



December, 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 LASFS MEETING	3 Open Gaming	4 Estrogen Zone
5 TRIPE	6	7	8	9 LASFS MEETING	10 GIFT EXCHANGE	11 CINEMA ANIME
12 BoD Meeting Open House	13	14	16 Marketing Committee	16 LASFS MEETING	17 Open Gaming	18 CFO
19 TIME MEDDLERS	20	21	22	23 LASFS MEETING	24 Open Gaming	25 WINTER HOLIDAY PARTY
26 FWEMS	27	28	29	30 LASFS MEETING	31 Open Gaming	

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

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

TIME MEDDLERS - 10:30 am

ESTROGEN ZONE - 2:00 pm

Marketing Committee - 7:30 pm

FWEMS - Serial Double Feature Day

WINTER HOLIDAY PARTY - 2 p.m.

GIFT EXCHANGE - 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

PROGRAMME ITEMS

DECEMBER 2 - Procedural Nominations - Tom
Safer doing Ghod knows what

DECEMBER 9 - Procedural Elections

DECEMBER 16 - Chapter 9 Physics

DECEMBER 23 - Video Presentation TBA

DECEMBER 30 - Wither the LASFS? roundtable (and yes, the President knows how "whither" is spelled)

VIDEO COLLECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

During the month of DECEMBER 2004, the video collection will be undergoing an inventory control Procedure. No assistant librarians will be checking out films. Only CLJII will handle checking in and out of tapes and discs. Please see him for your Video Collection needs.

COLOPHON

De Profundis 383 – November, 2004. Editor: **Marty Cantor**. Production Assistants: **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 & Saints of the LASFS, voluntary active LASFS members, and in exchange for other fanzines. VAMs are available for \$10 per year, payable to LASFS, Inc.

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

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

Written in Publisher 2000 on a custom-built Pentium III 500 computer, printed on an HP OfficeJet 6110 printer, with reproduction on a Gestetner CopyPrinter 5329L.

Statements herein are those of the speaker/writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the club. *Interjections in italics are solely the responsibility of the smartass, er, editor. Any resemblances 'twixt smartassery and responsibility are purely coincidental.*

This is Hoo Hah Publication No. 955.

LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers

President: George Van Wagner. **Vice-President:** Mike Thorsen. **Scribe:** Karl Lembke. **Treasurer:** Liz Mortensen. **Registrar:** Michelle Pincus.

Board of Directors

Chairman: Karl Lembke (2006). **Vice-Chairman:** Mike Thorsen (2004). **Comptroller:** Michael Mason (2006). **Secretary:** Brett Achorn (2005). **Other members:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2006), Ed Green (2006), Joe Zeff (2005), Marty Cantor (2005), Bill Ellern (2005), Liz Mortensen (2004), Cathy Beckstead (2004). **Special Advisor:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Advisors:** Forrest J Ackerman, Walt Daugherty, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

