



COLOPHON

De Profundis 344— August, 2001. Editor: **Marty Cantor**. Production Assistants: **Bob Null** and **Phil Castora**. 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: louishooah@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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This is Hoo Hah Publication No. 609

F W-E M_s FOURTH WEEK-END MOVIES AT LASFS

On the 4th Sunday each month (Jan. to Oct.) we screen a full day of feature films, with varying themes ('60s musicals, classic horror, comedies, westerns, and actual sci-fi type movies), hosted by LASFS's Old-Movie Guy, Charles Lee Jackson, II. Each April we devote a day to monsters, and October features a globe-trotting tribute to the United Nations, with other months a grab-bag of fun and adventure. [Twice a year, we also take over a 5th Sunday to run cliffhanger serials.] The program starts at 2 pm and runs until 10 - 11 pm, with 4 to 6 titles shown on the big projection-video screen. LASFS members and guests are welcome to join us - - kids (of all ages) admitted free!

LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers

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

Official Committees

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'Killip & 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:** Tadao Tomomatsu, C.B. McGuire, Dale Hales. ****Legion of Substitute Gouges:** Bruce Pelz, Sandy Cohen, Ed Green. ****Strategic Reserve Registrar:** Robert Keller. **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 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>: Karl Lembke. **Sysadmin:** Chaz Baden. **Ministry of Silly Gavels:** Bob Null. ****LASFS Imaging Project:** C.B. McGuire. **Committee for Children's Literature:** Anne Morrel, Editor; Greg Barrett, Facilitator. **Computers & LASFS Archives:** Bob Null, Eylat Poliner. **Charity Coordinator:** Liz Mortensen.

Honorary Officers

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

There are *many* tributes to Jack Harness in the minutes of Meeting #3336 (July 19, 2001)

September 2001

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

KEY TO CALENDAR & OTHER IMPEDIMENTA

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 - 2 pm

FUCC = Fandom Universal Computer Club

TIME MEDDLERS = Dr. Who club

CALENDAR DETAILS

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 - Howard Keel & The Women

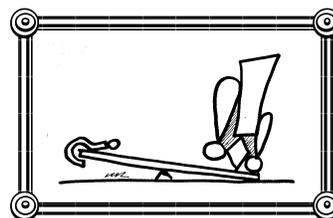
THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

SEPTEMBER 6 - Jack Harness Memorial

SEPTEMBER 13 - JEOPARDY!

SEPTEMBER 20 - Major Auction

SEPTEMBER 27 - Special Guest Speakers: Frankie Thomas & Jan Merlin



ATTENTION
AUCTION ITEM CONTRIBUTORS

The amount of material which has been donated to LASFS for auction seems to be breeding - there is now more than twice the amount of material which can fit into the space allocated for it. There may soon be no room in the meeting room for members!

PLEASE!

Until further notice,
The Committee To Gouge The LASFS
requests
that there be
No Further Contributions
of Auction Materials.
We thank you!
The Formerly Empty Floor Space
Thanks you!

CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

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

Meeting #3334, July 5, 2001
Ed Green, presiding
Karl Lenke, Scribe

After a short pause to set up the microphone, Meeting No. 3334 of the LASFS was called to order by our officially Green president at 20:11:27. The Menace from meeting number 3333 were not read, because they were not available. In their place, the Menace from meeting 1361 were read. This time, Len Moffatt forgot to mention that he had some corrections he had forgotten, so the Menace were approved as "infra-read."

Patron Saint Doug Abe was mentioned. He used to be active in fandom, and may be presumed to be reasonably active in Camarillo, where he now lives. He caused large amounts of money to fall into the club's pockets many years ago, for which he was given three cheers this year.

Registrar: There were no guests, but two new members were in the building.

Darcee was pleased to see that Ed Hooper has accepted his new name: Grass-Hooper.

(It is to be assumed that this meeting actually ended at a given moment in time. However, as there is nothing about this in the Menace which were sent to me (and knowing LASFS as I do), it is just as likely that the meeting is continuing to this day. - ed.)

