

*De
Profundis
Ad
Astra*

DE PROFUNDIS 405



PDF versions of DE PROF are at:

<http://barrydgold.home.comcast.net/deprof.html>

October 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 TRIPE	2	3	4	5 LASFS Meeting	6 Open Gaming	7 Estrogen Zone
8 BoD Open House	9	10	11	12 LASFS Meeting	13 Open Gaming	14 Cinema Anime
15 Time Meddlers	16	17	18 Marketing Committee	19 LASFS Meeting	20 Open Gaming	21 CFO TSPC
22 FWEMS	23	24	25 Readings of SF Shorts	26 LASFS Meeting	27 Open Gaming	28
29 Autumn Holiday Party	30	31				

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 - Varies with what needs doing

- CFO - 1 pm to 8 pm
- Estrogen Zone - 2 pm
- FWEMS - Theme: Around The World
- Marketing Committee - 7:30 pm
- Time Meddlers - 10:30 am
- TRIPE - Noon until whenever
- TSPC - *Fantasia*

Thursday Program Items

- October 5 - Tom Safer Cartoon Program
- October 12 - Nothing Scheduled
- October 19 - Nothing Scheduled
- October 26 - Nothing Scheduled

Calendar Details

- Autumn Holiday Party - 2 pm to midnight
- BoD - 11 am, gaming starts at 2 pm
- Cinema Anime - 1 pm until it ends

COLOPHON

De Profundis 405 – September 2006.
Editor: Milt Stevens. 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.info. *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 address: 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.

LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers

President: George Van Wagner. Vice-President: Mike Thorsen, Tadao Tomomatsu, Joan Steward, Dr. Susan "Arizona" Gleason (tag team). Scribe: Martin Young. Treasurer: Liz Mortensen. Registrar: Peggy Newwine, Michelle Pincus.

Board of Directors

Chairman: Karl Lembke (2006). Vice-Chairman: Mike Thorsen (2007). Comptroller: Brett Achorn (2008). Secretary: George Van Wagner (2008) Other members: Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2006), Ed Green (2006), Tadao Tomomatsu (2006), Liz Mortensen (2007), Cathy Beckstead (2007), Bill Ellern (2008), Elayne Pelz (2008). Special Advisor: Charles Lee Jackson II. Advisors: Forrest J Ackerman, Walt Daugherty, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

Official Committees

De Profundis Editor: Milt Stevens. Speaker to Gestetner: Marty Cantor. Librarian: Greg Barrett.. Librarian Emeritus: Leigh Strother Vien. Assistant Librarians: Doc Reames, Joyce Sperling, Beth O'Brien, and Ed Hooper. Special Guest Librarian: Charles Lee Jackson II. Board Liaison to the Library: Elayne Pelz. LASFS Answer Guy: Greg Barrett. LASFAPA/APA-L Liaison: Marty Cantor. Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS: Tadao Tomomatsu, C.B. McGuire, Cathy Beckstead, Dale Hales. **Legion of Substitute Gouges: Sandy Cohen, Ed Green. **Strategic Reserve Registrar: Tadao Tomomatsu. 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. 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>: 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, Eylat Poliner. 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.

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.

Semi LoC On De Prof 403 - 404

In the minutes of the June 22nd meeting under the section about "Ted Johnstone" as that evening's Patron Saint, it's noted that he, Bruce Pelz, Jack Harness and Norm Metcalf were omniapans and that "this lasted until some joker started Apa-X or Apex which was founded to exclude the four of them. Said joker was the undersigned, who wants credit where credit is due.

In the minutes of the July 6th meeting it is said of the late rich brown, "He published a few stories, but writing was not his forte." This is simply not so. Rich wrote a number of stories that were published in AMAZING and FANTASTIC in the '70s. He coauthored a novel, A PERSONAL DEMON, with David Bischoff and Linda Richardson, that was published in 1980. And he wrote the "Clubhouse" fan column for AMAZING from 1976 to 1978. In addition, he did a lot of writing for fanzines, published quite a few of his own, and was a major voice on the various fannish e-lists up until shortly before his death.

--Robert Lichtman

Zines Received In Trade

Club Zines: BCSFAZine #400 (British Columbia Science Fiction Association), Einblatt!, September 2006 (Minnesota Science Fiction Society), Ethel the Aardvark #125 (Melbourne Science Fiction Club), Instant Message #773 (New England Science Fiction Association), NASFA Shuttle, August 2006 (North Alabama Science Fiction Association), Warp #64 (Montreal Science Fiction and Fantasy Association).

