



# DECEMBER, 2005

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 LASFS MEETING	2 Open Gaming	3 ESTROGEN ZONE
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## 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  
Fictionados - Writer's 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  
Fictionados - 7:00 p.m.  
FWEMS -  
Winter Holiday Party - 2:00 p.m.  
**Gift Exchange - 7:00 p.m.**

## THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

**DECEMBER 1** - Nominations for Procedural President  
**DECEMBER 8** - Elections for Procedural officers  
**DECEMBER 15** - No programme set at press time  
**DECEMBER 22** - First consideration, By-laws  
amendments  
**DECEMBER 29** - Ratifying election, By-laws  
amendments

The editor apologizes for arrogating to himself  
the power of creating a November 31  
in the previous *DE PROF.*  
\*grump\*

## COLOPHON

*De Profundis* 395 – November 2005. 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 & 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: hooahpubs@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. 1058.

## LASFS OFFICERS

### Elected Procedural Officers

**President:** Ed Green. **Vice-President:** Mike Thorsen. **Scribe:** John DeChancie. **Treasurer:** Liz Mortensen. **Registrar:** Tiny & Laura Korp (tag team).

### Board of Directors

**Chairman:** Karl Lembke (2006). **Vice-Chairman:** Mike Thorsen (2007). **Comptroller:** Brett Achorn (2005). **Secretary:** Marty Cantor (2005). **Other members:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2006), Ed Green (2006), Tadao Tomomatsu (2006), Joe Zeff (2005), Bill Ellern (2005), Liz Mortensen (2007), Cathy Beckstead (2007). **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:** Greg Barrett. **Librarian Emeritus:** Leigh Strother Vien. **Assistant Librarians:** Doc Reames, Joyce Sperling, Beth O'Brien, and Ed Hooper. **Special Guest Librarian:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **LASFS Answer Guy:** Greg Barrett. **LASFAPA/APA-L Liaison:** Marty Cantor. **Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS:** Tadao Tomomatsu, C.B. McGuire, Cathy Beckstead, Dale Hales. **\*\*Legion of Substitute Gouges:** Sandy Cohen, Ed Green. **\*\*Strategic Reserve Registrar:** Tadao Tomomatsu. **Eulogist, Public Relations, Video**

**Collection Curator, Film Coord. Committee, & Party Rabbi** (take a deep breath here): Charles Lee Jackson II. **Programming Committee:** Charles Lee Jackson II & George Van Wagner. **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.

## NEWS FROM PATRON SAINT GAIL SELINGER

1-I sold a fantasy short story called "Jack Tar" to Daw Publishers anthology entitled "The Magic Toybox". Don't know when it will be published, but I cashed the check already!

2-My non-fiction book "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Pirates" Penguin/Alpha will be in bookstores April 2006.

*Congratulations to Gail from the editor and the staff of DE PROF.*

## CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

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

*Meeting #3556, October 6, 2005*

*Mike Thorsen, Vice-Presiding  
Karl Lembke, Scribe pro tem*

President Green called meeting number 3556 to order at 20:15:35.

**Special Orders of Business:** Tadao updated the club. Kenny Porter is still alive, but still in the hospital. They've knocked out the infection in one leg, and they're working on the other leg. They're working on getting him into a nursing home to deal with the rest of the problems. See Tadao later for the cell phone number.

Marty Cantor announced that Ken Ozanne is here from Australia.

**Menace:** Read and approved as "blunt as Marty Cantor". Said Marty Cantor, "It's not a fanzine, I disapprove!"

**Registrar:** We have two guests! Jim from Valencia, learned about us from the LA Times. Michelle introduced Melissa Conway, from the Eaton Collection. (And all of special collections.) Her occupation is "Rare Book Librarian." What brought her to LASFS? Karen Anderson's car.

**Patron Saint: Tom Safer:** Shall we have people say nice things about him? "NO" – Marty Cantor. Joe Zeff: He spends a lot of time putting together cartoon shows, that not enough people stay and watch. Michelle Pincus: He's a good friend who'll go out of his way for you.

