



## colophon

*De Profundis* 336- January, 2001. Editor: **Marty Cantor**. Production Assistants: **Bob Null** and **Phil Castora**. Mailing List: **Liz Mortensen**. Mailing Labels: **Fuzzy Pink Niven**. Advertising: **Liz Mortensen**.

*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 of the LASFS, voluntary active LASFS members, and in exchange for other fanzines. VAMs are available for \$10 per year, payable to LASFS, Inc.

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

We want any news of interest to LASFS members (no poetry or fiction). Send items to the LASFS address *c/o De Profundis* or leave them in the *De Profundis* mailbox at the clubhouse. The editor, Marty Cantor, can be reached at the clubhouse on Thursday evenings or at his address: [louishoohah@netzero.net](mailto: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.

Advertising rates: \$25 half page, \$15 quarter page, \$10 business card. Discounts: 25% for 12/year, 15% for 6/year, 10% for 4/year. (Please patronize our advertizer(s), they help defray our costs.)

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This is Hoo Hah Publication No. 554

## LASFS OFFICERS

### Elected Procedural Officers

**President:** Cathy Beckstead. **Vice-President:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null. **Scribe:** Mike Glycer. **Treasurer:** Liz Mortensen. **Registrar:** Christian McGuire & Lynx (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, Eric Stokien, Rosalinda Duran-McKillip & Tadao Tomomatsu. **Special Guest Librarian:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **LASFS Answer Guy:** Greg Barrett. **LASFS/APA-L Liaison:** Tim Merrigan. **Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS:** 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>:** Chaz Boston Baden. **Children's Literature Committee:** Greg Barrett. **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.

## questions you should ask of potential Loscon chairs by Bruce Pelz

1. Why does The Possible Chair (TPC) want to run a LOSCON?
2. What are TPC's Goals for LOSCON?
3. Does TPC have any new - and still feasible - ideas for LOSCON?
4. Does TPC have convention-running skills?
5. Which LOSCON Dept. or Depts. has TPC run?
6. Can TPC work with other people?
7. Will TPC delegate tasks, or try to do too much without delegations?
8. Can TPC get and keep competent Dept. Heads?
9. Will TPC solicit the opinions of Dept. Heads and actually consider them if they are offered?
10. Can TPC run a Convention Committee Meeting and actually get something done?
11. Does TPC follow projects through to completion? Can TPC make sure Dept. Heads do so, without annoying the DHs into quitting the committee?

# February 2001

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 LASFS MEETING	2 Gaming	3 ESTROGEN ZONE
4 TRIPE	5 LADWVS	6	7	8 LASFS MEETING	9 Gaming	10 Cinema Anime
11 BOD - 2nd Sunday	12	13	14	15 LASFS MEETING	16 Gaming	17 CFO
18 TIME MEDDLERS	19	20	21 FUCC	22 LASFS MEETING	23 Gaming	24 WORK PARTY
25 FWEMS	26	27	28			

**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  
 2nd Sunday = Board and other gaming  
 Cinema Anime = Japanimation  
 CFO = Cartoon Fantasy Organisation  
 Work Party = Varies with what needs doing  
 FWEMS = Fourth Sunday Movies  
 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 - Hammer horror films

## THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

**FEBRUARY 1** - Tom Safer Cartoons  
**FEBRUARY 8** - The CSFN presentation (see info. on  
 page 9 written by Herbert Wright, the presenter).  
**FEBRUARY 15** - Presentation & Voting on LOSCON  
 29 bids.  
**FEBRUARY 22** - James Bond Tribute video

*(Bill Ellern returns with another series of  
 articles.)*

### A Search for the Purpose of LASFS - 1 By William B. Ellern

It has been a while since I stood up in front of a meeting and asked those attending what the purpose of LASFS was, why the club existed and what the goal was. It was proposed that I put something together, and they'd look at it. Ed Green graciously offered to help me. Since then, I've been elected to the Board of Directors, and participated in Board of Directors meetings. (This is where things really happen. I invite anyone who is or

wants to be an active member to join me there.) I have attended other LASFS meetings, work parties, Time Meddlers meetings, etc. and have watched what is happened. I've talked with long time members, and have set as a goal to talk with each of the members of the board about our purpose and their vision of what LASFS is, and where we should take it.