Meeting #3335, July 12, 2001
Ed Green, presiding
Mike Glycer, the Once & Future Secretary

While we were still in that state of chaos out of which the President is expected to bring order, Francis Hamit saw President Ed Green's loud Hawaiian shirt. Francis said, "May I ask where your environmental impact statement for that shirt is?" Ed replied, "Same place as the batteries, and you're not authorized to find them." Having created a whole new definition of "presidential power," Ed went on to officially start meeting 3335 - and a very accurate guess it was.

Phil Castora was immediately recognized. He announced that Jack Harness, who had a pacemaker installed some time ago, was back in Kaiser Hospital suffering from a heart problem. Ed called on the secretary to produce another famously irrelevant "get well card," which was passed for members to sign, and mailed to Jack.

Minutes: Glycer read his June 28 minutes, then the members filled him in all the parts of the meeting he seemed to have missed. *De Profundis* editor Marty Cantor, working under deadline, noted their corrections on his print-out of Glycer's draft. Hare Hobbs said it was *Witchblade*. Joe Zeff said it was not emergency surgery. Francis Hamit said it was Tasini. Karl Lembke said it wasn't a limerick. Mike Stern said he was fined for trying to silence the chair (with rubber tips). Other than that, the minutes were perfect. So Charlie Jackson 2 told Joe Zeff, "I second the motion you were going to make last week." This reminded Joe to move that the minutes be thrown away as garbage. And so, for the first time in the history of parliamentary procedure, a motion was seconded, *then* made and passed. (Men asleep in England will call themselves accursed they were not here . . .) Glycer also read Karl Lembke's July 5 minutes. The corrections for those may have not been historic, but they were notable. Hare Hobbs said the famous topless mermaid from L.A.com III did puppetry in *Viva Rock Vegas!*

Administrative Announcements: Ed thanked outgoing officers Cathy Beckstead, Christian McGuire, Lynx, whoever was Scribe, and Liz Mortensen. He officially filled all the presidentially-appointed committees. They were mostly staying the same, or at least, Charlie. Ed added members to the Committee To Gouge Money Out of the LASFS, "emergency substitute gougers" Bruce Pelz, Sandy Cohen, and whoever used to be head of the Committee. Named to the post of Strategic Reserve Registrar was Robert Keller. Ed disbanded the Book Reading Club. He asked everyone to give him the name of the member serving in the armed forces farthest from LASFS so he can appoint an additional LASFS Sgt.

Registrar: Mona introduced a guest from Van Nuys who likes filk. "He can sing!" shouted someone with delight. Ed corrected, "No, he likes filk."

Patron Saint: Tonight's Patron Saint was just outside, so Ed had him hauled in for a moment in the spotlight. Patron Saint Marc Schirmeister was praised by Marty Cantor as a long-time fanartist who ought to be nominated for a Hugo. Matthew Tepper remembered when he, Elst, and Mike Glycer discovered this

LAFAs

(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

LAFAs Filksing -
Saturday, September 15, 2001
Filks: 7 pm to ???
Pre-filks Potluck Dinner: 5:00 pm

Terry & Paul Gibbons, hosts
809 Lashburn
Sylmar, CA
(818) 361-6737

Directions -
Thomas Bros. (Old) LA Co., pg 2, D-5
(New) LA Co., pg. 481, J-7

Filks Style -
moderated chaos

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

cartoonist (in those days, we were meeting at a Unitarian Church in Santa Monica.) Glycer recalled the 1974 Westercon, where Schirm's Rapidographed little dinosaurs in the tropical foliage of the con suite's wallpaper. The dinos were still there when we used the room again at the 1976 Westercon. We gave Schirm three cheers, and he answered, "Free ice cream for everyone."

Official Committee Reports: Christian McGuire told about a mishap with one of our members. On the Fourth of July, Lynx experimented by going

70 mph westbound on the F10, as a result, proving you can roll a Saturn five times and jump out, almost uninjured, ready to curse for five minutes.

Reviews: Ed Green thought Westercon was an interesting con. Its highlight was some fan named Mike Glycer as Fan GoH. (What a coincidence - that was my highlight, too!)

Fannish Committee Reports: Francis Hamit's Stupid Crook Report featured a fellow who wanted to rob a branch of Bank of America. He wrote his demand on a deposit slip but decided the line at BofA was too long to wait in, so he went next door to Wells Fargo. But the teller said she couldn't take a Bank of America form. The police arrived while he was copying his robbery demand onto a Wells Fargo form.