Tadao dropped off his pun fine before saying, "He's a very animated person." Jerry Pournelle called him a good friend, a good man, and a baritone in the choir where his wife sings. He's very good at whatever he does. Phil Castora: He's the kind of person who loves to have fun. Unlike a few, wants everyone else to have fun with him.

Jerry added, the choir is the Roger Wagner chorale, not exactly small potatoes. Frank Waller confessed that he had confused Tom Safer with Matthew Tepper when he first started coming to the club. Michelle added to her previous remark: "He's a sweetie." Tom Safer Was given Three Cheers, and that's all, folks.

**Time Bound Announcements:** Scratch announced the presence of cakes, in celebration of 122 glorious years he has shared on the same planet with Francis Hamit.

Lee Whitesides will be 63 tomorrow.

Jerry Pournelle, in honor of the Scottish items auctioned off, played once more on the bagpipes....

The Sees Candy was compliments of Hare's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of coming to LASFS. Also, made in honor of his father's death.

Eaton collection has received some scripts, donated by Scott Miller.

Joe Zeff announced, those interested in joining novel writing madness, the novel writing contest site is accepting sign-ups. If you win, you get the satisfaction of having done it.

**Committee Reports:** CLJII: Computer in APA-L room. shutting down computer not the same as shutting it off. Shut it down, and then turn off power strip.

**Fannish Committee Reports:** Joe Zeff reported on a straight surrealism one. Gmail invites are regenerating faster than they can be used up. He mailed an invite to a prince. A fellow on a writing list he infests is a member of the Bourbon L'homme family.

**Misc:** After the sound of miscellaneous cricket chirps filled the air, we did move to adjourn, it was seconded, and passed at 21:14:37.

*Meeting #3557, October 13, 2005*

*Ed Green, President*

*Karl Lembke, Scribe Pro Tem*

President Green called meeting number 3557 to order at 20:16:59.

**Special Orders of Business:** As a special announcement – Barry Bard passed away Saturday of pancreatic cancer.

On a different note: Ed Green announced: Tom Safer had reported Ed was trying to get him kicked out of the club. For the record, it is not his intent to kick **anyone** out of the club. If Ed had that power, there are many people ahead of him in line.

**Menace:** Read and approved as "no Safer minutes anywhere".

**Registrar:** We have guests. Five of them, and one return victim! Mr. Owen Perez returned for more punishment. New guests are: Brian Nelson, Michael Shubert(?) James Collier, and Alex Collier, and Daniel!

**Patron Saint. Beverly Kanter,** who (according to Marty Cantor) spells her last name wrong. Joe Zeff noted that those of us who remember those days will note she put up with Shack the Quack. Tom Safer: back when Dan Alderson was helpless from diabetes, asked if Tom could read articles from Scientific American to him. Made an announcement at the club, and told Beverly about it. Beverly got on the bus, rode to Dan's house, and read articles to Dan.

Karen Anderson remembers her from sometimes in the 60s, and liked her. Scratch said, Money was given to the club in her name. Beverly Kanter was given Three Cheers, and thanks in Dan Alderson's name.

**Committee to Gouge**, auctioned off an iron giant that recites the minutes from last week – "aargh!"

#### **Appointed Committee Reports:**

Susan Gleason announced MasonCon, 10/22. Here at the clubhouse, starting at noon. Movies, food, potluck (List ALL ingredients!), dealers, etc.

Karl Lembke: special meeting of BOD. Greg Barrett is librarian. David announced he can help.

CLJII announced: If you find the rear door of the front building being held open by the deadbolt, pop the latch and retract the bolt to prevent further damage. And don't forget that faux bakelite box near the front door front building. If it makes noise, feel free to answer it.

**Time Bound Announcements:** CLJII announced that today is Empire day. 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Empire. If you can get on the internet, and have a question about old movies, e-mail "Ask the Emp".