I personally have finally developed a *beginning*; a preliminary view, or understanding about what LASFS is all about. It helps explain why we have gained, and lost, members in the past, and it helps me understand what we need to do to gain members in the future. It also gives me an outline of where we need to go in the future. That's rather presumptive of me isn't it? I'm claiming to understand what LASFS is all about, when so many others have puzzled over it, or just taken an observation I made 30 years ago (has it really been that long ago) as adequate. That observation was a marker, a guidepost, but was not a sufficient explanation in itself. In the intervening time, no one has built on it. It needs further observations, amplification, and interpretation before you understand all it implies.

My original observation was that "LASFS seems to take in socially inept people, and teach them how to act properly around other people. Once they learn that they disappear into the mundane world, and are never seen again." My proposition is that "LASFS provides a pathway to maturity for highly intelligent people." Now before you jump on me for calling you "socially inept", let's examine some of the things that probably happened to you. Yeah, you!

A long time ago, you learned that the people around you weren't as smart as you were. They were emotionally driven, instead of logical. When you pointed out their irrational behavior, they got mad. They talked over and over about the same, trivial stuff. They even repeated the same stuff over and over, as if you didn't remember it. If you tried to point it out, or help them, they thought it was criticism (which it probably was) and took offence. When you showed how smart you were in class, they made fun of you. You were an outcast from most social groups. If you were lucky in school, you found a couple others who were the same kind of outcasts and you hung out together. When school ended, you all went your separate ways, and you lost contact with them.

Sound familiar? You started at some point to read books, or go to movies, or watch videos. Most of them were "slices of life" with the same narrow-minded attitudes and stupid people. And some were different. They were fantasies or science fiction. They stretched the imagination. New worlds. Magic, where anything could

happen. You walked in on a story and had to figure out the rules of the game. It was new. It was imaginative. It had "A Sense of Wonder" about it. And your real life? Damnably dull!

So, you showed up at LASFS. IF you were lucky, someone talked to you. You discovered you were in fast company. They knew about Egyptology, movies, computers, Elizabethan England, Haiku, Lemmings, Xanth, Genomes, vitamins, neutrinos, etc., and sometimes YOU had a hard time keeping up. They could give and take, and were actually interested if you knew something they didn't. You discovered they weren't hidebound or prejudiced, except for one thing - they were intolerant of stupidity. If you couldn't keep up your end of the conversation, or didn't have something interesting to say, or just talked about yourself, you were ignored, or people just left. You were never expected to be something you weren't. People didn't care what you did or suffered in real life. They took you at face value. If you had pretensions of knowledge or status, you were quickly found out.

Visiting LASFS, and then returning again for most people is an emotional, not a logical thing. You can probably revisit your experience by asking, "How do I fit here? Does anyone want to know me? Am I needed? What was the value of joining? What is required of members?" But I digress.

In this type of intellectual, tolerant of information, but "fast company," "What do you have to contribute that's new?" environment, you had to drop the "I'm smarter than you" attitude, the little "intellectual tricks," the pouting, and the put-downs. They just didn't work. People just smiled knowingly and walked away. They listened to you about your problems once or twice, and then asked you why you didn't fix them or just walked away.

If you wanted to socialize with these people, there was nowhere to hide. If you threw a tantrum, they'd just look at you, not respond, wait until you got quiet, and then ask you if you were done. And then ignore you.

## CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

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

**Meeting #3304, December 7, 2000**  
**Cathy Beckstead, presiding**  
**Karl Lembke, scribing**

The damn meeting was called to order at 20:22:28.

**Special Orders of Business:** Anne Barton, who had

appeared in a number of Twilight zone episodes, and Werner Klemperer, a guest villain in every one of Irwin Allen's series, as well as the camp commandant in Hogan's Heroes (as well as being the son of symphony conductor Otto Klemperer). Because Matthew Tepper wasn't present, he was not referred to as the son of a big band leader.

The **Menace** were read, corrected, and approved as "De-Ducked."

**Patron Saint Marty Massoglia** was lauded to the skies, and to his face. He was described as the sort who lives by the notion that he can be allowed to express his opinions, and his listeners are under no obligation to swallow them. An attitude sufficiently uncommon to provoke panels entitled "The Myth of Fannish Tolerance." His knowledge of science fiction is encyclopedic. At the mention of a plot detail, Marty can cite title, author, story collection where appropriate, and frequently ISBN number. He has always been good at helping people spend money. He was given three cheers from the used cheer lot.

