

De
Profundis
Ad
Astra

DE PROFUNDI S 348



COLOPHON

De Profundis 348— December, 2001. Editor: **Marty Cantor**. Production Assistants: **Bob Null** and **Phil Castora**. 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 edress: hooah-pubs@earthlink.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. 644



LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers

President: Ed Green. **Vice-President:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null. **Scribe:** Karl Lembke. **Treasurer:** Liz Mortensen. **Registrar:** Robert Keller.

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 (2004), Mike Thorsen (2004), Cathy Beckstead (2004). **Special Advisor:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Advisors:** Forrest J. Ackerman, Walt Daugherty, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

Official Committees

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^oKillip & Tadao Tomomatsu. **Special Guest Librarian:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **LASFS Answer Guy:** Greg Barrett. **LASFS/APA-L Liaison:** Tim Merrigan. **Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS:** Tadao Tomomatsu, C.B. McGuire, Dale Hales. ****Legion of Substitute Gouges:** Bruce Pelz, Sandy Cohen, Ed Green. ****Strategic Reserve Registrar:** Robert Keller. **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 Coordinator:** Tadao Tomomatsu. **Science Monitor:** Christian McGuire. **Non-Science Monitor:** Mike Stern. **Asian Affairs Desk:** Brett Achorn. **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. **Ministry of Silly Gavels:** Bob Null. ****LASFS Imaging Project:** C.B. McGuire. **Committee for Children's Literature:** Anne Morrel, Editor; Greg Barrett, Facilitator. **Computers & LASFS Archives:** Bob Null, Eylat Poliner. **Charity Coordinator:** Liz Mortensen. **North Hollywood Neighborhood Council Liaison:** Marty Cantor.

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

SOLALACON IS COMING - MAY 4 & 5, 2002

January 2002

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 LASFS MEETING	4 Open Gam- ing - Magic Tournament	5 ESTROGEN ZONE
6 TRIPE	7	8	9	10 LASFS MEETING	11 Open Gaming	12 Cinema Anime
13 BOD - 2nd Sun. Open House	14	15	16 FUCC	17 LASFS MEETING	18 Open Gaming	19 CFO
20 TIME MEDDLERS	21	22	23	24 LASFS MEETING	25 Open Gaming	26 WORK PARTY
27 FWEMS	28	29	30	31 LASFS MEETING		

KEY TO CALENDAR & OTHER IMPEDIMENTA

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

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 - Attack of the "It"

THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

JANUARY 3- Roundtable Discussion: Literature of 2001
JANUARY 10- No Programme set at this time
JANUARY 17 - Roundtable Discussion: Movies & TV of 2001
JANUARY 24- No Programme set at this time
JANUARY 31- Roundtable Discussion on Fanzines & Art

ROTSLER AWARD WINNER

The Southern California Institute for Fan Interests (SCIFI) is pleased to announce that Brad Foster is the winner of the Fourth Rotsler Memorial Fanzine Artist Award. The award was presented at LOSCON 28.

The Rotsler Award honors the lifetime work of outstanding fanartists and the memory of esteemed fanartist William Rotsler. Foster was selected as a Rotsler Award recipient in recognition of his current fanac as well as his outstanding contributions over the last few decades. He is generous in sharing his art, and uniquely talented. His work is insightful, humorous, versatile, and exquisitely drawn. He is one of the best and most prolific of the current generation of fan artists, a worthy successor to Rotsler's legacy.

Brad won the Best Fanartist Hugo five times between 1987 and 1994, and continues to be a frequent Hugo nominee.

Brad replied, when notified of his selection: "I am indeed aware of the award, and thought it was really nice that fans thought enough both of Bill and the whole idea of the 'fan artist' to decide to put together this award. And I had hoped that maybe in ten years or so, after a lot of other artists received it, I might be lucky enough to be added to the list. So, it really was a very big surprise to hear I had been selected this year."

The annual award consists of \$300 cash and an award plaque. Mike Glycer, Richard Lynch, and Geri Sullivan served as this year's award judges. Mike Glycer coordinated the Loscon exhibit of Brad's art.

CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

(complete minutes can be read in APA-L and are filed in the archives)

Meeting #3351, November 1, 2001

Ed Green, presiding

Karl Lemke, Scribe

The meeting was shoved to order at 20:12:34. "I can dig it," said a wit in the back corner. The **Menace** were read, corrected, and approved as "Organized." Don't ask. Since we have a guest program tonight, we're going to run on "agenda lite."

