available in *De Profundis* for advertising. I will always try to find room to announce upcoming events of interest to members.

Due to space limitations, priority is always given to content mandated in the LASFS by-laws and by any applicable traditions. Also, after that stuff, by what the editor wants to do.

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Statements herein are those of the speaker/writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the club.

This is Hoo Hah Publication No. 584.

CINEMA ANIME

Cinema Anime meets the second Saturday of each month at the LASFS clubhouse from 1 pm - 8 pm to watch screenings of the finest Japanese animation we feel like showing. All of it goes up on the big screen thanks to the LASFS video projector, and the whole thing is free and open to everyone. For schedules and more information, go to <http://people.we.mediaone.net/cinemaanime>, e-mail <cinemaanime@mediaone.net>, or contact Brett & Stacey at (661) 263-8054.

LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers

President: Cathy Beckstead. **Vice-President:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null. **Scribe:** Mike Glycer. **Treasurer:** Liz Mortensen. **Registrar:** Christian McGuire & Lynx (tag team).

Board of Directors

Chairman: Bill Ellern (2002). **Vice-Chairman:** Karl Lembke (2003). **Comptroller:** Mike Glycer (2002). **Secretary:** Mike Glycer (2002). **Other members:** Michael Mason (2003), Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2003), Mike Stern (2003), Joe Zeff (2002), Elayne Pelz (2002), Liz Mortensen (2001), Mike Thorsen (2001), Kim Marks Brown (2001). **Special Advisor:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Advisors:** Forrest J. Ackerman, Walt Daugherty, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

Appointed Positions

De Profundis Editor: Marty Cantor. **Librarian:** Michael Mason. **Librarian Emeritus:** Leigh Strother Vien. **Assistant Librarians:** Greg Barrett, Lucy Stern, Alison Stern, Joyce Sperling, Lynn Baden, Eric Stokien, Rosalinda Duran-M^cKillip & Tadao Tomomatsu. **Special Guest Librarian:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **LASFS Answer Guy:** Greg Barrett. **LASFS/APA-L Liaison:** Tim Merrihan. **Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS:** Dale Hales, Bruce Pelz, Ed Green, Tadao Tomomatsu. **Eulogist, Public Relations, Records, Shangri L'Affaires Editor, Video Coordinator, Programming Committee, party Rabbi, & Tontine Committee** (take a deep breath here): Charles Lee Jackson II. **Assistant Video Curator:** Alison Stern. **Hall Decoration:** Tadao Tomomatsu. **Silent Auction Coordinators:** Tadao Tomomatsu and Ed Green. **Key Control:** Liz Mortensen, Bob Null. **Janitorial Services:** Greg Bilan, Mike Thorsen. **Special Photographic Collection:** Mike Donahue. **Webmaster** - <lasfs.org>: Karl Lembke. **Sysadmin:** Chaz Baden. **Committee for Children's Literature:** Anne Morrel, Editor; Greg Barrett, Facilitator. **Computers & LASFS Archives:** Bob Null, Eylat Poliner. **Charity Coordinator:** Liz Mortensen. **Book Reading Club:** Diana Dougherty.

Honorary Officers

Sergeant-at-Arms: Roy Tackett. **Windmill-at-Arms:** Kees van Toorn. **Samurai-at-Arms:** Takumi Shibano. **Librarian-at-Arms:** Heather Stern.

DE PROFUNDIS is the newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society. **DE PROF** is distributed to members at the end of each month. This month it is also being sent to many who attended the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books to help acquaint them with the club and to let them know that they are more than welcome to drop by, anytime, to visit and participate in our activities. We welcome fans of all ages.

June 2001

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-----|------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | | | 1 Open Gaming | 2 ESTROGEN ZONE |
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| 10 BOD - 2nd Sun. Open House | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 LASFS ELECTION | 15 Open Gaming | 16 CFO |
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KEY TO CALENDAR & OTHER IMPEDIMENTA

LADWVS = L.A. Dr. Who Viewing Society
 ESTROGEN ZONE = Ladies Auxiliary Sewing and Fallout Society
 TRIPE = Temporal Retrieval of Information Programming and Entertainment.
 BOD = Board of Directors
 2nd Sunday = Board and other gaming
 Cinema Anime = Japanimation
 CFO = Cartoon Fantasy Organisation
 Work Party = Varies with what needs doing
 FWEMS = Fourth Sunday Movies - 2 pm
 FUCC = Fandom Universal Computer Club
 TIME MEDDLERS = Dr. Who club

CALENDAR DETAILS

LADWVS - 6:30 pm
 TRIPE - Noon until whenever
 BOD - 11:00 am, games start at 2:00 pm
 Cinema Anime - 1:00 pm until it ends
 CFO - 1 pm to 8 pm
 Work Party - 10:30 am
 FUCC - Evening
 TIME MEDDLERS - 10:30 am
 ESTROGEN ZONE - 2:00 pm
 FWEMS - The Mysterious Mrs. M ('90s 007 Movies)

THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

JUNE 7 - Presidential Nominations & Fractured Flickers
JUNE 13 - LASFS Procedural Elections
JUNE 20 - More Like The Movies, Part I
JUNE 27 - Special Surprise & More Like The Movies, Part II

This is a repeat of the editorial I wrote in De Profundis #329. It is as important now as it was then.

