

De
Profundis
Ad
Astra

DE PROFUNDIS 342



colophon

De Profundis 342— June, 2001. Editor: **Marty Cantor**. Production Assistants: **Bob Null** and **Phil Castor a**. Mailing List: **Liz Mortensen**. Mailing Labels: **Fuzzy Pink Niven**.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This is Hoo Hah Publication No. 594

LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers

President: Ed Green. **Vice-President:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null. **Scribe:** Mike Glycer & Karl Lembke. **Treasurer:** Liz Mortensen. **Registrar:** Lynx & Mona Martinez (tag team).

Board of Directors

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

Appointed Positions

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

Honorary Officers

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

SECOND SUNDAY

The Board of Directors starts its meeting at 11 am. All members are invited to attend and participate in these important meetings.

About 2 pm members interested in gaming show up. There are board gamers, fantasy role playing gamers, those who like Mah Jongg, and some who play Hell (a card game). Bring games to play or just join a group playing a game which interests you. All members are welcome.

Around 5 pm somebody will fire up the barbeque and anybody can put cookable items on it as many members make Second Sunday an all-day (and evening) event. Game-playing and picnicking - an unbeatable combination (with a little bit of parliamentarianism starting things off).

I would like to know who is paying attention to *De Prof*; so, if you are, please raise your hands.

July 2001

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

KEY TO CALENDAR & OTHER IMPEDIMENTA

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

CALENDAR DETAILS

LADWVS - 6:30 pm
 TRIPE - Noon until whenever
 BOD - 11:00 am, games start at 2:00 pm
 Cinema Anime - 1:00 pm until it ends
 CFO - 1 pm to 8 pm
 Work Party - 10:30 am
 FUCC - Evening
 TIME MEDDLERS - 10:30 am
 ESTROGEN ZONE - 2:00 pm
 FWEMS - (22nd) My Favorite Cowboys
 FWEMS - (29th) Serial Sunday "G Whiz"

THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

JULY 5 - Not scheduled at this time
JULY 12 - Invasion of the Earthmen (Video)
JULY 19 - Not scheduled at this time
JULY 26 - 7 Directors in Search of a Rabbit

CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

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

Meeting #3325, May 3, 2001
Cathy Beckstead, presiding
Karl Lemke, emergency back-up scribe

As if it hadn't already taken the brains of a Slan to describe the first silly gavel Bob left on the table, he had to go and substitute another just as the meeting was starting. Silly gavel Mark I looked like a ballista mounted on a catamaran-shaped base that consisted of three pair of wheels on Tinkertoy axles. Silly gavel Mark II resembled a finned dinosaur whose snapping jaws came in two interior decorator colors - one yellow, one purple. No wonder Cathy Beckstead was

having a hard time gaveling the meeting to order. Mike Stern seemed to think a kinder, gentler approach would work: "You should say 'Good evening' after you bang your gavel." Cathy felt the truth was simpler than that: "It's not good for him unless he gets banged." Cathy announced the meeting number, and Frank Waller let rip with a burp. "Thank you for punctuating that," said Cathy. Yes, Frank is indeed the Henny Youngman of natural gas.

Minutes: Glycer read them, and they were approved as "Naughty naughty minutes - bad!" Charlie Jackson 2 injected an explanation that the Alastair Sim movie he'd referenced last week was one where the actor plays a detective. Its plot hinges on the fact that oxygen comes in green bottles, so when someone painted an oxygen bottle another color, no one knew there was oxygen in it. (Just like if someone painted Frank Waller yellow, no one would know what kind of gas he was full of - - not that he'd keep it secret for very long.)

Patron Saint: A recent knee operation kept tonight's Patron Saint, Larry Niven, away from the meeting. Somebody who'd obviously listened to the minutes suggested we call Niven on a cell phone. Instead, Ed Green circulated a "Thank a teacher" card for people to sign and tell Larry to get well. Glycer remarked, "Great save, Ed." Ed reacted, "There's a perfect idiot in this room." When Glycer tried to interrupt, Ed added, "You achieved perfection a long time ago, we're just cueing you in now." Ed said Larry Niven is one of the most successful "fan writers" he's ever met - because he gets paid for it. Mike Stern called Larry "probably one of the nicest people in sf fandom." He remembered him at Westercon sitting in a hallway wearing a sign that said, "Will write for food." For some reason, Ed remembered that quite well, too. While people were extolling Niven, prodigal son Phil Castora walked into the meeting to much applause. Ed Green reminded us that Larry Niven enjoys weird fanart, exemplified by the alien figure in his backyard pool. Ed was sure there'd come a day when cops would be chasing a suspect over the wall into Niven's backyard, see that and give it two rounds. When people were finished with appreciations, we gave Larry three cheers.