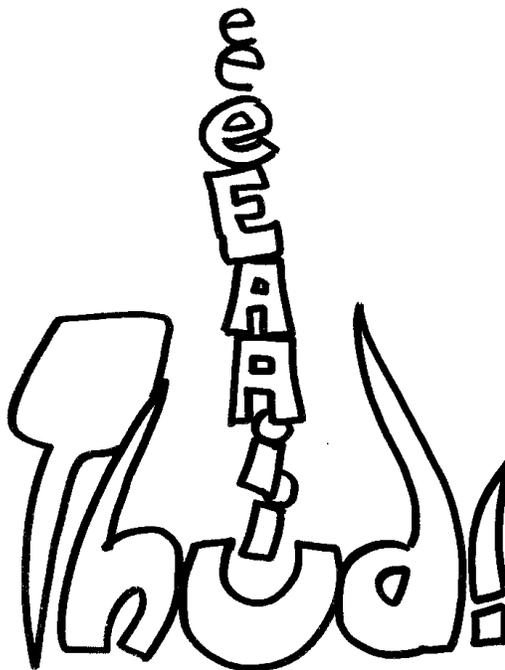
Official Committees

De Profundis Editor: Marty Cantor. **Librarian:** Michael Mason. **Librarian Emeritus:** Leigh Strother Vien. **Assistant Librarians:** Greg Barrett, Doc Reames, Joyce Sperling, Beth O'Brien, and Ed Hooper. **Special Guest Librarian:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **LASFS Answer Guy:** Greg Barrett. **LAS-FAPA/APA-L Liaison:** Marty Cantor. **Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS:** Tadao Tomomatsu, C.B. McGuire, Cathy Beckstead, Dale Hales. ****Legion of Substitute Gouges:** Sandy Cohen, Ed Green. ****Strategic Reserve Registrar:** Robert Keller. **Eulogist, Public Relations, Video Collection Curator, Film Coord. Committee, & Party Rabbi** (take a deep breath here): Charles Lee Jackson II. **Programming Committee:** Robert Keller. **Assistant Video Curators:** Doc Reames, Alison Stern. **Hall Decoration:** Tadao Tomomatsu. **Silent Auction Coordinator:** Tadao Tomomatsu. **Science Monitor:** Christian McGuire. **Non-Science Monitor:** Mike Stern. **Asian Affairs Desk:**

Brett Achorn. **Key Control:** Liz Mortensen, Bob Null. **Janitorial Services:** Greg Bilan, Mike Thorsen. **Special Photographic Collection:** Mike Donahue. **Webmaster - <lasfs.org>:** 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. **LASFS Historian:** Fred Patten. **North Hollywood Arts District Liaison:** George Van Wagner. **Hagiography & Ecclesiastical Affairs:** Vanessa Van Wagner., **Westercon Liaison:** Ed Green.

Honorary Officers

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



CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

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

Meeting #3504, October 7, 2004
George Van Wagner, President
Karl Lemke, Scribe

Saying, "on that note, let's get this on the road."
The meeting was invited to consider coming to order at 20:15:12.

Special Orders of Business: And now, Francis Hamit and Scratch Galloway will attempt to burn down the clubhouse.

Scratch called all, ladies, gentlemen, and things that crawled out from under Iraq.

The Menace were read and accepted as “I say it’s spinach and I say to hell with it!” The motion to accept passed with one neigh.

The Registrar: The registrar announced that we have two new victims members. Gordon Sanchez, and Diana Hilliard.

Tonight’s Patron Saints: Third week we’ve had a saint George knows. **Beverly Kanter**, who’s been by a few meetings lately. Joe Zeff said, Beverly put up with Harry Andruschak for many years. Jerry Pournelle: There are those who say Andyshack should have had sainthood for putting up with Beverly. Marty Cantor: Her only problem was that she never learned to spell her last name correctly.

Vanessa Van Wagner : The last time she was here, they had a conversation. She now reads cookbooks, and was reading “The Wretched of the Earth.” Beverly Kanter was given the customary Three Cheers, and this time Scratch couldn’t his usual thing, because money was given in her behalf.

Old Business: Forry Award Nominations

CJ Cherryh
The Rhutans
David Weber
Len Moffatt
L Ron Hubbard
Neil Stephenson
Lois McMaster Bujold
Charles N Brown
James White
JMS
Terry Pratchett
Joss Whedon
Alan Dean Foster
Barry Longyear
Tim Powers
Timothy Zahn
Allan Rothstein
David Gerrold
George Lucas
Peter Jackson
Gene Roddenberry
John DeChancie
Vernor Vinge

Nobody tell the winner, as it’s a secret.

Committee Reports: Marty Cantor announced the 70th anniversary of LASFS, and the 40th Anniversary of APA-L. Anyone interested in contributing to ‘L, see Marty by next Thursday evening, so he can set the copycount.

Time-Bound Announcements: Matthew Tepper showed an article in City Beat, by Rick Foss, about the Mojave CA Space Port.

The **Registrar** announced a late breaking guest: Tetsu Shiota, who learned about us from Shinya.

Tadao said, at Star 98.7 – someone considers Tadao a weird celebrity. (*I am not so certain about the “celebrity” part of that sentence. – ed.*)

Reviews: Jerry Pournelle: The X Prize is won. They now have the world altitude record for an airplane. Everything just worked. The Administrator of the FAA came out and pinned astronaut wings on the pilot. There is now a \$50 million prize for putting someone in orbit, with conditions. The Snide Remark Gallery claims the heirs to the estate of Ralph Cramden are going for it – one of these days.

Michelle announced more More late-breaking guests: Yūkako Satake, and Noah Scott.

The government is making plans to regulate space tourism. Jerry Pournelle explained why that actually does make sense, and not as an attempt to seize control of all of space.

Pearl Newton announced the box for donations for the troops.

When all was said and done, it was 21:51:47.

*Meeting #3505, October 14, 2004
George Van Wagner, President
Karl Lembke, Scribe*

After a listing of firsts and lasts, the meeting was at last called to order at 20:13:48.