Other Zines: Pablo Lennis #126 (John Thiel), Peregrine Nations #62 (J. G. Stinson)

Something New For De Profundis

With this issue, some of you should not have received De Profundis on paper. We've been talking about this change for several months, but now we're actually trying it. If things worked right, those of you who signed up to receive De Prof electronically should have received an e-mail telling you that issue #405 was now available at lasfs.info.

For the moment, let's assume that Murphy was on vacation and everything worked perfectly. We would like to have more of you sign up for the electronic De Prof, because that would save the club quite a bit of money. This is particularly true for those of you who live outside the greater Los Angeles area and receive De Prof by mail every month. So if you don't really care about receiving De Prof in paper form, please let the editor know by sending your name and e-mail address to miltstevens@earthlink.net.

Autumn Holiday Party

Some of you may wonder what an Autumn Holiday Party is. Think of it as a Halloween Party in a clever plastic disguise, because that's what it really is.

Next LAFA Filksing

Saturday, October 14, 2006,
7 PM to ???
Alan Stillson
5515 Keokuk Avenue
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
(818) 884-4284

FOR LAFA INFORMATION:

Contact Lee & Barry Gold,
(310) 306-7456

To get emailed LAFA announcements,
send email to barrydgold@comcast.net
or lee.gold@comcast.net.

CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

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

*LASFS Board of Directors Meeting
August 12, 2006
Karl Lemke, Presiding
George Van Wagner, Scribe*

BOD Attending: Karl Lembke (chairman), Brett Achorn (comptroller), Tadeao Tomomatsu, Bill Ellern, Ed Green, George Van Wagner (secretary), Bob Null, Elayne Pelz, Cathy Beckstead, Mike Thorsen (vice-chair), Liz Mortensen (procedural treasurer)

Absent: none

Others Attending: Milt Stevens, Anne Morrel, Fred Lazelle, Vanessa Van Wagner, Michael Pell, Joyce Sperling, Marty Cantor, Frank Waller, Joan Steward, Joe Zeff, Greg Bilan, Phil Castora,

The chair called the meeting to order at 11:30 am

Minutes: Minutes were approved with minor spelling corrections.

New Members: none

Treasurer's Report: Trash bin is being replaced as we're changing collection companies. It was requested that nobody freak out because the dumpster disappears for a little bit.

Building Maintenance: Deadbolt reminders are being issued. Some work has been accomplished on adding storage space in the front building, specifically addition of extra storage above the sink.

Club Computers: Mice are being abused. We need new ones. Another 19" monitor has been donated.

Pubs Computer: still awaiting appropriate sale.

Video Projector: We will perform a lamp transplant from the other projector, as the current bulb is showing the "near the end of life" alarm. It was pointed out that a member had mentioned that the yellow cast on the screen is most likely dust on one of the lenses and could probably be cleared up with a judicious application of compressed air.

Gestetner: Is still functioning.

Marketing: Final pre-Worldcon work party is coming up on Wednesday, August 16th. The display sign was, well,

displayed

Website: The website should be live before Worldcon. There is now a live calendar (look under Events/Monthly on the website) that can be easily updated. It is requested that an address be created (something like calendar@lasfs.org) to which groups and people hosting events at the clubhouse can send details to be entered in the calendar. It was mentioned that some program materials are provided with the proviso that they not be publicized, and the assumption is that the hosts would know what those are and act accordingly. Also suggested is that a disclaimer be added to the calendar stating that LASFS is not responsible for program events not specifically run by the club.

Loscon 33: PR#1 has gone out. There will be a Loscon 33 table at Worldcon. Loscon Party at Worldcon is Friday night.

Loscon 34: Chair not present.

Miscellaneous: Glenn Glazer has requested to borrow the benches from the club to use in the Worldcon exhibit hall in Anaheim. It was so moved and approved.

Marty Cantor has requested the loan of the Interplanetary Game Board for the next SoCal Games day at the Burbank Moose Hall. It was so moved and approved. It was mentioned that the board needs some repair and Marty said those repairs had already been arranged.