**Reviews:** Hare Hobbs: Eldest by Christian Palalini. Good. Since he wrote the book at 15, it looks like it needed more editing. It suffers a bit from being the middle of a trilogy. Also, maybe a bit TMI at times.

**Fannish Committee Reports:** Nick Smith: Russians selling voyages in space. A 34-year-old Japanese Internet millionaire has passed the physical. Since he's a mobile suit Gundam fan, he's asked the Soviets to approve a Gundam suit for him to wear in flight. He's scheduled to go up a year from now.

Hare updated on Rocketdyne's buildings. Laser building will probably not be condemned. Laser room is fine, but filter broke. Will need cleaning. Storage room for space shuttle parts is probably fine. Shuttle parts are fine. Room laser lab was to move to is a complete loss. The contract for new laser applications will be on hold for a while. Other buildings were unoccupied and unused, so they're fine.

Jerry Pournelle: Col. Doug Beesan, former commander of weapons lab at AFB, has a book, "The E Bomb" about directed energy weapons. Anything unclassified you can find in the book. (Is it an E-ticket read?)

Ed Green reported he has scored a job with the Rand Corporation. It's temp, but he gets to put Rand Corp on his resume.

Don Wenner: Not here last couple of weeks. Went

home, mother passed away. She was first to mention a book, "Mote in God's Eye." This may have been the last book she read. Whether she quit because it was the best or the worst, he doesn't know.

**Misc:** Matthew Tepper: China has sent two men into space. The first time was **not** a fluke.

Move to say Zai Jian... second, 21:04:22.

*Meeting #3558, October 20, 2005*

*Ed Green, President*

*Karl Lembke, Scribe Pro Tem*

**President Green called meeting number 3558 to order at 20:10:00**

**Special Orders of Business:** Ed Green announced Mike Thorsen has been hospitalized due to a leg infection. He's at St Joseph's in Burbank. Visitors should be welcome starting tomorrow. Any changes will be announced ASAP. Since Mike Thorsen is the VP and responsible for at least some clean-up, please pitch in and clean up after yourselves.

After tonight, we will no longer be parking in front of the dental office. Ever. In addition, the situation has deteriorated to the point where we're going to enforce no parking in front of the clubhouse.

**Menace:** Read and approved as "minutes – they just *seemed* like hours".

**Housekeeping** – Robert Keller has been listed as strategic reserve registrar. Living in Hawaii makes it hard for him to register. (*Bah! He is just not trying hard enough.* – ed.) Matthew Tepper moved he be appointed "hula dancer at arms." Mr. Keller is thanked for his effort and by presidential Fiat, Audi, BMW, etc., Tadao Tomomatsu is appointed Emergency Backup Registrar.

**Patron Saint: Randy Greiner:** Len Moffatt noted: we've had several people known as "human wallets" He was one of the first. He was quiet, and never made trouble. Charlie Jackson notes that he's still a fellow Glendalian. He fits the description of quiet person who goes berserk and kills a bunch of people, except for the berserk and killing part. Randy Grainer was given Three Cheers, and a bucket of take-out chicken from next door.

Tonight marks the debut of **Patron Saint Michael Mason**. Jennifer Mason made a comment: Thanks for kind words, support, and memorial service in January. We're starting a foundation in his memory to do



**L A F A**  
 (Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

L A F A Filksing  
 Saturday, December 17, 2005  
 Filk: 7 PM to ???  
 Pre-Filk Dinner: 5:00 PM: J R  
 Seafood, (310) 268-2463

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

PRE-FILK DINNER: 5:00 PM at J R  
 Seafood. 11901 Santa Monica  
 Boulevard, Los Angeles.

Take the 405 (San Diego Fwy) to  
 Santa Monica 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 Santa Monica to Bundy; go  
 South on Bundy to Washington; then  
 see From Washington below.

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.

L A F A info: Barry & Lee Gold:  
 (310) 306-7456

**T i m e b o u n d  
 Announcements:**

Tadao announced  
 Cost Plus in  
 Woodland Hills is  
 looking for holiday  
 help for cashier  
 and stockers.  
 Come by store and  
 grab an app. \$7.25  
 or thereabouts.