Registrar Mona stated that we have a guest, Mike P. He was lurking outside in the courtyard.

Patron Saint Bill Rotsler. He was described (by Matthew Tepper) as a great raconteur, and (by Mike Stern) as one of the best all-round fen. He was such a prolific fan artist that there remains a great amount of as-yet unpublished work in the hands of fanzine editors around the world. According to Ed Green, one of the fannish legends states that when the last Rotsler cartoon is published, it will be one of the signs of the impending end of the world. (Or at least the Last Daze?) Charlie Jackson stated, "He was a lover of beauty, and a beauty of a lover, or so I'm told."

Hare Hobbs reported that his sister was once asked to be a model, in the genre in which Bill worked. He asked so nicely that she took it as a compliment, even though, as a Mormon, she was not generally receptive to such an invitation. Christian McGuire noted that whenever one was looking for conversations, especially in the early morning at conventions, one need merely look for Bill Rotsler. Although there may have been other conversations going on, the best were in his vicinity.

Marty Cantor indicated the display of Rotsleriana in the display case in the back of the room. He described Bill as one of the nicest people, and the most unselfish of fans. He was known for sending illos to anyone who produced much of anything anywhere in fandom. "Anything you can't use, just pass along," he'd say. Scratch Galloway stated that not only was Bill good at locating ladies with superb endowments, he presented them in his films with class.

Ed Green noted that his cartoons show a depth and emotion not evident at first glance. He was given three cheers and a naked lady.

Patron Saint Francis Hamit. Matthew Tepper called him "knowledgeable about many subjects, and enjoyable to talk with." Tom Safer called him a knowledgeable playwright. "That's ancient history!" exclaimed Francis. "It's still history," was the reply.

Christian McGuire states that he's one of those who helps take care of fen who have fallen on bad times. "That may change," said Francis. Ed Green had a chance to read a Star Trek script he did on spec, and found it exciting, and well characterized. "He does a good job with scripts," he said. And he gave us money. He was given three cheers and online copyright protection.

In a short auction, the **Committee to Gouge** demonstrated its ongoing willingness to auction off anything but shorts.

In a continuation of an established trend, there was no business, old or new.

Program: The Autumn Holiday Party being over, CLJIII passed the Lantern O'Jack to help fund the Winter Holiday Party, December 25. If enough jack winds up in the lantern, there may even be hot food at the party.

Timebound Announcements: **Charley Jackson** offered his thanks to Mike Thorsen, Greg Bilan, Mona Martinez, and Sundance for their help with setup for the party. Thanks to Bob Null for the program materials shown at the party, and for keeping the sodas stocked in the fridge.

Karl Lemke is collecting autographs. He's filling up petitions for a run for California State Assemblycritter. (Sleep? I've heard of that...)

Tonight's program is an appearance by Donald F. Glut, an expert on Frankenstein, the serials, dinosaurs, and many other things. A motion to go to the program was passed at 20:57.49.

Meeting #3352, November 8, 2001

Ed Green, presiding

Karl Lemke, Scribe

The meeting was cajoled into order at 20:12:04.

Special Order of Business: None!

The **Menace** were read and approved as "Officially Blank." Really don't ask.

Patron Saint Woody Dodge. He's here! Matthew Tepper described him as a great guy, who has given him lots of material help with his Subaru. Woody took the opportunity to announce Kelly Freas' appearance at the Santa Monica Library. He was given three cheers and

LOST & FOUND

Paula Green writes:

I lost my Rotsler pin at Loscon. I know the chances of getting it back are small.. But he gave it to me so I have to try. It has a light green background and a typical Rotsler male on one side and boobs on the other and says "Have secret longings". As far as I know it's one of a kind. Please give this description to everyone you know who goes to cons. Thanks, Paula . . .

Paula Green can be reached at greensleve@webtv.net, or at (310) 644-4394.

NEW LASFS
PROCEDURAL OFFICERS

(2002 - First Half)

President - Ed Green
Vice President - Bob Null
Scribe - Karl Lembke
Registrar - Robert Keller

a Subaru.

Registrar Mona introduced a guest, Janet, from Calabasas.

Old Business: this is the night that nominees are offered up for the Board of Directors. The sacrificial lambs designate are Liz Mortensen, Marty Cantor, Mike Thorsen, Greg Barrett, and Cathy Beckstead. Nominations were closed, and will not reopen for a year. elections will be next week, which is this week if you happen to be hearing the Menace read right now. (*Or really Ancient History if you are reading it in DE PROF. - ed.*)

There was no **New Business**.