EDITORIAL

It is the time of year when we elect new officers for the club. These are the people who keep our meetings going. Granted, fans being fans, we could probably run LASFS without officers, but it probably would not run very well (although it would be interesting - for awhile). It is incumbent upon the members to show up and cast their votes for those whom they think will do a good job. Some members like to cast their votes for their friends; but, unless you think that your particular friend can do a good job, it is often better to vote for a person with whom you are not necessarily all that friendly if that person can do the job better than your close friend. In other words, examine the candidates, consider if you think that they can properly do the job for which they are running, and then vote for the best

person. The club is a much more fun place when good people are doing our work for us. This month, all four of the procedural offices are up for grabs. According to how LASFS does things, nominations for President open on the week before the election and nominations for the other offices are taken on the day of the election (including additional nominations for President). All procedural officers except Treasurer serve for 6 months with the Treasurer serving for one year. This is the election where the Treasurer is up for election. Your votes are important - please attend the meeting and vote.

The editor of *DE PROFUNDIS* takes no public stand in this zine either for or against any individual candidate but will cast his secret ballot after considering the merits of the contenders.

FANZINES

By Ted White

Fanzines are a basic part of science fiction fandom, having been in existence as long as fandom itself – the past 70 years. Fanzines are a reflection of many fans' interest in the printed word and amateur publishing. The publication you are reading this in is a fanzine, but a specialized one. A variety of other fanzines are also available – many of them by request – and this column will cover some of them each issue.

All fanzines are published as a hobby and lose money. Their editors appreciate money to defray their expenses and sometimes list single-copy or subscription prices, but they appreciate even more your written response – a Letter of Comment, or LoC. Feedback – better known in fandom as “egoboo” – is what fanzine publishing is all about.

Check out the fanzines below and broaden your participation in fandom.

Each year fans interested in fanzines hold a convention called Corflu. Corflu 18, held in Boston, is only recently over (next year's Corflu will be in Annapolis, Maryland); and, as usual, I was handed a bunch of fanzines. Here are a couple:

NIKAS (Ed Meskys at Niekas Publications, RR#2, Box 63, 322 Whittier Hwy., Center Harbor NH 03226-9708; e-mail to edmeskys@worldpath.net; subscriptions: \$19 for four issues, \$37 for eight; also available for trades or contributions)

Niekas is a big (64 pages plus covers) photo-offset fanzine. It's “standard” letter-page-sized, but printed on sheets twice that size and “saddle-stapled.” Ed Meskys is the “Editor-in-Chief” with Anne Braude and Todd Frazier his “Associate” and “Assistant” respectively, while Jim Reynolds handles “Design, Typesetting, Layout and Production.” Ed needs

these helpers because he has been for several decades too visually impaired to handle all the chores of a large fanzine himself. Ed started *Niekas* in 1962, while he was still sighted – originally for a small apa (amateur publishing association). Within a few issues, he picked up Felice Rolfe as his coeditor and his fanzine exploded into a fat genzine which won the Hugo Award for Best Fanzine in 1967. Felice has left the fanzine, but with the current issue, #46, it's still going strong.

Niekas is a type of fanzine which is called “sercon” these days. That means it approaches SF from a serious, sometimes academic, point of view. This issue highlights “An Address by Our Technology Guest of Honor,” by Dr. Raymond Kurzweil, a keynote address to the fourth US/Canada [blind] Technology Seminar, reprinted from *Braille Monitor*. There are seven columns (in addition to Ed's editorial), notable among them Diana L. Paxson's “Patterns: Sharing a World with Marion Zimmer Bradley” and Ray Nelson's “On Liking Clark Ashton Smith.” This issue is a special “Strange Sports Stories” issue, with eight contributions to “The Sports Section.” In addition, there are two “Extremely Short Science-Fiction Stories,” several works of poetry, a section of book reviews by a variety of writers, and what amounts to *two* letter columns, the first arranged by topics under discussion. The art and visual presentation of *Niekas* is looser and more “fannish” than one might expect in a fanzine of its nature; *Niekas* is not an imitation professional magazine. It will be appealing to a broad range of fans, including those mostly unfamiliar with fanzines.

AZTEC BLUE (Murray Moore, 1065 Henley Rd., Mississauga, ON L4Y 1C8 Canada; e-mail to mmoore@pathcom.com; available for trade, contributions, letters of comment and single-issue requests)

Aztec Blue #3 lies at the opposite end of the fanzine spectrum from *Niekas*. It runs 22 pages and is warm and informal, half of its pages taken up with the letter column. The remainder of the material is Murray's editorial, which opens the issue, and the conclusion of John Berry's report on a 1988 trip to Albania, the first two parts of which appeared in issues 1 and 2. Murray knows how to make his fanzine look good. Grant Canfield's cover, a drawing of a “man with a bionic backhoe for an arm,” is brilliantly conceived and rendered in a style not unlike that of French comics artist Moebius. Grant's back cover drawing, a study of a “light fixture at the bridge over the Truckee River, downtown Reno, Nevada,” reminds us that his day gig is as an architect. Between the covers, *Aztec Blue* is neatly but informally presented and is an excellent example of an unpretentious fanzine that deserves your attention.