Library: There was some discussion of what the acquisition policy of the library was. Should the librarian allow their personal taste to drive acquisitions, or should there be a more formal policy? The question was raised if there was, in fact, any formal acquisition policy? It was moved that the librarian and the keeper of the video collection write up a formalized acquisition policy to present to the board at the December board meeting. The motion was approved with one opposing vote.

It was noted that it has been the practice in the past for the librarian to provide the editor of DeProf with a listing of new acquisitions on a monthly basis for publication in the newsletter.

It was moved and approved unanimously that the librarian and video curator be asked to provide weekly lists of new acquisitions weekly for appointive committee reports to insert in the procedural minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm

Meeting # 3599, August 3, 2006
George Van Wagner, President
Martin Young, Scribe

Meeting 3599, lobstered to order at 20:09:03.

This day in history was all about the Lone Ranger. The Lone Ranger was made possible by Columbus, who on this day in 1492, set sail from Palos, Spain, initiating a chain of events that would eventually result in cowboys. Laying their plans well in advance, or perhaps utilizing time travel, the producers of the show arranged for the show's theme music to be premiered in Paris in 1829. Sadly, it took them over a hundred years to put the rest of the show together. It might have taken them much longer, due to time wasted climbing stairs, if they had not arranged for Elisha Graves Otis to be born on this day in 1811. The show reached its peak in 1958, when in an unaired, straight-to-water-cooler episode, the Lone Ranger and Tonto saved the atomic submarine, USS Nautilus, from evil communist puffins bent on preventing it from crossing the North Pole underwater.

Our only special order of business was John DeChancie's birthday, announced by the beautiful Peggy Newvine. John is a well-known, and widely admired writer. He is also widely admired for his cheerful demeanor, his sunny disposition and his Pollyanna faith in human kindness. If John has a fault at all, it is that he is too kind, too giving and just too darn nice.

The minutes were read, and were approved as "if you don't get this, you're in the wrong club."

Registrar Michelle retroactively announced guests from Friday. They were rock star Janie Valentine, and her friend Joe Megna who is both a rock star and a monster hunter.

Our patron saint for the day was Sean Cleary. George Mulligan pointed out that Sean had invented a most ingenious way to store paperback books. This was done by means of slide-out boxes. George added that Sean is a sweet natured fellow, with a touch of the old blarney.

There was neither committee to gouge, old business, nor new business.

The appointive committee to entertain the lasfs announced that this evening's program would be the first part of the National Geographic channel production of Space Race, the true story of the race into space. August 17th will see what have you been reading lately? August 24th will have no programming.

According to President Van Wagner, there is something happening in Anaheim that day. Oh, and that LASFS Meeting will take place at 7 p.m. at the worldcon. August 31st we have worldcon reportage.

Alas, deadbolt abuse continues! They're dead, we should leave them alone! The president gave the membership permission to yell at any one caught engaged in necroboltshootia.

CLJII pointed out that some necroboltshootia may be inadvertently caused by the entangling of one's sleeve with the deadbolt apparatus. This of course only applies to people who have sleeves.

President Van Wagner gave more details on the chair adoption program. Chairs will be named by sharpie marker. Van Wagner pointed out the place on the chair where the name would go. Frank Waller asked "which Costco?" Rick Foss helpfully mentioned the Cosco in Nebraska.

Tadao Tomomatsu announced that some crazy Asian guy has got a part in "Heroes," the new drama from NBC. The crazy Asian guy apparently got the part by pretending that he could speak Japanese. LASFS members loudly expressed scorn and condemnation for this dastardly trick, until Tadao finally admitted it was him, at which point the scorn turned to adulation!

Matthew Tepper stood up and talked about twits. Well, TWIT, which stands for "This Week In Tech." The podcasted show consists of young guys talking about deconstructing the neopoststructuralist political psychology in the context of a traditional Freudian account of the development of European Christianity, or technology. My notes are a little unclear here. Whatever it is, Jerry Pournelle is on this week's podcast, and he's very entertaining. Link at JerryPournelle.com.

Phil Castora thanked John DeChancie for writing Aliens in the Family. Phil said that it is fun, and has the silliest climax of anything he's read. Your scribe has self control, and thus will refrain from making any jokes about this item.

The fannish committee for alternative livestock, a.k.a. Rick Foss, reported that the Los Angeles Gay Rodeo includes two events of interest. (Of interest to him, anyway.) The events are, steer decorating, in one attempts to decorate a live steer, and goat dressing, in which one attempts to place briefs on a goat. (I don't want to worry worldcon attendees, but I think I saw Christian Maguire taking notes.)