**Old Business:** Tonight's old business was nominations for President. Successfully nominated were Mike Stern and Joe Zeff. Others were nominated, but opted for a one-week cooling off period. Next week, we nominate other procedural officers who won't have that luxury.

**Christian McGuire** reported on some early results from LOSCON 27. We had 1317 warm bodies, 1420 total memberships sold. The con is definitely in the black, we're just not sure how black. The guests of honor had a good time.

**LaLa7Con:** Michael Mason announced the dates for next year's LaLa7Con. March 31 to April 1. The Fan GoH is Milt Stevens and the Artist GoH is Liz Mortensen.

ANNOUNCING

# Fa-La-La-La-La-La-La Con

**Theme:** A Christmas in April  
**Dates:** March 31 - April 1  
**Fan GoH:** Milt Stevens  
**Artist GoH:** Liz Mortensen  
**Writer GoH:** to be announced  
**Membership Price:** \$14.14 in advance  
\$20.20 at the door  
\$6.00 - Banquet  
*The event will be at the LASFS clubhouse*

**The Committee to Gouge the LASFS** auctioned off some stuff. Probably the most entertaining was the Gary Louie auction of a \$2 bill. After the auction was concluded, the money was re-donated, and found to have multiplied like votes for Gore. Seven two-dollar bills were auctioned off in a subsequent round. On the next re-donation, one more bill had appeared in the mix. After the money was auctioned off one last time, and re-donated yet again, it was decided that the amusement value had faded, and any further silliness was postponed until next week. (*It didn't work - the silliness continued, even though it was not Gary Louie auction silliness - ed.*)

**Registrar:** Lynx introduced Timothy Guy and Dave.

A motion to adjourn passed at 21:30:17.

**Meeting #3205, Dec. 14, 2000**  
**Cathy Beckstead, presiding**  
**Karl Lembke, scribing**

OK, let's start this meeting. I hear some silliness is planned. (As distinct from our usual unplanned silliness?) The **Menace** were read, corrected, and approved as "I hear nothing, I see nothing, I know nothing!" (or was that "mmmm, strudel!?!")

A video presentation of the rules for the LASFS gift exchange was shown. Someone suggested nominating it for a Hugo. Mike Thorsen, producer, was thanked.

**Patron Saint Fred Patten:** He is probably single-handedly responsible for the popularity enjoyed by Anime in the USA. He was the founder and is the secretary of C/FO. He is also the only person to have a zine in every single last issue of APA-L - all 1857 of them! (*He is also a co-founder of DUFF - ed.*) Before he became taken with anime, he was into European comic books, and for a long time was the club's supplier of same. He was given three cheers, and a world on half gravity like those cartoons . . .

**Mike Glycer** read a bulletin for the BOD. They are considering a protocol for allocating scarce event days at the clubhouse. This will be voted on at the next BOD meeting.

**Old Business:** Cathy Beckstead was re-elected President. Bob Null was railroaded in as Veep; Mike Glycer was elected Scribe, giving the current scribe a much-appreciated respite. The registrar was another Aslan tag-team, the feline portion being played by Michael Molisani as Lynx. The voting for Registrar was enlivened quite a bit when a ballot was declared to be a unit of the lawful currency of Sealand, the World's

Smallest Country, and auctioned off under Gary Louie rules. The bidding rose to levels that were insane even for LASFS. (If you want to know what the winning bid was, you should have attended the meeting.) (*But if you really want to know, we will be holding an auction to see who will announce the results - ed.*) Suffice it to say that someone made it a good portion of the way toward Sainthood on the winning bid.

**Registrar:** No visitors.

A motion to adjourn passed at 22:18:15.

***Meeting #3306, Dec. 21, 2000  
Cathy Beckstead, presiding  
Karl Lembke, scribing***

The damn thing was called to order at 20:22:35. The **Menace** were read, corrected, and approved as "Badly Overpriced."

**Patron Saint Steve McGinty:** "What a great name!" He gave us money. He was remembered with three cheers and a cotter pin.

Today, we celebrate National Palindrome Day.

