

De
Profundis
Ad
Astra

DE PROFUNDIS 353



COLOPHON

De Profundis 353 - May, 2002. Editor: **Marty Cantor**. Production Assistant: **Bob Null**. 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 address: hooah-hubs@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.

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

This is Hoo Hah Publication No. 692.

WESTERCON 55

Rates through May 31, 2002:

How much does it cost?

Supporting \$25
Attending \$70
(at the door: \$75)

Conversion from Supporting to Attending
\$50
(Pre-supporters may deduct \$10)

At The Door Memberships
\$75

Kids' memberships for the whole con: \$25,
purchased from now through the con

Pro Guest of Honor - Harry Turtledove
Fan Guest of Honor - Robert Lichtman
Editor Guest of Honor - Beth Meacham
Artist Guest of Honor - Ross Chamberlain

Make checks payable to Westercon 55 to:
Westercon 55
c/o SCIFI, Inc.
P.O. Box 8442
Van Nuys, CA 91409

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<http://www.westercon.org/55>

LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers

President: Ed Green. **Vice-President:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null. **Scribe:** Karl Lembke. **Treasurer:** Liz Mortensen. **Registrar:** Robert Keller.

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Chairman: Karl Lembke (2003). **Vice-Chairman:** Michael Mason (2003). **Comptroller:** Mike Glycer (2002). **Secretary:** Mike Glycer (2002). **Other members:** Bill Ellern (2002), Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2003), Mike Stern (2003), Joe Zeff (2002), Elayne Pelz (2002), Liz Mortensen (2004), Mike Thorsen (2004), Cathy Beckstead (2004). **Special Advisor:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Advisors:** Forrest J. Ackerman, Walt Daugherty, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

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De Profundis Editor: Marty Cantor. **Librarian:** Michael Mason. **Librarian Emeritus:** Leigh Strother Vien. **Assistant Librarians:** Greg Barrett, Lucy Stern, Alison Stern, Joyce Sperling, Lynn Baden, Eric Stokien, Rosalinda Duran-M^cKillip & Tadao Tomomatsu. **Special Guest Librarian:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **LASFS Answer Guy:** Greg Barrett. **LASFS/APA-L Liaison:** Tim Merrigan. **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. **Mid-Town North Hollywood Neighborhood Council Liaison:** Marty Cantor.

Honorary Officers

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

Bruce Pelz Memorial Message Board - - <http://www.lasfs.org/lasfs/bruce/>

June 2002

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 ESTROGEN ZONE
2 TRIPE	3	4	5 Marketing Committee	6 LASFS MEETING	7 Magic Tourn Open Gaming	8 Cinema Anime
9 BOD - 2nd Sun. Open House	10	11	12 Marketing Committee	13 LASFS MEETING	14 Open Gaming	15 CFO
16 TIME MEDDLERS	17	18	19 FUCC - Mar- keting Comm.	20 LASFS MEETING	21 Open Gaming	22 LOSCON at Noon 25th Annivers.
23 FWEMS	24	25	26 Marketing Committee	27 LASFS MEETING	28 Open Gaming	29 Westercon loading
30 Westercon loading						

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

FUCC - Evening

TIME MEDDLERS - 10:30 am

ESTROGEN ZONE - 2:00 pm

Marketing Committee - 8:30 pm

FWEMS - Coast Guard Capers

Anniversary Banquet - 5 pm

THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

JUNE 6- Presidential nominations/Special Board seat election

JUNE 13- Procedural Elections (including Treasurer)

JUNE 20- More Like The Movies Video Pt. 1

JUNE 27- More Like The Movies Video Pt. 2

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

Correction

In *De Prof* #352, the Menace of March 21 had the following: "Len Moffatt described him as a real diplomat, no matter how bad the situation got at conventions. He worked on programming at Buccaneer..." The correct convention is Bouchercon. Ye ed is grumpily contrite.

CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

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

Meeting #3373, April 4, 2002

Ed Green, presiding

Karl Lemke, Scribe

After a discussion of sex-change operations and suicide, President Ed Green decided to end it all with a short sharp chop. Unfortunately, the gavel was too dull to penetrate, rather like the attendees at meeting number 3373 of the LASFS, which was called to order at 20:10:17. Regardless of what they say, it's time to start.

