

De
Profundis
Ad
Astra

DE PROFUNDIS 355



COLOPHON

De Profundis 355 – July, 2002. Editor: **Marty Cantor**. Production Assistant: **Bob Null**. 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: 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.

Written in Publisher 2000 on a custom-built Pentium III 500 computer, printed on an HP DeskJet 895 Cxi, with reproduction on a Gestetner CopyPrinter 5329L.

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

This is Hoo Hah Publication No. 711

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

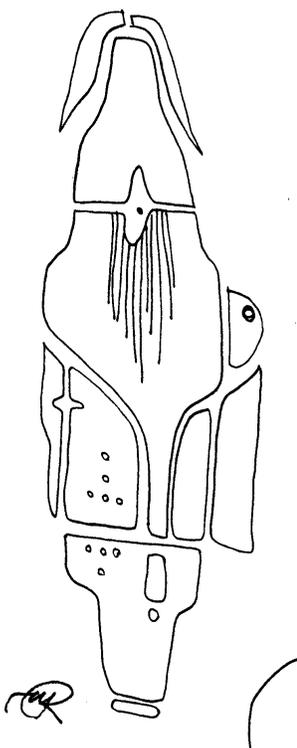
Chairman: Karl Lembke (2003). **Vice-Chairman:** Michael Mason (2003). **Comptroller:** Mike Glycer (2002). **Secretary:** Mike Glycer (2002). **Other members:** Bill Ellem (2002), Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2003), Ed Green (2003), Joe Zeff (2002), Elayne Pelz (2002), Liz Mortensen (2004), Mike Thorsen (2004), 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, Joyce Sperling, and Lynn Baden. **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:** Sandy Cohen, Ed Green. ****Strategic Reserve Registrar:** Robert Keller. **Eulogist, Public Relations, Records, Shangri L'Affaires Editor, Video Library Curator, 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. **Mid-Town North Hollywood Neighborhood Council Liaison:** Marty Cantor.

Honorary Officers

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



DALE HALES is our newest Patron Saint, picking the 37th meeting of each year

August 2002

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

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

Marketing Committee - 8:30 m

FWEMS - Special Celebration (see next column)

FWEMS: Snow White & the 7 Dwarfs + Disney Surprises
BP Memorial Hell Games - 3:30 pm - 10 pm or so

THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

AUGUST 1 - Nothing scheduled at this time

AUGUST 8 - Nothing scheduled at this time

AUGUST 15 - Nothing scheduled at this time

AUGUST 22 - Nothing scheduled at this time

AUGUST 29 - Nothing scheduled at this time

CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

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

Meeting #3382, June 6, 2002

Ed Green, presiding

Karl Lemke, Scribe

“Actually,” said Ed of tonight’s gavel, “It’s great, in a scary way.” Using a gavel which looked like a cross between a chemical model and the Incredible Hulk, President Green gaveled the meeting to order at 20:17:29. We have a lot of real business, or what passes for real business around here. We won’t do Agenda Lite unless it’s absolutely convenient.

The **Menace** were read and approved as “Oh hell, what was I going to say?”

The **Registrar**: We have guests: Bill Thyen, an artist, found out about us

from the Festival of Books. Also, Anna Kay Poliner. "Notice that she's been quiet," said Ed Green, pointedly. "If you want her to talk back, we have ways to make her talk," replied her dotting father.

Patron Saint: Jim Glass, was the librarian at the old clubhouse in '75. Jerry Pommelle stated, he was a very good librarian, and did a great job organizing it. He won the Evans Frehafer Award, and that was his last meeting at the club, due to burn-out. He designed the basic library system we still use. He was given three cheers and a pane in the LASFS.

Old Business: Three items.

1) Standing rule 29: Pillar of the LASFS issue. It is now time for the second vote. lots/0/0.

2) Nominate victims for President. The following victims were nominated: Ed Green, Joe Zeff, and Scott Beckstead.

3) Board of Directors election for the seat vacated by Mike Stern.. Nominated were Michael Galloway, Ed Green, and Allan Rothstein. Condolences to Ed, Congratulations to Michael and Allan.

Time Bound Announcements: Tom Safer announced that Allan Rothstein's son has written a composition that will premier at a concert at Royce Hall, along with other program items.

J. Neil Schulman announced that his novel, "Escape from Heaven," is available at Amazon.com. There is a \$6 rebate if you buy before the end of the month on Amazon.

There was a motion to adjourn, which passed at 21:26:17.