**Old Business:** Tonight's Old Business is the proposed by-laws change.

Under "termination of membership for monetary reasons," the Bylaws read as follows:

*B. Any member who is 6 meetings or more in arrears in dues shall be notified of this fact by the Treasurer. His or her membership shall then be reviewed by a committee consisting of the Chairman of the Board, the President and the Treasurer. Upon majority recommendation of this committee, the membership of the delinquent member may be terminated by a majority of those voting at any meeting of the society.*

After the word "dues" in the first sentence, add:

*, failed to pay for membership at an attended LASFS function, or paid for goods and services from the LASFS or any LASFS function with a check which has been subsequently dishonored.*

This changes the wording of the section as follows:

*B. Any member who is 6 meetings or more in arrears in dues, failed to pay for membership at an attended LASFS function, or paid for goods and services from the LASFS or any LASFS function with a check which has been subsequently dishonored, shall be notified of this fact by the Treasurer. His or her membership shall then be reviewed by a committee consisting of the Chairman of the Board, the President and the Treasurer. Upon majority recommendation of this committee, the membership of the delinquent member may be terminated by a majority of those voting at any meeting of the society.*

Petition has been signed by a number of members, sufficient to warrant consideration by the club.

After some discussion, the motion carried 42/3/5. Since 42 is greater than 16, the motion carried.

**Registrar:** We had two guests: Dave Huffman and Valerie Meluski.

**Winter Holiday Party:** The Lantern O' Jack was passed around. After the Lantern had had its chance, we had an auction, which raised over \$150.

**Gift Exchange:** Michael Mason noted that there were 58 entries in the Gift Exchange, and a good time was had by all. Thanks were given to the entire crew for its hard work in making the event a success.

**Registrar Lynx** announced another guest - Laura Feliz.

**Beckie Barber** announce that Darrel Exline's mother has died in a car crash. The Scribe was directed to send a card.

A motion to adjourn passed at 21:42:40.

***Meeting 3307 - Dec. 28, 2000  
Cathy Beckstead, presiding  
Karl Lembke, scribing***

The last meeting of the millennium was called to order at 20:10:15

**Special Orders of Business:** Lots! From Matthew Tepper: "CL told me this person qualifies for having appeared as a villain on a certain TV spy show. With the death of Victor Borge, we have really lost two great men: a great comedian, and a fine musician. But he was also something else - a conceptual performer, who made you think about the humor contained in language! Who else could have invented "Phonetic Punctuation?" Or the "Inflationary Language" of which he was such a twoderful threotor? I could go on, but my voice is weak, and time is short. Thank you, Victor Borge, for all the laughs. I can only imagine the sound made by the wings of the angels as they escort you into heaven . . . (*This may have been a solemn occasion; however, Matthew delivered it with "Phonetic Punctuation;" and, in doing so, he probably made the shade of Borge as happy as he did the members in the auditorium. - ed.*)

No small loss is the passing of Billy Barty, who doubled once in a Flash Gordon serial when Flash had to battle something that was supposed to be much taller than he was. These notables were honored with a full minute of silence.

The **Menace** were read, corrected, and the right to approve them as something was auctioned off. They were approved as "a pain in the ass" by the winner of the auction, Ed Green.

**Patron Saint Elayne Pelz:** She was described as the nicest, sweetest, and most ruthless treasurer Christian had ever known. "If you need a treasurer for a convention," he said, "she's one of the ones you want."



## NEW LASFS BOARD MEMBERS

elected Nov. 16, 2000

(terms begin Jan. 1, 2001 and run for  
3 years)  
Bob Null  
Karl Lembke  
Michael Mason  
Mike Stern



She is also an internationally known fan, having helped, among many other things, the Moffatts create Bouchercon.

Since there is no 53<sup>rd</sup> week of the year, we also gave a nod to Saint Forry Ackerman, who did many nice things for the LASFS, including start it. (Without that, after all, most of the other nice things would not have mattered a whole lot . . .)

**New Business:** It is hereby moved that the coming millennium be referred to as "Falcon," and that its patron deity be Horus. (This motion was sponsored by the Little Shop of Horus.) It was signed by enough people to gain it consideration, if not respect. After the motion passed, the club auctioned off the right to set an appropriate pun fine for the backers of the motion.

Lynx observed that he was wearing a plaid shirt. This, being a clothing review, was stricken from the record.

A motion to stay for the program passed at 21:11:21.