Special Orders of Business: One worth mentioning. Congrats to a member of society for getting his own star: Ray Bradbury! for movies. Movies are considered the greater honor. A LASFS member, John Hertz, was at the ceremony, and will be here later to report on it. Let us have a moment of cheering!

The **Menace** were read after a pause to tease Marty. They were approved as "blown out of proportion." The **Registrar** reported. No guests. We hope this isn't a trend.

Patron Saint Chuck Donahue II "Up chuck!!!" He has had a colorful career with LASFS. Cut a swath through the club. He organized the blood drive at one of the open houses. Hare pointed out that he lost the obnoxious clothes contest, and the winner still comes to the club on occasion. He was a reasonably good president of the LASFS. (I'd forgotten that he'd been President - Ed Green.) He did a lot of great things, but burnt out. Three cheers and Up Chuck!

John Hertz was invited to regale the club with his account of the Bradbury Star Ceremony. The date, April 1, was described as singularly appropriate. The star is at 6644 Hollywood Blvd., in front of Lary Edmund's bookstore. The Mayor seems to be a fan of Ray Bradbury. The Symbol for the star, a movie camera, may have been selected on the strength of "The Illustrated Man." Or, maybe, it was his script for "Moby Dick." Oh, yes, Ray was there too. Star between Gene Autry and Michael Curtiz. It was suggested that LASFS write Ray a letter of congratulations, and the moose turd pie rule was applied. On behalf of the society, thanx for volunteering, and for doing it! -eg

Old Business: We had a report from the Webmaster.

A preliminary scan of the contents of the LASFS web site showed no items which were unduly sensitive, although a couple were moderately ticklish.

In order to implement the item passed last week, it was found necessary to add sensitive material which could then be removed in order to contribute to the war effort. LASFS's crack team of amateur installers of sensitive material successfully added some highly sensitive material - the recipe for crotled greeps.

This was subsequently removed, but not by LASFS's crack team of amateur material removers. Instead, the material vanished from the web site on its own. Subsequent

investigation by the team revealed that the server had thrown up, and the recipe was on its way out the bottom of the bit bucket. In light of the preceding, the LASFS web site has been declared in compliance with the directive, passed by the club, March 28, 2002.

Respectfully submitted, Karl Lembke, Webmaster, Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society.

Chaz stated that he had checked the server log, and it actually leaked out the **side** of the bit bucket. A motion was entered to accept as phenomenally dumb. It was voted dumb.

Serious New Business:

Whereas, an entire section has been left out of the society By-laws, we move the following Amendment and modification to said By-laws:

Article 6: Video Collection

Section 1: Holdings.

The Video Collection holding include, but are not limited to: all recorded video-tapes, LASER discs, DVDs, and other visual media not held by the Library.

Section 2: Curator.

The Video Collection Curator shall be appointed and/or removed by a majority of the Directors voting at any Board meeting.

Section 3: Housing.

The Curator shall have jurisdiction over the room or area used principally to house the Video Collection holdings, including shelf arrangement, lighting, and environment. When the Video Collection is housed within the area dedicated to the Library, the jurisdiction of the Librarian shall be deemed to have precedence in matters relating to the environment.

Section 4: Policy.

The Curator shall set Collection policy, subject to approval by the Board of directors, concerning hours, circulation, acquisition and/or depletion of Collection holdings, and expenditure of Collection funds.

Additionally, all following articles in the By-laws should be re-numbered one up from their current enumeration.

(The above should directly follow and is virtually identical to existing By-laws material relating to the Library, with only changes to referent and the additional second sentence in Section 3. The Librarian has been consulted and this wording meets with his approval.)

Signed by Charles Lee Jackson II, and sufficient other members to merit consideration by the club.

This is a change of the by-laws. It requires notification in *De Profundis* and a supermajority vote. Next *De Prof* goes out on the 26th. CLJII is instructed to confer with Marty Cantor to set up a date for the discussion and vote. Nothing further, except thanx to Bob Null

Ed Green also offered thanks to a crowd who helped with the mathom control party. The crowd consisted of: Greg Barrett, Terry Newton,

Mike Thorsen, Marty Cantor, Bob Null, Ed Green, Sheri Benoun, Mike Donahue, Bill Ellem, Tony Benoun, Karl Lembke, Greg Bilan, Christian McGuire, Casey Bemay, Michael Mason, Kenny Porter, and Jerry with no last name.