*Meeting #3383 June 13, 2002
Ed Green, presiding
Karl Lembke, Scribe*

The most fearsome day in all of LASFSian lore has arrived. It is Thursday the 13th. President Ed Green put on his hockey mask and attacked the table with his gavel, terrorizing the meeting to order at 20:12:11.

Special Orders of Business: No time for Special Orders of Business.

The **Menace** were read and approved as "approved."

The **Registrar:** We have two guests. Henry Welch, an Electrical Engineering professor in Wisconsin, who came down to visit Marty. (*Actually, he came down to visit his mother in San Dimas, but who's counting? - ed.*) Another guest, Howard Webster, is a guest of Mike Donahue. We hope they're still on speaking terms with each other after this experience.

Patron Saint: There is within the framework of donating money a level called sacred object. **Sandy Cohen** is the Sacred Chancellor of Chocolate. He was active when Ed Green first showed up at LASFS. Has contributed many things to the club, including interesting skews on Robert's Rules. He is a good art auctioneer, and has invented a couple of LASFSian poker games. Despite the fact that he conceals it under a very obnoxious nature, he's kind and thoughtful, and one of the wits of LASFS. Sometimes, he's half the wit in the room. And, despite the

thanklessness of it, he has contributed to many conventions since well before Christian joined the club. That's something which should be honored. He was given three cheers and theobromine.

Also, there are cakes on the sidebar, brought because today is Hare's 46th birthday. There was a lengthy delay while LASFS undertook a Quest for Fire. Ed Green noted that we found the fire, but not the Missionary . . . position. Hare was serenaded in the Fannish Key of Off.

Old Business: Procedural Elections.

President: Ed Green, in a surprising upset.

Vice President: Bob Null was green-lighted through the railroad station.

Treasurer: Liz Mortensen

Scribe: Karl Lembke

Registrar: Robert Keller, magenta underwear and all.

New Business: We will have order. (You should live so long.)

Time Bound Announcements: At 9:45:23, the space station will be celebrating fannish Passover.

Misc.: Tom Safer offered Congratulations to Allan Rothstein and his son, for writing a beautiful choral piece.

This week's Motion to Adjourn passed at 21:42:43.

*Meeting #3384, June 20, 2002
Ed Green, presiding
Karl Lembke, Scribe*

The meeting was banged to order at 20:12:47.

Special Orders of Business: Forry Ackerman is home. He is less receptive to visitors now than he was in the care facility. He's now recuperating from physical therapy, but should be back to normal in a week or so. (Have you ever noticed that only one small space separates "therapist" from "the rapist"?) He may or may not appear at Westercon.

The **Menace** were read, and the Scribe was advised not to draw fire while seated next to the President. The Menace were approved as "crickets chirping."

The **Registrar** announced that we have a guest. After a quick briefing, he announced Brooke Quelle.

Patron Saint: Tonight's saint is one of the craziest and most creative members, **Ted Johnstone**. (CLJII) Ted Johnstone was a science fiction and adventure author who wrote under his real name (David McDaniel) and conducted business under his assumed name. He wrote some of the best representations of the Man From U.N.C.L.E. He was a film major at San Diego State. As good as he was as a cameraman, he was a brilliant film editor. He was so good at putting together disparate pieces of film that it was a joy to watch him work. He and CLJII collaborated on several stories, which were not completed at the time of his death. Longtime Scribe, almost at the skill level of Jack Harness. In youth, he

worked on conventions and was part of Arson, Rape, and Bloody Murder. He also inspired James Wong Hound, alias David McDog, in Amazing Adventures.

Phil Castora: Having held the office of Scribe, he notes that some of his turns of phrase that were well received were inspired by Ted. No one else has ever come close to his ability to describe what went on. Reading the minutes was like re-living the meeting, even one he hadn't attended. Bill Ellem: When the LASFS met in the basement of a building, the meetings were much smaller. Meetings were about the size of the attendance when we have a program. Into this meeting came six high-schoolers, including Steve Tolliver, Ted Johnstone, and George Fields, who were the most prominent individuals. All these people came in under noms-de-plume, because they were unsure of the club. They re-vitalized the club, which soon moved to Zeke Leppin's place. Ted was one of the fanzine editors par excellence. Bill, "a young engineer with more money than sense," would invite the whole crew off to Hawaiian Broiler, and pick up the bill. At the time, \$10 was stiff, but not too bad.