The Menace were read and accepted as “a secret, don’t tell anyone”.

The Registrar: The registrar announced R. Marie Jennings, from Los Angeles. She heard about us at the UCLA bookfest.

Tonight’s Patron Saints: Once again, one George has not met. Anyone with kind things to say about **Randy Greiner**: CLJII: Randy Greiner is a fellow Glendalian, who was once reasonably active in hanging around here, and indulging a popular hobby – acquiring and getting rid of green pieces of paper by any means, including dumping them on our heads. Len Moffatt – He was perhaps the first human wallet. Marty Cantor confirms that he was indeed the first. Seeing no further kind words, he was given Three Cheers, and a new wallet.

Committee Reports: Marty Cantor: next week is 40th anniversary of ‘L, and copycount is 42. Deadline is 8 PM. It’s

Lafa

(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

Lafa Filksing

Saturday, December 18, 2004

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

Filk: 7 PM to ???

Pre-Filk Dinner: 5:00 PM: VIP Harbor
Seafood Restaurant
11701 Wilshire Boulevard,
Los Angeles

Take the 405 (San Diego Fwy) to
Wilshire and turn west

Please phone or email the Golds by
Thursday evening to let us know you
plan on coming.

After the dinner, go West on Wilshire
to Bundy; go South on Bundy to
Washington

DIRECTIONS: See Thomas Bros. L.
A. Co., page 672, B-5 (1992 edition);
page 49, grid E-3 (older editions).
Brandyhall is located southwest of the
intersection of the San Diego
(I-405) and Santa Monica (I-10)
Freeways.

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

been going every week for 40 years. If anyone needs info, talk to Marty. He's busy putting out tonight. (*Well, we would not like tonight to burn down, would we now? – ed.*)

Reviews: Cheryl Chapman rose to talk about the flight of Spaceship One, which took place on 10/4, her birthday. She was on her way to work, 5 AM, when she heard KFWB – they're getting ready to make the flight today. She turned around and headed toward Mojave. She made it to the fence about one minute before the ship landed. It feels like the first step in commercial space flight. Niven and Pournelle found a VIP pass and gave it to Cheryl so she wouldn't miss the

parties.

Tadao had a message from Pearl Newton: The shipping costs are a bit more than expected. A blue hat was passed.

Miscellaneous: Charlie Jackson had a miscellaneous report with a beautiful assistant. Money was collected for the Winter Holiday Party, scheduled for 12/25 of this year. We'll have food, amusement, and hopefully, LASFS members. The door is open all day. Remember, you can celebrate any winter holiday you like. You can even celebrate a winter holiday you don't like.

Phil Castora has run across a word he can't find in the dictionary – gurning. What does it mean?

The heavily anticipated motion passed at 21:06:23.

Meeting #3506, October 21, 2004
George Van Wagner, President
Karl Lembke, Scribe

As far as the Officer In Charge knows, nothing of any importance happened on this date. In an effort to provide

something for next year, Meeting Number 3506 was called to order at 20:10:27.

After a couple of attempts, it actually took.

The Menace were read and accepted as "soldier proof."

Tonight's Patron Saints: Lee Jacobs: CLJII said he was sort of like Lee Jay Cobbs. Lee was the cheapest SOB Jerry Pournelle ever met. He was one of all of our favorite people. But he worked very hard to be in a strange situation. Lee once woke him up at 2 AM with a phone call from Georgia. He had gotten an amateur radio contact from Georgia so it didn't cost him anything. He had nothing to say, he just happened to know Jerry's phone number. Phil Castora didn't know him well, but remembers the time he came to a game of Bourree. He came having had just enough beer to show the effects, and brought a six-pack with him. He declared that he was going to stay in on every hand. They say God takes care of fools and drunks, because he walked away on the plus side.

Jerry Pournelle: He always won at poker, because he was the tightest player ever. How ever far up he was, he declared that "even." Any loss from that amount was declared "behind." Mike Thorsen: And somehow, we got money from him. Lee Jacobs was given the traditional Three Cheers, and oddly even.

Committee Reports: Marty Cantor announced that APA-L has put out 2058 disties as of this night. This is its 40th anniversary. The program will be a discussion of apa-hacking.

Christian reported, in place of Joan Stewart – 55 people showed up and 54 of them were shot. WE have a bunch of good pictures and some silly pictures. Some pictures will be available for a nominal price. There will be a pristine version available, and there will be opportunities to photoshop yourself in later. Someday our prints will come.