Committee Reports: Club reconstruction. Mike Donahue: it's going well. New doors. Emergency exit has been repaired and functions properly. Rain gutters can now empty onto concrete slab. Handyman will be taking vacation, back in 2 weeks. Board will review work to date. In a month, place may look very different, with real ceiling, new lighting, more energy efficient. (*It is to be hoped that those who install the new ceiling are energy efficient as the ceiling certainly does not have to be that.* - ed.) New lights will cut building's electricity use by 80%.

Reviews: Ed Green: Peshawar Lancers by S.M. Sterling. In 1870, a small group of comets strikes earth. 1st 100 miles s/o Moscow, and marches across Atlantic and America. Disraeli evacuates throne to India. FF to 21st century. If you like Sterling's alternate history, it's a good read. One question: how much has he stolen from Gunga Din?

A whole bunch of motions to adjourn were all seconded. They all passed at 21:19:21.

Meeting #3374, April 11, 2002
Ed Green, presiding
Karl Lembke, Scribe scribbling

After a spy-smashing interlude, Ed Green, the intrepid president of the LASFS, raised his weapon and smashed the table. At the rate he's going, it may take twelve weeks of serial assault to finish smashing. Called to order 8:17:14. (*It looks like the Scribe slipped - he used civilised time this time.* - ed.)

Special Orders of Business: John Agar died. He starred in lots of stuff in '40s to '60s. Known as Mr. Shirley Temple, but was in lots of bizarre movies. Was Jerry Poumelle's neighbor for years, and his kids and Jerry's kids played together.

Good news "Forrest mumurings." Forry had been in hospital, fearing ruptured aneurysm, had clot instead. It's been removed, and he'll be leaving the hospital this week, to spend ten days in a "guarded care" facility. A card will be sent. It may even be signed first.

The **Menace** were read and approved as "crottled banshees." The **Registrar** reported. A guest, sort of. Kim Bergdahl, a con-slave.

Patron Saint St. Elst (Elliot Weinstein, M.D.) old friend of Ed Green, since he got into fandom in early '70s. He had many odd firsts in fandom; he was the first LASFSian to get MD from a fine Mexican college, the first to create a joke religion, and was more honest about the purpose of the religion than were certain other members. Has one of the more interesting senses of humor a person can have and stay out of jail. He invented a board game called "for this you die." He invented the Hokus, an alternative to the Hugos. When Hugo Awards were given out, they were given out at a banquet, and prices kept going up. People started complaining. Eliot fought back by creating the Hugo Ranquets, held at nearest McDonald's. His is the only award that still has banquet associated with it. His awards are indescribable, and many recipients hid them in their closets. The Hoku Ranquet has the distinction of imitating

Worldcons in choosing a GoH who died before the event, even though invited only the day before.. Is LASFS member who most resembles Prof. Moriarty. Three cheers and a bop with this here lollipop (made with "hard-to-find cimarron."

The Committee to Gouge had a very brief auction. Not brief enough.

Miscellaneous: The book, Amazing Maurice, is missing from the Library.

A whole bunch of motions to adjourn were all seconded. The motion passed at 20:59:10. (*The Scribe, obviously barely surviving the meeting, dropped back to uncivilised time.* - ed.)

Meeting #3375, April 18, 2002
Ed Green, presiding
Karl Lembke, Scribe

We paused briefly to conduct the ceremonial blessing of the Frank, and then we had a curse to deal with - Meeting number three thousand, three hundred and seventy five of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, which congealed out of primordial chaos at 20:12:23, just in time for the gavel to collapse

Special Order of Business: Jon Gustafson, member of fandom, and one of the genuinely sweet people in Northwest Fandom. Scientist Thor Heyerdal, didn't drown, nor was he crushed under a giant stone head. Writer Damon Knight, age 79. One of his short stories was adapted to Twilight Zone. We don't give the title here, but the last line of the story is, "It's a cookbook." A founder of SFWA, taught for many years. Nebula grand master, etc. etc. etc. A minute of silence was observed.

The **Menace** were read and approved as "tied three ways from zero."

Registrar: Introduced repeat guest Mr. Jennings, back for a second round.

Patron Saint: a gentleman whom Ed's known since getting into this fine org. Stan Burns, a fine individual, with an impressive resume. Cursed with being confused with Sandy Cohen on many occasions. "No, the other one." He works as a photographer, and lives in Riverside, so doesn't get out to the club that often. He invented a couple of LASFS' poker games, but since he gave us money, we won't hold that against him. Three cheers and a roll of agfa film.