Ted decided to go pro, and wrote a series of books, all excellent, some truly outstanding. His first U.N.C.L.E. book was outstanding. To Jerry Pournelle, Ted Johnstone was always David McDaniel. They met in Chicago at the 1962 Worldcon. He introduced himself as a hobbit, and was the right size for it. He was as good a storyteller as this field has had. Including JP and Niven. Not as good a writer, in part because the craft of writing requires that you do a lot of it, and he hated to write more than anyone else JP has ever met. David never wrote the millions of words needed to become good at his craft. He was as talented as any. Maybe not an Anderson, but he was a very good storyteller.

One time, Jerry commissioned a story from him, and made the mistake of paying him before the story was in his hands. He finally would go over to his house, take his kid out to the park, giving him a couple of hours, and would bring over a fifth of whiskey, or a six-pack of very good beer, in exchange for twenty pages. Hard to say anything bad, except he was the most procrastinating SOB he's ever met. Ted is also Jerry's favorite example of what's wrong with pot. Ted discovered that the high from pot was just as good, if not better, than the high from giving birth to a written and published story, and not nearly as much work.

Read his story, "The Quiet Village.." Mike Glyer recalled that Ted was Secretary when Mike was President. One evening, someone had submitted a funny piece of business. When it came time to deal with new business, the motion was set in an ashtray and set on fire. When the fire died down, David stated that no new business was on the table in writing.

Ted introduced Ed Green to hash. (So, which is better, hash or spam?) Jerry Pournelle remarked that David was correspondent named in a divorce. At the time, divorces were hard to come by without evidence of adultery. It was arranged that David would be caught in bed with a friend's wife when the detective broke into the room. Why David was chosen, no one knows. CLJII stated, "I believe all of McDaniel's novels are in the library. They're all recommended." He was given three cheers and a special U.N.C.L.E. (Better than a case of T.H.R.U.S.H.)

New Business:

We the undersigned members of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society: Wishing to support the current national mood of maintaining physical health. Understanding that Southwest Airlines is a major transport service for many of the so-called SMOFs in the Los Angeles area, so we know they'll sit still for this. Recognizing that Mike Donahue's latest plan is going to cost us a short ton of cash in the near future.

Therefore believe that those members of this Society, who are known by the politically correct term as "thin," should not impose their lifestyle on the rest of us. and to further that end.

Move that the LASFS initiate a surcharge and have "thin" members pay extra dues to make up for the lack of space these members take up during any time they spend at the LASFS.

Said thin members cause severe problems by -

Being underfoot all during the meetings.

Foolishly thinking they would be seen sitting on the couches. Complaining when they are sat on while sitting on the couches.

Leaving too many munchies behind on the freebie table.

Purchasing sized t-shirts during auctions without first asking what size they are.

Offend people by the use of terms "exercise," "diet," and "I'm full."

These members are an inherent risk to the membership, and should pay accordingly.

This was signed by enough people to get it considered. It was moved to make this a resolution. It was so resolved. Next week we resolve to make it a motion.

Time Bound Announcements: Rick Foss: Harry Turtledove's *alternate Generals II* is now out. It includes a story by Rick Foss.

CLJII: John Christopher, a member of the Society, ran for and lost in an election to the Glendale City Council. Now he's on city cable channel 6, making them sorry he didn't get elected.

Reviews: Rick Foss reviewed Cosmonaut Keep, by Ken McCloud. It's the most artistically written story he's seen in a long time, and he used the term in the nicest possible way. Two stories are told concurrently, one in a near future Earth, another on a distant planet. How the two stories relate to each other is part of the surprise. It's a brilliant piece of work, and a great portrayal of human-alien interaction.

This week's Motion to Adjourn passed at 21:12:47.

Meeting #3385, June 27, 2002

Ed Green, presiding

Karl Lembke, Scribe

The meeting was banged to order at 20:10:59. Where's the boom? There was supposed to be an earth-shattering boom! There were no

Special Orders of Business.

The **Menace** were read and approved as "best forgotten."

The **Registrar** said, "I'm sorry, but we have guests. We have lots of guests. Jennifer Stallion, Jason de Chancie, Larry Dunlap, and Bruce Dean. They were welcomed.

Patron Saint, Alan Frisbie. Ed Green has to tell this story. Alan was in back, making noise, and Ed asked him to keep it down. Finally, he ordered Alan out of the room. Five minutes later, realizing it was his patron saint night, he called him back in. He's the only patron saint thrown out of the club on his night. Matthew Tepper declared him one of many gentlemen who has earned the title, "Human Wallet." Ed Green notes that he has kept his very odd sense of humor. He came in last Halloween with a paper airplane imp acted into his forehead.