Time-Bound Announcements: Cathy Beckstead announced the next five weekends – come to Camarillo, see her and Patrick in Bye Bye Birdie.

Reviews: Rick Foss reviewed Keith Hartman's book, The Gumshoe, the Witch, and the Virtual Corpse. It's about those very things. It is one of the more unusual SF mysteries ever read, and a good pastiche on the classic Marlowe type detective. It has good satire on modern culture. It has a couple of points where he's hit the humor overlong. It's a good mystery with a horrifying killing on one page, and howlingly funny situations on the next page. Also, for those who like Neil Stephenson – Managed to finish third in Quicksilver trilogy. Genius in terms of densely plotted work. It has irritating habit of having a historical figure drop into modern slang which ruins the mood. It's a book where something can happen on page 12 that really matters on page 517 and again on page 1200. After reading the first

two, resolved to read more about Isaac Newton to see how much of this was true. Very good reading.

Doug Crepeau finished reading Bear's book *Vitals*. Two characters, twins. One a molecular biologist, other a historian. One is murdered. Seems to deal with a precursor to stem cell research dating back to Nazi eras. Published in 2003.

Fannish Committee Reports

Crickets chirped a Fannish Committee Report

Miscellaneous: Rick Foss reviewed a *Turtledove* collection, *First Heroes*, a set of very good stories about those who made major inventions. It's a fun read, including "Myrmidions", a rhymed story which uses Ogden Nash-ian rhymes.

Fred Patten read *Lost and found* by Alan Dean Foster – A Chicago businessman is abducted by aliens. A saucer full of aliens is abducting specimens. It looks like the aliens are inspired by *Monsters, Inc.* It's a fun read.

Bill Ellern notes Pratchett's tome, *Going Postal*, is out this week. It's about an individual who is the wrong side of the law, gets caught, and gets a second chance, but first he has to be hanged. Very enjoyable, light reading. Pratchett has a new way of making money. You can now buy postage stamps from Ankh-Moorpork for face value.

Jerry Pournelle knew there should have been a special order of business. Betty Hill, abductee, has died. Barney preceded her in beaming out. (No, not **that** Barney, darn it!)

The heavily anticipated motion passed at 21:07:53.

Meeting #3507, October 28 2004
George Van Wagner, President
Karl Lembke, Scribe

"Are you prepared?" "More or less. More more than less."

On this date in history, seventy years ago, LASFS was not founded. This is actually one day off of the real date, but we're celebrating it today so we can get it to coincide with a Meeting Number 3507, which was called to order at 20:13:44..

On the day before this day in 1934, a bunch of guys got together and held the first meeting of the Science Fiction League, chapter 4. The meeting was brought to order by the first Director at 20:14:48.

Announcement: Sodas are free for the rest of the evening. ("I figured I'd wait until people had made their first round of purchases." -- George Van Wagner)

The Menace were read and accepted as "Gorilla My Dreams".

At this point, the President arbitrarily changed the order of business.

We viewed the newscast aired five years ago, for the 65th anniversary of LASFS/Science Fiction League.

The Registrar: Announced some guests. Roy Tess, and his wife Irene, accompanied by
John Kerr
Sean Dooly
John Trimble
Chris Marble
Arthur Gene Cox
Forry Ackerman
Betty Knight
Chris Wilson, last here in 1972.

We got a birthday card, from WSFA.

Tonight's Patron Saints: We have two tonight: One, George never had the good fortune to meet: **Bill Rotsler**. Hare: A lot of his movies are out on DVD. He made soft porn. He's now corrupting this nice Mormon boy. Francis Hamit: In nicest way possible, he was a piece of work. Sent out a Christmas card, and included his 12-year-old daughter in list. He was one of the nicest people in fandom, genuinely interested in other people. He never needed to talk about what he was doing, but when he did, it was interesting. Leigh Strother-Vien called him a great writer and a marvelous artist. Every fanzine has run some of his art, including some from the trove found after his death.

Matthew Tepper said, "He was the greatest raconteur I ever met." Mike Glyer: He won a number of fan artist Hugos. Someone noticed he had never won a Hugo at an LA Worldcon. "Let's have a special committee award," they said. He wound up winning a bunch of awards, and was on stage the whole weekend. Kyla: he could tell one hell of a story.

