



AUGUST 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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2	3	4	5	6 LASFS MEETING	7	8
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KEY TO CALENDAR & OTHER IMPEDIMENTA

BoD = Board of Directors - 11 am

CALENDAR DETAILS

THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

- AUGUST 6 – ZOOM meeting this evening/
- AUGUST 13 - ZOOM meeting this evening.
- AUGUST 20 - ZOOM meeting this evening.
- AUGUST 27 - ZOOM meeting this evening.

Updated programme information can be found at this web site:
http://www.lasfsinc.info///index.php?option=com_events&Itemid=185

Zoom LASFS Meetings are being held by Matthew Tepper while California's "Shelter at Home" rules are in force. Contact susanfox@kryptonradio.com to be sent an invitation.

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THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL NOT HAVE A REGULAR MEETING IN AUGUST

DE PROFUNDIS - the *unofficial* newsletter of LASFS

COLOPHON

De Profundis 568– August 2020. Publisher and Editor: **Marty Cantor**.

De Profundis is the unofficial newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (No current permanent address) and the LASFS does not currently have a telephone number. The club's web site is: www.lasfs.org. *De Profundis* is available only from Marty Cantor for his cost of producing the zines: 75¢ in person, \$1.25 by domestic mail. Out of country rates quoted upon request but it is recommended that copies be downloaded - or at least read - from the *DE PROF* web site.

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).

I want any news of interest to LASFS members (no poetry or fiction). Send items to the LASFS address c/o *De Profundis* or hand them to me at wherever LASFS meetings are being held. The editor, Marty Cantor, can be reached at his edress: [martyhoohah \(at\) sbglobal \(dot\) net](mailto:martyhoohah@sbglobal.net) or at club meetings on Thursday evenings. Deadlines are a bit fluid, but mid-month Thursdays are probably it.

If anybody who receives *DE PROF* via the mail happens to move without letting me know the new address; well, I have more important things to do than to be chasing down addresses so I will stop sending zines to you even if you have given me money to do so.

I will accept no advertising in *De Profundis* but I will always try to find room to announce upcoming events of interest to LASFS members.

Even though *De Profundis* is no longer the official newsletter of the LASFS, I intend to run the zine as if it still belonged to the club. Mostly. 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-modified Intel quad-core, DELL Workstation (using the Windows 7 Professional 64 bit operating system) and printed on an HP 4700dn colour laser printer.

Statements herein are those of the speaker/writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the club. *Interjections in italics are solely the responsibility of the smartass, er, editor. Any resemblances 'twixt smartassery and responsibility are purely coincidental.*

Addendum: At the LASFS' Board of Directors meeting of February 8, 2009, the Directors accepted the proposal by Marty Cantor to take over *De Profundis* as his own fanzine, or as one of them, and he will be assuming the entire cost of production. Marty Cantor has promised to use his 5+ years experience of running *De Prof* as a guide to pubbing the zine as the *unofficial* newsletter of the society. The proposal was put to the Board because the Board had previously indicated that costs were dictating the discontinuance of the zine. *De Prof* is available on paper solely at cost: currently 75¢. Mailed copies, domestically, will be \$1.25. Subscriptions will be accepted; however, as prices are set at approximate cost of production, there will be no discounts for long-term subs.

Marty Cantor, 11825 Gilmore Street #105, North Hollywood, CA 91606, USA. (818) 761-9401. [martyhoohah \(at\) sbglobal \(dot\) net](mailto:martyhoohah@sbglobal.net). August, 2020. Hoo Hah Publication Number 2322. Thanks go to Elayne Pelz, Charlie Jackson, Karl Lembke, Kristen Gorlitz and Nick Smith, Lee and Barry Gold, and any others who are helping me in providing news to LASFS members

LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers
July - December, 2020

President: Matthew B. Tepper. Vice-President: Susan Fox. Registrars: Michelle Pincus and Michelle Dane. Scribe: Eyalat Poliner. Treasurer: (elected in mid-year, serves for full year) Elayne Pelz and Debra Levin.