Mark Poliner:  
 9/30, family  
 moved into new  
 home, off  
 Devonshire and  
 Valley Circle, with  
 a view looking like  
 Mordor. The truck  
 was 2/3 unloaded  
 when the police  
 came by with  
 voluntary  
 evacuation notice  
 because of the fires  
 burning nearby.

**F a n n i s h  
 C o m m i t t e e  
 Reports:**

Ed  
 shared a report,  
 had scored a part  
 time job with  
 Rand. Supposed to  
 start training this  
 week. Because it's

*Meeting #3559, October 27, 2005*  
*Ed Green, President*  
*Karl Lembke, Scribe Pro Tem*

President Green called meeting number 3559 to order at  
 20:12:33.

This is a slightly auspicious occasion. 71<sup>st</sup> birthday of  
 the LASFS. 10/27/34 – first meeting of LA chapter of  
 Science Fiction League. Ed Hooper led a cheer.  
 Unfortunately, he had left his pompoms at home.

**Special Orders of Business:** One serious item: A  
 member of the club has passed away. His passing was  
 announced years ago, and he then showed up at a  
 convention, surprising everyone. Bernie Zuber, passed  
 away at Methodist Hospital, trying to recover from  
 multiple surgeries. There's a Zuber Zendoff Saturday  
 11/12, around noon, at the Underground Art Society 2374  
 N Lake Ave.

Len Moffatt spoke: Bernie was only 72.5. Once again,  
 Len has lost one of his younger friends. He was a very  
 interesting gentleman, and very involved in the  
 Mythopoetic society and with Tolkien. Len brought a  
 couple of items to show the nature of his work. Back in  
 '73, Len and June went to England, and worked at a  
 convention in Bristol. One morning, someone had  
 delivered a package to the door, which contained APA-  
 L. HE sent it because it had a Bernie Zuber back cover.  
 He was a wonderful person, and that's about all he can  
 say.

**Guests:** Our tiny registrar announced the presence of  
 one guest, Roger Hong, heard about us from the LA  
 Times.

**Menace:** Read and approved as " ".

**Patron saint: Lee Jacobs:** Karen Anderson first knew  
 Lee when both lived in the DC area. He was a member  
 of SF association when she joined in '52. He was the  
 creator of the typo that became Filk. He was doing a  
 satirical article in which he pretended to believe SF had  
 had an influence on folk music. Lee was fun to be  
 around; he was all sorts of things in fandom. When he  
 left DC, he was in the Bay Area for a while, then came  
 down to LA. Lived in Pacoima with Ed Cox. LeeJay and  
 EdCo were notorious. Jerry Poumelle: Lee Jacobs was a  
 strange man. Loved him dearly, but he'd do strange  
 things. Wakened once at 3 AM – Lee was an amateur  
 radio enthusiast. Managed to patch to LA via amateur  
 radio, and the only phone number he remembered was  
 Jerry's. Only subject was, "look what I can do." He went

government sponsored, delayed to 10/31 – now delayed  
 to mid November. This may be the new Dromedary  
 report.

**Misc.:** CLJII mentioned his late, lamented class. It will  
 be taught at LASFS early next year. Ephemeral Cinema,  
 the story of B Movies, Serials, and Animated Cartoons.  
 Fee will be \$30, until 12/25. \$40 at the door. Half the  
 money goes to support the club. 7-10 PM every Tuesday  
 night in January. Pay Liz.

Doc announced that the Library is open now until 11 p.  
 m..

Joan moved to Rob Cole, with multiple seconds, passed  
 at 21:16:32.

into LASFS poker legend – When you asked him how he was doing in Poker, the answer was either "even" or "a little behind." As soon as he pulled ahead, he called that "even." Three Cheers for Lee Jacobs, and a stack of blue chips.