Jerry Pournelle observed that Frisbie was the godfather to a member who was eventually sold at auction. Alan was responsible for its assembly and programming. It was made a member, and eventually donated to the club. Altair Niven ultimately went to a good home.

Len Moffatt said that he appears in the L.A. Times, in Steve Harvey's column, sending in bits and pieces of silliness. "We're indebted to him," he said, "for adding to our collection of 78 RPM records. For free." Joe Zeff said that years ago, someone made a mistake in putting out a wrong number as the contact number for a convention. It was Alan's car phone. This was back when you were charged every time the thing went off. He took all the calls and handled them, and never billed the convention for his costs. Alan Frisbie, the Sacred Flying disc, was given three cheers, and two ringy dingies.

Old Business: Technically . . . There was a meeting of the by-laws committee last week, and we came to the conclusion that only a few minor items needed attention. Unless someone comes up with something else, the committee will be disbanded. The items are:

1. Because LOSCON is a very important activity, indeed, the major money maker of the year, we decided that the LOSCON rules should be moved from the Standing Rules into the by-laws. All of Standing Rule #23 will be moved to the by-laws, article 12, and make it stylistically the same as the rest of the by-laws.
2. Since there is now a hole in the rules, we suggested, after considerable discussion, we move that the new Rule #23 be "Beware the Soda Fairy."

No other things that came up are within the purview of the By-laws Committee.

There ensued a discussion over the propriety of merging an event like the convention with the by-laws of the club. The sense of the club was to refer this proposal back to committee.

Jerry Pournelle moved a vote of thanks to the committee for their hard work.

Committee Reports: Saturday Evening, we had the 25th Anniversary of the Clubhouse banquet. Thanks to Bob Null for helping CLJII run around and sort out details. Liz and Ed for helping make things very nice

for the banquet. Selina Phanara and her nieces, serving. Bill Ellem, serving, and Niven and Pournelle, speaking. Also thanks to those who paid and didn't come, we got your money and ate your food. We didn't even auction off Len's dessert this time, we just ate it.

This week's Motion to Adjourn passed at 21:19:58.

*LASFS Board of Directors
Meeting of June 9, 2002
Karl Lembke, Chairman
Joe Zeff, Back-Up Secretary*

Attendance: Karl Lembke, Joe Zeff, Mike Stern, Bill Ellem, Cathy and Scott Beckstead, Elayne Pelz, Marty Cantor, Liz Mortensen, Ed Green, Bob Null, Mike Thorsen, Michael Mason, Dale Hales, Christian McGuire, Sherri Benoun, Joyce Sperling, Lucy Stern, Gregg Barrett, Mike Donahue, Arlene Satin, Greg Bilan, and a host of others.

The meeting was called to order at the palindromic time of 11:11 am. The chairman had some opening remarks. The board's condolences were offered to Elayne, as most directly affected by Bruce's death. He also asked for all people on Board committees to let him know, so he can find out exactly what committees there are, and what they do. Minutes having been distributed ahead of time, a reading was deemed redundant. After one, minor nitpick, they were accepted as "not read."

Ed Green was welcomed back to the board, completing the remainder of Mike Stern's term. Ed commended Mike's ethics and hopes he can live up to them.

Treasurer's Report: We have money. Mike Thorsen inquired if we can spend it, and Liz gave him permission as he's always under budget.

New Members: Sean Cashman, Laura Look, Robert I. Goldstein, Linda Goldstein, David Jennings, and Lise Broer. All were accepted. Bill Ellem asked the chairman to put together a welcome message, as Mike Glyer has not had time to do so.

Budget: It's that time of year, again, when we examine and approve (or not) the LASFS budget for the next six months. The treasurer explained what the various items are, and her reasons for the numbers. After discussion, and some minor changes, the budget was accepted, many to crickets.

Facilities: Mike Donahue discussed a number of repairs and improvements we should be making to the Paul Turner Building. He told us we've spent more money patching the current roof than it would have taken to replace it twice, and that we should re-shape the roof to get rid of the trench where the roof changes slope and eliminate the flooding of the roof. He has preliminary drawings for a new building, drawn up by an architect he knows. The biggest restraint, outside of the size of the lot, is our need for parking, preferably covered. This would replace the current front building and parking, leaving the courtyard and back building as they are. The library would be moved to the back building. This would take more than we have at the present, but that can change at any time. We should plan on about four to six months for the construction, with the library unavailable for much of that time. Mike

Lafa

(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

Lafa Filksing -
Saturday, August 17, 2002
Filk: 7 PM to ???