Fannish Committee Reports: Joe Zeff reported on something from Dogbert's Newsletter for the Ruling Class, a note about an in-DUHVidual who returned a Shakespeare book he had obtained, because "all the stories were in the form of plays." At least he didn't pan "Hamlet" because "it's just one old saying after another."

Miscellaneous: We moved onto some business, the selection of this year's Forry Award for Lifetime Achievement. After considerable work, **Ray Harryhausen** emerged victorious, having sicced one giant octopus and three flying saucers on the competition.

Matthew Tepper brought the meeting to a close with his account of running into Bill Shatner at his doctor's office.

A motion to go away was passed at 21:48:41.

Meeting #3353, November 15, 2001
Ed Green, presiding
Karl Lembke, Scribe

As the penta-gavel called the meeting forth from its natural state of chaos at 20:10:12, President Green announced that it was now acceptable to form an orderly line for the ballots.

Special Order of Business: Fan Terry Hughes passed on November 14, due to brain cancer. He had been in the IMF for 20 years, and was a TAFF winner. He was a fanzine editor, and endowed a science fiction collection for a library. He was given a moment of silence.

Tonight, said President Green, is "Agenda Lite," because of the board elections.

Registrar: We have no guests, because Lynx failed as a streetwalker.

Patron Saint Milt Stevens was honored. Ed Green states that he has known him for 30 years, and is one of the few who can actually out-gross him when it comes to swapping police stories. Marty Cantor called him one of the finest fan writers of our time. For a time, his e-mail address was "sardonius," a clue to his sense of humor. He was the co-chair of the '84 Worldcon, and helped to run the L5 conference. At one point, God walked in. (*Elmer Perdue was there? - ed.*) No, better still, it was Robert Heinlein! All rise . . .

Milt is very good at running conventions. Jerry Pournelle relates that as the official chair of L5, it was nice to have Milt around to do all the work.

Christian notes that Milt has chaired Westercon, Loscon, and has saved Christian when he needed a fanzine lounge. Len Moffatt recalls that Milt was the first chairman of the LASFS Board of Directors, and had a lot to do with the club organization. Len'll be showing slides from the '70s at LOSCON.

June recalls how, during a confrontation with a bunch of punks at the Palms Playground, Milt was able to stare them down with his steely gaze. Phil Castora relates that Milt had that rare gift, the ability to perceive the obvious.

Jerry Pournelle notes that Milt quit drinking the same time he did. Also, he appears as the police lieutenant in Lucifer's Hammer. Patron Saint Milt Stevens was given three cheers and a fanzine. (Or a clue.)

Committee Reports: Winter Holiday Party - Charlie Jackson II announced this party, taking place on December 25.

The committee to gouge got rid of a few items.

There was no old business, and no new business.

The chairman then vamped for time while people picked up ballots, filling the time with some announcements. He extended thanks to Mike Thorsen, Liz Mortensen, and Kim Marks Brown for their service to the Board. Particular thanks to Kim, who is not standing for re-election due to family commitments.

At this time, we elected Board members. Liz Mortensen and Mike Thorsen were re-installed, and Cathy Beckstead was elected to the Board. Congratulations and condolences all around, as appropriate.

Announcements: June Moffatt observed that one of the notes on the board is announcement of the winner of the "4F award." (*I won that one in 1953. - ed.*)

Charlie Jackson stated that the first meeting in December would feature a brief video presented by Tom Safer. It would also feature the nominations for President. The second week features nominations and elections of the procedural officers. Third week, Greg Barrett will bring in two radio programs, recordings of Burns and Allen, and the Plot to overthrow Christmas.

Matthew Tepper moved that we run screaming into the night, and we did just that, at 21:22:46, except for Phil Castora who walked and

mumbled loudly. CLJII took assurance in his wings of steel and stood fast. (Or is that “fasted while standing?”)

Meeting #3354, November 22, 2001

*Ed Green, presiding
Karl Lembke, Scribe*

After announcing that we can't adjourn the meeting if it hasn't started yet, Bob Null cajoled the meeting into order at 20:15:14.

Special Order of Business: Mr. G. Stetner is in the copier hospital, awaiting a transplant. He will be sorely missed during the convention.

The **Menace** were read and approved as “Running, screaming into the night.”

Patron Saint Jim Tanenbaum: Marty Cantor described him as a professional sound man who was in APA-L for a while. He now lives on or near Lookout Mountain Road in Hollywood. He was given three cheers.