Mark Poliner recommended the Bonehead web site, where you can get that kind of story from around the world. (*I recommend DE PROFUNDIS, where you can get that information without having to turn on your computer. - ed.*)

Robert Keller informed us about a scientific discovery, a strain of bacteria that will live in your clothes, eat sweat, and give off a sweet-smelling aroma. (The week that strain is unleashed at a LASFS meeting, we're going to find out what a 12-pound bacterium looks like.)

Miscellaneous: Chaz posted thumbnail picks of members from his web site, and asked for help identifying the subjects. Marty Cantor said he would publish the URL for Chaz' web site in *De Profundis*.

Mike Stern said Cathy wasn't the only one with an Alaska Airline

story. Heather Stern's luggage had visited Cabo San Lucas without her. Cathy asked, "You mean, my luggage is on the beach without me?"

A few moments later, Ed Green accepted a motion to disintegrate the meeting, and it did, indeed, fly to pieces.

Meeting #3336, July 19, 2001

Ed Green, presiding

Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

At first, the officers couldn't get any sound from the microphone. Then Bob Null went to work, and suddenly, President Green's flicking the on-switch carried to the back of the room like a thunderbolt blow from the nose of Zeus.

Special Order of Business: Charlie Jackson 2 explained with a certain wry gravity that although the nurses' station at Kaiser reported Jack Harness was up and walking around the hospital when Lee Gold tried to call him on Sunday, Harness had actually died during a heart procedure the previous Friday. Remembrances were held until the main part of the meeting.

Minutes: Glycer read the minutes. Lee Gold commented that we shouldn't worry about lasfs.org not being linked to the Filkers Anonymous page, because it hasn't been updated since posting the January 2001 meeting announcement. LA Filkharmonic members get their news from Lee and Barry by -e-mail. Marty Cantor said Marc Schirmeister said he'd bring ice cream the next time. Francis Hamit made Glycer restore the missing punchline to his Stupid Crook report. Joe Zeff corrected that the motion accepting the minutes involved them being hauled away as garbage. Hamit cracked, "And me, not wearing my old clothes!" Though Ed Green wanted tonight's minutes approved as on tippy-toe, they were approved as something inaudible by the secretary.

Registrar: Emergency Holographic Registrar Robert Keller introduced three guests. One of them had just inherited a science fiction library. I suppose what she has in common with LASFS is we're both trying to figure out what to do with one of those.

Patron Saint: Ed Green led three cheers for tonight's Patron Saint, Bill Curry, the well-known book dealer.

Jack Harness Memories: Ed declared an open mike for people wanting to share their memories of Jack Harness. Matthew Tepper came up and deposited a \$5 bill in front of Ed, announcing, "The first 20 pun fines are paid!"

First, Lee Gold gave details of Jack's passing. His original pacemaker had been replaced last year by a pacemaker defibrillator. Jack told her it went off and shocked him, so he got himself admitted to Kaiser Hospital. Doctors planned an angiogram procedure, and as Jack reported to Lee, they told him it was not life-threatening. So he concluded, "Tell everybody, I feel chipper." Lee tried to call Harness last Sunday. The nurses' station indifferently told her Jack was out of his room, walking. But when Jack's sister

phoned Lee, the truth proved to be that Jack had passed away two days earlier. Jack's sister asked for help in clearing out his place, and Lee gave the details on where and when to show up. LASFS will get all the sf, all of Jack's writings, the CPUs and the floppies. Lee met Jack in 1969. She said we are losing "a strange and frequently wonderful person."

Francis Hamit mentioned that Phil Castora, who was home sick tonight, had been a friend of Jack's since 1952 when they lived in Pittsburgh. Hamit felt Jack was one of the people who made coming to LASFS fun.

Len Moffatt declared, "I'm pissed off, because Jack was 10 years younger than me." Jack didn't get his fill of years. Len remembered Jack's skills as a fanartist who drew directly on mimeo stencils with a steel stylus. Len passed along Don Simpson's e-mail tribute for Ed Green to read aloud. At one time, Simpson and Owen Hannifen shared an apartment with Harness. Simpson remembered Jack's stock cartoon characters, including "the m'tah horn equipped, trisexual Objectivist Mutated Mice," and their guidebook, "Guilt Without Fear."