Board of Directors

Chairman: Karl Lembke (2021). Secretary: Marty Cantor (2021). Vice-Chairman: Nick Smith (2020), Comptroller: Gavin Claypool (2022). Other members: Michelle Pincus (2021), Scott Beckstead (2022), Debra Levin (2021), Christian McGuire (2020), Elayne Pelz (2020), Rob "Gizmo" Powell (2020), Mike Thorsen (2022). Special Advisor: Charles Lee Jackson II. Advisors: Forrest J Ackerman, Walt Daugherty, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

Official Committees

De Profundis Editor, Speaker to toners, LASFAPA/APA-L Liaison: Marty Cantor. Librarian: Gavin Claypool. Assistant Librarian: Elayne Pelz. Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS: Christian McGuire. Eulogist, Public Relations, Video Collection Curator, Film Coord. Committee, & Party Rabbi: Charles Lee Jackson II. Assistant Video Curator: Tom Khamis. Asian Affairs Desk: Brett Achorn. Key Control: Elayne Pelz, Christian McGuire. Webmaster - <<http://www.lasfs.org>>: Barry Gold. Webmaster Assistant: Lee Gold. Sysadmin: Chaz Baden. Editor. Computers & LASFS Archivist: Christian McGuire. LASFS Historian: Fred Patten. Westercon Liaison: Christian McGuire. Program: Michelle Pincus. Hall Decoration: C.B. McGuire, Charles Lee Jackson II. Science Officer: Bill Green (with Nick Smith). Marketing and Promotion: Michelle Pincus.

Honorary Officers

Sergeant-at-Arms In Perpetuity: Roy Tackett. Windmill-at-Arms: Kees van Toorn. Samurai-at-Arms: Takumi Shibano. Librarian-at-Arms: Heather Stern. Statue with no arms: Venus di Milo.

If there is an X in this space, your sub has run out ____

LASFS' *NEW* TEMPORARY MEETING SPACE

LASFS has moved to ON-LINE— temporarily!

I am still looking for a replacement editor for DE PROFUNDIS.

However, if I cannot find a replacement before LASFS gets a new clubhouse, I will return DE PROFUNDIS to the LASFS Board of Directors after our first meeting in our new clubhouse.

CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

(complete minutes are supposed to be filed in the LASFS' files and can be read there - also at www.lasfs.org)

**Meeting 4270, June 13, 2019
Scott Beckstead, Presiding
Kristen Gorlitz, Scribing**

Special Orders of Business:

Chris Evans and Basil Rathbone were born on 6/14

Milan Asadurav, he was the Lester Del Ray of Bulgaria. He was a publisher and instrumental in getting Russian an English language science fiction into Bulgaria. Also wrote SF novels.

Silvia Miles, age 84 – did a few SF roles for TV. Was given 2 academy award nominations for her roles in *Midnight Cowboy* and *Farewell my Lovely*, which added up to only 14 minutes.

Maribeth Mitchell (wife of Matthew Mitchell), long time member of the LASFS, passed recently.

The **minutes** were read and Christian bid \$2 to name them “Gladys”

Treasurer’s Report:

Same old same old. We have money, you can’t spend it.

Patron Saints:

Patron Saint Sandy Cohen:

Christian: On his saints’ night he used to bring lots of chocolate

Nick: He is still heavily involved with fandom.

Larry: Good man, an asset to the club.

Christian: His sacred object is chancellor of chocolate.

Scott: Is a formidable hell player

Christian: served Hanukah ham successfully.

We had Three rousing Cheers for **Patron Saint Sandy Cohen**.

Patron Saint Hare Hobbs:

Debra wishes **Hare** a happy birthday.

Christian: he is one of the other members of the club who still reads.

Debra: and he reads despite the fact that he is dyslexic, and he is interesting person.

CLJII: he cares enough about the club that he comes to meetings even though it is a considerable inconvenience to him.