Registrar: Lynx wasn't present, though he had thoughtfully left a note on the whiteboard that he would be gone from 8 to 9 pm. (What a genius idea - - if it catches on, next term I'm running for Scribe except for the hours between 8 and 10 pm on Thursday.) Anyway, Cathy tried to get the guests to introduce themselves. Several of them took the fifth, but at least they were still at the meeting. "Super glue helps," explained Mike Stern. Cathy said, "Ignore him." Glycer said, "We're getting him fixed," though Lucy Stern only smiled and said, "Too late!" Allan Rothstein will be receiving a course of Tepper Therapy, described by Matthew as consisting of him moving in with Allan to annoy him and make him live longer. Tepper needs help moving some stuff, and taking things to storage. He will provide refreshments and pizza. Many LASFSians will certainly volunteer to store that.

Cathy brought the meeting to an end, saying, "All in favor of becoming animated, go like this - " She imitated mechanical arm motions in a burlesque of Bugs Bunny flicking ash off the end of his carrot. Yes, it was definitely Bugs - no dripping air conditioner

protruded from her tummy. Hoping you are the same.

*Meeting #3326, May 10, 2001
Cathy Beckstead, presiding
Mike Glycer, the Once & Future Scribe*

The start of the meeting was delayed while members crowded around a bowl of free fruit. Cathy Beckstead brought a small pile of the little, orange globes to the front table. Glycer asked what they were. Cathy didn't know, so we'll just say what Laney would have said: once again. LASFS was indulging in a fruit unknown. Meanwhile, time was getting away from us - in more than one sense. George Mulligan announced that the big hand is on the two and the little hand is on the eight. Also, Scott Beckstead brought Cathy a birthday card. Cathy admitted, "It's really my birthday. I'm officially in my mid-30s" Charlie Jackson 2 said philosophically, "A redneck Jedi you may be if you have a roll bar on your X-wing fighter." But instead of telling us about the shotgun rack on her landspeeder, Cathy opted to officially start the meeting by rapping the head of the ballista-shaped Tinkertoy gavel, designed by Bob Null.

Minutes: We almost need a special order of business for the microphone, which cut out three times while Glycer was reading the minutes. He didn't even notice the first two times. Well, it's really just a test to see if people are paying attention. Matthew Tepper moved that the minutes be approved as "Shot between the eyes—accidentally." Frank Waller's suggestion that they be approved "as technically challenged" won over more voters. Ed Green's attempt to top that with a reference to Frank's gas instigated Marty to make several jokes about what he's full of. Joe Zeff had heard about this so often he thought the club should award Marty a free trip to Bandini Mountain. Although it sounded like the mountain had already come through, er, to Marty.

Patron Saint: Tonight's Patron Saint, Bob Null, whose hard work has resulted in a Loscon job being designated "The Bob Null Position." Charlie Jackson 2 said he's the best at wearing a pointy hat, er, head we've ever had. And Cathy Beckstead admired him in his soda fairy wings. Hare Hobbs later realized Bob only joined LASFS a few months before he did, but Bob was already doing so much work when Hare joined he assumed Bob had been a member for a long time. Marty Cantor said Bob had been vice president more times than anybody in the room. Joe Zeff said if those terms were laid end-to-end, they'd add up to 10 years, and Joe pointed out how Bob had agreed to be Loscon GoH



SOME LASFS OPERATING POLICIES

- The LASFS' ordinary closing time is midnight.
- LASFS does not undertake to leave the building open without specific arrangements.
- When the last person who has authority to close the building leaves, no one else may remain.
- **Parents, Children, and Guardians must make their own arrangements for minors to leave safely.**

only if he was allowed to work the con. Mike Stern remembered that in addition to being a Patron Saint, Bob is the Sacred Nothing. We gave Bob three cheers.

Registrar: Lynx arrived with an In-'n-Out burger and introduced two guests.

