



# DE PROFUNDIS 421



De Profundis is archived at  
<http://www.nyx.net/~bgold/deprof.html>

## February 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Open Gaming	2 Estrogen Zone
3 TRIPE	4	5	6	7 LASFS Meeting	8 Open Gaming	9 Cinema Anime
10 BoD Open House	11	12	13	14 LASFS Meeting	15 Open Gaming	16 CFO TSPC
17 Time Meddlers	18	19	20 Marketing Committee	21 LASFS Meeting	22 Open Gaming	23 Work Party
24 FWEMS	25	26 Reading of SF Shorts	27	28 LASFS Meeting	29 Open Gaming	

### Legend of Inscrutable Abbreviations

BoD - Board of Directors  
 CFO - Cartoon Fantasy Organization  
 Cinema Anime - Japanimation  
 Estrogen Zone - Ladies Auxiliary Sewing and Fallout Society  
 FWEMS - Fourth Sunday Movies - 2 pm  
 Time Meddlers - Dr. Who Club  
 TRIPE - Temporal Retrieval of Information Programming and Entertainment  
 TSPC - Tom Safer Presents Cartoons - 10 am  
 Work Party - noon

Estrogen Zone - 2 pm  
 Marketing Committee - 7:30 pm  
 Readings of SF Shorts - 7:30 pm  
     for program check [www.lasfs.info/forum](http://www.lasfs.info/forum)  
 Time Meddlers - 10:30 am  
 TRIPE - Noon until whenever

### Thursday Program Items

February 7 - What Have You Been Reading Lately?

February 14 - Presentation and voting for Loscon 36.

February 21 - Tribute to Mr. Wizard

February 28 - How To Make A Monster, a special fx make-up demonstration by Heide Nichols.

### Calendar Details

Asian Cult Cinema - None This Month  
 BoD - 11 am, gaming starts at 2 pm  
 Cinema Anime - 1 pm until it ends  
 CFO - 1 pm to 8 pm

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## COLOPHON

*De Profundis* 421 –January 2008. Editor: Milt Stevens.  
Mailing List and Mailing Labels: Elayne Pelz.

*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](http://www.lasfs.org). *De Profundis* is available to active LASFS members, Patron Friends & Saints 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, Milt Stevens, can be reached at the clubhouse on Thursday evenings or at his edress: [miltstevens@earthlink.net](mailto:miltstevens@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.

Statements herein are those of the speaker/writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the club. Interjections in square brackets [[ ]] are solely the responsibility of the editor.

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## LASFS OFFICERS

### Elected Procedural Officers

**President:** Marcia Minsky. **Vice-President:** Mike Thorsen, Tadao Tomomatsu (tag team). **Scribe:** Matthew Tepper. **Treasurer:** Elayne Pelz. **Registrar:** Michelle Pincus.

## Board of Directors

**Chairman:** Karl Lembke (2009). **Vice-Chairman:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2009), **Comptroller:** Brett Achorn (2008). **Secretary:** George Van Wagner (2008) **Other members:** Bill Ellern (2008), Elayne Pelz (2008), Ed Green (2009), Tadao Tomomatsu (2009), Arlene Satin (2010), Milt Stevens, (2010), Mike Thorsen (2010).

**Special Advisor:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Advisors:** Forrest J Ackerman, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

## Official Committees

**De Profundis Editor:** Milt Stevens. **Speaker to Gestetner:** Marty Cantor. **Librarian:** Vanessa Van Wagner. **Assistant Librarians:** Elayne Pelz, Darnell Coleman. **LASFAPA/APA-L Liaison:** Marty Cantor. **Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS:** C.B. McGuire, Elayne Pelz \*\* **Eulogist, Public Relations, Video Collection Curator, Film Coord. Committee,& Party Rabbi (take a deep breath here):** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Assistant Video Curators:** Doc Reames, Alison Stern. **Asian Affairs Desk:** Brett Achorn. **Key Control:** Bob Null. Elayne Pelz, Christian McGuire, **Special Photographic Collection:** Mike Donahue. **Webmaster - <lasfs.org>:** Scott Beckstead. **Sysadmin:** Chaz Baden. **Ministry of Silly Gavels:** Bob Null. \*\* **Committee for Children's Literature:** Anne Morrel, Editor; Greg Barrett, Facilitator. **Computers & LASFS Archives:** Bob Null. **Charity Coordinator:** Liz Mortensen. **LASFS Historian:** Fred Patten. **North Hollywood Arts District Liaison:** George Van Wagner. **Hagiography & Ecclesiastical Affairs:** Vanessa Van Wagner. **Westercon Liaison:** Ed Green. **Shaggy Editor:** Ed Green. **Program:** George Van Wagner, **Readings:** Vanessa Van Wagner, **Liaison to Enigma (The UCLA SF Club not the German encryption machine)** George Van Wagner

## Honorary Officers

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

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## Loscon 36 the Bids

Loscon is the proprietary LASFS convention which is held over the Thanksgiving weekend each year. Any member of LASFS may submit a bid to chair a future Loscon, but only the pathologically ill advised actually do it. Each bid must designate the chair, treasurer, and hotel liaison. Bids for Loscon 36 which will be held in 2010 must be submitted to the Board of Directors at their next regular meeting, Sunday, February 10 at 11 am. All qualifying bids will be forwarded to the membership for a final vote on Thursday February 14.