George: at the 84 Worldcon in Anaheim, they were roommates, and he was a good roommate. Very knowledgeable about music.

Debra: if you want to know about the Beach Boys, talk to **Hare**.

Richard: he always has interesting things to say.

We had Three Cheers for **Patron Saint Hare Hobbs**.

Guests:

Arturo Courcis – is a writer. He told us about his novel.

Committee Reports:

Program committee:

Tonight – election and small auction.

June 20th Kristen will be interviewing Hex Comix Creators, maybe bigger auction.

June 27th, trivia for chocolate.

Loscon 46 – Matthew announced replacement artist guest of honor – Karl B. Kofoed

Loscon 47 – the guests have been selected and are being invited as we speak

We had a small auction, presented by the **Committee to Gouge**.

Announcements:

Nick Smith: The Arena Cinelounge is playing *Headcount* for one week, starting tomorrow night

The Egyptian Theater has a Father’s Day movie Special this Sunday, *The Shining*.

Barbara: Got letter from McFarland- discount coupon for academic fannish books.

George: *The Blustering Gales From the Southwest* are presenting a Sherlock Holmes play done in the style of a radio drama

Kristen: Have a Kickstarter for the next comic book in her series, *The Empties*, <http://www.buythiscomicbook.com>

Old Business

Election – we opened up nominations for president.

Michelle Pincus and George McUrso were nomination last week.

Scott nominated Marty Cantor, who accepted.

George nominated Scott, who respectfully declined.

Peter nominated Matthew B. Tepper, who discourteously declined.

We closed nominations for president.

Then we voted. And then voted some more.

Marty Cantor was elected President.

George McUrso was elected Vice-President.

Elayne Pelz, with Debra Levin assisting, was elected Treasurer.

Gavin Claypool and Nick Smith were elected Scribe, as a tag team.

Michelle Pincus and Nick Smith were elected Registrar, as a tag team.

Nick Smith refrained from saying "Tag, I'm It!"

New Business: None.

Reviews:

CLJII: *5000 Fingers of Dr. T*, found it just as delightful as ever

George: saw *Princess Bride* on the big screen and it is even more delightful on the big screen

Krystal: Saw *Rocketman* and enjoyed it very much

Bill: *Baycon*, they are renovating the hotel so he had to stay in another hotel. There was plenty of parking. They have the worst con suite of any convention but the programs are nice. Brianna Wu, who is running for congress, was there.

Debra: Pika Pika, they watched *Detective Pikachu*, Ben says that is it much better if you are already a fan, but it's great.

Nick: *Dark Phoenix* is a better science fiction film than it is an X-Men movie. Not great, but worth watching

George: highly recommends *Hilda*, which is on Netflix.

Christian: Happy! It's on the Sifi channel, recommends it

CLJII: watched a double feature of *36 Hours* and *The Longest Day*.

Mike Thorsen: Happened upon a Youtube channel called *SpaceDoc*. They create detailed breakdowns of the technical specifications and designs of ships and space stations.

Moment of Science:

Bill: Found a new hominid. (*I hope it wasn't swimming in his soup.* -ed.)

Miscellaneous:

Someone should take care of Hare's leftover birthday goodies

Moved to adjourn at 9:25 pm. Please put away your chairs.

Meeting #4273, July 4, 2019
(Minutes not yet given to me)

Meeting #4275, July 18, 2019
(Minutes not yet given to me)

Meeting #4276, July 25, 2019
(Minutes not yet given to me)

Meeting #4277, August 1, 2019
(Minutes not yet given to me)

Meeting 4285, September 26, 2019
President Marty Cantor, Presiding Pontifi-
cally
Nick Smith, Srribing Ceremoniously

President Cantor called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm.

President Cantor announced that this is Banned Books Week.