Announcements: Tadao claimed this was an occasion where you didn't get to kill the messenger. He revealed it was some president's birthday. Cathy couldn't deflect the attention to George W., so she had to endure much alleged music. Certainly nothing that could be accused of infringing on the copyright of "Happy Birthday To You." Charlie Jackson 2 chimed in with an autobiographic Stupid Crooks Report. (He was the victim, not the stupid crook.) On his way home from UCLA by bus, he stopped in Echo Park and picked up some Pioneer Chicken. He returned to the bus stop and stood waiting by the curb. A red station wagon drove by with two disreputable-looking guys, the driver and passenger. They came around the block a second time. When they came around the third time, Charlie stepped back as the passenger reached out the window attempting to grab his chicken. The guy fell out of the car onto the sidewalk, sustaining several injuries, and the driver floored it out of there. It was the first time Charlie ever saw an attempted chicken-jacking. "Dumb cluck," ruled Matthew Tepper. Charlie asked, "When they came around the third time, what did they think I was going to do?" Tepper knew: "Pull out a brass ring."

Cathy asked, "All those in favor of Robbing Cole" to vote to end the meeting. They did, and she closed the meeting by launching the head of the ballista-shaped Tinkertoy gavel into the first row.

Meeting #3327, May 17, 2001
Cathy Beckstead, presiding
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Scribe

Tonight the ingenious Bob Null designed Cathy a gavel consisting of opposed Tinkertoy wheels on flexible tubes, with the potential to bang together like a paddleball given the wrist action of a drunken sailor, (or possibly, someone grabbing out of the window of a moving car at a bag of chicken). Cathy fortified her courage to wield the bizarre contraption with deep drafts of eXtreme Crème Root Beer, now declared the official drink of the podium staff. She was so fired up that when Rob Cole moved to adjourn the meeting, Cathy boldly declared, "I haven't started the meeting yet." Phil Castora figured, "Then if we pass it, it won't have any effect." Yes, the LASFS is without form and void. Now Cathy officially started the

meeting by flailing the silly gavel 'til the parts thunked together. She opened with a "typical idiot-your-lights-are-on announcement," prompting Robert to jump up and run outside to the applause of the members and the Emperor's shout, "We have a winner!"

Special Order of Business: Charlie said we had lost a gentleman who didn't take his own advice that "The way to live forever is to fall down dead and miss." Douglas Adams, creator of *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, had passed away. Charlie felt Adams's stories were exemplary because they had a beginning, a middle, and an end. "Which he didn't insist on telling in the same order," Glycer interrupted. Matthew Tepper said Adams reinvigorated a media form that had once been great - radio comedy. Even though Adams said he had written comedy using the trappings of sf, he added immensely to the parlance of sf fans. He proved, in the end, to be yet another striver for physical fitness who suffered a massive coronary while working out at a gym. Charlie led a moment of silence.

Minutes: Glycer read the minutes and waited to be splashed by the stream of corrections. Joe Zeff once again demonstrated a phenomenal recall of his own week-old quotes - quite amazing when compared to the Secretary's seeming inability to remember whatever Joe said the moment the words have left his mouth. To wit, Joe had said that if we considered Bob's consecutive terms in office, he would be a "ten-yearred" Vice-President. Charlie Jackson 2 also clarified, "I really don't like those female actresses better than the male actresses." (So then, holding up two fingers really signifies V for Victor/Victoria?) Charlie moved that Glycer's handiwork be accepted as "the best blinkin' minutes of the year."

Patron Saint: Cathy announced tonight's Patron Saint was Thomas Graham Digby. "Bone in the nose and everything. Interesting chap." Eylat Poliner said Digby always had a lot of distinctive jewelry on him. (*Antennae are jewelry?* - ed.) He also used to invite her to his parties, though she never got there. "The piercing didn't bother me, it was the fact that I didn't drive." It probably never occurred to Tom that would be an impediment, considering he walked all the way from Hollywood to the LASFS clubhouse any number of times. Charlie described Tom as having the gift of being weird and perverted and friendly and non-threatening. The eulogies were so flowery that people kept having to remind each other Tom's still alive. Marty Cantor said Tom still puts out a monthly e-mail of his apazine *Probably Something*. (*Actually, Tom has his own e-list to which he contributes his usual original and, er, interesting writing.* - ed.) And reminded us that Digby was the inspiration for Niven's short story, "What Can You Say About Chocolate-Covered Manhole covers?" (*The Chocolate Covered Manhole Cover is in my freezer this year.* - ed.) Ed Green recalled the *Times* once published Digby's letter suggesting a novel way to kill Death Row inmates. Though not a direct cause-and-effect, we gave three cheers.