**Appointed Committee Reports:** Arlene announced MasonCon took place. It ran smoothly, lots of movies, lots of food, gaming, etc. And we had people, 25-30 at any given time. Thanks to those who worked on it. Thanks to Susan Gleason and Arlene Satin, Tadao as Fan GOH.

**Time Bound Announcements:** Frank Waller announced chip stuff. It's Christmas Catalog time.

Tadao notes Kenny Porter is doing better – they're still thinking of going into his knee. Mike Thorsen is doing better.

Charlie Jackson: The buildings of St Joe's are built from the same blueprints as the Disney building across the street. If the building failed, he could give it to the hospital.

**Reviews:** Len Moffatt: A good friend in Mystery Fandom, known for many years, has written a history of mystery fandom. It's about the era of Anthony Boucher, when mystery fandom got its start. "The Heirs of Anthony Boucher" by Marvin Lachman. It's very well done.

Fellow: Orson Scott Card has a new online magazine available. He also has a review of Serenity. He's held onto rights of Ender's Game, and hopes they'll make an Ender's Game as good as Serenity.

CLJII went back to Disneyland, checked out "New" "Improved" Space Mountain. It's faster, more bumpy, and taller – they've dug the mountain deeper. This year's version of Haunted Mansion holiday – they've made a few changes. Instead of talking about Tarot cards, she recites the twelve days of Halloween. Also, hardwood floor has a new spider web pattern on it.

Rick Foss read a book, The Other 19<sup>th</sup> Century – a collection of historical fantasy of Avram Davidson. Fun, with lots of obscure historical references. Lots of his lesser-known work. Included is a story where Holmes and Watson are the focus of the story, even though they're never mentioned by name. They appear in someone's recollection.

Ed Hooper of Nightmare Before Christmas themed

Mansion: leave it the way it was.

**Misc.:** Fred Patten is looking for someone to get him books from LA County library system.

Five Tuesdays in January, CLJII will be running his Ephemeral Cinema class. \$30 until 12/25, \$40 at door. Also: as soon as the gavel descends, we have a Popeye cartoon to show.

Jerry Pournelle has something to think about. The way to solve the space problem is to offer a cash prize for maintaining a lunar colony. Problem with prizes is there's no mechanism in Constitution to do this. No way to appropriate money on a contingency basis that binds future Congresses. Maybe a National Space Foundation, capable of listing prizes and paying them out as they are won. Soliciting comments – if it's good for space, it might be good for anything. National Goals foundation? Appropriate \$2.01 gigabucks. (\$0.01 gigabucks for administration) Maybe a way for government to promote development.

Multiple motions to adjourn were all approved at 21:28:13.

*Board of Directors Meeting, October 9, 2005*

*Mike Thorsen, Presiding*

*Marty Cantor, Secretary*

**Board Members:** Mike Thorsen, Marty Cantor, Tadao Tomomatsu, Brett Achorn, Bill Ellern, Joe Zeff, Bob Null, Cathy Beckstead. (absent, excused: Karl Lembke, Ed G-R-E-E-N, Liz Mortensen).

**Others:** George Van Wagner, Joyce Sperling, Matthew B. Tepper, Patrick Beckstead, Scott Beckstead, Gavin Claypool, Greg Bilan.

Meeting called to order at 11:20 P.M.

**Minutes** approved as corrected.

**General Cleaning:** Mixed, with some days better than others.

**Marketing Committee:** No report.

**Gestetner:** Except for the registration problem, the machine is working fine. Marty expects to contact Ricoh in the very near future to have them take care of the registration problem.

**L.A. Times article:** Some new people have come to the club because of article. A thank-you note should be sent by the club.

**lasfs.org:** E-mail is now operating properly.

**Service Mark:** Lawyer will try to swing the category for our current application.

**LOSCON 32:** Karl is at Conjecture, advertising the Con and trolling for new LOSCON members, so there was no report.

**LOSCON 33:** Same as above except the name should be Scott.

**Facilities:** No report.

**Library:** We will be talking about it on Tuesday at our special meeting. Bookie Monster was discussed.

**New Business:** Possibility of utilizing 5th Saturday, when available, for Asian Cult films, hosted by the Van Wagners. MSP (Moved, Second, Passed) unanimously.