Special Orders of Business:

Today is the birthday of actress Linda Hamilton, who has spent most of her career doing SF and fantasy roles. She's best known for her roles in the Terminator movies and as the female lead in the Beauty and the Beast TV series of the 1980s, but she was also in Children of the Corn, King Kong Lives, Black Moon Rising...okay, so maybe we'd better stick with Terminator and Beauty & the Beast...

Patron Saints:

Patron Saint Mike Donahue:

A member of the Director's Guild who has written and directed feature films in both the horror and SF field.

Patron Saint Ron Ellik:

He co-authored *The Universes of E. E. Smith*, a Lensman concordance, and a Man from U.N.C.L.E book called *The Cross of Gold Affair*.

In the club he was a filksong writer and a poker player. By day he was a satellite engineer in Operations Research and Satellite Design.

Patron Saint Barry Workman:

Went with Jerry Pournelle to Baja California back when there were no roads, and apparently without the use of an anti-grav hovercraft. On this trip, he discovered a new species of brine shrimp and got to name it.

Larry Niven mentioned that he got the nickname in Baja of El Fuerte, *The Strong One*.

He built his own harpsichord. He was also part of the crew that re-built the clubhouse that the club owned on Burbank in North Hollywood, as well as one year's Hugo awards.

Patron Saints Mike Donahue, Ron Ellik, and Barry Workman were each given Three rousing Cheers.

Minutes of the last meeting were read. George McUrso paid \$2 to name them "Giant scorpions and giant ants both chirp." They were approved by voice vote.

Introduction of Guests: none

Board of Directors report: next board meeting will be on October 13th?

Treasurer's Report: Same old, same old, same old.

Committee Reports: None recorded.

Program Committee:

Tonight, Trivia for Chocolate, with new, easier questions!
Next week, the nominations and voting for the Forrest J. Ackerman awards.

October 24th will be another Trivia for Chocolate
Board of Directors elections in November
Procedural officer elections in December.

Loscon 46: No report.

Loscon 47: No report.

A Moment of Science:

George McUrso mentioned a moment of technology. Rivion wants to create electric trucks, specifically. They have created prototypes, and Jeff Bezos of Amazon has pre-ordered a bunch. (*Hah! Amazon will make their deliveries better if they ordered some trucks rather than a bunch. One bunch will not deliver all of those packages everywhere.*)

George also mentioned a company selling an unprogrammed robot dog.

Larry Niven mentioned seeing a photo of the black hole fringe from a nearby galaxy, which is the only part that you can see.

Gizmo mentioned the Boston Dynamics robotics video that shows the new range of motion that they have managed to work out with robotics.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Announcements:

The Shriekfest film festival is this weekend at the Raleigh Studios, 5400 Melrose in Hollywood. A weekend pass is \$75, but you can buy separate tickets if you only want to go for part of the event. The festival includes a wide variety of short films and feature films that are horror or dark fantasy in nature, although some have elements of SF as well.

The Arena Cinelounge in Hollywood reached all the way back to the 1920s for this week's fannish film. They are showing *The Man Who Laughs*, based on the Victor Hugo novel of the same name. That is the movie most responsible for the face of Batman villain The Joker.

The L. A. Valley Film Festival will run from the 25th to the 29th, and will mostly be at the Laemmle Noho theater and the Alley Studio, a couple of blocks south on Lankershim. This year there will be quite a bit of programming of and about music at the latter site, but the films at the Laemmle will include a lot of thrillers and SF, including *Boris* and *The Bomb*. Check www.valleyfilmfest.com for the schedule.

Saturday, September 28th at 2 pm will be another classic SF double-feature at the Pasadena Central Library, 285

E. Walnut. This one will feature giant bugs, with the films *Them* and *The Black Scorpion*, both from the 1950s.

Sunday boardgaming Meetup at Paper Heroes will be on October 6th and the 27th.

So Cal Games Day in Burbank in mid-October.

Reviews:

Nola reviewed a podcast called *The Ensign's Log*, which is a comedy based on *Star Trek*. Parts are hysterical, but some of it very "male sense of humor."