Marty Cantor announced Castora had written a Harness obit for *De Profundis*.

Kay Shapero extolled Jack's many excellent masquerade entries. She also sparked Barry Gold and Mike Glycer to remember participating in Jack's extemporaneous "Duck Savage" entry at the 1974 Westercon, a parody of an overexposed movie trailer. The "costumes" involved four fans wearing yellow paper duckbills taped to their upper lips, the last of them, Harness, flexing a ripped t-shirt as "the Duck of Bronze."

Barry reminded old-time members about going after LASFS meetings to the latter-day Slanshack where Jack and Owen (and evidently, at least six others) lived. Barry remembered Jack's fondness for loud and bizarre shirts, assisted on one occasion by Dian Pelz who made him a long-sleeve shirt with a dark panel of bright red, a front panel of changeable red and blue, with cuffs of pink fur.

Glycer credited Harness for inventing some of the funniest LASFS Poker Games. Larry Niven told about the unintentionally funny "Harnessian Werewolf," ordinarily a game with queens and other cards wild, except when Jack dealt the wild cards never seemed to show up.

Glycer, Elst Weinstein, Harness and others also started a short-lived fiction APA, *Galactic Lens*. Some predicted it would turn into another disaster like Coventry, something Jack had also written for. That made Glycer and Elst all the more eager to hear about the Coventry scandal, but Jack never blabbed.

Joe Zeff had known Harness since 1980. He said it was a tribute to Jack's skills as a card player that he was "lifetime positive" at Hell's Bridge. Zeff also remembered Jack hard at work on his writing.

Lee Gold had, in fact, brought one of Jack's CPUs - sprayed with

insecticide - in the trunk of her car. She hoped someone would take it and recover Jack's writing. Zeff wanted it put through ExLibris, online. He felt it deserved to be preserved, because a lot was very good. Zeff finished with Jack's explanation about an earlier hospitalization. Jack told him he had been in the hospital for the "three of Swords." Zeff recognized the reference to a Tarot card, portrayed as a heart pierced with three swords.

Lee Gold said that when Jack experienced a previous heart attack, he took himself to the Kaiser emergency room. The receptionist told him to "Sit down and wait your turn." So when her back was turned, Jack went in to the doctors himself. They immediately started treating him, even though the irate receptionist found Jack and demanded that he go back to the waiting area.

Scratch Galloway met Jack for the first time in the early 1970s. Though Jack had a calm, gentle demeanor, he had such a left hook for puns!

Charlie Jackson 2 remembered discussing funny animal comics with Jack. Harness decided that what was needed next was funny vegetable comics, so he drew some of those. Then, to finish the sequence, he went on to draw funny mineral comics. And, finally, funny ether comic strips.

Harness was also an admirer of Emperor Jackson's fictional universe, and decided he was going to join Continent-8, the nemesis organization. Jack was even awarded an operator number.

Larry Niven said that Jack, sometime after the publication of "What Cay You Say About Chocolate Covered Manhole Covers?" presented him with an ornately calligraphed scroll containing an answer to that question: "The American Dental Association thinks you are bad for children's teeth."

Barry Gold said Heinlein claimed any good writer could make a man mad enough to kill in 20 words. Jack claimed he could do that to any fan in nine words. His nine words were: "Frodo woke up. It had all been a dream."

June Moffatt remembered Jack Harness' cooking prowess. At OakLAcon, the 1975 Westercon, Bobbi Armbruster led a whole party to the Kapok restaurant. The restaurant gave them the wrong directions about where to get off the BART, so they wound up walking the last 15 blocks there. June said it was worth it, because the food was fabulous. When a tasty new dish arrived, Jack wanted to know, "How do you make this?" By the end of the meal, he was in the kitchen taking

MAGIC
The Gathering

Tournaments
held at LASFS
First Friday
every month

Contact for Magic The
Gathering:
Drew Sanders,
mailto:
Drew_Sanders@hotmail.
com

lessons on how to make Chinese food.

Marty Massoglia recalled the way Harness expressed his sense of humor at the Pelz's Wine & Cheese parties, where he would contribute something strange, like chocolate cream cheese, or cheese-flavored dog biscuits.

Lee Gold summed up by saying Jack had an astonishing repertoire of everything fannish.