Ken Porter: Started studying photography after joining LASFS. Bill would give him pointers. A wonderful lesson from a wonderful person. Sandy Cohen: Bill was a constant source of odd good things happening. Once, he was asked to be the driver and photographer at an xrated film critics awards. Sandy got to spend evenings with him and with every leading porn star in the industry. Zeff: had a story from not too long before Bill's death. Bill was at VA in Northridge with throat cancer. They had temporarily inserted a radioactive seed. He was confined to room because he was a radiation hazard. And as it happens, some of him is

MAGIC
The Gathering

**Tournaments
 held at LASFS
 Second Friday
 every month**

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

still here, we have his urn.

Ed Green. He was one of the most self-confident people Ed ever knew. Truly a man that, if you knew him, you were blessed. CLJII recalls, at the '84 LOSCON, he was in charge of programming. He asked Bill, "How many panels do you want to be on." "Put me on everything if you like, I'll run between the rooms." When he got the list, he asked, "Is That all?"

Doug Crepeau: Bill drew Linecon 1 flyer, prior to Jittlov's Wizard of Speed and Time. John Trimble: One time, he had been helping Bill make a film. After working late, they went to Canter's Deli for breakfast. They spotted a man sitting across the room, who turned out to be Mel Blanc. He'd been in a car accident, and not expected to live, but he did. Bill drew up an appreciation certificate, "We Appreciate Mel Blanc," and dropped it on the table as they passed on the way out. John Hertz: He once borrowed from me, a book about serendipity.

Fred Patten: repeated the story he repeats every year. "I was working on a bibliographic project, and needed info about one of his books. Bill said he'd loan me a copy. He had quadruple bypass surgery instead." Two weeks later, he phoned Fred, apologized, and said, "Since I'm not mobile, come on over and borrow it if you like." He made cracks about his surgery scars looking like Frankenstein's D-home-work assignment. Rick Foss, Bill walked into party with a girl and a Hugo on each arm. "When I die, I want to come back as Bill Rotsler."

Marty Cantor: Bill's memory will live on. Many people went through his place after his death. Found thousands of illos. They're being distributed and used. At Corflu last March, he had some great big, thick envelopes of Rotsler illos. He dumped a few thousand illos on a table, and the harpies left only three items. Some say that when the last of his illos is published, the world will end. Ed Hooper: Does his first published artwork correspond to the beginning of the world?

Bill Rotsler was given Three Cheers, and a naked woman on each arm.

Other Saint, with nothing saintly about him, is a man George is glad to know. **Francis Hamit**: Rick Foss: Francis has a passion for artists' rights and a belief artists should be paid for their work. Ken Porter: for three years, provided a

place to stay while he was having bad luck. Thank you very much. Phil Castora: Francis did similar for me for a quite a while. He's a good man, even though he doesn't always sound like it. Francis noted that Ken Porter only stayed 22 months. And we've just sold the bed in the guest room.

Scratch: Not wanting to end the praises of a man who's younger than I am, (by three days) but he did give us money. Francis: It was more or less an accident.

Francis Hamit was given Three Cheers, and some proper changes in the copyright laws.

Committee to Gouge: sold off space, and the first shot at the cake. The winning bidder gave the right to make the first cut to Forry Ackerman in honor of his contribution to the society and to fandom in general. And in honor of his being one neat guy.

Committee Reports: George Van Wagner is being the virtual Marty Cantor. Pick up your *De Profs* from the box on the Lizdesk.

The Committee to Shoot the LASFS announced we have prints. Joan displayed the photo formerly known as Prints.

Time-Bound Announcements: Francis Hamit announced the end of SF fandom as we know it. 10/11 2004 Business Week notes we are a major story. We're credited with sparking innovation over the last 70 years. Not just us, but all of fandom. Seriously, we've had a lot to do with science advancing.

George Van Wagner: because of time constraints, we are bypassing reviews and fannish committee reports. We do have a cake to unveil and shoot.

Miscellaneous: The cake was unveiled, provoking OOHs, AAHs, and a couple of WOWs. It was a photo cake, featuring the LASFS coat of arms, in a chocolate frame. Photos were snapped by any number of people, so if this cake ever had a soul, it has been well and thoroughly stolen.

The heavily anticipated motion passed at 20:20:54.

***LASFS Board of Directors
 Meeting of October 10, 2004
 Karl Lembke, Chairman
 Brett Achorn, Secretary***

Minutes of the LASFS Board of Directors
 October 10, 2004
 Chairman: Karl Lembke, Scribe: Brett Achorn

Directors: Karl Lembke, Bill Ellern, Brett Achorn, Marty Cantor, Liz Mortensen, Ed Green, Mike Thorsen, Joe Zeff, Cathy Beckstead, Michael Mason.