The **Committee to Gouge** auctioned off some stuff, but not a roll of film.

Old Business: Letter to Ray Bradbury. Read to the club. Thanks to Mr. John Hertz for attending as LASFS representative and for drafting letter.

New Business:

1. Many years ago, R. Heinlein came up with the idea for blood drives at conventions; and, as part of that, he designed a pin to be given out to donors who gave at conventions. LASFS has permission to use design to further the project. We found a bunch of the pins. We will be re-energizing the program, and offering to SF conventions the chance to use the pins. To make sure the pins are properly used, R. Keller has volunteered to be head of the

Heinlein Blood Donor Pin Project. Thanks to R. Keller for allowing himself to be drafted. (R. Foss: Heinlein society has started program to spread knowledge of how to do blood drives at cons. Contact society to network with them. Heinlein.org.) (Pelz 1976 Westercon, LASFS ran first Heinlein blood drive. LASFS has letter empowering us to continue tradition.)

2. Sort of an ad. Daw's 30-year anniversary of Fantasy and SF volumes. If anyone wants a personal copy, Bruce will be happy to pre-order copies for more members.
3. Bujold: Dangerous Visions, Friday, May 17, 6:00-9:00. Will meet with her earlier in day to sign stock.
4. Not yet signed, but . . . Motion to amend by-laws. LASFS shall recognize as "Pillars of the LASFS . . ."

Ed: What has happened: this weekend, Mike Stern announced resignation from Board of Directors. Three Cheers for his work on the Board. We need to schedule a special election, but the Board has appointed a person to Mike Stern's position on the Board until a new person is elected to that post - the person appointed to temporarily fill Mike Stern's position was -- Mike Stern. The election for a permanent replacement will be June 6th, the same night as nominations for President. The term expires in 2003.

Committee Reports: Mike Donahue reported on remodeling. Board reviewed budgets and progress, and we will finish out rain gutters. Work resumes next week. Board approved additional funds to replace lighting in back building, and dry-wall ceiling. Looking at building storage cabinets in high ceiling area in front of room. Also: we were looking at future expansion. new building: After talking with City of LA, planning, zoning, plan check. They don't hate us. They like the fact that we don't impact parking during the day. New building is quite doable, parking would work. Contacted architect friend. Will tour place Sunday at 10, consult. We now have \$42K in Century Fund, enough to plan with. Questions can be handled off-line. All we're doing at this point is examining options. This is only a feasibility study. Members will be notified and discussions will happen if we go beyond that.

Programs: In front building on bulletin board sits most recent LASFS recommended viewing list. Suggested additions and deletions may be given to CLJII. Hope to have copies for Westercon. First week of June is nominations for President of LASFS. Following week is procedural elections, including Treasurer.

Time Bound Announcements: Rick Foss: The April issue of *Analog*, with his first published story, is at the newsstands.

Reviews: Joe Zeff: Two weeks ago, he read a book by a member of LASFS, John de Chancie. The book is "Talons," the first novel in the Witchblade series. Even coming in cold, found it exceptionally enjoyable, characters interesting; and, refreshingly, no one in the series even pretends to understand it. Recommends it to anybody.

Fannish Committee Reports: Glenn Glazer announced that on February 3, Alison Hershey and he got engaged. Matthew Tepper: Fun in the Far East: A man in Singapore, where the government likes to tell

people what to do, has decided to teach people to speak better English. Examples illustrating this need include a man who was in a store looking for a TV to buy, and noticed a loose screw. The clerk gave him a screw, and told him to "screw yourself."

Miscellaneous: Rick Foss: "Anyone know someone who has experience with prenatal nutrition and later effects?" (*If current members are representative of the later effects of prenatal nutrition, I'm agin' it.* - ed.) For an article.

A whole bunch of motions to adjourn were all seconded. A few of them passed at 21:39:21.

Meeting #3376, April 25, 2002

*Ed Green, presiding
Karl Lembke, Scribe*

As the members gathered, the discussion turned to ducks. Eventually, Matthew Tepper ducked, escaping the dreadful scene that was to ensue. Meeting 3376 was called to order at 20:11:17.

Special Order of Business: We note the passing of James Martin, Jr., who oversaw 2 missions to Mars by NASA, and worked on Viking I and II.