Tom Safer hoped somebody would bring a picture of Jack Harness. (*There currently is one posted on the inside-front-door of the back building. - ed.*)

Ed concluded that we are much the richer for having known him, and much the poorer for having lost him.

At the very end, Allan Rothstein arrived, and received applause. Allan resourcefully answered, "You've probably been wondering why I asked you all together here tonight." But he wouldn't tell us.

Timebound Announcements: Charlie Jackson 2 sold copies of the July issue of *Amazing Adventures*. He knew we would all want to find out what happens when Ed Green gets fed into a saw blade. Actually Charlie, our wish is more specific than that - we want you to capture the vision we already have of Ed getting fed to a buzz-saw. The alternative would be so disappointing!

Fannish Committee Reports: Matthew Tepper had some Duck family news. A mother duck saw her family of ducklings fall through a sewer grate. She summoned a policeman on foot patrol by persistently grabbing his pants leg, then waddled over to sit on the grate until he followed to investigate. Once the officer saw the babies in the water below he called a tow truck to help remove the heavy metal grate. Then he used a vegetable strainer to lift the ducklings to safety. Matthew gave his print-out to the secretary. Glycer noticed it included the policeman's description of his initial reaction to the duck: "I thought it was a bit goofy, so I shoved it away." So really, the most remarkable part of the story is not that a duck recognized a policeman, but that a policeman couldn't tell the difference between a duck and Goofy. Anyway, can a duck really trust any policeman who routinely carries a vegetable strainer not to turn her into a Chinese dinner?

Charlie Jackson was going ahead with a postponed program. Bret Achorn moved to run away. Those in favor said aye, and so did those opposed, lest they be accused of horsing around. Ed adjourned the meeting.

Meeting #3337. July 26, 2001

*Ed Green, presiding
Karl Lembke, Scribe*

Meeting number 3337 was called to order at 20:12:07, 09, 10, 11, and 13, using a multitude of gavels.

Special Order of Business: Glenn Glazer's father passed away

Saturday after 3 1/2 months in the hospital. He had been battling stomach and duodenal cancer, and was eventually done in by pneumonia. He was not a fan, but he was tolerant of fannish ways. He took Glenn to his first convention, and encouraged literacy, introducing him to Greek Mythology and Tolkien.

Menace: Neither Mike Glycer nor his Menace were available at the start of the meeting, so an auction was held to determine which set of Jack Harness Menace would be read. Joe Zeff paid \$5 to select the Menace from meeting 1821, printed on flesh-colored paper. They were approved as "Flesh colored with orange sleeves."

At this point, Mike Glycer arrived, and took over recording this mess.

Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

Glycer arrived late for the meeting only to be turned back outside so members could continue hearing Karl Lembke read classic minutes by the even later Jack Harness.

Minutes: Once re-admitted to the inner sanctum, Glycer lamely followed Harness' act by reading his own minutes of last week's meeting. Members expressed their outrage at his presumption by correcting all the defects, such as a joke that revealed the secretary thinks the alphabet ends with 'x'. And Charlie Jackson 2, for the third straight week, vainly attempted to have the record show an earlier set of minutes has been approved as "hailed away as garbage." Then they grappled with how to approve this week's set of minutes. Beth O'Brien moved to approve them as strained ducky. Mike Stern wanted them approved as "rescued by a vegetable strainer." Zeff wanted them accepted as "Objectivist Mutate Mouse Musicians." Finally, Charlie Jackson 2 succeeded as having them approved as "V-E-R-D-I."

Registrar: Mona introduced a guest from New York, and she had returning guests from last week. Things have slowed up since Lynx's term, when guests were seduced into joining before his turn came to introduce them. President Ed Green warned tonight's guests that if they looked around the room, "The really dangerous ones you can recognize."

Patron Saint: Ed introduced tonight's Patron Saint as "some fascist named Green." He steeled himself and told us, "Okay guys, this is your shot." Bary Gold immediately moved to give Ed three cheers. A few fans still wanted their say. Charlie Jackson 2 said he found Ed to be a fine sidekick and a great swashbuckler. John Hertz observed, "It's not easy being green," and Mike Stern added, "It's not green being easy!" Robert Keller said that since he joined the club he's started reading all the old minutes, "and I can really call them The Adventures of Ed Green." Beth O'Brien remembered the volunteers t-shirt she got at a con. Today, when she wears "Sgt. Green Had Me" to work in her garden, the neighbors really raise their eyebrows.