*LASFS Board of Directors  
Meeting of November 12, 2000  
Mike Stern, Chairman  
Joe Zeff, substitute Secretary*

**ATTENDANCE:** Mike Stern, Mike Glycer, Mike Thorsen, Shaun Lyon, Bill Ellern, Bruce Pelz, Kim Marks Brown, Liz Mortensen, Joe Zeff, Elayne Pelz, Bob Null. Others: M. Cantor, T. Tomomatsu, M. Donahue, E. Green, M. Mason, J. Sperling, L. Stern.

**MINUTES:** The minutes were approved as corrected.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Operating fund: \$13,441.70; Century Fund: \$30,444.86; Key Fund: \$350.00; Video R/R Fund: \$345.00; Total: \$44,581.56. Liz Mortensen thanked the auctioneers for their results at a recent LASFS meeting.

**NEW MEMBERS:** An application from Susan Gleason was approved by voice vote.

**APPOINTMENT:** Mike Stern appointed Ed Green as his advisor on bylaws, with the title "parliamentarian."

**MEMBERSHIP TERMINATION PETITION:** After receiving at the last Board meeting a petition to terminate the memberships of Drew Rhine, Lee Downing and Eric Kellstrom, they had been notified by certified mail that the matter would come up at this Board meeting. They were not present. Mike Stern asked if anyone present wanted to speak for them, and no one did. The Board voted by a unanimous show of hands to recommend the termination petition to the club.

**FUNCTION MOVEMENT:** Mike Stern noted there had been a great deal of e-mail among Board members about the priority among those who want to use the clubhouse. An accommodation had been reached to allow Charlie Jackson's video program on a night the LADWVS planned to meet. Mike believed the questions raised in the process warranted a committee that will recommend a better way to do things. He created a committee and appointed Shaun Lyon, Liz Mortensen, and Kim Marks Brown to it.

**CLUB MACHINES:** Bob Null reported that the laser printer had been fixed for \$100. Joe Zeff said he and Mike Morris will get the connectors needed produce an Internet Lounge from club computers. Marty Cantor mentioned what work the Gestetner needs.

**HALL RECONSTRUCTION:** Mike Thorsen found the tools for repairing the awning.

There was a discussion of whether to keep the piano that had been deposited on the dais. Mike Stern said he would refer it to the club for the membership to decide whether to accept the donation.

**LOSCON 27:** Shaun Lyon said an enormous number of guests had been lined up for the convention. He received the information that Anne McCaffrey had been voted the Forry Award, and said he would talk to Cathy Beckstead



## NEW LASFS BOARD OFFICERS

**CHAIRMAN:** Bill Ellern  
**VICE-CHAIRMAN:** Karl Lembke  
**COMPTROLLER:** Mike Glycer  
**SECRETARY:** Mike Glycer



about making the presentation at LOSCON. He warned people that there has been trouble with the hotel only giving rack rate on Friday night.

**LOSCON 28:** No report.

**LOSCON.ORG:** Mike Stern asked Liz Mortensen to remind Chaz to get us the paperwork for ownership of the web site.

**LOSCONS OF THE FUTURE:** Bruce Pelz, seconded by Joe Zeff, moved to refer LOSCON presentations directly to the club without approval of the Board. In Bruce's view the Board always approves all bids, so why not eliminate that step. Joe Zeff thought somebody should verify that a bid meets the requirement of having the necessary officers, but Board approval was not needed. Shaun disagreed that Board approval was automatic. Several directors tried to recall where were the requirements for LOSCON bids to have certain officers: they are not in the standing rule governing LOSCON. Kim wanted to make a motion to table the vote, which Zeff seconded after making a motion to amend the Standing Rules of the Board to define qualifications (minimum requirements) of a LOSCON bid. Kim said her goal was to tell bids what they needed to qualify to be considered by the club.

Kim moved to add to the Standing Rules of the Board a rule that, "A LOSCON bid must have a named person as Chairman, Treasurer, and Hotel Liaison." The motion passed 5 aye, 2 nay, 2 abstaining, 1 inert.

Then a vote was held on the Pelz/Zeff motion, which was defeated 3 eye, 7 nay, and 1 abstain.