Gizmo saw *Ad Astra*. A very beautiful film in terms of being technically sound, in terms of space travel. More about psychological and mental states of people in space. A difficult movie to portray.

Nick saw the same film and recommended seeing it for the visuals, but said that the script wasn't up to the quality needed.

Hare just saw *The Moon*, directed by David Bowie's son. Involved a helium miner on the moon.

George McUrso saw a 1967 film called *Operation Kid Brother*, starring Neal Connery, Sean Connery's younger brother. They managed to get various folks from the James Bond movies in bit parts.

Miscellaneous:

Hare mentioned a postponement of the Pancho Barnes film.

Gizmo mentioned Megabot, a company making a huge robot for display purposes. Now their robot is for sale on eBay. Currently up to \$91,000.

Frank mentioned that Aron Eisenberg, Nog on Deep Space 9, had just passed away.

Fannish Committee Reports:

From the Committee of Weird Coincidences, Betty Balantine, Shel Silverstein, Christopher Reeve, Mark Hamill and Will Smith were all born on September 25th... different years, of course. Our thanks to Mike Glycer's File 770 for his birthday list, which is how I spotted that.

Motion to adjourn and put chairs away at (*a time later than something*) pm. Passed without fear of contradiction.

Meeting 4286, October 3, 2019
Marty Cantor, Presiding Punctually
Nick Smith, Scribing Strangely

President Cantor called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm.

Special Orders of Business:

Today is the birthday of both Emperor Ming and Princess Ardala, or at least the people who played them.

Actor Charles Middleton was born in 1874, so he's no longer with us, but he played Ming in the Flash Gordon

serials. He acted in films from 1920 to 1949, and it was purely for love of the craft. His family was rich, and he had no need for the money, so the nearly 200 character acting roles he did were pretty impressive.

Actress Pamela Hensley played Princess Ardala in the television version of Buck Rogers, but that was not her only fannish role. She was also in Rollerball and Doc Savage, as well as multiple appearances on The Six Million Dollar Man. She was born a lot later than Charles Middleton was, so she is still around, but retired from acting at the young age of 35.

Matthew and Christian mentioned the death of the actor who portrayed Nog on Deep Space 9. This was actually mentioned at last week's meeting, when neither one was there, but we hadn't read those minutes yet, so they're forgiven.

Patron Saints:

Patron Saint Steve Bilan, whose sainthood was bought for him by his brother Greg. Greg generously got Steve his sainthood, and was up north living with Steve at last notice.

Minutes of the last meeting were read. Christian McGuire paid \$4 to name them "and Loscon 46 was in these minutes, and going fine." They were approved by voice vote.

Introduction of Guests: None

Board of Directors report: none except for Karl leaving early due to his new heart valve.

Treasurer's Report: none

Committee Reports: None.

Program Committee:

Forry award nomination and voting tonight.
Oct. 24 Trivia for chocolate, holiday-themed quiz

Loscon 46:

Another special author participant has been confirmed, Leslie Klinger, expert on Dracula, Frankenstein, Lovecraft and Sherlock Holmes. Get your memberships and hotel rooms.

Loscon 47: No report.

A Moment of Science:

So, what if that Planet X out there past Pluto isn't really a planet either? (*What do you mean, either? Pluto still is a planet despite the illegal shenanigans of the anti-Pluto faction.* - ed.) A new theory has arisen that would explain several of the apparent facts, and now scientists are investigating the possibility that it's actually a small black hole, about the size of a basketball. That would contain enough mass to account for the gravitational pull detected, but be even harder to see than a planet would. The best bet for finding it, if it IS a small black hole, is

through gamma ray bursts that would come from matter near it. Luckily, there has been a gamma ray telescope doing a full sky survey for about ten years now, so now they're looking at any anomalies to see if one or more fits the predicted pattern. (*Maybe NASA should send somebody out there to paint the black hole some fluorescent colour so that we can see it better.* - ed.)