Pre-Filk Dinner: 5:00 PM: Royal Star
Seafood (Chinese cuisine)

Brandyhall: Lee and Barry Gold, hosts
3965 Alla Rd., Los Angeles, CA
90066; (310) 306-7456

PRE-FILK DINNER: 5 PM at Royal
Star Seafood. 3001 Wilshire
Boulevard, Santa Monica

DIRECTIONS: See Thomas Bros. L.
A. Co., page 672, B-5 (1992
edition); page 49, grid E-3 (older
editions).

Brandyhall is located southwest of the
intersection of the San Diego (I-405)
and Santa Monica (I-10) Freeways.

FILK STYLE: Poker Chip (Non-
Topological) Bardic Circle, or Chaos

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

was asked to continue his
current efforts.

Bob Null reported that
some of our current
couches are nearing the
end of their service life.
We need do solicit more
couches from members,
and look into
replacements. Most of our
couches were made to be
light and durable, for stage
use, and we might want
more of the same. The
external couches are in bad
shape, but if we get rid of
them, the couch fairy will
replace them. (At this
point, Cathy Beckstead
had to leave as she has
other commitments.) The
Friday Night computer
gamers are busily
upgrading the LAN in the
computer room, helping us
and getting valuable
experience. Bob has
upgraded the old BBS
machine and strung a new
power line as we need

more powerpoints in the room.

Hall Decorations: Tadao reported that the Estrogen Zone is helping by bringing in more posters.

Communications: The Gestetner has been given a free membership in WesterCon and will attend. Marty Cantor will do standard maintenance in August.

Publications: No amendments to the Kid's Lit List. The Adult's list is complete, in production and was handed out at the Festival of Books. Karl Lembke went over e-mail he's recently received, getting 78 addresses for an emergency e-mail list. Charlie Jackson II is getting the Recommended Viewing List ready for Westercon.

LASFS.ORG: The webmaster and Marketing Committee are examining the web site for content, needs, and interface. He wants to make it more user friendly and useful.

Library: Status quo, due to busyness of librarians.

Video Library: A recent by-laws change create the post of Video Library Curator. As we have more than one candidate, all interested parties are asked to be at the next Board meeting, ready to present their positions. The post will be filled by the Board after the presentations. This will also be announced at the next regular club meeting.

Archives: No work parties or notable items donated. (*Many members*

would love to have some work parties donated. - ed.)

Events: We have a banquet coming up on June 22, and it would be nice idea if the Board members attended. Greg Bilan reported that the Festival of Books went very well, with all the books and packets getting distributed. A good number of people came over to ask questions, showing that we're getting more recognition from the general community. Greg Bilan received our thanks and a round of applause.

LosCon 29: Same as always. The next meeting will be June 22, the same day as the Banquet, so the meeting will be short.

LosCon 30: Teddy Harvia is the Artist Guest of Honor, an excellent choice!

LaLaCon: The chair thanked the co-chair and the rest of the staff. The turnout was good and everybody had a good time. He asked permission to start on the next one, rumored to be called LaLaConfidential.

Comania: Various personal emergencies have made work on this difficult, but there should be a presentation by the next meeting, and a no-charge event on July 27. The event has been renamed Commotion.

Marketing Committee: Arlene distributed a write-up of the committee's mission, goals, and projects. Among other things, they're working on a welcome packet for new members and will coordinate with Marty Cantor.

Bylaws and Standing Rules: Nothing new. (*So we let the Standing Rules sit down and rest. - ed.*)

New Business: Tadao asked permission to use the club's name and clubhouse in various videos he's working on the promote both us and his own acting career. These would be short subjects about the club, club history, and stories about the club. Of course, any stories would be designed to show the club in the best possible light. He'd be more than willing to donate part of any proceeds to the club. Ed Green moved to give him permission, on the condition that we get more detail on his plans at the next board meeting, before anything gets released. Liz seconded the motion. After a mercifully brief discussion, the motion passed, with three abstentions.

Neighborhood Council: The initial application has been sent in, but the process will take several months.

The final motion was made, seconded, and approved at 1:12 pm.

FANZINE REVIEW COLUMN

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.