The **Menace** were read and approved as "contact is not a verb under this roof." "Satisfactory," said Ed.

Registrar: No guests.

Patron Saint: Bill Warren. One of the members who actually managed to take a love of his life and spin it into something he became well known at. He is a top reviewer of specialized films. He wrote 2 volumes of '50s SF notes, "Keep Watching the Skies." Most of what you read in Malton's book was written by Bill Warren. Bill has done a lot of fan writing, he was a close friend to Rotsler, and they worked together a lot, especially near the end of Rotsler's life. He served as Rotsler's fannish executor. He is a very interesting person to talk to. He was lord high janitor at the old building. Besides giving money to the club, he did a lot of hard work, and was on the original Board of Directors. He did a lot of work on the building of the old clubhouse. He was LASFS GoH at 1984 LOSCON because he was the one who got CLJII involved with LASFS. (So it's all his fault!) Worthy of honor, even if it is like the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He was given Three Cheers, and a Dodge Dart.

Special Report: (Rick Foss) Fory Ackerman is doing remarkably better. Was only using a walkier to walk, now without a walker. Wishes he could be here. Making very complete recovery very quickly. Ed said everyone should sign his card. (Ye gods! What an ugly cat!) He's now feeling well enough to sing, which is not necessarily a good thing.

Scratch reports that Eylat is in the process of delivering. (*I hope that it is not whilst she is standing.* - ed.)

Guests: We have two new guests. Vanessa Van Wagner, from NH. Looking for some place to wear vintage clothing. She used to walk past building. George Van Wagner, "It's really quite simple. Myth, legend, LOSCON, and drove past Building. (Thanks, MBT.)

Lafa

(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

Lafa Filksing -

Saturday, June 15, 2002

Filk: 7 PM to MIDNIGHT

Pre-Filk Dinner: 5:00 PM

Jordan Mann

4345 Matilija Ave #C, Sherman Oaks,

CA 91423

(323) 363-2436, jamann23@hotmail.com

PRE-FILK DINNER: 5 PM. Jordan will be making Italian food. Bring drinks and desserts if you want them. RSVP to Jordan so he'll know how much food to make.

Also please let him know about any special dietary needs or requests.

Directions: See Thomas Bros. L.A.

Co., page 562, grid C-5 (1992+ edition);

page 22, grid E-3 (older editions)

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

The Committee to Gouge did so. It gave away a wooden nickel and a postcard with a naked woman. ("Oh, yeah, now I see it!" said Cathy.)

Old Business: letter from Mike Stern.

New Business: The Pillars of the LASFS amendment. (See amendment on page 9.) The day of discussion and vote to be set by committee.

Fannish Committee

Reports: Karl Lembke reported on a customer who told him that her water quality sucks. He suggested that she vacuum the floor with it. (Fortunately, the customer had already displayed a good sense of humor, and continued to do so.)

Don Wenner: found out that the guy who was the original character in Contact was actually a totally blind student who was in ham radio for a brief time, and is now the head of SETI.

It being late, a motion to pumpkin was solicited. If it passed, it went coach.

LASFS Board of Directors

Meeting of May 12, 2002

Karl Lembke, Chairman

Mike Glycer, Secretary

The Board of Directors meeting of May 12 was canceled so the above minutes were not able to be corrected.

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.

SFFF #3, Winter 2001 (Mike McInerney, 83 Shakespeare St., Daly City, CA 94014-1053; available "by all the usual methods" – "but especially welcome are trades [of other fanzines] and L[etters]O[f]C[omment]" – no price listed, but send a buck or two for postage; e-mail to elandem@worldnet.att.net)

If you ever wondered what fanzines were like 30 or 40 years ago, here's an excellent example, somehow time-machined into the present. Mike McInerney wandered into my Greenwich Village mimeo shop one day in 1961 and asked me to help him put out the first issue of his first fanzine. We've been friends ever since. And in that time Mike has published a number of fanzines, but often with long gaps between the issues. The last issue of *SFFF*, for example, came out in 1997.

Little has changed in the way Mike puts out fanzines except for their mode of duplication. Once he cut mimeograph stencils with a typewriter; now he uses a Macintosh Performa 631CD and a copying machine. But the layouts remain simple and functional, and most of the art is either old or timeless. *SFFF* is good example of what I call the "journeyman fanzine." It's not spectacular, but it's solid. Mike isn't a much of a stylist and keeps his own writing to a minimum, but he's put together an interesting fanzine.