Also, NASA has announced the development of something more than meets the eye: shape-shifting robots that will probably NOT travel back in time to take over the world. These are more like little bitty Transformers, and they're being designed for deep space missions, especially on moons in the outer solar system. Sometimes they're shaped like a ball. Sometimes they separate into two or more objects with different forms of mobility. So far, they can roll, float or swim, as needed, and NASA is hoping to use them to explore places where simpler rovers are not adaptable enough.

Tom Locke mentioned Space X Dragon has entered major test stage. The planned manned launch by the end of the year will probably be 2020.

Also, the Air Force is considering the flying car concept to replace the Osprey helicopter.

Tomorrow is the 62nd anniversary of the launch of Sputnik 1.

Francis Hamit says that a working hoverboard that has been tested by crossing the English Channel.

Old Business: The Forrest J Ackerman Award will go to Barbara Hambly.

New Business: None.

Announcements:

This Saturday at the Torrance Convention Center, Super Dimensional Con, related to anime stuff.

October 19 and 20 is the Animation is Film Festival, at the Chinese Theater complex in Hollywood. 18 films, a special program on women directors, and four "making of" documentaries. Information and advance tickets are at animationisfilm.com.

The Group Rep company at the Lonny Chapman Theater, 10900 Burbank in North Hollywood, is doing a stage play version of Romero's Night of the Living Dead for the Halloween season. Friday and Saturday nights at 8 pm, Sundays at 2 pm. Tickets for adults are \$25.

Dark Delicacies bookstore is known mostly for horror and dark fantasy, but this coming Saturday they're having a science fiction event. The movie Encounter starred Luke Hemsworth, the brother of Chris, and the director, music composer and some of the cast will be signing the Blu-Ray, DVD and soundtrack CD at the store on October 5th at 3 pm. It's at 822 Hollywood Way, just up the block on the other side of the street. They've got some cool Halloween stuff, too.

Friday night at 8 pm, the Egyptian Theater in Hollywood is having a free screening of a new SF/Horror movie called Portals. Tickets are free, but you have to go to the

theater to get them, and they will be given out starting at 7 pm. On Saturday night at 7:30, there will be a screening of VFW, which is actually an SF film taking place AT a Veterans of Foreign Wars post.

Reviews:

Hare reviewed David Day's Encyclopedia of Tolkien. Beautiful book.

Francis Hamit said he wasn't interested in watching the rest of Carnival Row.

George reviewed something called Get Mean, a fantasy Western.

Christian reviewed a movie called The Shining Path, a Chinese fantasy about music.

Michelle reviewed I am Dragon, a Russian movie on Amazon prime. She loved it.

Fannish Committee Reports:

Bill mentioned that Coppercon is coming back, in Phoenix, under a new name CoKoCon. Some other cons don't seem to be listing their actual locations, including one in San Diego.

The Green Slime Awards from Bubonicon were also read.

Miscellaneous:

Charlie mentioned the Phys Ed program for the disabled that he's in at Glendale CC. Now, the person in charge of the program has brought in little robotic drones in the shape of flying saucers.

Motion to adjourn and go to program, to be followed by putting chairs away. This was moved and seconded. Passed at 8:50 p.m., followed by the Forry Awards nomination and voting, in turn followed by the chair thing. Passed without fear of contradiction.

Meeting #4287, October 10, 2019

Meeting #4288, October 17, 2019

Meeting #4289, October 24, 2019
Starring
the Attending Members
with Gavin Claypool as the Scribe
and Marty Cantor as the ~~Cum Laude~~ President.

President Marty Cantor called the meeting to order at 8:01 pm.

Marty Cantor reported that a tornado had removed the roof from artist Brad Foster's house in Dallas on October 21. No one was hurt and none of his art was damaged, but there will be some delays in the delivery of current projects.

George McUrso reported that Genny Dazzo has been diagnosed with Guillain-Barré syndrome, an autoimmune disorder.