Hastily changing the subject, Tom Safer urged us to

go see The Los Angeles Science Center exhibit on the science of Marvel comics, which explains superhero powers in scientific terms. Sure it does.

Marc Shirmister wants it to be known that the movie *Barnyard* wasn't his fault. It is a "by the book" movie, in which a young male something proves himself something by doing something so that he can later do a female something. It includes bovine animals with udders and male voices, which may be good news for lesbian rodeo, but which is merely confusing to the moviegoing public. Shirm worked on the movie, they didn't use the bulk of his jokes, and they spelled his name wrong.

Miscellany today consisted of Crystal Rains, who is proprietress of a pirate store.

Adjournment took place at 9:02:48, and the stage was hastily cleared to allow for presentation of the first part of Space Race.

Meeting # 3600, August 10, 2006
George Van Wagner, President
Martin Young, Scribe

By the magic of the lobster, meeting 3600 began its cycle of existence at 8:14:27. Historically, this is a day for circumnavigation. Ferdinand Magellan managed to at least begin a terrestrial circumnavigation in 1519. Discoverer 13 knocked off 17 such circumnavigations in 1960 and, unlike Magellan, was recovered reasonably intact afterwards. For a change, the United States managed to arrange a lunar circumnavigation in 1966, and in 1990 Magellan stopped circling the drain on this planet, and got his ass over to Venus, which he may or may not have circumnavigated before landing on.

The Earth is also circumnavigated by two huge belts of charged particles. These belts were discovered by instruments created by Dr. James Van Allen., and they are named after him. Dr. Van Allen passed away recently, and the LASFS mourned him. Our own Tom Safer has an interesting connection to Dr. Van Allen. Tom's father, Charles Safer, is a noted sculptor. Sculptor Safer sculpted a sculpture. This sculpture was called "Web of Space." Dr. Van Allen once received a prestigious award, and the physical token of that award was a miniature of that Safer sculpture, Web of Space.

Karen Anderson read from Dr. Van Allen's obituary in the Los Angeles Times. He was the greatest instrument maker of the modern age. He designed the small Geiger counter carried by the first Explorer mission, which discovered the Van Allen belts. He also designed

instruments for Pioneer 10, which probed the radiation belts of Jupiter and Pioneer 11, by which he discovered and surveyed the radiation belts of Saturn. Instruments from his hand graced many space other probes, such as Galileo and the Voyagers, and the current Cassini mission to Saturn.

John DeChancie read from his obituary of Robert J Lemman. Lemman was a brilliant writer of short dark fantasy. His outstanding novelette "Window" was nominated for a nebula award, and should have won. His collected stories appeared as *Feesters in the Lake and Other Stories* in 2002. Lemman was a member of first fandom, was active well into the nineteen sixties, and among other things produced the fanzine *Vinegar Worm*. Long after his gaffiation, his reputation as an outstanding fan writer lingers in fandom like background microwave radiation. He was the best read man John had ever met. He had read everything from lofty literature to the oldest pulps. He was an expert on Faulkner, and had read Joyce, Lovecraft and Clark Ashton Smith. He read bestsellers, middlebrows, and obscure writers. He also created the "Dorcas Bagby" hoax of an imaginary Midwestern female fantasy writer. His obituary will appear in the September issue of *Locus*.

The minutes were read and approved as "Greg Bilan Doesn't Have Udders After All."

Guests were introduced. Sheila DeMeritt learned about LASFS from Clare MacDonald. Sheila is a teacher. Clare MacDonald learned about lasfs from Marty Cantor. Claire is an executive assistant and she is interested in novels and movies. Michael DeMeritt also learned about LASFS from Clare McDonald. Michael is an assistant director, and is interested in *Fantastic Realms*. Greg Jacobs learned about lasfs from the Internet. His occupation is breathing. Julie Bailey was dragged in by Zed Null. Julie is interested in old movies and the classics. Joan Hackeling was here as the guest of your humble scribe.

Our patron saints were Tim Merrigan and Jerry Pournelle.

According to Marty Cantor, Tim Merrigan is a masochist. He ran *De Profundis* for many years. More, in fact, than Marty himself. George Mulligan put in that every meeting, like clockwork, Tim would pop out of the back room with a call for "collators!"