## Procedural Officers January - June 2008

President - Marcia Minsky

Vice President - Mike Thorsen, Tadao Tomomatsu

Scribe - Matthew Tepper

Treasurer - Elayne Pelz  
(Elected in mid-year only)

Registrar - Michele Pincus

## Board Officers 2008

Chairman - Karl Lembke

Vice Chairman - Merlin R. "Bob" Null

Secretary - George Van Wagner

Comptroller - Brett Achorn

## Next LAFA Filksing

Saturday, February 23, 7 pm  
House of Prancing Skiltaire  
Hosts: Mark Merlino and Rod O'Riley  
13412 Gilbert  
Garden Grove, CA  
(714) 539-6547

For Further LAFA Information  
Contact Lee and Barry Gold  
(310) 306-7456  
email [barrydgold@comcast.net](mailto:barrydgold@comcast.net)  
or [lee.gold@comcast.net](mailto:lee.gold@comcast.net)

## Saying Something About A Chocolate Covered Manhole Cover

For quite a few years, the Chocolate Covered Manhole Cover has migrated back to LASFS at Christmas time. In particular, it usually shows up in the LASFS Gift Exchange. This year it didn't. This is like the swallows deciding not to visit Capistrano this year. It's very disturbing. Several fans are going to have anxiety attacks if it doesn't return. So check the clutter around your residence pod just in case you have the Chocolate Covered Manhole Cover. If you do, please give it back.

## New in the Library

*Fatal Revenant, the Last Chronicles of Thomas Covenant* by Stephen R. Donaldson

*History of the Hugo, Nebula and International Fantasy Awards* by Donald Franson and Howard DeVore

*PKD: A Philip K. Dick Bibliography* by Daniel J H Godersky and Steven Owen

*2007 Rhysling Anthology of SF and Fantasy Poetry* edited by Drew Morse

*Alien in a Bottle* by Kathy Mackel

*The Bible Repairman* by Tim Powers

*The Ghost Brigades* by John Scalzi

*Time Machines: Time Travel in Physics, Metaphysics, and Science Fiction* by Paul J. Nahin

*Pay the Piper* by Jane Yolen and Adam Stemple

## CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

(Copies of the complete minutes are filed in the archives.)

*LASFS Board of Directors*  
*Sunday, December 9, 2007*  
*Karl Lembke - Presiding*  
*George Van Wagner - Secretary*

**Attending Board Members:** Karl Lembke (Chairman), George Van Wagner (Secretary), Tadao Tomomatsu, Brett Achorn (Comptroller), Ed Green, Bill Ellern, Liz Mortensen, Elayne Pelz (procedural treasurer), Bob Null, Cathy Beckstead, Mike Thorsen (vice-chair).

**Others Attending:** Milt Stevens, Tony Benoun, Heide Nichols, Vanessa Van Wagner, Joyce Sperling, Michael Pell, Marty Cantor, Anne Morrell, Sherri Benoun,

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Michelle Pincus, Fred Lazelle, Susan Gleason, Arlene Satin, Frank Waller, Joe Zeff, Judy Zeff, Marcia Minsky, Gavin Claypool, Jenny Burke, Scott Beckstead, Rob Powell, Janet Pederson

Meeting called to order at 11:17

**Minutes:** Approved as submitted.

**New Members:** Michael Clark of North Hills

**Treasurer:** Not much change from last month. We have \$89, 500. Authorization for Century Fund expenditure was voted on by members and was tabled until such time as the Board comes up with a more detailed plan.

Members were concerned that there be specific goals and targets for spending the money, and also that there be a specific Board member responsible for oversight of any repair projects.

**Maintenance:** It was suggested that we consider engaging an independent building inspector to give us an overview of the current condition of the building. This would give us an independent assessment of what needs to be done and help us prioritize whatever infrastructure repairs are needed. Inspectors charge by the square foot. There is one who will give us a non-profit price of 20 cents per square foot. It was suggested that we might want to get a general contractor to give us an entire project estimate rather than taking a piecemeal approach. Members who are civil engineers or have other connections might be able to refer us to a general contractor who could give us an estimate on all the projects. Motion carried, with one abstention to authorize expenditure of up to \$1500 for hiring of a professional building inspector to give us a full report on condition of the building. George will find the exact square footage and make arrangements for an inspection.