Old Business: Ed called for further remembrances of Jack Harness. Phil Castora mentioned Jack's culinary skills as "part cosmopolitan, part something else." Casey Bemay said she first encountered Jack in a store where she was looking for sf. He told her about LASFS - and she quickly made her selection and left. But the next week she visited the club, three months later she was elected VP, 14 months

later President. (Now, 10 years later, she's still in remission . . .)

John Hertz met Harness in the 1960s when he was living at a boarding house with various other strange fellows, including Jack, who gave him a copy of APA-L. Hertz then proceeded to give a dramatic reading of Harness's incredibly silly article, "Sex in Fandom," with multiple voices and poses appropriate to each character. Lee Gold said, "I can appreciate the changes in position." Charlie said, "So did the girls."

Appointed Committee Reports: Karl Lembke said that lasfs.org now has a Jack Harness memorial page. He invited people to send reminiscences to harness@lasfs.org.

Auction: Ed had been about to open the meeting to timebound announcements, then realized making money for the club was even more important. (What was he thinking?) He auctioned off the club parking spaces for the month.

Timebound Announcements: The club revenue having been protected, there was time for Mike Stern to make a silly motion. "I move that we review Sandy Cohen's stay of execution of 30 years ago." Many voted aye. Charlie Jackson 2 sneered, "I've seen better stays in my shirt collar."

Glenn Glazer was selling his car. This reminded Frank Waller that at Hansen Dam there would be a "blessing of the cars." Isn't there something theologically troubling about the idea of getting blessed at a dam?

Fannish Committee Reports: Mike Stern said the Bulwer-Lytton Awards have been announced. He forgot his copies, so he couldn't serenade us with the winners 'til next week. He thought he might have to sell his car to pay the pun fines.

Hare Hobbs reported on an Australian surfing duck. Listening to that story prompted Ed Green to recall that when he was running for president, somebody asked him what he'd forgotten since his last term. Mike Stern answered, "It's obvious - you forgot to duck."

We all decided to take that advice, and ducked out of the meeting so the program could begin.

***LASFS Board of Directors
Meeting of June 10, 2001
William Ellern, Chairman***

Present: Bill Ellern, Karl Lembke, Michael Mason, Mike Stern, Joe Zeff, Elayne Pelz, Mike Thorsen, Kim Marks Brown, Bob Null, Liz Mortensen. Absent (excused): Mike Glycer.

Others present: Marty Cantor, Greg Bilan, Ed Green, Anne Morrel, Tadao Tomomatsu, John De Chancie, Dale Hales, Lucy Stern, Greg Barrett, Cathy Beckstead, Eylat Poliner, Alyson Stern, Heather Stern, Joyce Sperling, and others.

The meeting was called to order at 11:16. The minutes of the previous meeting were corrected, and accepted as corrected without dissent.

Treasurer: There was not much change from last month's report. Liz passed around a spreadsheet showing the line items and projected and actual balances since 1999. There were some mid-year corrections made, including increases in the soda and gas line items. Plumbing as a line item was discussed. The front building has been re-plumbed with copper, but the line to the back building remains old galvanized steel. Although a dielectric coupler was used, the presence of dissimilar metals will accelerate corrosion in the rear of the property, and this pipe will need to be replaced before too long. Kim Marks Brown recommended that the plumbing be left alone until the next leak appeared, and then the back building be re-plumbed immediately upon this occurrence. Ed Green suggested that the club plan to replace the plumbing next year, rather than relying on fannish memory. It was ultimately decided that we would bring up the plumbing as an agenda item in October, and get an estimate at that time. A motion to follow this course of action was brought by Mike Stern, and seconded by Kim Marks Brown. It passed without dissent.

Bylaws: Ed Green has forwarded the 90% complete set of by-laws to Bill Ellern. Still missing are several items that turned up in the archives. Bill, in his turn, lost the copy he had received, but expects to find it Real Soon Now. Mike Stern offered to provide help to Ed by providing the By-laws, Standing Rules, and Board Rules as they were maintained while he was board Secretary and Webmaster. Bill asked to be copied from time to time, but not to be pasted.