Phil Castora pointed out that Jerry Pournelle is not pretentious. Phil mistakenly called him "Mr." Pournelle, and was gently told that it's "Dr. Pournelle," or "Jerry." He didn't seem to mind which. Jerry turned down a

colonelcy in a mercenary army, and advised Newt Gingrich on the space program. Phil said that Jerry is a hell of a nice guy, and since Dr. Asimov was referred to as "the good doctor," Phil refers to Jerry as "the extraordinary doctor." Joe Zeff pointed out that one of Jerry's doctorates is in political science, which explains his term of service as deputy mayor of Los Angeles. Jerry also penned the novelization of "Escape from the Planet of the Apes." Karen Anderson could think of a lot of things to say about Jerry Pournelle. She was particularly struck with his deep interest in history, and in promoting awareness of history. While researching an ancient Roman legend, she found Macauley's Lays of Ancient Rome on Jerry's website with very informative commentary. Also, Jerry agrees with her that he is absolutely the worst singer in fandom.

There was neither old nor new business.

The meeting adjourned at 21:16:12.

*Meeting # 3601, August 17, 2006
George Van Wagner, President
Martin Young, Scribe*

It being somewhat after eight, the lobster banged meeting 3601 to order. This day in history and thenabouts was all about beginning journeys. On this day in 1807, Robert Fulton's Claremont began the first steam trip up the Hudson River. This day in 1939, Dorothy et al. began their first trip up the yellow brick road at Loew's Capitol Theater in New York. In 1958, the first Moon probe, America's Thor-Able, made it 77 seconds worth of the distance from here to the moon. And two days ago, Voyager one passed the one hundred astronomical unit mark on its way out to the great beyond.

The minutes were approved as Ed Green's "God Dammit, I Thought I Had It."

Charles Lee Jackson the second motioned that the minutes be approved as "Lacking an Essential Element of Lasfs Minutes." While this was not approved, I thought it was a very good point.

The irrepressible Peggy Newvine introduced our guest Patrick Malloy, who hails from Huntsville Alabama [applause], who heard of LASFS by legend. He is here on business, and will come back for worldcon. He is interested in conventions, media, literature, and is an engineer [applause].

Our patron saint was Bjo Trimble. Karen Anderson pointed out that Bjo flawed and led the successful effort to keep the original Star Trek on television.

Scratch said something, but I forgot what it was. Doug Crepeau pointed out that Bjo handled costumes for Flesh Gordon. Someone else pointed out that Bjo was the person who kept LASFS going in the nineteen fifties when it was moribund. Hare pointed out that Bjo's particular accomplishment on Flesh Gordon was getting the costumes to stay on. She was also a very active campaigner for space exploration, and was the best secretary the Citizens Committee for Space Exploration ever had. Bjo was awarded three cheers and a set of pastels.

The committee to gouge auctioned off a soon-to-be-autographed copy of the Spice Cadets recipe book. They also auctioned off a quarter pound of lovely, lovely freshly roasted dark roast mocha-Java coffee that the scribe lacked the resources to obtain.

Our old business concerned the lack of new business at the previous meeting, and our new business was the club's inability to provide old business for the next meeting. Discussion of these matters occupied a full three tenths of a second.

Arlene Satin would like members to drop by the LASFS booth at the worldcon. Apparently, she wants to be able to show people what LASFS members look like, even though this might defeat the purpose of having a lasfs booth at the worldcon.

Christian MacGuire displayed the cover of the worldcon souvenir program to a lot of oooooos and ahhhhhs. It is an as yet unpublished James Gurney painting that will eventually grace the cover of the next Dinotopia book.

Your scribe reviewed the movie Talladega Nights. The movie involved fast driving, and the review involved a lot of flying spittle. Michelle asked if the scribe had remembered to take his medication, and Ed Green hoped he'd brought enough to share.

[Talladega Nights is awesommmeeee! The cars go really really fast. Vrrrrrooom, vrrrrroom! An' it's got intelly, intelech-ch - it's thinky stuff! Okay, NASCAR put up money, and helped 'em get the pit stuff and that right, so it rilly rilly aufen, aufendi ... it's what NASCAR's like. An it makes fun of NASCAR, and it celebrates NASCAR, and it has cool characters, and it's really really really REALLY funny!]

Eric Hoffman reviewed something he'd seen on youtube.com. This was the music video "Knights of the Trek Table." Somebody apparently took video samples of the original Star Trek series and re-pasted them to the music of Monty Python's "Knights of the Round Table," with about ninety nine percent synchronization.