Registrar: The beginning of the auction was interrupted so that Lynx could introduce zero guests. Did somebody forget that zero is not a number, it is a placeholder? Must be time to send Lynx that e-mail picture of Stephen Hawking reminding him how smart you have to be before you're allowed to invent your own branch of mathematics.

Auction: The Pelz's had returned from their cruise with an auction item, a Monte Carlo casino poker chip. Matthew Tepper gleefully paid a pun fine for the right to speak franc-ly.

Committee Reports: Cathy Beckstead displayed a flyer advertising someone's dishwasher for sale. Apparently, Cathy was not a potential customer because she said it would be a waste of water for her to wash dishes. Glycer envisioned Cathy holding smoking-hot food in her hands to keep from dirtying a dish. By then, George Mulligan was killing himself laughing: everyone hoped he was still under warranty. Cathy was not finished with her press-agentry. She publicized the JPL Open House. Then she showed a clipping from today's *Times* picturing three Live the Dream-ers in a hot tub. Well, no wonder more fans haven't taken up polyamory - it involves bathing!

Reviews: Frank Waller described some junk put up in an auction, inspiring Charlie to answer, "A coffee table nailed to Phil's head - what am I bid for this unique object?" Frank said he had no further comments, signaling an imminent end to the meeting. Cathy tried to formulate a motion where all who were in favor of adjourning would say a particular word, and Matthew suggested "nictitating," which convinced Cathy to simply adjourn without a complicated vote, forcing Matthew to shut his membrane until next week. Hoping you are the same . . .

Meeting #3328, May 24, 2001

*Cathy Beckstead, presiding
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Scribe*

Bob Null (*aka The Ministry of Silly Gavels. - ed.*) provided another silly Tinkertoy gavel shaped like a siege engine. In the absence of President Cathy Beckstead, Vice-President Bob was forced to hoist his own petard - and the handle came off in his hand. To make up for it, the loudspeaker was working altogether too well: the members demanded a volume discount. Christian McGuire kindly twiddled the amplifier knobs.

Minutes: As usual, Glycer was immediately convicted of trying to pass off the records of an alternate universe as LASFS minutes. Charlie Jackson 2 said it was the producers of *Moulin Rouge* who thought the place was a tardis, not him. Ed Green said he wasn't the one who identified the Live the Dream article as appearing in the comics section. Matthew Tepper said the music in *Moulin Rouge* spans the mid-20th to the end of the 20th century. Karl Lembke helpfully asked, "Which end?" In lieu of an answer, Mike Stern moved that these minutes be approved as meeting the minimum requirements in Glendale. It was so voted. Sometime during all this silliness, Mike Stern demonstrated Spock's "live-long-and-prosper" hand salute, and Charlie translated it as "A Vulcan ordering five beers."

Patron Saint: Tonight's Patron Saint was Deedee Lavender. Len Moffatt said although she was not historically famous in fandom, she was a lovely, sweet person. She died a few years ago. The members gave three cheers for Deedee.

Registrar: As usually happens immediately after someone utters the

words "missing Lynx," Lynx appeared to introduce guests. There were plenty, tonight, including Frankie Thomas, who was Tom Corbett, plus his friend from Hollywood, a guest who heard about us from the web site, and Kyla's brother, Michael May from Austin, Tx.

Reviews: Robert Keller followed up last week's comments on *Moulin Rouge* by saying it begins with a Gilbert & Sullivan number - so the movie's music spans over 100 years. Right about then Cathy Beckstead stealthily took over Bob's seat at the front table, as though hurrying not to miss the end of a LASFS meeting made any more sense than racing to get the last berth on the *Titanic*.

Charlie Jackson 2 hyped the program, due to start in a moment, with actor Frankie Thomas. Marty Cantor hastened things along by moving to adjourn. Which we did.