More reviews next issue. -- Ted White

zines received in trade

(All zines are available to read and are in the *De Profundis* mailbox and can be taken out for a week)

club zines: EINBLATT! April 2001 (MINNSTF). PSFS News, May 2001 (PSFS). INSTANT MESSAGE #684 & 685 (NESFA). SFSFS SHUTTLE #143 (SFSFS). DASFAX, April 2001 (DASFA). PULSAR #271 (PorSFis). LUNARIANS MEETING NOTICE (NYSFS).

CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

(complete minutes can be read at www.lasfs.org and are filed in the archives - sometimes they are run through APA-L)

Meeting #3321, April 5, 2001

Cathy Beckstead, presiding

Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Scribe

The front table was piled high with thematic leftovers from Fala7con - a dozen gift-wrapped Christmas packages, a couple of sleigh-shaped brass candleholders, and most relevant to a Thursday-night meeting, a giant, Christmas-tree-shaped Tinkertoy gavel. Make that, a Christmas tree with a plastic dinosaur head in the middle - - which only proves Francis Laney was right when he said at LASFS you can never tell the BC from the AD. The unwieldy gavel flew apart on Cathy's first attempt to start the meeting, but she put it back together and succeeded in rapping it on the table. Ed Green said, "Let the minutes reflect that Cathy got Bob's gavel erected."

Special Order of Business: Phil Castora was given the floor. He let everyone know he would be leaving for Rhode Island on Saturday to help care for his sick sister for a few months.

Minutes: As Glycer read the minutes the members patiently waited for him to get to the joke. They let him know when he found it. Bill Ellerm moved that the minutes be accepted as Faberge. Marty Cantor thought "Scrambled!" was more accurate. Joe Zeff wanted them approved as "One good joke." The President called for votes on something to do with a Faberge egg, but more voters chose to approve the minutes as "One good joke." During the mayhem, Charlie Jackson 2 said something to provoke Cathy into doing her - frighteningly accurate - Mortimer Snerd imitation.

Patron Saint: Tonight's Patron Saint was Chuck Donahue, a past President of LASFS who managed to do a frighteningly accurate Mortimer Snerd imitation for his entire term of office. Matthew Tepper contributed, "He used to have a girlfriend who would sit on top of the meat freezer." Ed Green declared, "'Til then, all my memories of that period of LASFS were pleasant." As Ed summed up Chuck's qualifications for sainthood, "He gave us a lot of money, the check cleared." For that we gave him three cheers.

Registrar: Cathy said that while Lynx has been missing, Christian has been monitoring science. But both our registrars were present tonight. There were no guests, because another hapless couple of first-timers had been strong-armed into joining earlier in the meeting. Will they come to regret such a precipitous decision? Think of all the pain they'd have been spared had they only listened to the minutes, then fled screaming into the night. Christian ended this segment by

asking the President, "Have we made fools enough of ourselves yet?" Apparently the answer was yes.

Announcements: Marty Cantor said that Michael Bernstein, a LASFS member living in Las Vegas, donated a Rotsler quotebook to the club. It will become part of the permanent Rotsler display. See Tadao about actually reading it. Francis Hamit, who had arrived after the start of the meeting, announced what he assumed to be the news that Phil Castora is on his way to Rhode Island to take care of his sister, who has cancer and that he should already be as far as Las Vegas. Joe Zeff only knew that Phil had been sighted in North Hollywood within the last 20 minutes. Charlie said that he didn't know if anybody had heard that Phil Castora was leaving town. As a result, Charlie had an opening for someone to do light cleanup at his place. Francis said he also needed a replacement for Castora, who'd been doing some different work for him. Charlie said, "But you need someone who can count and read!" I suppose in contrast to only needing someone who can identify which large, gelatinous chunks in Charlie's rung don't belong.

During **Reviews**, Don Wenner announced that Phil Castora is leaving town. Although this was the tag line of the night, Don said the reason he knew is that Phil had greeted him with the news when they met at a bus stop.

Mike Glycer said he'd heard this meeting was leaving town. Ed Green moved that we bunny hop out of here. Soon all that was left of tonight's meeting was an echo that sounded like Eylat Poliner expressing astonishment that it ended before 9 o'clock.

Meeting #3322, April 12, 2001

Cathy Beckstead, presiding

Mike Glycer, the Once & Future Scribe

The overwhelming fragrance of fried chicken wafting out of the first row must have inspired President Cathy Beckstead's choice of the rustic, wooden gavel to start tonight's meeting, instead of Bob Null's latest Tinkertoy creation.

Special Order of Business: Brett Achorn said Microsoft had announced the death of Clippy, the annoying animated paperclip. This was perhaps the first Special Order of Business ever to elicit cheers from the LASFS. (*Ye ed. happens to be one who likes Clippy (if he has been morphed into Einstein). - ed.*)

Minutes: Glycer read the minutes, then the members improved on them. Matthew Tepper credited the gingerbread house to Alison. Ed Green said Phil Castora's still leaving town. Francis Hamit answered, "In my own defense, Phil Castora told me he wouldn't be here." Charlie Jackson 2 reported that Phil did get to Rhode Island but his sister hadn't gotten home yet; she wasn't expected until this weekend. Ed Green moved to approve the minutes as wooden and brainless. Mike Stern won over the voters with his motion to approve them as "gelatinous lumps that don't belong there."