The lead article is a gently caustic review of the movie *Dances With Wolves* by Lee Hoffman. (I'm guessing the movie was a lot more current when she wrote the piece.) Lee is one of the Biggest Name Fans in fandom, but she's also the author of a number of award-winning western novels (as well as several SF novels), including *The Valdez Horses*, which was made into a movie. In "Dances With Wolves In Sheep's Clothing" she concludes that "switching around the Good-Guy and Bad-Guy labels hardly seems like such a wonderful development in social progress."

The letter column, running six pages, comes next and supplies the fanzine's centerpiece.

It is followed by Steve Stiles' report on the 1962 Chicago Worldcon, reprinted (complete with Steve's contemporary illustrations) from Mike's *HKLPLD #4* (summer, 1963). Here, most of all, the sense of Fanzines Past is palpable because this is a xeroxed copy of the original 1963 fanzine piece and in it Stiles captures very well the feeling of fandom and the Worldcons of that era. Both the piece and the art are youthful Stiles; in the ensuing 40 years Steve has

developed a unique style and has been published in *Heavy Metal*, *Stardate* and a number of comics and is one of the best artists in fandom.

The piece gave McInerney a good excuse to run a page of photos from the 1962 Worldcon as the fanzine's back cover. Stiles can be seen in three of the six photos.

SFFF runs only 22 pages – two articles, letters and some editorial nattering – and is pleasantly unpretentious. Check it out.

—Ted White

ZINES RECEIVED IN TRADE

(All zines are available to read and are in the *De Profundis* mailbox and can be taken out for a week)

club zines: *EINBLATT!* May 2002 (MinnStf). *DASFax* v.34, #4 (DASFA). *SFSFS SHUTTLE #147* (SFSFS). *NASFA SHUTTLE* v.22, #5 (NASFA). *PSFS News* May, 2002 (PSFS). *INSTANT MESSAGE#699 & #700* (NESFA). *WARP 53* (MonSFFA).

other zines: *THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN* v.1, #4 (N3F). *KEES VAN TOORN* (Holland)

BRUCE PELZ

August 11, 1936 - May 9, 2002

Fandom has lost one of its strongest pillars - and LASFS has lost a member who was known throughout fandom as a BNF in many of its interests.

About 6 pm on May 9, Bruce collapsed at home. Paramedics were called and they took Bruce to the hospital where he died. As of this writing the cause of death is not known but it is presumed to be a massive heart attack.

The following items in parentheses are quotes from the Bruce Pelz Memorial Board set up at our web site: www.lasfs.org/lasfs/bruce/.

VAARWEL BRUCE: I just received the e-mail via Gail Selinger and was shocked to read the news in a week of turmoil here in the Netherlands. My thoughts are with Elayne and their daughter. I have known Bruce for thirty odd years now and Fandom has lost an icon. By aging we seem to move forward on the benches in the church towards the moment we ourselves have to depart Earth.

One thing is for sure - Fandom has lost a true Truefan who

has been a cornerstone for many a convention. He will be missed and conventions will never be the same again... Vaarwel, Bruce - as they would say in the Netherlands. I just looked at the button you gave me at Brighton when we were competing for the 1990 Worldcon. It was made by Bill Rotsler and read "Lowlander Riffraff". From the lowlands, sympathies...

GREG BENFORD

BID YOU GOODNIGHT: He was the first to greet me and brother Jim as we strolled into our first LASFS meeting, June of 1963. And every year since, it seems, I saw his sardonic merriment turned to good purpose, helping others, taking no credit, a staunch firm girder in the subculture we all know and love. A true shock. Hell, he was just a kid.

ALLAN FRISBIE

MANY GOOD MEMORIES: Bruce Pelz is truly a unique person, and I will miss him terribly.

When I was first introduced to LASFS in 1968, Bruce greeted me warmly and made me feel welcome. Almost immediately, I was attending after-meetings at his apartment in Santa Monica, as did many other fans of that era.

*"The Tower" was *the* central gathering point for Los Angeles fans in those days. Besides the Thursday night after-meeting, you would find fans there almost continuously from Friday evening through Sunday. There was always crash space available, and I often took advantage of it.*

I was having some rough times then, and Bruce was always there with kind words and a shoulder to cry on. He was like an older brother -- to me and to many others. He always had room for one more.