Meeting #3329, May 31, 2001

*Cathy Beckstead, presiding
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Scribe*

Bob Null's 18-wheeler gavel with four ailerons and a Tinkertoy-tube-reinforced handle in turquoise and orange was probably more suitable for starting a meeting of the Miami Dolphins. But we didn't let that stop us from using it to begin tonight's LASFS meeting - consider it a tribute to Douglas Adams. Bob himself began things by smashing the gavel into the microphone.

Special Order of Business: In an attempt to shorten tonight's meeting, nobody had died.

Minutes: Many people volunteered to help cure Glycer's minutes, as well. Mike Stern said his Vulcan salute meant, "Live long and drink beer." Mark Poliner thought we needed to know that Brew-Ha-Ha was the actual name of a beer shop back east. Karl Lembke successfully moved that the minutes be approved as a garden of earthly deletes.

Patron Saint: The late Ed Baker was tonight's Patron Saint. Fred Patten met Ed in high school, and both were pages at the local branch of the LA Public Library in the mid-50s. They fought over first dibs on *The Lord of the Rings* as it was coming out. When Fred discovered LASFS in the 60s, he told Ed about it. Ed was a fanatic Esperantist, and while he was LASFS treasurer, kept the records in Esperanto. He would also accept club dues paid in the Esperanto brass coinage. He was a murder victim at the end of the 60s. Cathy Beckstead arrived and took over the meeting at this point, leading three cheers for Ed Baker (in Esperanto). Jerry Pournelle asked, "Madame President, may I observe that you are exceptionally bubbly and exuberant tonight." Sandy Cohen added, "And she's short." We skipped the "second opinion" joke which would ordinarily follow.

Committee Reports: Mike Stern would be busy fixing the Magic Tournament the following night. A cynic challenged the "committee" status of this report, which Cathy defended by saying, "It's the Committee to Bring Magic to the LASFS." Charlie Jackson 2 asked, "Isn't *Mah Jongg* the Esperanto word for 'Magic'?" Cathy said, no, it's the word for "long time wasted." George Mulligan

LAFAs
(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

Saturday, July 14, 2001

LAFAs Filksing
Filk: 7 pm to ???
Pre-Filk Dinner: 5:00 pm
(Chinese)

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

Dinner:
Royal Star Seafood
3001 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica

*Filksite directions: see Thomas Bros.,
L.A. County, page 672 (1992 ed.);
page 49, grid E-3 (older eds.)*

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

asked, "Do you believe in magic?" as Cathy waved to the rhythm of the pop song. Ed Green wondered, "Shouldn't that question be asked of a young girl?"

Registrar: Lynx and Christian McGuire had no guests to introduce, because once again they had made the lone guest join the club! Instead, they offered the following profound wisdom. Said Christian, "Sometimes you're the monolith." Lynx rejoined, "And sometimes you're the monkey."

Auction: Among the auction items was a piece of bizarrely-shaped foam, which looked like it could only have been cast from a mold made from a

made a choice and figured out how to spin it so that the members thought it was actually a good idea. Except for Chaz, who mundanely urged us to send someone across the street to buy a real get-well card at the liquor store. Frank Waller started a parade of members making small donations so the secretary could stock up on real get-well cards. Charlie Jackson 2 wondered if we should just send John the money. And Jerry Pournelle moved that the club authorize the secretary to buy a small selection of "more appropriate (for this club)" cards for future needs. Chaz admitted, "Even if we need goofy cards, we'll need to get more." The members readily voted in favor of the motion - at the last moment remembering to insert an actual figure, \$20. Enough for the cards, but Glycer groused, "There goes my trip to the card shop in Buenos Aires."

Mark Poliner told the story about scrap-metal dealers in Russia. They stole lead sheeting from a nuclear-powered lighthouse. Mark concluded, "Needless to say, they are no longer in that profession." Too bad, they'd have been glowing examples.

Lynx popped in to introduce another guest.

Charlie announced tonight's program would be a video of Martian invasion clips and trailers through the 1990s, full of crazy green people. By comparison, our meeting was full of only one crazy Green person, so we adjourned to look for more.

**LASFS Board of Directors
Meeting of April 8, 2001
William Ellern, Chairman
Acting Secretary, Karl Lembke**

Attendance: William Ellern, Karl Lembke, Mike Thorsen, Michael Mason, Kim Marks Brown, Joe Zeff, Liz Mortensen, Bob Null. (Absent: Elaine Pelz, Mike Glycer, Mike Stern.) Others: Marty Cantor, Anne Morrel, Joyce Sperling, Ed Green, Son Wenner, Dale Hales, Greg Bilan, Greg Barrett, and others.