Patron Saint: Tonight's Patron Saint was Elst Weinstein. Ed Green described Elst as owning the finest doctor's degree money can buy. Pesos, anyway. (*Elst got his degree in Mexico. - ed.*) Mike Glycer said, "Elst was the best man at my wedding, though I might have a

difference of opinion.” Marty Cantor reminded us that Elst runs the Hogu Awards. Ed Green said he was yet another LASFSian to start his own religion (the Church of Herbangelism), but Elst had more fun. (*I can do them all one better; not only did I found a religion but I am its Deity - the Little Tin God of The Stannous Church of LASFAPA. - ed.*) We gave him three cheers, with Charlie contributing the traditional “And a reasonably clean butter knife.”

New Business: Cathy grumbled because her string of businessless meetings had been snapped. As she told it, “According to our bylaws, if five silly people sign it, I have to read it.” “It” was a motion to “do something special” for meeting 3333. These movers and shakers said that “to keep discussion short” they didn’t suggest what should be done. Glycer claimed “special” was only relevant to LASFS in the same way it was to “Olympics.” Eylat Poliner moved to table the motion until the year 3450-something, and was promptly seconded. Cathy, not about to be pressured by such high-powered parliamentary maneuvers, declared, “Something should be done!” Marty Cantor’s suggested compromise was tabling the motion until meeting 3334, while a more sympathetic Frank Waller urged postponement only until meeting 3332. Rob Cole’s suggestion was, “Let’s turn the whole thing over to Charlie,” realizing that Charlie would then schedule something for every meeting between now and 3450. Ed Green delicately disagreed with Rob’s notion that Charlie should get the assignment as part of his program responsibilities. Charlie retorted, “Are you worried about my plan to hypnotize Liz?” “Let’s stop being silly,” Cathy interrupted, commanding attention if not respect by waving Bob’s limp, wiggling Tinkertoy gavel. Cathy called for a vote on the original motion. It passed and Cathy triumphantly rapped the gavel on the front table, only to watch the head of the gavel fly into Mark Poliner’s lap. “Premature eshaftolation,” Matthew Tepper tried to say. Chaz Boston Baden ran up, placed the gavel back into Cathy’s hand, and tried to get her to re-enact the moment for a digital photo. But this moment could not be repeated, like erecting the flag on Iwo Jima, for more reasons than one. In the uproar, the scribe lost track of Ed Green’s motion, but heard Charlie’s rejoinder, a motion to the tune of the opening notes of Beethoven’s Fifth. Karl Lembke agreed, “We’ll all need a fifth of something before we’re done.” Cathy gave the makers of the motion a week to figure out what’s special.

Committee Reports: Charlie said he is trying to tinker together a Spring Holiday Event. (Tinker? Watch out, Charlie, we don’t want your head flying into Mark Poliner’s lap.)

Auction: A popular item was stick-on body jewelry in the shape of a heart. Ed asked the winning bidder, “Are you going to give it to Harlan Ellison?” The set-up for that punchline, clarifying why it’s funny, has been omitted out of respect to Ed’s shouted warning, “Glycer, you write that and I’ll kill you!” Chandies Williamson announced that the young lady next to him had consented to be his wife. Allison Haft showed off the rock. (Hm, if he gave her two more rings, would the last be the Third Rock from the Williamson?)

Registrar: Lynx announced that as a public service, Christian would be signing his guest introductions. Christian’s sign language consisted of many hard-to-describe body gestures that struck this

reporter as sort of like Fred Flintstone surfing and trying to knock the barnacles off his ass.

Announcements: Marty Cantor reported that yesterday afternoon he had been hospitalized for chest pains. X-rays showed an intestinal blockage. According to Marty, this was scientific confirmation of what fans had said he was full of all along. Cathy said, “Even a guy with a medical degree from Mexico could diagnose that!” Joe Zeff pointed out that Friday the 13th will be held on Friday this month. (*Doom! Doom! - ed.*) Another triumph for Mexican science! Fred Patten said ConFurence 12 would be held next week at the Burbank Hilton. One could hardly imagine a more appropriately-named guest of honor for ConFurence than this year’s GoH, Peter Beagle, author of *The Last Unicorn*. Unless, perhaps, it is Mexico’s leader, Presidente Fox. (Never let it be said we failed to milk a theme in the minutes.)

Reviews: Mike Thorsen detailed the blind taste test between 7-Up and dishwater and some even more inedible things. 7-Up won. Blame it on the failed Clinton administration. Or Mexican medical science.

Realizing that humor was lagging at the end of the meeting, Charlie Jackson 2 rummaged through the video closet and produced his toy “tiger’s head on a stick.” Although well-intended, this attempted humor frightened Rob Cole into a stuttered motion to “not not adjourn,” which alarmed Cathy into calling on all those not not opposed to say nay nay. And like horses who’ve caught a scent of wildfire, the LASFS stampeded out the door.

Meeting #3323, April 19, 2001

Cathy Beckstead, presiding

Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Scribe

Bob Null’s latest Tinkertoy gavel creation was an elaborate kind of see-saw designed to pound two surfaces together. We must remember to keep away from the LASFS’ supply of plutonium hemispheres. Though it’s doubtful that a nuclear blast could be heard above the thunderous crackle of turning on our microphones. When Tadao recovered his hearing, he demanded, “Who let Godzilla out?” And when Mike Stern observed President Cathy Beckstead trying to get the attention of deafened members, he said, “We haven’t ever started the meeting with hand and arm signals.” True, though LASFS probably ended a lot of meetings with those signals in the Laney days.