Michelle Pincus reported that Larry Niven has been moved to the Lake Balboa Care Center and should be out in a few days, but is seeing his wife Fuzzy more often as a result. MGM has bought the rights to the remaining Known Space stories that they had not previously purchased.

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Christian McGuire paid \$1 to name the minutes "A nod to *Beany and Cecil*."

PATRON SAINT

Patron Saint Lee Jacobs. His typo of the word *folk* as "filk" led to its current usage. He received Three Cheers (*Which were not typo'd as Tree Chairs*. -ed.)

Introduction of Guests: Blake Ackerman, Anahita Dalmia, and Apurvi Bhartia from USC, who visited as part of their research for a class project on science fiction and the development of the aerospace industry.

Treasurer's report: None.

Board of Directors report: The Board of Directors will meet on Sunday, November 10.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program Committee: Charles Lee Jackson II reported that this week's program is Trivia for Chocolate; next week's meeting falls on a seasonal holiday and thus no program; nominations for the Board of Directors will be at the first meeting in November with the election will be held the following week; the procedural officers election will be in December.

Loscon 46: Matthew Tepper showed Loscon speaker Leslie Klinger's new volume of the annotated H P. Lovecraft, which covers the non-Cthulhu Mythos works. Loscon Guest of Honor Howard Waldrop has written essays for each film in the Howard Waldrop Film Festival at Loscon, which will soon go up onto the Loscon website. Michelle Pincus reported that two full-dress Marines will be at Loscon on Sunday to help collect new unwrapped toys for the toy drive.

A MOMENT OF SCIENCE

Bill Greene reported that no sunspots have appeared for several months, and asked the question: Is this the start of another Maunder Minimum (70 years long)—and global cooling? The next Transit of Mercury will commence before local sunrise and end about 10 AM on November 11. The Griffith Observatory website will stream the transit starting at 6:15 am.

LAFAs
(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

Note: We (LAFAs) are complying with California's "stay safe at home" order. LAFAs filks will be held via Zoom until the COVID-19 pandemic subsides.

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

BREAKING NEWS

John Hertz informed the club that long-time member Paul Turner has passed away. Back in the 1960s, Paul suggested that the club should attempt the impossible and raise enough funds to buy its own clubhouse.

TIME-BOUND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hare Hobbs has an 18-month-old unneutered female Chihuahua seeking a new home.

A MOMENT OF TECHNOLOGY

George McUrso reported that a British engineer has developed an aluminum/air "battery" (technically, a fuel cell) capable of powering an electric car for up to 1,500 miles. According to inventor Trevor Jackson, the breakthrough came with developing a new kind of electrolyte that works with much lower-purity metal—including recycled soda cans. The "battery" can't be recharged, because the electrolyte reaction works by 'eating' the aluminum, so it must be replaced after reaching the end of its range. *(Of course, as many cars use aluminum to create a lighter-weight vehicle, if one does not replace the battery at the end of its range, the electrolyte may start eating the car. -ed.)*

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

REVIEWS

Charles Lee Jackson II reviewed the state of Halloween-themed candy—apparently not available except in large quantities of the small size.

Michelle Pincus reviewed the film *Zombieland Double Tap*. Last five minutes are worth the ticket price, and stay through the credits.

John DeChancie reviewed *Texas Chainsaw Massacre 3*. The end couldn't come too soon, but the ending, reminiscent of Jean-Luc Godard, was worth it.

Hare Hobbs reviewed *Piranha 3D*. Lots of blood, gore, and topless women, a high Buchman rating. Worth watching if you enjoy any of the above.

Gavin Claypool reviewed *Joker*. Not a superhero film. Not even a super-villain film. An amazing performance by Joaquin Phoenix, who may become the second actor to win an Oscar for portraying the character Joker.

George McUrso reviewed the 2005 Hallmark Channel production *Mysterious Island*, which starred Patrick Stewart and Kyle MacLachlan. It did not compare well against the 1961 version, the one with Ray Harryhausen's special effects.