Eric is angry at the person who turned him on to this, as the bloody thing is addictive.

Fred patten reviewed Charlie Strossman's The Clan Corporate. It is the third in Strossman's "mercenary prince series," and things for the protagonist are more desperate than ever. Be warned that this book ends on a cliffhanger. The series is alternate universe political and science fiction, and concerns deadly politics in at least three alternate universes.

The LASFSians adjourned their meeting at 9:12:28.

*Meeting # 3602, August 24, 2006
George Van Wagner, President
Martin Young, Scribe*

There being no lobster available, meeting number 3602 was Gorted to order at 7:04:13. This day in history saw Pompei and Herculaneum covered in hot ash in a 79 A.D., Rome covered in Visigoths in 410, Washington DC covered in British people in 1814, and in 1989 Voyager 2 flew past Neptune without covering it in anything.

In honor of a long-standing tradition, it was moved that this be a dues free meeting. The president being temporarily deaf to other motions, this motion was passed by acclamation. Or so we would like you to think.

The meeting was temporarily moved to February 3rd of next year so that we could honor patron saint Maureen Garrett. Matthew Tepper described her as a lovely person who came to meetings in the nineteen eighties, started a southwestern fan club, [I mean a Star Wars fan club], and was famous for drawing a circle and putting a planetary landscape inside. Saint Maureen was awarded three cheers and a conniption.

The meeting returned to 2006 for a reading of the minutes, which were largely ignored due to the arrival of Forrest J. Ackerman. [And the applause occasioned by his arrival.] Forrey took a few moments to say that he is a charter member of LASFS, having joined in 1934. He also mentioned the original LASFS minute taker, who unfortunately passed on some two months ago. Her name was Wanda Test, and her minutes were thus referred to as "Thrilling Wanda Stories." Her son, Roy Test, was known to study Esperanto, and was therefore known as "Esperantest." [Forrey had to leave the meeting early, and did so accompanied by another heartfelt round of applause.]

The membership then honored today's patron saint, the beautiful and talented Marilyn (Fuzzy Pink) Niven. Hare

Hobbes pointed out that the citizens committee on space owes much to Mrs. Niven since it was her excellent gourmet cooking that kept the scientists coming back to the meetings. Karen Anderson put in a strong word of approval for the quality of Marilyn's coffee. Ed Green added that Fuzzy is incredibly talented, as he has seen many blue ribbons adorning her work at the LA County fair. Matthew Tepper mentioned that Mrs. Niven assists the lasfs in many ways, notably by keeping a list of member's names and addresses. Thanks to Mrs. Niven, We Know Where You Live. Mrs. Niven was awarded three cheers and a root beer float. [And also some fine thread for making lace.]

The Committee to Gouge auctioned a box of return of the Jedi Dixie cups, a poster depicting the 2004 NASA astronaut corps, a promotional DVD screener disc, and a book entitled "How to Extract Your Head from Your Butt." A one dollar bid was offered to have Ed Green write a review of this last item. Ed was overjoyed, exclaiming "finally, my first professional sale."

The committee also auctioned a holographic thingy, and a portable Konami Dance Dance Revolution game. Although Maureen Garrett got the game, it is Charles Lee Jackson the second who thinks he's dancing Japanese, he thinks he's dancing Japanese, he really thinks so.

Guests were introduced with a rapidity far exceeding your scribe's meager typing skills, and so the scribe is indebted to registrar Michelle Pincus for the names of Brian and Heather Kinny from Glendale, CA, Robin Tiffey from Santa Barbara, CA, Steve Berman from Auburn Hills, Leslie Ann Moore, who plugged her first published by a real publisher book, from Los Angeles, CA, William Sherman from Boxford, MA, John Smith from Los Angeles, CA, Vanessa Gonzales from San Diego, CA, Bob Cat aka Bob Katayama from Laguna Migel, CA, Patty Kim from Redondo Beach, CA, Monica Boyd from Huntington Beach, CA came in with Tuyet (pronounced 2et) Ruoff also from Huntington Beach, CA, Marc Whitman from Everett, WA, Peggy O Berg from Los Angeles, CA has already volunteered to help with LosCon, Patricia Walsh from Los Angeles, CA, Kevin Kirby from San Francisco, CA, Bill Bradley from Pheonix, Az, LLOYD Penney from Toronto, Canada, Marty Helgesen from Malvern, NY, Bill Parnell from Montclair, CA, Dick Eney from Bladenburg, MD, Marc Blackman from Brooklyn, NY, and Patron Saint Maureen Garret now living in SAn Rafael, CA visited us after many years away.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47, and the Lasfians poured howling out into the unsuspecting worldcon.