Special Order of Business: Charlie Jackson 2 reported the sad news from Phil Castora that Mary Ann, Phil’s sister, was far more ill than she let on and she passed away a few days after he arrived. Apparently Mary Ann was quite a collector, because now the relatives are trying to rent the largest bulldozer in Rhode Island to move the stuff in her home. Phil told Charlie that just the receipts for stuff she bought from Home Shopping Network made a three cubic foot pile. Marty Cantor said Bay Area fan Pat Ellington had passed away. Len Moffatt said that he and June used to see the Ellington’s at typical ‘60s Barea fan parties. Len spared us the details, perhaps because most of us aren’t old enough to hear such things. Charlie led a moment of silence.

Lafa
(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

Saturday, June 16, 2001

Lafa Filksing
Filk: 7 pm to ???
Pre-Filk Potluck Dinner: 5:00 pm
(bring a main dish, side dish, salad,
etc., to share)

Scarboro Lair
Bob "Blars" Larson
3384 Scarboro St.
Los Angeles, CA 90065
(323) 222-5459

Filksite directions: see Thomas Bros.
Los Angeles County: page 594,
grid H-4, (1992+ edition),
page 35, grid F-3 (older editions)

Lafa info: Barry & Lee Gold:
(310) 306-7456

Minutes: Though the moment of silence had ended, people still respectfully refrained from laughing as Glycer read the minutes. They thought the corrections were hilarious, though. Joe Zeff said the venue for last week's computer anecdote was a college, not "some company." Mike Stern moved to show that the minutes were approved by *Battlebots*. He thought that was "Better than, 'incurable by penicillin.'" Joe Zeff wanted to add, "And signed by five silly people." George Mulligan said, "As signed by five minty fresh silly people." Christian McGuire couldn't decide what he wanted to add, asking,

"What's another word for back." Eventually Mike Stern's choice was voted, "Si."

Old Business: Cathy had appointed as a committee the five clever people who had signed last week's motion to do something special for meeting 3333. She asked if they had done their homework. Some simply shrugged, "No!" some shamefully denied responsibility and blamed the whole thing on Mike Stern. Matthew Tepper said he hadn't done homework since he got his master's degree in 1983. Marty Cantor moved to table the whole thing until meeting 3333. George Mulligan said, "Label them as underachievers, and proud of it!" Ed Green wisely suggested that the committee be folded for lack of any apparent movement. Cathy retorted, "For having the same problem as Marty?" Ed Green explained, "The President can appoint a committee - and disappoint a committee." Cathy agreed to disband the committee, and officially thwacked the silly gavel.

Patron Saint: Tonight's Patron Saint was Stan Burns. Refuting something written on the board, Charlie said, "Inasmuch as his name's not Bimbaum, he's not related to George Burns, who's also not named Burns." Sandy Cohen said Stan had gotten involved with the club while attending USC, and now lives in Riverside. Charlie called him, "A real nice guy - too nice to be around here much." Matthew remembered that Stan first came to the LASFS to hand out questionnaires. Cohen talked about trips he and Stan took to the Grand Canyon and a beach in Santa Barbara, where they coincidentally ran into the same two girls. For this coincidence, and

more, for his financial donations, the club gave three cheers for Stan.

Registrar: Lynx actually produced one guest tonight, information that was duly signed by Christian McGuire for the barnacle-y impaired. Not only did the members cheer the guests, they broke into singing "On the Good Ship Lollipop" then switched in midstream to "It's A Long Way To Tipperary." Sort of a *hara-karaoke*.

Announcements: Lothie needed give away a stray - "A large, fixed-with-all-his-shots mostly-well-behaved dog." She said, "He seems to like other animals." Karl asked, "With or without condiments?"

Mike Stern said, "I move that we Marty Cantor out of here." Nobody got the reference, but realizing that was asking for an explanation would prolong the meeting, we sensibly adjourned.

Meeting #3324, April 26, 2001

Cathy Beckstead, presiding

Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Scribe

We fans in the 21st century have achieved what the founders of LASFS could only dream about. Tonight, thanks to modern technology, for the first time the club was being run by someone outside the meeting room. Besides Bruce Pelz, I mean. Yes, President Cathy Beckstead, driving down the Ventura Freeway on her way to LASFS, was using her cell phone to channel commands to Tadao Tomomatsu, seated on the dais behind Vice President Bob Null. "I'm your medium for tonight," announced Tadao. "Cathy says, 'Come in!'" Elaine from Canada asked, "Does that make it a happy medium?" But Darcee Golden skeptically answered, "We won't all fit in the phone." Then she added, "Move to hang up!"

Special Order of Business: Even without the late Cathy Beckstead, there were other special orders tonight. Charlie Jackson 2 instructed Tadao, "Tell Cathy I'm waving my tiger's head at her." No doubt that dam near made her nearly drive off the road. Marty Cantor said that Rosemary Hickey passed away. She was a Chicago fan in her 80s, someone Marty knew through FAPA. Deb and Dan Deckert were present tonight, in town for their father's memorial service. Tadao relayed these matters to Cathy, who called for a moment of silence. Out of respect, there was no honking on the 101 freeway.