Others: George Van Wagner, Tadao Tomomatsu, Greg Bilan, Matthew Tepper, Phil Castora, Kris Bauer-Exline, Darryl Exline, Anne Morrel, Joe Fekete, Gavin Claypool.

Carl rang the meeting to something like order at 11:15 a.m. to some silly motions, which were roundly ignored.

Minutes: Approved

New Members: Jason Hansen, Christina Eronat, Becki Johnson, Richard Bowerman, Justin Lloyd, Diana Hillyard, and Gordon R. Saunders: all accepted

Treasurer's Report: have money, don't spend it. Trademark expenses came in; bike rack hasn't been bought yet. Joan's photo project has a cost, since the college wants us to carry insurance for them.

Ed moved to allocate up to \$250 for a certificate of insurance for the LASFS shoot. Passed.

Facilities:

Facilities/Building Maintenance: Ed will try to get to the sign

Facilities/Parking: Paint has been applied

Facilities/Computers: 4th computer needs repair, 5th computer non-functional. Brett brought up the issue of food and drink in the computer room. Ed moved that food and drink be banned from the computer room. Passed.

Facilities/Hall Decorations: nothing new.

Facilities/Plaques: in progress.

Communication:

Communication/Gestetner: works fine. Marty got more ink and masters, which should last through LOSCON

Communication/Club Machines: video works, audio fading but should show up in the next month or so. TV lacks sound. Ed moved to table until December. Tabled.

Communication/Marketing: work in progress.

Communication/Publications: new reading lists being copied.

Communication/Library: getting cleaned up.

Communication/Archives: continues.

Communication/Website: lasfs.info progresses.

Events:

Events/LOSCON 31: hotel walkthrough Wednesday Oct 13th. PR2 going out shortly. Membership and room nights within estimations, maybe a few percent lighter than usual. Programming storming along. Done going to other cons. Meeting Oct 23rd.

Ed asked for permission to use the LASFS computers for LOSCON gaming. Marty objected, as did Liz and Brett. Joe suggested just bringing the LAN equipment so others could bring their own computers. Marty thought it was just the same whether the computers were here or there, but Michael pointed out it was another audience. Ed asked if the board's sense was that the expense of replacing damaged computers would come out of the LOSCON budget, and the informal answer was yes. Ed withdrew the request. Cathy offered to make the cabling, hubs, and electronic mathoms available, with board consensus.

Events/LOSCON 32: on track.

Events/Mason-con 3: All LASFS members welcome to a micro-con Oct 23rd after the LOSCON meeting at LASFS.

Old Business: Trademark registrations in progress thanks to Michael Mason. Michael moved for a trademark protection committee. It spawned a discussion of things that need to be renewed and tracked periodically (like at the January meeting). Bill asked Darryl for his advice on IP. Brett suggested a critical memory group to think about what we need to keep track of it and how to remember it. Ed pointed out that's what standing rules can help with. Ed moved to table until December. Passed.

New Business: Ed reported that Len Moffatt is the winner of the 2004 Forest J Ackerman Award. Shhh. Don't tell Len—it'll be a surprise.

Marty requested outside mathom control.

Convention Delegates: Tadao to Dragonfest
Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

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)

clubzines: MEETING NOTICES (PSFS). INSTANT MESSAGE

ESTROGEN ZONE

Scrapbooking classes and workshops

If you have scrapbooked before, please bring your supplies and come and sit and talk as the rest work on their projects.

Rebecca will be glad to help anybody who has not done this get started.

Questions? Call Rebecca at: (310) 710-3291

#742, 743 (NESFA).NASFA SHUTTLE Vol. 24, No. 11. (NASFA).
EINBLATT! November 2004 (MinnStf).
other zines:

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. The Librarian has no current listings at this time.)

LASFS GIFT EXCHANGE

Date: December 10, 2004

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: LASFS Clubhouse

THE RULES OF THE LASFS GIFT EXCHANGE

by Leigh Strother-Vien and others

The Gift Exchange is considered an extension of the previous night's meeting. Dues will be collected, if not previously paid. All **paid-up, active** members of LASFS are eligible to participate. You must be present **in person** - - **NO PROXIES!** *You should expect to spend several hours at this event.*

To participate in the Gift Exchange, bring an **anonymous, wrapped** gift, with a value of **at least \$10**. The gift **must** be related to **Science Fiction, Fantasy, or Fandom** (see GUIDELINES & SUGGESTIONS if unsure). The gift you place in the Exchange should be considered a donation. Because of the wide range of gifts that may be contributed, and because of varying tastes, you might not receive a gift that you really want! You **might** in fact get a gift you don't want at all! In this event, please bear in mind that **THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFT EXCHANGE IS TO HAVE FUN.** (If you also happen to get some nice loot, that should merely be considered a very nice bonus!)