*Meeting # 3603, August 31, 2006
George Van Wagner, President
Martin Young, Scribe*

With the scritch of tiny plastic claws, meeting 3603 scampered to order at 8:12:09. On this day in 1842, somebody founded a facility for observing navels, in 1887 Thomas Edison patented the Kinetoscope, a device for recording navels, in 1955 someone demonstrated the first solar powered device for moving navels from one place to another, and in 1971 Dave Scott drove the first car on the moon while keeping his navel carefully covered in a state-of-the-art naval protection suit.

On asad note, Ed Green recalled the loss of Michael Bloom's sister, who was murdered in New York some months ago. Ed announced that an arrest has been made in the case.

The minutes were read and approved on Joan Steward's motion as "A Howling Good Time."

This week's guests consisted of Kris and Jeff Wildman, who heard about us at worldcon, and who recently discovered that they live five miles away. (One can picture the scene of the discovery. Kris turns to Jeff and says, "wait a moment! We don't live here. We live five miles away!")

Ron Lehman also learned about us from the worldcon, he is interested in all areas of science fiction, and the scribe hates him because Ron is an actual screenwriter.

Russell A. Miller learned about us from the Internet, and likes literary/postmodern science fiction. He seems to think that Philip K. Dick is postmodern, but this can't be true because Philip K. Dick makes sense.

Thomas Recktenwald learned about us from Ronnie Rubin. Thomas is from Lenzkirch in Germany, likes hard science fiction, and is a historian of German fandom. Yay Thomas!

Wilf James also learned about us from Ronnie Rubin. Wilf is from Letchworth in England, likes almost all of science fiction, and is a retired writer. Yay Wilf!

Tonight's patron saint is the estimable John Trimble. John has done many, many things for fandom. Rick Foss pointed out that John has done more jobs than most people. He once worked on the kind of radio station where ferry stops are reported as news, and amused himself for some considerable time by progressively adding imaginary ferry stops to the schedule. Eventually, the good citizens of the area

caught on to what he was doing. John Trimble was voted three cheers, and a Norwegian Blue stunned by a phaser.

It being too recent to count as old business, the president's motion to establish a Dirty Orbits Make Fine Upstanding Celestial Citizens club was treated as new business. The membership approved a motion by the president to submit a petition, prepared by the president, to the International Astronomical Union. The petition is signed by two Ph.D.'s in several other scary-looking people.

Arlene Satin is scheduled to speak at the upcoming Orange County Mensa regional gathering. She asked the membership for suggestions for talking points.

The chair then flogged a dead bolt with an adopted chair and an electronically rolled up copy of De Profundis. The bolt rather enjoyed the experience.

Matthew Tepper mentioned that although he joined lasfs at the end of the sixties, he was unavoidably detained elsewhere for some time, and today is in fact the twentieth anniversary of his return to Los Angeles. He then sang a little ditty commemorating this fact.

CLJII pointed out that renebooks.com is offering Murder at the Worldcon by Dian Crayne for free download for the next two weeks. Thanks to Bill Mills and Jill Marie Stein.

Rick Foss reviewed John Skip's The Emerald Burrito of Oz, the hilarious story of two Los Angeles people who find themselves in Oz, and respond to this situation by opening a Mexican restaurant. This well-written tome includes lots of Los Angeles jokes, CIA jokes and conspiracy theories. It is worth looking for, and the author's name again is John Skip. The book is published by Babbage Press.

Jerry Pournelle took the time to describe a new phishing scam. You get a call from someone who says he's in the County Clerk's office and that they are issuing a warrant for your arrest based on the fact that you missed jury duty. Attempts to clear your name require the disclosure of certain personal information. The caller pronounces himself satisfied and rings off. Later, money disappears from your bank accounts and other resources. Jerry noted that everyone present was too smart to fall for such a scam. He also noted that many people who were too smart to fall for it, fell for it anyway.

Adjournment at 9 17 52 secs, so there.



De Profundis
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