Christian McGuire tried to insert a cheerful "special order of business" until everyone explained that "special orders" are, by definition, about death. So he downgraded his announcement to a mere interruption. He told about Mike Glycer getting two Hugo nominations, to applause. And Glycer listed some other LASFSians who were Hugo and Retro Hugo nominees, some of them special orders in their own right, like Robert Heinlein.

Minutes: As usual with the minutes, Glycer proposed and Joe Zeff disposed. Last week's featured computer user was from Paris, France, not Britain. Right about then, Cathy Beckstead appeared in the doorway, still talking to Tadao on her cell phone. Bob Null gave up his seat for her. Resuming corrections, Charlie asked, "Is Hannibal Lecter the fellow who crossed the Alps with his knife and fork?" Marty Cantor replied, "And the offspring were quite amazing!" Karl Lembke recommended approving the minutes "as

possibly eating tasty animals.” Cathy asked, “All opposed say, ‘Check, please!’”

Patron Saint: Tonight's Patron Saint was Bill Warren. Charlie Jackson 2 said he put in a lot of time working on the clubhouse, including a long stint as Lord High Janitor. He's online somewhere and writes about movies. Alan Rothstein said Bill wrote a reference work about '50s sf movies, *Keep Watching the Skies*. Bill writes for *Starlog* and *Fangoria*. He's associate editor of Leonard Maltin's annual book of movie guides. Greg Barrett remembered Bill's wonderful interview of media GoH Jack Arnold at Loscon 7. Marty Cantor said that Bill is the executor of Rotsler's "fannish estate," and is in the process of producing 15 issues of *Masque* from unpublished pages Rotsler left behind. Allan Rothstein knew Warren's current whereabouts - in Hawaii with "both his wife and my ex-girlfriend." Dan Deckert said he proposed to his wife, Denise, and she accepted, at one of Bill's parties. "But he didn't go to Hawaii with her?" checked Cathy.

Auction: Ed Green offered for sale an inflatable plastic picture frame. Ed instructed, "Just pucker up and blow." Cathy Beckstead said, "That depends on who's in the picture." Tadao did a hilarious Yoda impression while selling the program from a preview showing of *Empire Strikes Back*. When it was Ed's turn he couldn't resist an element of competition, but halfway through the first sentence he strained his Yoda muscle. Which, based on observing Ed, is somewhere in the vicinity of the groin. Finally, Ed and Tadao got rid of the rest of the merchandise by auctioning it off as a "bag o'crap." Christian McGuire outbid all others for the bag, then was astonished to discover he'd donated most of the stuff that was in it.

Registrar: Co-Registrar Lynx made a solo appearance, excusing Christian McGuire who, he said, was "currently acting as a heat sink outside." Lynx announced that Diana Dougherty is moving away this weekend. Then he introduced a couple of guests.

Speaking of intelligent women, Alan Rothstein said supermodel Claudia Schiffer must be a genius. After hearing all his reasons for wanting to go back to work, Allan said his doctor told him, you must have Schiffer-brains!"

LASFS' supermodel, Cathy Beckstead, heard this story and demonstrated her own genius - she called for a motion to adjourn.

*LASFS Board of Directors
Meeting of March 11, 2001
William Ellern, Chairman
Mike Glycer, Secretary*

Attendance: William Ellern, Mike Glycer, Karl Lembke, Michael Mason, Kim Marks Brown. Bob Null, Liz Mortensen, Joe Zeff, Mike Thorsen, Mike Stern. (Absent: Elayne Pelz.) Others: E. Hooper, A. Morrel, J. Sperling, T. Tomomatsu, E. Christensen, D. Wenner, E. Green, G. Bilan, M. Cantor, E. Poliner, G. Barrett, C. Bernay. Ellern thanked Lembke for running last month's meeting, adding, "I think he's really a good choice for Vice." Ellern said the club should have a 1-year plan and a 5-year plan.

Minutes: Glycer read the minutes. Kim Marks Brown said she had not objected to having her directory listing run through *De*

Profundis. Joe Zeff corrected a typo. Michael Mason said his suggestion was that carpet cleaning coincide with Lalacon, not Loscon., that Lynn goes by Lynn Baden, and the new member was Bruce Rowan. Ed Green clarified that LASFS and the two other groups are renting separate booths for the Festival of Books. Kim Marks Brown, seconded by Mike Stern, moved that the minutes be approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Operating fund: \$22,939.56 (including \$455.50 of Fala7con funds); Century Fund: \$30,989.33; Key Fund: \$360.00; Video R/R Fund: \$417.00; Total: \$54,705.89. Liz Mortensen reported that at the end of the quarter there will be a transfer of anything over \$15,000 in the Operating Fund to the Century fund. She named four members who had completed paying lifetime dues: Lucy and Mike Stern, Karl Lembke, and Joe Zeff. Mike Stern declared, "If I die within 10 years the club wins." (Let the minutes reflect: We did not go there.)

Function Movement Motion: William Ellern read the text of the Board motion setting priority for using the clubhouse. The text had been improved by Liz Mortensen and Bruce Pelz based on members' comments when Glycer presented it at a regular meeting. Kim Marks Brown asked that "formerly the Showcase" be added to La La Con. She also suggested that "Event Coordinator" be used in place of Treasurer. Glycer urged that Treasurer be left in, since that is the position currently handling the calendar, and since this is a Board rule, we can easily amend it if the responsibility is ever assigned elsewhere. Several directors discussed the precedence of events. Eylat Poliner wondered if she now needed to schedule her access to do Archivist work, and was told she could go on working informally.