Bruce may be gone, but he will live forever in my memories. I owe so much to him.

GERRI SULLIVAN

MANY GOOD MEMORIES: Yep, Bruce always had room for one more, and was always looking out for all of us. Shock. I think this is called shock. I called Bobbi Armbruster last night, just to touch base, and didn't even think to ask the

MAGIC

The Gathering

**Tournaments
held at LASFS
First Friday
every month

Contact for Magic The
Gathering:
Drew Sanders,
mailto:
Drew_Sanders@hotmail.com
or
peggy_little@earthlink.net

cause, just to extend my sympathies.

Three and a half years ago, I bailed on what would have been my first SMOFcon to go to London for Vince Clarke's funeral. It was writing to Bruce about that when I first became aware of where he stood with funerals. He wrote:

] I'm a thanatophobe; I don't do funerals or funeral services that I can avoid. The only one I haven't been able to avoid since 1968 was Elayne's mother in 1994] -- and it is a strong measure of how I felt about that] wonderful old bat that I didn't even look for an excuse,] despite the fact that she'd named me a pallbearer.

I've been reminded of that way too many times since. And here come the shreds of grief again. The shreds of grief, and the deep appreciation of all of the friendship shared.

It sounds like it was fairly fast. There's a blessing in that. A different kind of agony, with no chance to say good-bye, but a blessing, too.

Sympathies to Elayne, to Cecy, to all of his friends and loved ones around the globe, to SCIFI, to LASFS, and to fandom itself.

Shock. Yes, this is shock. Everything's fragmented. Moments don't connect together, and words don't either.

Hugs, love, joy for all that was, appreciation for the legacy he left behind, and even greater appreciation for the friendship shared,

Geri

KELLY & LAURA FREAS

BRUCE PELZ'S PASSING: What shocking news. Bruce will be sorely missed by friends and associates. Not only was he one of the field's most notable movers and shakers, but was in person just one hell of a wonderful guy. Our hearts go out to Elayne and Cecy.

*In deepest sympathy,
Kelly and Laura Freas*

TOMMY FERGUSON

BRUCE: Tragic news. I only knew Bruce through various fanzine related activities but I know what a huge loss it must be for those who knew personally.

My thoughts are with his family.

CRAIG MILLER

BRUCE PELZ CHANGED MY LIFE: I was in shock last night, when I got the call.

I've known Bruce since I was 13 years old. I met him at the first LASFS meeting I attended.

I don't feel up to recounting the whole story right now. It's too soon and his passing hasn't really sunk in. But there are times in everyone's life when a word, an action, an event puts you on a new course. From that point on, wherever your life was going, it's now going in another direction. It was literally one word from Bruce, back when I was 13, that changed my life and caused me to go down the path that's taken me to where I am today, to who I am today. I could never forget that or repay it.

And I've known Elayne almost as long, since we were both about 15 or 16. She's meant a lot to me throughout my life and my heart goes out to her now.

PATRICK NIELSEN HAYDEN

I'M STUNNED: What a shock. He's one of that small group of people it's hard to imagine fandom being without.

When Phoenix fandom organized its first convention, Leprecon 1, in 1975, Bruce came out for it. When, just the next year, we were fool enough to bid against LA for the 1978 Worldcon and (uh oh) win, Bruce was still good-humored about it, and forthcoming with good advice. To listen to some fans talk, Bruce was the very picture of the Svengali-like SMOF, a subtle Metternich on the fanpolitical stage. What Bruce really was, was kind.

I would like everyone in the SF world to please _stop dying. Thank you.

TIM KYGER

I'M STUNNED: There I was, just casually logging onto the net, looking at the Locus website...

I can well imagine the LASFS meeting being turned into a stunned silence. It is a cliché, but as I am typing this, I am slack-jawed stunned.

I have to echo what Patrick Nielsen Hayden had to say: Stop dying, all of you!

My deepest good feelings to any and all of you who were close friends of Bruce, and to Elayne and their daughter.

TED WHITE

FAREWELL, BRUCE: I've known Bruce for the entirety of his fan career -- from the early fmz he did in Florida, through his move to LA to become one of the ARBM gang. In the fall of 1958 he sent me several wallet-sized photos of my first wife, Sylvia, from her Gainesville, Florida days -- pictures I carried for decades in my wallet.