CLJII has a bat-signal. And a mysterious bat can.

Motion to adjourn to the program—to be followed by putting chairs away—moved, seconded, and passed at 9:03 pm.

Meeting #4290, October 31, 2019

Meeting #4291, November 7, 2019

Meeting #4292, November 14, 2019

Meeting #4293, November 21, 2019

Meeting #4294, November 28, 2019

Meeting #4295, December 5, 2019

Meeting #4296, December 12, 2019

Meeting #4297, December 19, 2019

Meeting #4298, December 26, 2019

Meeting #4299, January 2, 2019

**ILLOS
AS PER USUAL
BY
WILLIAM ROTSLER**

Board of Directors Meeting
February 15, 2020
Karl Lembke, Chairman
Nick Smith, Substitute Secretary
(These minutes will be brought up later)

LETTER OF COMMENT

Readable, as always. Just thought I'd say that, since many people will not, We're doing fine here, going only slightly crazy due to social distancing. Lora suggested we try a front porch glider, so we perused Amazon.com for one. It's John's favorite piece of furniture! We both sit in it drinking cinnamon tea and watching the amazing population of Monrovia dogs taking their owners out for walks or jogs. Our porch is far enough back that we can even wave to non-mask wearers. -- Bjo

I retired in September of 1999 to be able to spend more time at home writing zines and playing board games. I started working, again, at the end of 2002, getting my apartment's rent reduced to token level to manage the building in which I lived. Considering how much rents have gone up since then, this turned out to be a smart move, especially since the owner turned management of the building over to a building management company and said company paying its resident managers (of which I now was one) a small amount of money in addition to the reduced rent.

So, this staying at home is not all that much of an annoyance to me - with one exception. I can no longer run my board-gaming Meetup at the game store where I used to game on Fridays.

Well, I have set up a table in my building's carport and no more than 4 can don masks (with hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes on-hand) and carefully do some gaming outside on Fridays.

Still, I wish this virus would go away so we could stop this shelter at home necessity and go back to a semblance of our previous normality.

--- Marty Cantor



**BOARD GAMING
MEETUP**

The board gaming Meetup which had been meeting at LASFS on Friday Nights when LASFS owned its own clubhouse, has moved to a temporary venue, a game store in Sherman Oaks.

Paper Hero's Games is at 14109 Burbank Blvd., Sherman Oaks, 91401. The shop is in the interior juncture of an L-shaped strip mall on the Northwest corner of the intersection of Hazeltine and Burbank.

Our new hours are 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

We hope to see our regular gamers at that venue.

We shall move our gaming back to LASFS when the club moves into permanent quarters.

**FOR THE DURATION
OF THE
SOCIAL DISTANCING ORDER
THERE WILL BE NO
BOARD GAMING
AT
PAPER HERO'S GAMES**



**LASFS
DIRECTORY**

The directory is now available.
Elayne will e-mail
the following directory files, free,
upon request:
xl spreadsheet, or
pdf

For those without on-line
or printer access
Elayne will provide a printed copy upon request
for a small fee.

Contact Elayne at:
treasurer@lasfs.org

**WHO KNOWS WHAT ETHER
LURKS IN THE MINDS OF FEN?**

The fannish autobiography of
Phil Castora
edited and pubbed by Marty Cantor
pdf file available at
<http://efanzines.com/Castora/index.htm>
paper copies from Marty Cantor for \$5.00

**LASFS MEETINGS -
WE NOW MEET IN OUR NEW
VENUE EVERY THURSDAY**

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
747 WHITNALL HWY
BURBANK, CA**

Parking lot is off Screenland Dr. at the end of N. Whitnall.

We are meeting in the Friendship Hall.

DE PROFUNDIS

is available as a .pdf file
at the web site listed on page one,
as a .pdf file delivered
to your computer inbox,
or as a paper copy
either handed to you at LASFS
or mailed to your home.
Paper copies are sold at cost.
Contact Marty Cantor for details.



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