Ed Hooper pressed the issue of advance notice, posing a hypothetical question of what happens if one of the priorities decides to bump another group with only three days' notice before it's scheduled used of the clubhouse. In that case, he said, the group would not have time to notify its members and people would show up anyway. Several directors tried unsuccessfully to convince him this would never happen, or only happen in a dire emergency. Glycer pointed out that a rule is not a good substitute for people working together, and although an obvious problem forced the Board to make this rule, in every other case people had worked things out cooperatively. Joe Zeff said that hard cases make bad law: the Board should not write an unwieldy rule in an attempt to



cover all contingencies. Ed Hooper and several directors all agreed that LASFS and the Time Meddlers club have a mutually beneficial relationship, without agreeing on how that should impact the proposed rule. The directors agreed that the thrust of the rule was to ensure priority events could be scheduled, so they were not inclined to add conditions that would have the effect of locking in dates for secondary events. William Ellem reminded Time Meddlers that his house is available on short notice as a substitute meeting place.

Kim Marks Brown, seconded by Karl Lembke, moved to pass the following rule:

The events that will take precedence on the calendar are as follows:

Regular LASFS meetings
LASFS open houses on Friday
Board meetings of the LASFS
La La Con (formerly "the Showcase")
Loscon truck loading
Loscon meetings
LASFS Gift Exchange
LASFS Holiday parties
LASFS work parties.

All other events will be scheduled by the Treasurer on the calendar. Any of the other groups that meet at the club implicitly agreed, when they asked permission to meet at the club, that their days could and would be "bumped" if the club needed the day back.

When a group needs to be "bumped" the Treasurer will meet with ONE of the group's representatives and try to find another date or time for that group if it is reasonable or possible. Please keep in mind that the calendar is extremely tight, so another date might not be available.

If a solution cannot be found between the Treasurer and the group being bumped, or the group thinks the solution is unfair, the group may request a meeting between the following people to resolve the matter:

The club President
The club Vice-President
The Chairman of the Board of Directors
ONE representative of the group/event being bumped
ONE representative of the group doing the bumping

The decision of this group will be final, and there will be no further discussions of the date in question.

The rule passed by voice vote, unopposed.

Audit: Glycer said he understood that the computer files he had requested are awaiting him in his e-mailbox.

Legacy to Sci-Fi Award: Emily Christensen asked if the club was interested in a relationship with the Legacy to Sci-Fi Award. The award is a creation of *Things From Another World* store. It is scheduled to be given to Billy Dee Williams at a "charity dinner" in April. Apparently, the award is available to whoever in the entertainment industry is interested in using it for publicity. A flyer for the Williams dinner identifies the store as presenting the event, at the Hard Rock Café. The directors spent some time trying to get a handle on what LASFS was being asked to do. Whatever it was, Ed

Green wondered if we should put it together with the club's Millennium Awards. Liz Mortensen wondered how much of the money from selling tickets to the dinner went to the charity. William Ellem thought the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror was set up to do this sort of thing, instead of us. Casey Bernay thought hearing more about it couldn't do us any harm. Kim Marks Brown, seconded by Liz Mortensen, moved to not consider the proposal further, or associate LASFS with it. Mike Stern thought it would be precipitous not to find out what this is about. He and Michael Mason offered to go talk to the person involved before deciding the whole question on the basis of three flyers. Mike Stern, seconded by Bob Null, moved to table the Brown/Mortensen motion. The motion passed 6-4.

New Members: An application was received from Robert Keller. He was accepted as a member by voice vote, unopposed. William Ellem said he would send him a congratulatory message: "You're stuck, pay dues."

Book Fair: Greg Bilan wanted to get freebie books from publishers to give out at the table. Ed Green said that on-site guest liaisons will be Brett Achom and Allan Rothstein.

Facilities: Bob Null found a leak in the APA-L room. He thought we might need to build another sill of roofing material to keep the flow out. It was dribbling in the middle of the APA-L collation counter. *(The leaks will not be collated into 'L unless there are 40 substantially identical copies of them. - ed.)*

Bob noted the sloppy job done on paving the driveway by our neighbor's contractor. They're still trying to get rid of the lake in his backyard. There is some runoff under our two front building access holes on the neighbor's side. Joe Zeff observed that the grate for the drain is on a rise - - above the level of the drainage. Liz Mortensen felt we needed a surveyor to mark our property, because they had paved over our side of the driveway. Kim Marks Brown noted that we had given our permission. Bob Null said we don't have a good surveyor's tag. We have a verbal agreement from the neighbor not to park cars in the back. There is an easement for both property owners to use the western-side driveway. Liz Mortensen, seconded by Mike Stern, moved to appropriate up to \$500.00 to have a surveyor mark our property line. Joe Zeff believed that the storage container is on our property line, but Bob Null said it is 6" inside. The motion passed 5-4. William Ellem instructed Liz Mortensen to find a surveyor and have the work done. Michael Mason asked if the paving blocked the APA-L room door. Bob Null said the door opened enough to take out the trash can. The directors discussed whether the neighbor's dumpster was on our property, and whether it was better left where it was because it blocks a view of where the wall was broken by the 1994 quake.