Fred Patten announced that APA-L was ready. (*This is not a first, but it has been awhile since 'L has been ready during the meeting. - ed.*)

New Business was present.

“It is hereby moved that the LASFS members that went to LOSCON without attending the meeting first are declared to be the official LASFS turkeys, and that the trufen that did attend the meeting are entitled to shoot them.”

The motion was signed by Joe Zeff, Dan Alderson, Karl Lembke, Phil Castora, Don Wenner, and Marty Cantor, not necessarily in that order. Karl Lembke offered a friendly amendment, which was accepted, to delete the word “first.” The motion passed, with 17 metabolically challenged members abstaining.

Following the suggestion that deathtime dues be instituted, Phil Castora paid \$10 against the eventual dues amount, should this particular insane suggestion be adopted. (*Phil says that as he was the first person to pay lifetime dues it is appropriate that he be the first person to pay deathtime dues. I hope that this passes before this payment of his becomes necessary to continue his “voting” privileges. - ed.*)

Reviews: Matthew Tepper finds the live action “The Tick” to be rather funny, and he likes Liz' uniform. (The character in the program, not the Treasurer of the LASFS.) (Though maybe if Matthew asks **very** nicely...)

Fannish Committee Reports. Joe Zeff, reporting a call from the tinfoil hat brigade, received a call from a lady who made a point of mentioning that she had taught English Lit. She stated that every computer she's ever owned has been hacked, and her mail has been deleted for her. And her phone has been cloned, too. She's decided to go to a typewriter for her writing. “After all,” she stated, “Shakespeare had only a pencil.”

A motion to move to the hotel was passed at 20:50:39.

Meeting #3355, November 29, 2001

*Ed Green, presiding
Karl Lembke, Scribe scribbling*

“This is just too bloody weird,” said President Green. This was even before the meeting started! The meeting was called to order at 20:10:31.

The **Menace** were read and approved as “A roomful of seconds with no first.”

“I insist you shoot me now,” quoth the President.

The **Registrar** announced that LASFS was playing host to an alligator lizard, and an auction was held for the right to name it. Joe Zeff paid \$5.55 for the right to name our guest “Dundee.”

Patron Saint Frank Gasperik. He's a really colorful member of the club, mostly in a good way. In one memorable performance, he B.S.'d the police who had shown up at the wrong time at Bjo's masquerade. Jerry Poumelle mentioned that Frank's been a character in more than one of his books. However, he stated, “I'm not sure I know any stories about him that I want to tell!”

Gail reported that one of Frank's most endearing qualities is that he always has crash space, meals, and other ways of helping out fellow fans. Eylat reported that he's got a very nice character, and is very trusting until he's screwed over. Joe Zeff described Frank as the sort who would go out on a cold night to help a fan in need, leaving a warm bed and a hot woman. “God, yes!” said Gail. In another incident, he recalls Frank running into Herve Villechaise at a Chief Auto Parts store. He helped Herve find something at the store, and made a point of getting down on one knee so they were conversing face-to-face.

By now, Jerry had remembered some stories he could tell. Years ago, he and Frank rode by motorcycle up north to visit Poul Anderson. Frank insisted on acquiring the drinks, which he did for a song. Whenever they were listening to anyone tell his story in a bar, Frank would stop the person, and tell his story, which was a topper. Instead of collecting characters for his stories, Jerry wound up collecting copy after copy of Frank Gasperik.

In a second incident, Frank Gasperik sang some songs for the crew of one of the Apollo landers, and Jerry found it quite interesting to watch their reaction to Frank's singing.

Frank was given three cheers, and a snicker for Gail. Or maybe a Milky Way.

Old Business: Chaz Baden offered his thanks to George Mulligan and Bob Null for all their help. George offered his thanks for all those who

FOR GIVE-AWAY

One a first-come, first get-it, the LASFS is giving away its Gestetner #460 electric mimeo and the Gestetner #1103 electronic stenciller. Contact Bob Null or Marty Cantor. We do not deliver.

Lafa

(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

Lafa Filksing -
Saturday, January 12, 2002,
7:00 PM

Rick Weiss and Tess Calhoun, hosts
13261 Donegal Dr., Garden Grove,
CA 92844
714/530-3546

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

volunteered, and without whose help the U-Haul truck would still be sitting, empty, at the hotel. Chaz also mentioned that during the gripe session, one department head's name kept coming up: Eylat Poliner, great con suite!