New Members: None.

Committee on Building Use: Kim Marks Brown and John Hertz have come up with the wording on a club policy.

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

It is judged that this text should cover all eventualities of the type which have recently come to the official notice of the LASFS. Kim Marks Brown moved that the club send John Hertz a check in the sum of \$300 to reflect the LASFS's good will and appreciation for his willingness to help out. The motion was seconded by Joe Zeff and passed without opposition. Ed Green suggested an ongoing \$100/year line item for ongoing good will. This will be addressed later in the year when the budget is once again under consideration. Mike Stern moved that the policy statement be approved and posted and provided to parents. This also passed without opposition.

Bill Ellern brought up the question of minors who sustain a serious injury while on LASFS property. Should the club maintain a file of contact information and permission to treat? Dale Hales suggested that we put together a medical information form, to include insurance info, contact info, etc. Liz Mortensen wondered whether that sort of information could even be considered LASFS's business. Mike Stern pointed out that if we compile such a list, someone will have to maintain it, and if that someone doesn't volunteer right now,

maybe we'd better drop the idea. Heather Stern pointed out that parents would have to be told whom to contact with updates. Ed Green warned that any information we collect might fall under the Privacy Act of 1974, which would dictate what we're allowed to do with it, and how securely we have to safeguard it. Kim suggested that, instead of collecting paperwork, we require parents to make sure their kids carry ID and contact info. Also, she pointed out that there's no way to avoid liability, as a person walking past the clubhouse on the sidewalk could trip over a crack and be able to sue the club. Marty Cantor stated that all we need is permission to treat. Mike Stern stated that the Privacy Act does not cover permission to treat forms, or anything else signed by a parent which does not contain medical information.

Dale Hales responded to a comment that we could require minors to carry permission to treat while at events at the clubhouse by noting that we still should have durable permission forms on file, because not everyone will get a fresh slip for every event. Bill Ellern welcomed one member's offer to bring in a copy of a permission slip actually used at her child's elementary school. He also closed the discussion, which had already filled a page in the notebook.

Facilities: Bob Null reported that our neighbor never did receive the actual complaint. Either the paperwork was never done, or the inspector noted that it was already being addressed. Bob has no info on the telephone box, but Tadao has successfully placed a call from the pay phone. We will consider the problem addressed until informed otherwise. Hydrostatic pumping has been taking place as needed in the Club's waste capture and disposal facilities.

Video: CLJII submitted a written report. He has been getting videos at "a goodly pace," mostly by mail. He's been able to take advantage of sales and free shipping offers. Loans are slow now, but expected to speed up going into the summer. He notes that LaLaCon is not "Formerly the Showcase," as there were Showcases after LaLaCon began to occur. He also requests the use of a couple of fifth Sundays; and, in particular, July 29, as a "cliffhanger day." The board elected not to pull a "cliffhanger" on Charlie, and granted his request. Mike Thorsen asked for time to run an all-day Farscape showing under the auspices of TRIPE. Greg Bilan had a request to schedule a ConFurance on the day of the C/FO meeting, June 16. Since both parties involved had assured Liz that the arrangement was OK, the request was approved without opposition.

lasfs.org: The reading list needs to be updated. Ed Green asked if the club was going to look into hiring a professional web designer.

LASFS Answer Guy: Greg Barrett reported that there were no new questions of late.

Library: Michael Mason stated that we are down to four boxes of the backlog. He expects to be finished going through boxes by the end of June (of this year). He has started going through the Gary Louie books.

Archives: Eylat Poliner notes that she's missing minutes from 1991 to 1994. She is pulling hard copies off the web site. Bob Null had nothing to add.

Loscon 28: The next LosCon meeting is July 21. Everything proceeds according to schedule.

Loscon 29: Tadao reported that everything was proceeding according to schedule.

SoLaLaCon: Tadao reported that everything was proceeding according to schedule.

Convention Delegates: Liz Mortensen and Kim Marks Brown are going to Westercon.

Elayne Pelz moved to cancel the July board meeting due to heavy Westercon attendance. Joe Zeff seconded, and the motion passed without opposition. The next meeting will be in August.

Mike Mason moved to grant conditional permission to ConFurance to use C/FO's time for its meeting in July, 2001, provided that C/FO agrees to let its meeting time be so used.