Greg Bilan said he would like the club to have a leaf blower, William Ellem said he would bring up the request at a club meeting to see if anyone would donate one. *(It would be much cheaper to point certain members in the proper direction and have them start talking. - ed.)*

De Profundis: Marty Cantor described what he is doing with *De*

Profundis. He wants to delete paying ads.

Directory: Kim Marks Brown said she wanted to be able to get the LASFS directory in electronic form. Glycer said the update sheets are posted on the wall in the front building, and will be left there through Fala7con so people coming to the con who don't usually get to meetings will have a chance to add their updates. Marty Cantor's suggested solution to last month's debate was that when the Directory is sent with *De Profundis*, don't sent it to businesses. Directors put this in the form of a motion and passed it by voice vote, unopposed.

LASFS.org: Karl Lembke said that e-mail address bounces for officers should be up to date.

Answer Man: No report.

Comptroller: Glycer said he would file the corporate returns.

Committee to Gouge: Ed Green asked why this committee, appointed by the President, was coming up as a line item for the Board meeting. The Directors voted to strike the Gouge Committee from its agenda.

Library: Michael Mason said last week he processed 5 more boxes of stuff. He plans to work many days so the Library will be ready for Lalacon. William Ellem quizzed Mason about the software update that is one of the steps needed before we can begin offsite storage of Library stuff. Kim Marks Brown informed Mason that when he knew what he wanted done with the software, tell Jordan Brown, who would be willing to work on it.

Archives: Bob Null has been organizing the *De Profundis* archives, and Eylat Poliner has been working on the meeting minutes. Eylat asked Glycer to draft a letter for her to send to past scribes requesting their minutes for the archives. William Ellem reported that the membership database maintained by Fuzzy Pink Niven only goes back so far - - for example, it doesn't list him. It was pointed out that this is the same database used for *De Profundis* mailing labels and the database sometimes drops names.

LOSCON: Tadao Tomomatsu reported that the club had voted in his bid to hold Loscon 29. Liz Mortensen said Loscon 27 turned over its money to the club in February, more than \$10,000.00. Mike Stern, seconded by Glycer, moved to give thanks to the chairs of Loscon 27 for turning over money to the club. The motion passed by voice vote unopposed.

Fala7con: Michael Mason said the committee met on Saturday. Things are on schedule. To avoid problems with the neighbor they are asking people not to park in front of his office over the weekend.

Club Machines: Bob Null said two new computers had been donated to the club. Loscon bought a new VCR. Christian McGuire reported on Loscon pass-on memberships, and said Loscon 27 planned to spend \$3,000 on "infrastructure" purchases - - pipe-and-drape, and laptop computers.

Storytellers Group: Donn Wenner said the storytellers group he belongs to was looking for a new meeting place. It meets the second Tuesday of the month. Donn answered questions - - the group does

not charge dues, and would be willing to be bumped by LASFS "priority" events. The Directors approved extending an invitation to the group by voice vote, unopposed.

Closed Meeting: The Board called a closed meeting to discuss its policy on required supervision of minors at club events.

Adjournment: The meeting was re-opened. The Board adjourned at 2:35 pm, concluding the longest meeting in its history.

NEW BOOKS

(This is a section devoted to listing new books and other items received by the LASFS Library. Our extensive library is not just for collecting and looking at that wonderful collection of books on shelves. Members may take them out and read them. Here are some of the newest additions.)

Donated by David R. Beaucage:

The Shiloh Project by David R. Beaucage.

Donated by Del Rey Books and SFWA:

Perdido Street Station by China Mieville. **Manifold: Space** by Stephen Baxter.

Donated by EOS:

The Mask and the Sorceress by Dennis Jones.

Purchased by the Library:

A Clash of Kings by George R.R. Martin. **Midnight Robber** by Nalo Hopkinson. **The Watcher's Guide, Vol. 2** by Nancy Holder with Jeff Mariotte & Maryelizabeth Hart.

As mistake was made when this notice was given to me for the last *DE PROF* as the membership is for the upcoming Worldcon - and it is a bargain at \$60. For *inexpensive* Worldcon rates:

WORLDCON 2001 (Philadelphia)
memberships
FOR SALE

Kelly and Laura Freas are not able to attend the 2001 Philadelphia Worldcon and are selling their memberships at \$60 each. Contact them at:
kfreasstudio@earthlink.net

<www.lasfs.org>

We cordially invite all interested parties with internet access to visit our new and improved web site (see above).



Illo by Rotsler

SPECIAL THANKS

to the members of lasfs
WHO HELPED MAKE THE LOS ANGELES TIMES
"FESTIVAL OF BOOKS" AT UCLA
a great success.

Tadao Tomomatsu

Brett Achorn

Casey Bernay

Marty Cantor

Michael Mason

Mike Donahue

Jeff Walker

Ed Green

Christian McGuire

Fred Patten

Cathy Beckstead

John DeChancie

Diane Dougherty

Bob Null

Tony Benoun

Greg Barrett

Mike Stern

Harold Hobbs

Ben Massoglia,

also S.F.W.A. & Dangerous Visions Bookstore

signed, Greg P. Bilan



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