**ARCHIVES: LASFS:** Bob Null said he had been holding regular Tuesday work sessions. The DE PROF issues have been organized, as have the Board minutes from 1994-on. Mike Stern thanked Bob Null and Eylat Poliner and anybody else who worked with them. Bob planned to identify gaps in the club's file of minutes.

**WESTERCON:** Bob Null had found a file of Westercon I (1948) letters, including a handwritten response from L. Ron Hubbard to an invitation from the chair, E. Everett Evans.

**LALA7CON:** Tadao was looking to change the date to avoid going against the Book Fair, but the weekend he was thinking about proved to be the date for Confurence. The Lala7con fan GoH will be Milt Stevens.

**OTHER:** Mike Mason held a library work party on November 11, where volunteers had sorted through 6 boxes of books.

Mike Glyer didn't resign from the Board. Hoping you are the same.

\*\*\*\*\*

*What follows is a new column in DE PROF. Ted White's "credentials" are well known in the world of Science Fiction but he may not be known by some of the readers of this zine. A professional writer and editor, Ted has both produced and contributed many of fandom's legendary fanzines. Ted knows fanzines; and, in this column, he will be introducing an old (yet still living) fannish pursuit to those of you have not yet experienced this area of fandom (except, of course, for reading DE PROF).*

## 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.

**ANSIBLE** (Dave Langford, 94 London Rd, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5AU, United Kingdom; ansible@cix.co.uk; monthly single sheet newsletter; available in the U.S. for a self-addressed, stamped envelope sent to U.S. agent Janice Murray, Box 75684, Seattle, WA 98126-0684)

*Ansible* has been appearing regularly for 20 years; the December issue is #161. Dave Langford writes and edits *Ansible* with clarity and wit and has been winning Fan Writer Hugos for it with an almost monotonous consistency for years – if not decades. This is a newsletter with a British accent which covers both fan and pro events, cramming an amazing amount of wordage into its two double-columned pages. There is actually more real news in an issue of *Ansible* than can be found in most issues of *Locus*.

Here's an example: “**Stephen King** suspended publication of his 'download free, pay on the honour system' serial *The Plant* as of 9 November. His assistant Marsha DeFilippo first said this was because only 46%

of readers paid up (success beyond the wildest dreams of anyone else publishing in that way); in a later statement she insisted that reader response had nothing to do with it. Some think King grew tired of a project that in his terms never generated more than small change, supposedly around \$375,000.”

**TRASH BARREL** (Donald Franson, 6543 Babcock Ave., North Hollywood, CA 91606-2308; available “on request,” but a stamped self-addressed envelope wouldn’t hurt)

*Trash Barrel* typically runs only two to four pages of typewriter-typed double-columns, and although it’s printed by xerox copying, it has the look and feel of older-fashioned, mimeographed fanzines. This fanzine is devoted to nothing but listings (with a sentence or two of description) of fanzines. They are almost too brief to be called “reviews,” and they don’t make exciting reading, but the latest issue (dated “Nov. 2000” and unnumbered) has 52 fanzines listed, in alphabetical order – making it a good place to find out about a wide variety of fanzines for anyone wishing to explore this aspect of fandom.

**IDEA** (Geri Sullivan, Toad Hall, 3444 Blaisdell Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408-4315; [idea@toad-hall.com](mailto:idea@toad-hall.com); available for Letters of Comment; query about single-copy availability)

*Idea* falls at the opposite end of the fanzine spectrum from *Trash Barrel*. The new #12 runs 78 pages and is an ambitious “genzine” or general, unspecialized fanzine. Geri uses a high-tech mimeograph to produce this very attractive fanzine, but the text is all computer-set and looks virtually photo-copied. The front cover (both sides) is produced on a color inkjet printer and presents eight full-color photographs of such notable fans as British TAFF-winner Maureen Kincaid Speller. Inside are articles by American TAFF-winner Ulrika O’Brien, Dave Langford, Martin Hoare (who often accepts Langford’s Hugos at Worldcons for him), Rob Hansen, Jeff Schalles and Geri herself – and a 30-page letter column. Discussions fill the letter column and invite your responses (there’s nothing like seeing your own letter in print!).

That’s all the space I have this issue, but I’ll be reviewing more fanzines here in issues to come.