On entering the Gift Exchange, you will receive a registration number. The registration numbers will be randomized, to determine when each person will be called to choose a gift from the table.

The first person called will choose a gift from the table, open it, and **show it to the audience**. Make sure the rest of the crowd knows what the gift is, because that lets the crowd have fun, and **THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFT EXCHANGE IS TO HAVE FUN.**

The rest of the participants, in the order called, will each choose a gift from the table, open it, and **show it to the audience**. If the person who has just opened a gift desires, he/she may "Force Trade" that gift with any gift that has been previously opened. **THE PERSON HOLDING THE DESIRED GIFT MUST ACCEPT THE TRADE.**

The first person in the Gift Exchange is allowed the last "Force Trade," after everyone has selected & opened a gift.

CRUD CALLS: a "Crud Call" may occur if a gift is deemed unsuit-

able. "Crud Calls" may **only** be made if (1) the gift has insufficient value; (2) the gift is not related to Science Fiction, Fantasy, or Fandom.

"Crud Calls" may NOT be made merely because a person is unhappy with a gift, if it otherwise meets the requirements. If you don't like it, trade it away. **THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFT EXCHANGE IS TO HAVE FUN.**

The person **opening** a gift may make a "Crud Call" at that time. Also, a person **receiving** a gift on a "Force Trade" may make a "Crud Call" at **that** time. "Crud Calls" are **not** allowed at any other time.

"Saves" may be made after a "Crud Call," if any participant wants the gift that has been declared "crud." If more than one person wants the "crud" gift, the person holding it may choose among the gifts offered in exchange. If only one person offers to take the "crud" gift, the person who made the "Crud Call" **must** accept the trade.

After the trade, neither person may make another "crud Call" on either of the two gifts in question. A participant may trade his/her future gift choice on a "Crud Call." The person making the "Crud Call" will then select another gift at the appropriate time. The acceptor of the "crud" gift may not make another "Crud Call" on it.

If no one volunteers to "Save," a "Forced Trade" with the perpetrator of the "crud" gift - - whether an already opened gift or a future selection - - is mandated.

The participants may overrule a "Crud Call" by a majority vote if they consider it unjustified.

If A Judgment Call is required in any instance, the decision of the Gift Exchange "Producer" is **FINAL!**

Please note: Gifts in the gift exchange are considered the Property of the club until the Gift Exchange is officially declared "**over**." If you are in possession of an opened gift and need to leave (either the room or completely), you **must leave your gift** with someone else. It is still open to "force trades."

Also: Tantrums will result in the person or persons having Tantrums being Banned from future gift exchanges. Tantrums are Not Fun. AND THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFT EXCHANGE IS TO HAVE FUN.

After the Gift Exchange is over, Free Trading of gifts may occur. This trading is outside the Gift Exchange, and is done by persons willing to trade all or parts of their gifts with each other.

*****SPECIAL RULE:** The "**Chocolate Covered Manhole Cover**" is a traditional feature of the Gift Exchange. While not an acceptable gift by itself (due to insufficient monetary value - if you have possession of it, you got it for free), it can be added to any gift. **Whoever ends up with the Manhole Cover at the end of the Gift Exchange is charged with the responsibility to see that it is reintroduced in the next year's Gift Exchange. The possessor of the Cover does not have to add it to his own right, just see that someone does.*****

GUIDELINES & SUGGESTIONS

1. If **you** wouldn't be happy to get a gift, **don't** put it in the Gift Exchange. Others probably won't like it either.
2. Having participants fight over an expensive gift ruins the spirit of the Gift Exchange. **THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFT EXCHANGE IS TO HAVE FUN.** If you bring a gift worth MORE than minimum value, do **not** expect equal value in return.
3. Rotsler's Rules for Masquerade Presentations can apply to Gift Exchange presentations as well: "Funny is better than serious. Short is better than long. Short and Funny is best."
4. Do **not** put anything **offensive** into the Gift Exchange. **Lewd, crude, or rude** gifts are **not** funny. **THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFT EXCHANGE IS TO HAVE FUN.**
5. If it took more than 20 minutes to wrap the gift, it will take too long to unwrap it at the Gift Exchange. Keep the wrappings **simple**, so that it can be opened in a reasonable amount of time.
6. When giving books that are part of a multi-part series, it is considered good form (and perhaps even good taste) to include the first book (and perhaps **all** previous books) of the series.
7. Some gifts that were very popular at previous Gift Exchanges were: stuffed animals (especially those from comic strips); telescopes; recently published books (in new condition!); toy ray guns; coffee table books about S.F., Fantasy, or Space; and stuff for computers. High quality gifts of chocolate are considered Fannish!