Minutes: Karl read the minutes, and corrections were offered and made. Liz Mortensen had reported that the amount transferred to the Century Fund at the end of the quarter would be "anything over" \$15,000, not "about" \$15,000. The disposition of the matter of the Legacy to Sci-Fi Award was not tabling. It was referred to committee to investigate the award and report back. If there is no report, the matter may be considered dead. Marty Cantor's proposal was to send the club Directory to members and other clubs. The words "and businesses" to be deleted from that sentence. An addition to William Ellern's comment that the membership database maintained by Fuzzy Pink Niven occasionally drops names for its own inscrutable reasons. Perhaps in different phase of the moon, someone else's name will be dropped. Kim Marks Brown moved to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded by Joe Zeff.

Treasurer's Report: The sum of \$8373.92 was transferred to the Century Fund, taking it to \$39,363.25. The chairman declared this fact worthy of a "wow." The booth at the Festival of Books is fully funded, with \$128.49 for miscellaneous items, and as seed money for next year. The library has \$932.27 in its funds. The Video Library has \$260.69. The Key fund has \$350. The Video repair fund has \$452. (N.b., it's possible I've reversed it; the repair fund may be \$260 and the library may be \$452.) The audit is in progress; with the Treasurer's files having been sent to Mike Glycer.

Standing Rules of the Board: William Ellern noted that the Standing Rules of the BOD were not on the website. Kim Marks Brown moved that they be added to the website. It was pointed out that Article 6, Section 2 of the

LASFS lemon.

Announcements: Francis Hamit told us Leigh is still sick. She's on a self-prescribed diet of chicken noodle soup and ice cream. (*Chicken soup a la mode?* - ed.) Fred Patten told about the *New Scientist* magazine web site. It had an article about work-related problems associated with health events. Such as people wearing mascot costumes who suffered heat prostration. Fred said Eurodisney dissented, claiming Mickey is not a man in a costume, he is a real person. Jerry Pournelle remembered San Diego State's mascot, Monty Montezuma, runs out and throws a burning spear. He didn't say whether the work-related injury happened to the fellow on the throwing or the receiving end of the burning spear. But he did say the president of university is getting rid of the mascot. The university president was looking for a mascot with greater historic accuracy, so Jerry logically concluded the San Diego State Aztecs needed to start sacrificing a member of the opponents' cheerleader squad before each game, while singing "Open Up Your Heart and Let the Sunshine In."

Cathy Beckstead announced that John DeChancie was in the hospital, possibly with heart attack number two. He appears to be doing well. After some fuss and delay, he was moved to a VA hospital where he should have been in the first place. Cathy said he's in good spirits - bitching and moaning. Joe Zeff said we should send John a get-well card. Glycer reached into his briefcase and produced a feeble selection of greeting cards that were irrelevant to the occasion, such as the special Christmas greeting to a cool nephew. Ed Green

FANZINES

By Ted White

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

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

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

THE RELUCTANT FAMULUS (Tom Sadler, 422 W. Maple Ave., Adrian, MI 49221-1627; e-mail to tomfamulus@dmci.net; available for trades, contributions, letters of comment or \$3.00 a copy)

This is a fanzine which takes unique advantage of modern technology: it is not only put together with a computer, it's printed out in color. I would have guessed from appearances that each page came slowly out of a color inkjet printer, but editor Sadler mentions in passing that he now has “a brand new and, I hope, reliable copier.” This issue – #56 – enjoys another unique quality: it's dated “Winter, 1999/2000/2001,” reflecting the gap between beginning and finishing this issue. This allows Sadler to write a closing editorial which brackets the whole “Y2K” hoopla, starting with his engagement in the process of Y2K compliance for the City of Adrian, his employer.

Sadler is editorially more concerned with his family genealogy, and describes his journey of discovery of his family's past history in *TRF*'s opening pages. Robert Sabella devotes his column, “The Caustic Eye,” to Greg Benford's non-fiction book, *Deep Time*. Gene Stewart (who seems to turn up in half the fanzines I review) writes a fairly serious installment of *his* column, “Brother Butch's Rat Stew,” mostly concerning nationalism and its consequences. (We science fiction fans have Broad Mental Horizons, of course, and transcend petty nationalism – don't we?) The late Ken Cheslin contributes “Part One” of his “Memoirs of a BOF,” which ends abruptly (mid-sentence), and is followed by four pages of his cartoons, of which it can be charitably stated that Ken was not much of an artist.