--Ted White

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*(I would like to point out that any zines for which the club trades can be picked up from the De Prof mailbox and can be read at your leisure. For those of you who want to explore the universe of fanzines, I shall be most*

*happy to make recommendations of available zines in addition to those reviewed by Ted - ed.)*

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!** January 2001. **FOSFAX #201** (FOSFA). **NASFA SHUTTLE Dec. 2000.** **LUNARIANS Meeting Notice** Jan. 2001 (NYSFS). **INSTANT MESSAGE #677 & 678** (NESFA). **PSFS NEWS** Jan. 2001 (PSFS). **PULSAR #267** (PorSFis). **WESTWIND #254** (NWSFS).

**other zines:** **CHALLENGER 13** (Guy Lillian III). **MIMOSA #26** (Nicki & Richard Lynch). **NOVA EXPRESSb** (Lawrence Person). **THYME #130** (Alan Stewart).

## 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.)*

**Donated by Craig Miller:** *Bloom* by Wil McCarthy. *Kidnapped by Cannibals* by Dr. Gordon Stables.

**Donated by Selina Phanara:** *Hunted* by James Alan Gardner. *House Harkonen* by Brian Herbert & Kevin J. Anderson. *The Burning City* by Niven & Pournelle.

**Library Purchases:** *If Wishes Were Horses* by Anne McCaffrey. *The Uncrowned King* by Michelle West. *Galactic Bounty* by William C. Dietz. *The City of Exile* by Deborah Turner Harris. *Time Station: Paris* by David Evans. *Arrows of the Queen* by Mercedes Lackey. *Owl Knight* by Mercedes Lackey & Larry Dixon. *Shadow of the Hegemon* by Orson Scott Card. *Phule Me Twice* by Robert Asprin & Peter J. Heck. *Fool Moon* by Jim Butcher.

All of the following by Brian Jacques: *The Outcast of Red Wall*, *The Bell Maker*, *Pearls of Lutra*, and *Salamandastron*.

*The Quartered Sea* by Tanya Huff. *Death Stalker Destiny* by Simon R. Green. *An Earthly Crown* by Kate Elliott. *The Dreaming Tree* by C.J. Cherryh. *Black Mist* and other Japanese Futures edited by Orson Scott Card. *Norby & the Court Jester* by Janet & Isaac Asimov. *Balook* by Piers Anthony. *What if our World is Their Heaven?* edited by Gwen Lee & Doris Sauter. *Earth, Air, Fire, Water* edited by Margaret Weis. *In the Drift* by Michael Swanwick. *The Compass of the Soul* by Sean

Russell. The children of Wrath by Mickey Zucker Reichert. Death of an Adept by Katherine Kurtz & Deborah Turner Harris. Wizard & Glass by Stephen King. The Long Patrol by Brian Jacques.

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### Recent Additions to the Video Collection

*(There were none listed for this month.)*

## l e t t e r o f c o m m e n t

*(It is an old fannish tradition to send letters to zines - and it is also an old fannish tradition to welcome and to print these letters.)*

**John Thiel**  
**30 N. 19th Street**  
**Lafayette, IN 47904**

LOSCON doesn't seem like it would be run by LASFS, but you're acting like it's of prime importance to you that your own membership pay its dues at that event.

*Actually, LOSCON is a proprietary convention - it is owned and run by LASFS and it is our primary fundraiser. Now, if the three who "ghosted" the con had been non-members of the club, forbidding them future entry to the con unless they paid their past con membership would have been sufficient to take care of the problem. However, as they "thumbed their noses" at the club and seemed to have the attitude that they were entitled to get in for free whilst all of the other non-con-working attendees had to pay to attend, the members of the club decided that we did not need members with this presumed attitude and did something the club rarely does - it expelled them (and spent over a year in trying to take care of the problem before doing so). In 66 years, LASFS has expelled fewer than a dozen members. The club rules make it difficult to expel members, and a general club tolerance for the foibles of fans makes it even more difficult. As a general rule, if anybody gets expelled from the LASFS, they really had to deserve it.*

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*(What follows was written by Herbert Wright, who will be giving the programme on Feb. 8.)*

"It's time we all must face the truth."  
- Dr. Henry J. Walker, circa 1984

That quote from the brilliant, but now disgraced ex-JPL scientist, Dr. Walker, leader of the 1976 NASA Viking mission analysis team who discovered the alien Face on Mars monument, burned a hole into my brain . . . as I sat alone in the dark, watching Walker's secret video journal night after night. Tales of a murdered Mars, alien abductions, Area 51, UFOs, crop circles, and the like erupted into life in these awkward, but scarily real life tapes, offering me an insight on a 'truth' I

could hardly ever have imagined.