Please note that, prior to 1996, "quality" alcoholic gifts were also encouraged. **THIS IS NO LONGER THE CASE** The use of alcohol is your own business, but the Club would prefer to NOT encourage alcohol in the Gift Exchange, as more and more members are either abstainers or minors!

8. Items that bombed: miscellaneous (dull, boring, mundane) food, hand-crafted "artwork," used paperbacks if small in number or poor in condition, and **anything** having to do with 'Zotz!' or the Hubbard Decology, unless Crud Insurance (high quality chocolate, for example) is included.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS OFTEN ASKED

Q. "What exactly does 'related to science fiction, fantasy, or fandom' mean?"

A. **If you don't know what's related to science fiction or fantasy, you're in the wrong club.** As for **Fandom**-related, these would be things that are associated with the activities of organized fandom, ie: Mementos from conventions, propeller beanies, chocolate, costumes, computer hardware and software, comic books, collected fanzines, manuscripts from pro authors, bookshelves, video storage devices, interesting toys, games, puzzles, sheet music and/or recordings by Filk artists, miniatures, leather-craft tools, chain mail, etc.

Q. "I've just been force traded a large box of "Magic The Gathering" Cards. I don't like "Magic The Gathering." Am I allowed to call Crud?"

A. **No.** The **nature** of the gift is unquestionably related to science fiction, fantasy, or fandom. The **value** of the gift is unquestionably in excess of \$10. **There are no other criteria.** Your options are to (a) hope that someone force trades for the Magic cards, leaving you with something else, or (b) wait until after the Exchange and try to obtain something you prefer during Free Trading.

Q. "I've ended up with the Chocolate covered Manhole Cover, but I think it's a silly tradition and I don't want to deal with it. Can I throw the darned thing away?"

A. **Only if you want to be ostracized by all of organized fandom.** Most people don't have that much masochism in them, so you would be advised to simply give the Cover to someone who takes it more seriously than you do.

Q. I've picked the Pournelle Box (greed is good!), but someone wants to force trade me a box of "Magic The Gathering" cards for it. Should I allow it, or scream, whine and complain in a bud annoying voice until they relent?" **In the first place, they won't** relent. **The rules are on their side.** In the second place, throwing such a tantrum would only get you **thrown out** and **banned** from future Exchanges. Your only real option is to make an effort to act like an **adult** (yes, it's terribly hard, but necessary) and allow the trade without putting up a fight.

Q. "I'm on a diet, but the buffet table looks so tempting. Should I eat more?"

A. **Yes.** The club **always** lays on too much food for this event, and we have no place to store leftovers. Feel free to eat us out of house and home. **Diet later!**

Once again, **THE PURPOSE OF THE GIFT EXCHANGE IS TO HAVE FUN.** With that firmly in mind, Go Thou And Do Likewise!

(Addendum by the editor)

In my twenty-nine years of participating in the Gift Exchange I have twice won the Chocolate Covered Manhole Cover. Putting it into the freezer for a year is not much of a problem, and it does help maintain a fun fannish tradition, with minimal hassle, returning the Cover in a gift at the next Exchange.

There are many fannish traditions, some of them more important than others. One of the traditions attached to the LASFS Gift Exchange is The Pool. This is a pool involving how many fans will be participating in the Exchange. The Pool was started by Bruce Pelz in the late '70s or early '80s; and, after a few years of running it, he turned it over to me. I have continued this tradition ever since and will be again running it this year.

The rules are simple: every participant in the Gift Exchange can pick up to 2 numbers at 25¢ each, with the winner being the person who picks the exact number of participants in the Gift Exchange. The winner will be announced as soon as the Gift Exchange Administrator (or assistant) announces that no more participants can be accepted. In the rare event of nobody picking that number and there is a gap (or gaps) in the list, the person picking the closest lower num-

ber will be declared the winner.

The winner of The Pool gets one-half of the money collected in wagers, the LASFS gets the other half.



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