Rekeying has been done, thanks to Elayne. Cleaning is being done. Roof has not leaked. Asphalt repair put off until after the inspection.

**Electronic Equipment:** AV squad needs to reprogram the amp and have a little conversation with anyone who might be tempted to mess with the settings. Bob will check the archive for the manual that was donated with the unit.

**Loudspeakers to the front building - do they work?** In the past, they were used to broadcast the meeting into the front building. Now they don't connect to anything. Do we want it? Might be useful for elections. How big a deal is it to fix? Scott offers to look into what would be required to get these up and running.

**Communications:** Pubs computer is working. One computer in the front building is in Scott's queue for repairs.

**Website:** Officers need to be updated, emails are bouncing, navigation is problematic. Webmaster notes that complaints aren't getting to him. Standing rules are now up.

**Calendar:** Some members have trouble getting to it. Can the site be made more usable? Can we set things up so that one person isn't saddled with all web tasks? Ed notes that we keep having the same problems with the website and we keep trying the same solution that has not worked. George believes a wiki would be a good idea. Scott does not. Bob recommends that we not hire a pro who designs for a captive audience. Motion to table the issue until February passed with two abstentions. In the interim, the Chair will coordinate a group to pinpoint the exact problems with the website. Bill Ellern reminds everyone that 10 years ago there was a binder of website problems and a similar book might be useful now.

**Marketing Committee Report:** Has made a contact with the Valley Plaza branch librarian to arrange for readings to children. The librarian is SF friendly - attended a meeting, has our children's reading list and bookmarks. Working with the librarian to decide what age group would work best. Putting together a proposal to be submitted to the L.A.PL. decision makers. Community good works, educational function, positive PR. Supports our goal of being more family friendly and attracting members in the 18 - 30 age group. The importance of choosing reliable readers who will be effective representatives of the LASFS was mentioned. Arlene is meeting with librarian soon. It was moved to thank Arlene for coming up with this very good idea and her hard work on implement it.

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**Miscellaneous:** Chair has lost his cell phone and requests that everyone provide him with their numbers.

**Speaker to Gestetner:** Parts have been purchased for lock one the power cord. Installation by Rob Powell is in the queue. Marty will get and distribute keys and give the list of keyholders to Elayne.

**Library:** Last election day revealed that the database had some issues. Additional training of new volunteers. Adult reading list has been completed, but it is very much an ongoing work and librarian is open to suggestions for improvements.

**Archive:**

Archive is currently blocked by Loscon items. These will be going away shortly.

**Institutional Memory Committee:** Main items to go in the Board orientation packet are by-laws and standing rules. Has anyone looked up old amendments to by-laws? Was the by-law committee re-activated? Most recent copies of by-laws that are kicking around are dated 2002. Marty recalls there being by-laws changes since DeProf Number 328, when he took over editing it. Any such changes would have been published word-for-word. We have by-laws that were on the old website, which are the 2000 version. We have PDFs of DeProfs from Number 328 to the present, so we can search and extract any changes. George will have them together for presentation to the entire Board for the January meeting.

Elayne reminds everyone that we need to send a copy of the bylaws to the State of California when we file taxes next year.

**Events:**

**Loscon 34:** Chair has received good feedback from guests, who feel they were very well-treated, and from members. Final count was 1199. Still working on the books and pass-along lists. Susan is moving to open a store in Grass Valley. She will be back in January for the Loscon closeout meeting. She was reminded that death will not release her. The Chair offered thanks and "Nicely done!" on behalf of the Board.

**Loscon 35:** Has over 300 members, the highest pre-reg ever. Prices go up January 1st. The co-chairs are looking for volunteers.

**Diamond Anniversary Committee:** First meeting will be held in January.

**Gift Exchange:** The gift exchange will take place on Friday, December 14, 2007. The rules are in DeProf and will be posted on the LASFS LJ. A suggestion that the gift exchange video be put on YouTube popped up and was just as quickly flattened.

**LaLaCon:** Planning will begin after the first of the year.

**New Business:** A motion passed to allow Westercon 61 to borrow some office and tech supplies from the LASFS. They intend to make a donation after the con.

A motion passed authorizing an expenditure up to \$1200 for Loscon to purchase two new computers for the Loscon Art Show, whose Pentium I's are dying.

**Take-Aways:**

**Last Month:** Code of Conduct- work is in progress. Handles have been removed from outdoor water faucets.

**This Month:** Arranging for building inspection - George

Reprogramming amp in AV cabinet - Brett and George

Check out intercom/PA system to front building - Scott

By-laws updates from DeProf - George

Cat herding on website - Karl

**Miscellaneous II:** The Quickening

Gavin notes there is an article in today's L.A. Times about Robert Heinlein.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:50pm



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

**DATED MATERIAL**  
**PLEASE RUSH**