LOSICON: Eylat Poliner forwarded her thanks to a "damn good con suite staff," including Karl Lembke, Mark Poliner, Tom and Anna Safer, Rose, Chandies, Ally, and

any other volunteers she's missed. Tadao Tomomatsu announced that LOSCON 29 is off and running. Writer GoH is David Weber, Patty Wells is Fan GoH, and Nene Thomas is Artist GoH.

Reviews: Rick Foss reviewed "Space Suits" by C. Sheffield. This is a story about the first law firm on the moon, run by a couple of characters. It's a funny series of stories. George Mulligan recalled that there was a book, "Space Lawyer," back in the 1930s.

Fannish Committee Reports: Joe Zeff recounted a conversation he had with a customer whose DSL line had gone defunct. When Joe mentioned that they should try to get the funct out of it, the customer replied that he had thought it was all funct up.

Francis Hamit notes that among the documents Osama bin Laden had was a copy of a paper on how to build a nuclear bomb. The document was finally traced to the *Journal of Irreproducible Results*.

Miscellaneous: Bob Null notes that the rat on top of the club's TV monitor has now been named Templeton.

Frank Waller said, "I have nothing further to say." And there was much rejoicing.

We adjourned to a LOSCON post-mortem at 21:12:36.

LASFS Board of Directors Meeting of November 11, 2001 William Ellern, Chairman

Present: Bill Ellem, Karl Lembke, Kim Marks Brown, Bob Null, Elayne Pelz, Mike Sem, Mike Thorsen, and Joe Zeff. Mike Glycer had an excused absence and Liz Mortensen had an excused absence with a proxy with Mike Stern. Others present included Lucy Stern, Greg Barrett, Marty Cantor, Joyce Sperling, and others. The meeting was called to order at 11:07 am. The chairman had no opening remarks.

The **minutes** from the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer is at Windycon, but we still have money. Bob Null reports that the soda money continues to come in at high levels. Apparently, the anti-pilfering tactics have been working.

New Members: A diligent search through the Lizdesk turned up no

new membership applications. We may have a double dose of new members next month. (*Well, it is flu season. - ed.*)

Bill Ellern still has no Facilities Policy. Maybe next month?

Facilities: **Bob Null** stated that there was nothing new. **Mike Stern** asked if the plumbing service had been looked into? "Not yet," was the reply. **Mike Thorsen** reported that the microphones are still acting up, and remain little more than electronic gavels. Maybe we could try a microphone stand, to reduce the effect of handling on the cables and electronics. **Parking** is still unavailable in front of the neighbor's building. Since the parking may still be at "new business installation:" levels, **bill Ellern** suggested that we adopt a "wait and see" attitude. **Mike Stern** has spoken to the **gamers**, and they have been put on notice that they need to do at least a little clean-up.

Archives: **Bob Null** reports that nothing new has been added to the collection. **Anne Morrel** has a letter from LRH in her possession. **Mike Thorsen** has moved the restroom sign into the archives and has placed a photocopy on the door. Since the original sign is artwork done by someone famous whose name is Sergio Aragones, this procedure actually makes sense.

Library: **Michael Mason** has brodarted 25 books of the backlog. The rebuild of the database will take place sometime after LOSCON.

Emergency phone/e-mail lists: **Ed Green** was not available, so the status of the phone list was not known. **Karl Lembke** has begun to process an e-mail list based on the member database from **Mike Glycer**. **Elayne Pelz** suggested that the De Profundis database might be more complete. It was suggested that a mailing be sent to all the names in the De Profundis list, to compile the emergency lists; and, incidentally, to clean up the database. Double postcards are available, easy to prepare, and easy to deal with. **Joe Zeff**, seconded by **Kim Marks Brown**, moved to allocate up to \$400 to do a mailing to the De Profundis list. When the mailing is prepared, Karl will send an e-mail to **Fuzzy Niven** to warn her to expect a flood of postcards. **Kim Marks Brown** asked if we could add an "opt out" field (for mailings as well as emergency lists) to the postcard. Zeff's motion passed with no dissent, and two abstentions.

Shall the Emergency List be open to LASFS members and non-members? **Joe Zeff**, seconded by **Mike Thorsen**, moved that a provision for joining the be added to the LASFS web site, making the emergency list an equal opportunity news source. There was no opposition and none abstaining.

LOSCON 29: **Michael Mason** announced that David Weber is the writer Guest of Honor for next year's LOSCON.

Facilities (again): **Greg Bilan** report that littering is still down, but not out. **Mike Stern** asked if there were any more brown powder spills. There were no more, and the original spill turned out to be dust from the desert. This did, however, provoke an explanation to those who hadn't heard, clarifying the reference. **Bob Null** has found low-wattage fluorescent replacements for the building floodlights, suitable for outdoor use. They will not be brought in at once, but one-by-one on a trial basis.