We always stayed in touch. We last chatted at MilPhil, but we'd been in e-mail contact within a day of his death.

It's still impossible for me to think of him as dead. And yet, I knew he was grossly overweight and a walking invitation for a "massive coronary." I suppose I expected the force of his will to prevail.

ROBBIE BOURGET

A BRUCE-SHAPED HOLE IN THE WORLD: Someone else said that to me in an e-mail after I spread the news from SMOFS. It is as true as Gary Louie leaving a Gary Louie shaped hole in the LASFS. And more so. Bruce was known to so many more fans in so many more places. And I have to say, it's his fault that I have become as involved as I have in fandom.

It was Bruce who saw the new member at LASFS and decided she would be a good President and bugged me to run. It was Bruce who egged me into becoming Elayne's co-Treasurer (which led to me being sole Treasurer eventually). It was Bruce who first nominated me to the LASFS Board and the SCIFI Board. It was Bruce who suggested me to Kathy and Drew Sanders to help in a couple of their costumes for Worldcons. It seems to me that very little that I did after moving to LA did not stem from suggestion, hint or nomination from the Elephant. Gallifrey was the biggest exception, LASFAPA and APA-L probably the only other two.

I suspect very strongly that I am neither the first nor the last person to receive this sort of prodding from the tusks of a very stubborn Elephant. For us there is always going to be a Bruce shaped hole in our worlds. Thank you Chris for reminding me of this image which I have used before to express the loss of another friend, Gary, and find I must now use again. I cannot decide if I am more sad with the loss or angry that it has happened. And I'm not allowed to kill anyone! Furnk!

MASAYUKI "SAM" MURATANI

WE APPRECIATE HIS GOODWILL AND FRIENDSHIP: We are greatly shocked by the news of Bruce's death.

He was largely responsible for the activities we have begun. We appreciate his goodwill and friendship deeply. If it were possible, we would go to the U.S. immediately and do something for the bereaved family. We are vexed with existence of the Pacific Ocean, which separates him and us.

Please accept our sincere sympathy.

Masayuki "Sam" Muratani, International Liaison Division, Bidding Committee for Worldcon Nippon

There are over 100 postings at this memorial page. (see p. 1)

MOTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS OF THE LASFS

Move to add a new paragraph to
Article VI: Miscellaneous, Section 1: Finances:

The LASFS shall recognize as PILLARS OF THE LASFS those deceased members in whose name a specific lump sum of money is donated. The specific amount may be changed by a resolution of the Board and the Membership, but not be made *post facto*. The name of each PILLAR OF THE LASFS shall be engraved on an individual plaque, with dates of birth, death, and becoming a member of LASFS (or at least all of these that are known), and up to 40 additional words of description or tribute. Such plaques shall be displayed on interior walls of a LASFS building, and shall be transferred to an interior wall of a building on any new site should LASFS move. Funds from PILLARS shall be split 75% to the Century Fund, 25% to the Operational Fund.

Move to repeal Standing Rule 27 (Millennium Awards) and replace it with:

27. The Pillar Of The LASFS specific lump sum amount shall be \$4000.00.

Should the Membership for some reason object to repealing the Millennium Awards Standing Rule - which has never been used - then it is moved to add the above as Standing Rule 29.

The above submitted by Bruce Pelz with 14 other signatures, enough to officially put it before the Membership.

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 to report.)

Recent Additions to the Video Collection

(There were none listed for this month.)

THE NEXT ISSUE OF DE PROFUNDIS IS GOING TO BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE A BRUCE PELZ MEMORIAL SECTION

The memorials posted in the current issue are by fans who are not current attendees. Next month I will be putting in memorials by recipients of *DE PROF.*

Please hand contributions to me personally, or send them to me c/o LASFS

A THANK-YOU
from Greg Bilan
*to all those who helped at the LASFS booth
at the L.A. Times Festival of Books*

Special thanks to
Karl Lembke
Tadao Tomomatsu
Kris Bauer
Bob Null
Daryl
Michael Mason
Greg Barrett
the Marketing Committee

with further thanks to
Robert Keller
Mike & Lucy Stern
Harold Hobbs
John DeChancie
Cathy, Scott & Patrick Beckstead
*And all the others Greg cannot remember at the
present time*

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June 22, 2002

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