SLEIGHT OF HAND #1, Spring/Summer 2002 (John Teehan, 499 Douglas Ave., Providence, RI 02908; “Copies available for \$2 (\$3 outside the US) or The Usual;” e-mail to tumble@ids.net)

John Teehan read SF most of his life, but only recently discovered fandom and fanzines. Last year’s Worldcon in Philadelphia was his first convention, which he attended with some hesitation, and “In the weeks that followed MilPhil, I discovered Bill Burns’ wonderful efanzines.com website and the Memoryhole, Timebinders and Trufen e-lists.” With his discovery of fanzines came his discovery of fandom’s history: “I’m mostly just sitting and soaking in the stories. Fandom has such a rich history that’s very hard to describe.”

And, inevitably, John wanted to do a fanzine of his own. *Sleight of Hand #1* is the result. Frankly, I wish my first fanzine had been half as good. The fanzine runs 28 letter-sized pages, but is printed on sheets twice as large, folded and saddle-stapled. Like virtually all modern fanzines (except *Twink*) it’s produced on a computer. Large, readable Adobe Garamond type is set in a double-columned format. Art is sprinkled nicely through the text.

But the key to any fanzine is its written contents, and here once again *Sleight of Hand* triumphs. John has gotten his main article from Dave Langford, whose groaning bookshelf full of Fan Writer Hugos was well and honestly won. Langford’s “Microcon Metamorphoses” is the speech he gave at Microcon in March, 1999. It hasn’t dated at all and is a delight to read.

Rich brown’s “Why I Only ‘Used To’ Know That Diana Rigg Was A Natural Red-Head” is a rewrite of an e-list post of rich’s in which he explains how he came to see Diana Rigg nude, from a distance of perhaps 20 feet – with several digressions thrown in for good measure.

Mike Resnick’s “Tales of the Prozines” is a good demonstration of Resnick’s ability as a story-teller, and his willingness to hold actual facts at bay when they get in the way of his stories. Since these purport to be *true* stories, let the reader beware – several are embroidered into fantasy and many incidental facts and details are wrong. But they make an enjoyable read.

The last Big Name in the issue is Janis Ian – the creator, more than 40 years ago, of “Society’s Child,” an improbable

pop hit a year after its release. She too read SF for many years, but only just discovered fandom. Her “Worldcon Diary: How I Spent My Summer Vacation,” which first appeared on her website, describes the buildup to and her attendance at the same Philadelphia Worldcon at which John got his toes wet. It’s a bit of a gosh-wow piece, but that’s not bad, considering its source.

In addition to a couple of minor items, and a page of “Ten-Second Reviews” by the editor, there’s a letter column – in *Sleight of Hand*’s first issue. It’s made up of a running conversation which first occurred on one of the fannish e-lists after John announced his intention to do a fanzine and asked for advice. Next issue will have actual letters of comment.

All in all, this fanzine is superior to most first issues, especially by those with no prior experience. I feel no hesitation in recommending it, and I’m looking forward to #2.

—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!* July 2002 (MinnStf). *FOSFAX #205 (Parts 1 & 2)* (FOSFA). *INSTANT MESSAGE #703* (NESFA). *ConNotations V. 12, #3* (CASFS). *WESTWIND #263* (NWSFS). *BCSFAzine #350* (BCSFA). *SOUTHERN FANDOM CONFEDERATION BULLETIN V. 7, #13* (SFC). *SFSFSSHUTTLE#148* (SFSFS). *PHRED: July 2002* (PSFS).

other zines: *MIMOSA #28* (Nicki & Rich Lynch). *ARGENTUS #2* (Steven H. Silver). *DEROGATORY REFERENCE #99* (Arthur D. Hlavaty).

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.)

Obtained by the Library 7/15/02

Dark Journey by Elaine Cunningham. **The Fall** by William T. Quick. **The Salmon of Doubt** by Douglas Adams. **The Chronoliths** by Robert Charles Wilson. **Servant of the Shard** by R.A. Salvatore. **The Approaching Storm** by Alan Dean Foster. **Return to Mars** by Ben Bova. **Double Full Moon Night** by Gentry Lee. **Beowulf’s Children** by Larry Niven & Jerry Pournelle. **Tales from Earthsea** by Ursula K. Leguin. **The Other Wind** by Ursula K. Leguin.

MAGIC

The Gathering

Tournaments
held at LASFS
First Friday
every month

Contact for Magic The
Gathering:

Drew Sanders,
mailto:

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or
peggy_little@earthlink.net

**BRUCE PELZ
MEMORIAL
HELL
GAMES**

Sunday, August 25, 2002

Starts at 3:30 pm
and will continue until 10 pm or later



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