Convention Delegates: **Michael Mason** has requested that he be named a liaison between LASFS and Darkstar. The answer: "OK."

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40, whereupon many of those attending fainted from shock.

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 fanzine below and broaden your participation in fandom.

CONTACT!/SPIRITS OF THINGS PAST #4 (Dick Smith & Leah Zeldes Smith, 410 W. Willow Rd., Prospect Heights, IL 60070-1250; e-mail to either Dick at rhes@enteract.com or to Leah at lazs@enteract.com; published for members of Ditto 14 combined with FanHistoriCon 11, October 2001; copies are available for \$10, postage included, the proceeds to benefit Ditto, FanHistoriCon and DUFF)

Up to this point I've reviewed the regular issues of various fanzines here. This time is different: *Contact!* is an extraordinary (final) issue of an unusual fanzine. The first three issues of *Spirits Of Things Past* were essentially elaborate progress reports for the then-upcoming convention that combined Ditto and FanHistoriCon. Because Ditto (named after the once-popular method of spirit-duplicating fanzines) is a “fanzine-oriented” convention, this approach – turning progress reports into full-fledged issues of a fanzine, complete with letter columns – made good sense. And the Smiths, editors of the well-established genzine, *Stet*, were ideal for the task.

For the convention itself they produced *Contact!* which, although billed as the 4th issue of *Spirits Of Things Past*, is in fact a stand-alone volume, a “fanthology” of material by 72 fans oriented around a common theme: how they first encountered fandom. Some of these contributions are only a paragraph or two long, occupying perhaps a quarter or a third of a page. Others are full articles or essays, some of which run for several pages.

The volume opens – once past a glittery cover – with a prefatory page which quotes a passage from *The Enchanted Duplicator* (Walt Willis & Bob Shaw's timeless allegory of fandom), in which Jophan is touched by the Spirit of Fandom's

“Wand of Contact.” This perfect introduction is followed by Leah Zeldes Smith's “Our Fandom and Welcome to It,” in which she explains the nature and genesis of the volume and draws some comparisons between it and the 1961 Earl Kemp publication, *Why Is A Fan?* In this piece Leah observes the changes which have occurred in fandom over the last half-century, and wonders if the parts of fandom which she most values (as do I) are still attractive to the latest generation of incipient fans.

Then come 85 pages of reminiscences by 72 fans, arranged chronologically and beginning with Forry Ackerman's 1929 entrance into fandom as it was beginning to form (“I guess I didn't discover fandom, it just kind of grew up around me.”) and ending with Lisa C. Freitag's first encounter with fandom in 1984. This is followed by a five-page index and a back cover quote from the conclusion of *The Enchanted Duplicator*.

Most of the contributors to this volume will not be known to anyone not already involved actively in fandom (the real exception is Mike Resnick – whose piece runs more than five pages), and many of their stories will be most meaningful for those who already know them best. But for anyone curious about fandom, this volume of initial experiences may open a few doors and reveal a commonality shared by all of us who have become active fans.

—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: PSFS News, Dec. 2001 (PSFS). NASFA SHUTTLE, Nov. 2001 (NASFA). DASFAx, Nov. 2001 (DASFA). EINBLATT!, Nov. 2001 & Dec. 2001 (MinnStf). NATIONAL FANTASY FAN, Sep. 2001 (N3F). PULSAR #278 (PorSFS). INSTANT MESSAGE #694 (NESFA). ConNotations Dec./Jan. (CASFS).

other zines: CHALLENGER

#15, Guy H. Lillian III.

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.)

MAGIC

The Gathering

Tournaments
held at LASFS
First Friday
every month

Contact for Magic The
Gathering:
Drew Sanders,
mailto:
Drew_Sanders@hotmail.
com

ATTENTION
AUCTION ITEM CONTRIBUTORS

The amount of material which has been donated to LASFS for auction seems to be breeding - there is now more than twice the amount of material which can fit into the space allocated for it. There may soon be no room in the meeting room for members!

PLEASE!

Until further notice,
The Committee To Gouge The LASFS
requests
that there be
No Further Contributions
of Auction Materials.
We thank you!
The Formerly Empty Floor Space
Thanks you!



De Profundis
c/o The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society
11513 Burbank Blvd.
North Hollywood, CA 91601
U.S.A.

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE RUSH