Cathy Beckstead thanked the Board for an enjoyable 2 1/2 years as the Club President.

Club Machines: Bob Null reported that one of the laser jet printers had been sent off for repairs - it was staying in "warming up" mode forever. Other printers are being repaired as needed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:41.

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 fanzine below and broaden your participation in fandom.

NOVA EXPRESS (Lawrence Person, P.O. Box 27231, Austin, TX 78755-2231, e-mail to lawrenceperson@jump.net; available for \$5 a copy or \$12 for four issues - \$15 after September 15, 2001)

Nova Express is yet another type of fanzine: what is now called the "sercon fanzine." "Sercon" stands for "serious and

constructive,” and the term was originally coined (in the early '50s) as a sarcastic put-down of overly earnest and humorless efforts, but by the late '80s the term had been co-opted by the publishers of serious, science-fiction-oriented fanzines. This kind of fanzine owes its existence to the Richard Geis fanzines of the '70s, variously titled but best known as *The Alien Critic*. The typical sercon fanzine runs an article or two on science fiction topics, at least one interview with an author, and many book reviews. Unfortunately, none of the editors of these fanzines has the deft touch of Geis, and consequently none of their fanzines are as lively.

Nonetheless, the 21st issue of *Nova Express* does have a lively feature interview with Tim Powers, which takes up over a third of the (44 page) issue, followed by three reviews of two of Powers' books. Powers talks about his friendship with Phil Dick (“Among other things, he was probably the best-read person I've ever met. And probably the only actual genius I'll ever know well. And also the funniest guy I ever met.”), about selling his first two books to the absurd Roger Elwood's Laser Books, and about his dealings with Lester del Rey as an editor (“When he would reject a book, he would send you a four-page, single-spaced rejection letter, and many of the points would be totally correct, so you'd think, 'All right, thanks!'”) as well as discussing his own work at length.

There is one article in this issue, “The Falling Rate of Profit, Red Hordes and Green Slime: What the Fall Revolution Books are About” by Ken MacLeod. In it MacLeod responds to an editorial query to write about his four books, “why you wrote these four books, what you meant to say, and how they fit together.”

The rest of the issue is largely taken up with two “Featured Reviews” and twenty-five more book reviews – plus less than a page of letters (one of which is mine). The book reviews are generally intelligent and literate and written to what I consider a professional level. Indeed, the entire production is “professional” in appearance, with clean graphic design, boxed “pull quotes” in the interview and article, and a small cover banner that announces “One-Time Hugo Nominee!”

Small touches, however, deliberately belie the professional appearance: A larger cover headline proclaims “Winner of the Invisible City Good Citizenship Award! Really!” a cover motto, “We go to Eleven;” calling the letters “Viewer Mail;” and crediting right-hand editorial staffer, book reviewer and interviewer Fiona Kelleghan in the extensive masthead as “Sound Engineer.” In the letter column, editor Person argues with me, as he did an issue earlier with E. B. Frohvet, that *Nova Express* is a *fanzine* and not a *semi-prozine*. And I guess these little touches are part of why he

R.I.P.

POUL ANDERSON

"We brought Poul home from Alta Bates for terminal hospice care.

We gave him Jubilaem Akvavit, Carlsberg Beer and Boeuf Tartare.

We gave him all our love. About midnight, he slipped away."

--signed Karen, Astrid and the rest of the Andersons.

regards it as a fanzine. But he wants to sell it, and makes no mention of giving away issues for trades or letters of comment – two practices typical of most fanzines, so *Nova Express* lies in a gray area between the two types of publications. For what it is, it is very well done and I recommend it to those of you looking for literate, intelligent commentary on current science fiction.

–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: DASFAX Vol. 33 No. 7 (DASFA). INSTANT MESSAGE #687 (NESFA). PSFS News, August 2001 (PSFS). EINBLAT! August, 2001 (MinnStf). TIGHTBEAM #226 (N3F). NASFA SHUTTLE, July 2001.

other zines: NOVA Express, Vol. 6 No. 1 (Lawrence Person).

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. There are no additions this month.)

Recent Additions to the Video Collection

(There were none listed for this month.)

**MAJOR
AUCTION**

of many items

Thursday
September 20, 2001

**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.



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

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE RUSH