Someone who *was* an artist, and who has also died while this issue was in preparation, is the late Joe Mayhew, whose “My First Nomination (No Previous Confictions)” is a report of his trip to the 1990 Worldcon in Holland. The title refers to the fact that he received his first Fan Artist Hugo nomination at that convention (and eventually won his first Hugo a few years later). Editor Sadler contributes “A Fannish Adventure: The Bookstore,” a work of fiction. Sheryl Birkhead is another artist, but her “No Hot or Cold Anything” reads like a letter to her family and friends, detailing problems with her house. Mark Bovard's “A Year Out Here” is subtitled “Life in the Rural Midwest,” which sums it up well. The last contribution is Mark Fulmer's review of *One For Sorrow*, a historical mystery written by the fannish husband and wife team of Mary Reed & Eric Mayer – one of the most *appropriate* book reviews I've seen in a fanzine in a long time.

Sadler packs a lot into *TRF*'s 40 pages, although this issue lacks a letter column, and he makes the fanzine very much a personal artifact of his own. We can only hope he's back on schedule and #57 won't require as long a wait.

DEROGATORY REFERENCE (Arthur D. Hlavaty, 206 Valentine St., Yonkers, NY 10704-1814; e-mail to hlvaty@panix.com; available for arranged trade, letter of comment or \$1.00)

DR (which sometimes stands for different words, at editor Hlavaty's whim) has reached 97 issues in the course of the last couple of decades, and usually consists of editor-written material plus the occasional letter of comment (there are two – from John Fast and Jo Walton – in #97) in a half dozen or so double-columned pages. Hlavaty is a literate fan of both *The Illuminatus* and football and his commentary is always readable and sometimes provocative. He advertises no schedule, but *DR* arrives frequently, a kind of *Hlavaty Letter* for fankind.

--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! June 2001 (Minnstf). LUNARIANS MEETING NOTICE, May 2001 (NYSFS). INSTANT MESSAGE #685 (NESFA). NASFA SHUTTLE, May 2001 (NASFA). DASFAX, May 2001 (DASFA). PSFS NEWS, June 2001 (PSFS). ConNotations, Winter 2000 (CASFS). SOUTHERN FANDOM CONFEDERATION BULLETIN, April 2001 (SFC). PULSAR #271 & 272 (PorSFis).

other zines: DEROGATORY REFERENCE #97 (Arthur 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.)

Purchased by Library:

The Skies of Pern by Anne McCaffrey. **Manifold: Time** by Stephen Baxter. **The Best Military Science Fiction of the 20th Century** ed. by Harry Turtledove & Martin H. Greenberg. **The Watcher's Guide Vol. I** by Christopher Golden & Nancy Holder. **Concordance to Cordwainer Smith** by Anthony R. Lewis. **Passage** by Connie Willis. **Bouncing off the Moon** by David Gerrold. **The Living Blood** by Tananarive Due. **The Serpent's Shadow** by Mercedes Lackey. **DoOon Mode** by Piers Anthony. **Leopard in Exile** by Andre Norton & Rosemary Edghill. **The Sky Road** by Ken Macleod. **Calculating God** by Robert W. Sawyer.

Donated by Anon.:

Legacy of the Drow by R.A. Salvatore

Donated by Gary Louie:

King Dragon by Andrew J. Offutt. **Robocop 2** by Ed Naha. **Jade Darcy and the Zen Pirates** by Stephen Goldin & Mary Mason. **A Rose for Ecclesiastes** by Roger Zelazny. **Lord of the Flies** by William Golding. **Ghostbusters** by Richard Mueller. **Ghostbusters II** by Ed Naha. **Spaceballs: The Book** by Bob Stine. **Callahan's Legacy** by Spider Robinson. **The Metrognome and Other Stories** by Alan Dean Foster. **No Safe Place** by Anne Moroz. **Tower of the Gods** by Thomas A. Easton. **Mana** by Lee Correy. **Supergirl** by Norma Fox Mazer. **The Jupiter Plague** by Harry Harrison. **The Hammer of Darkness** by L.E. Modesitt, Jr. **The Homing Pigeons** by Robert Anton Wilson. **Become the Hunted** by Jefferson P. Swycaffer. **The Throne of Madness** by Somtow Sucharitkul. **Prometheans** by Ben Bova. **The Vintage Bradbury** by Ray Bradbury. **The Planet That Wasn't** by Isaac Asimov. **The Complete Stores Volume #1** by Isaac Asimov. **King of Swords** by Eleanor Arnason. **Endgame** ed. by C.J. Cherryh. **Modern Science Fiction** ed. by Norman Spinrad. **Isaac Asimov's War** ed. by Gardner Dozois. **Christmas Bestiary** ed. by Rosalind M. Greenberg & Martin H. Greenberg. **The Further Adventures of Batman Volume 2: Featuring the Penguin** ed. by Martin H. Greenberg. **White House Horrors** ed. by Marting H. Greenberg. **Tor Double#29: Nonoware Time** by Ian Watson, **The Persistence of Vision** by John Varley.

Recent Additions to the Video Collection

(There were none listed for this month.)

letter of comment

Robert Lichtman

<robertlichtman@yahoo.com>

I was sorry to read that Phil Castora's sister passed away in April. I see that in the same paragraph you've reported mentioning the death of Pat Ellington the same month, and Len Moffatt's mentioning that he and June knew Pat and Dick from Bay Area parties they attended during the '60s. He was *wise* to spare the tender ears of the LASFS the details of what happened at those Bay Area parties. I used to make the long drive up to the Bay Area during the first half of the '60s because the parties were so much livelier than most of the ones available in LA fandom at the time (unless one was at a Burbee party, which compared well . . . I'd rate Burb's home brew as quite the equal of Donaho's). Finally, no longer able to stand it, I moved to the Bay Area after graduating from UCLA in early 1965. Since even death does not release you, I suppose I'm technically still a member of the LASFS who's 35 years in arrears with his dues. (*If you ever show up here, we will dun you for enough money to build a new clubhouse. - ed.*)

LASFAPA

Celebrating our 25th Anniversary

All ex-members of LASFAPA are invited to return for the festivities

Disties #300 (September) and #301 (October)
are the celebratory issues
where all ex-members are invited,
dues free,
to join their old friends.

Contact Marty Cantor, LASFAPA's Little Tin God, for details. To enable the setting of the copy count for those two disties, the deadline for notifying the LTG is August 10, 2001.

Contact

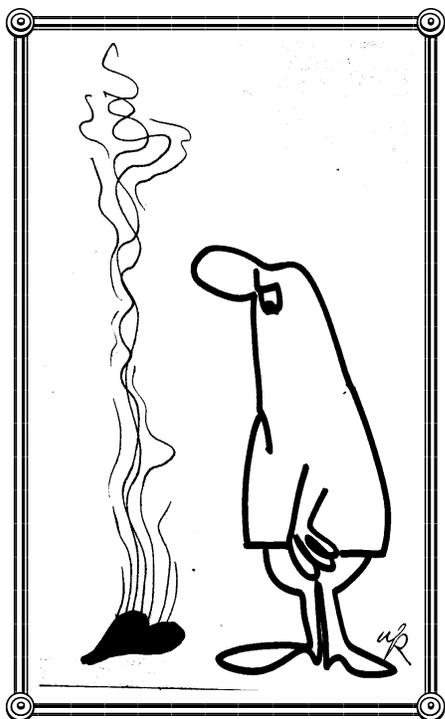
Marty Cantor

11825 Gilmore Street #105

North Hollywood, CA 91606, USA

telephone (818) 761-9401

edress: louisshoohah@netzero.net



**The Third Annual
GARY LOUIE MEMORIAL
MAH-JONGG TOURNAMENT**

will be held the weekend of Saturday, Sept. 29 and Sunday,
Sept. 30, 2001

See Bruce Pelz (in person or at bep@socal.rr.com) for
rules and to sign up.

**LASFS
PROCEDURAL OFFICERS
FOR 2001, Second Half**

President - Ed Green

Vice President - Bob Null

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Registrar - Lynx & Mona Martinez

Treasurer (serves for 12 months) - Liz Mortensen



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