"What if everything you know is wrong . . . "  
- Dr. Henry J. Walker, circa 1986

As one of the original STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION producer-writers, I had excellent access to all kinds of "fringe" science, but nothing like these Walker videos and his journal, stuffed with diagrams, charts, scribbled notes, and observations made by this unsung genius over 12 years. I privately showed them to friends, to colleagues, to my astonished family and a few others over the years . . .

They all wanted me to show them to the public, but no network or studio would handle this very dangerous material - nothing less than the global consensus reality was at stake. Dead end.

So, Dr. Walker inspired me to create a dramatic cyberseries MARS AND BEYOND, about the first mission to the Red Planet. And most importantly, Walker led me to found the very first original Science Fiction entertainment network on the web. Starting with Walker's streaming videos, CSFN is beginning to attract an audience.

While the CSFN's goal is to provide free dramatic on-line entertainment to the global science fiction community, it is also dedicated, by absolute necessity, to helping all us "Face the Truth" about life on this planet . . . and beyond.

Please join us on Feb. 8, 2001, as my obsessed colleagues and I show you a couple of short video trailers for our first cyberseries, MARS AND BEYOND, and its real life inspiration, the WALKER MARS DIARY. We'll be telling you all about our plans, our dreams, and our nightmares, as we blur the lines between the popular "truth" and what Walker has to say about that . . .

"Without the truth, none of us will survive."  
- Dr. Henry J. Walker, circa 1989

And it is that truth, that is what we all need to know.

We'll also be handing out some special CSFN gifts no one else has on this planet - yet. So do show up for the goodies, and our videos, and we'll deliver both with a healthy dose of science fiction - or science facts.

You decide.

- Herbert Wright

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*George Jumper, long-time LASFS member, died of a heart attack on Monday, January 8, 2000, in Seattle, Washington. He is survived by a sister, Barbara, and his twin children, Jonathan and Jennifer. George served as President of the club, chaired a LOSCON, and is a past OC of APA-L.*

LAF  
(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

**Saturday, Feb. 10, 2001**

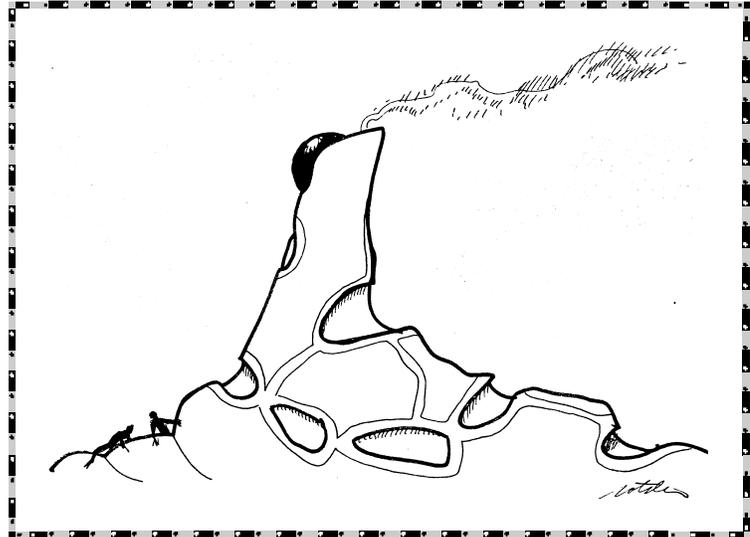
LAF Filksing  
Filk: 7 pm to ???  
Pre-Filk Dinner: 5:00 pm

Rick's Café Terrestienne  
Rick Weiss & Tess Calhoun  
13261 Donegal Dr.  
Garden Grove, CA 92844  
(714) 530-3546

Dinner:  
New Seoul Korean BBQ  
9902 Garden Grove Blvd.  
Garden Grove  
Cost: \$12.95  
vegetarian entrees available

*Filksite directions: see Thomas Bros.  
Orange County - Pg 798, D-7 (1992  
edition, Pg. 15, F-4 (older eds.)*

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



*Illo by Rotsler*



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

DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE RUSH