**Computers:** Discussion of APA-L Room computer. MSP that Scott Beckstead put more RAM in this computer.

**Convention Delegates:** None requested:

Meeting adjourned at 11:59.

*Board of Directors Special Meeting, October 11, 2005*  
*Karl Lembke, President*  
*Marty Cantor, Secretary*

**Board members:** Karl Lembke, Marty Cantor, Tadao Tomomatsu, Ed Green, Liz Mortensen, Bob Null, Joe Zeff, Brett Achorn, Cathy Beckstead, (Absent: Mike Thorsen, Bill Ellern.)

**Others:** Doc Reames, Joyce Sperling, Joan Steward, Greg Barrett, Scott Beckstead,

**Meeting** started at 7:15 pm.

**Charles Lee Jackson II's class:** Presentation of Charlie's proposal to run a class at LASFS on Tuesdays in January. Accepted if Charlie designates somebody to clean up afterwards. MSP.

**Library:** Discussion of the condition of the library and how it is being run. Co-Librarian pro tem Greg Barrett

was asked for his assessment. He said that the library is woefully understaffed. Nobody has gotten a return call from John Amato in months and it is possible that he is gone. Greg has been researching new library software and Alexandria seems to be the best.

John Amato was thanked for his work as co-Librarian pro tem with the thanks of the unanimous Board. **Greg Barrett** was appointed as **Librarian** with a review in 6 months.

Meeting **adjourned** at 8:00 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)

**club zines:** **PSFS Election** (PSFS). **Einblatt! November 2005** (MinnStf). **Instant Message #760** (NESFA). **NASFA Shuttle Vol. 25, No. 10** (NASFA).

**other zines:**

#### **LETTER OF COMMENT**

John Thiel  
30 N. 10th Street  
Lafayette, IN 47904

*Don't get to thinking your Menace aren't being read! I like the poetic flair they have recently taken. Very vibrant of the writer. I like the way you keep up with the health and personal problems of the members, too.*

#### **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 new listings at this time.)

#### **LASFS**

#### **GIFT EXCHANGE**

**Date: December 16, 2005**

**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 unsuitable. "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 wrapping **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 loud 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 thirty 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 number 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.*

*The following changes in our By-laws will be considered in December.*

**Proposed Amendment to the Bylaws of the LASFS, Inc.**  
Material with a strike through will be removed from the bylaws.

Material in *Italics* will be inserted into the bylaws.

**Article IV: Procedural Officers.**

**AMEND AND ADD THE FOLLOWING:**

**Section 1: General.**

The elective procedural officers of the Society shall be a President, A Vice-President, a Registrar, a Scribe, and a Treasurer *and two members of the Programming Committee.*

**AMEND AND ADD THE FOLLOWING:**

**Section 2: Election.**

The procedural officers shall be elected from the Standard Membership. The Treasurer shall be elected at the second regular Society meeting of June. The other elective procedural officers shall be elected at the second regular Society meeting of June and at the second regular Society meeting of December. Nominations for President may be made at both the election meeting and the last previous regular Society meeting. Election of the President shall be followed by nominations for and election of the remaining elective procedural officers in the following order: Scribe, Treasurer (in June only), Vice-President, ~~and Registrar~~ *and two members of the Programming Committee.* All elective procedural officers shall take office at the first regular Society meeting of the month following their election, and shall serve until they die, resign, or are removed from office, or until their elected replacements take office. Election of Procedural Officers shall follow the procedure given in Article IX below.

**ADD THE FOLLOWING:**

**Section 9: Programming Committee Members.**

*Programming Committee Members:*

*Shall work with appointed members of this committee:*

*Shall plan, develop and implement programming items for the regular*

*society business meetings, as directed by the Chair of the Committee;*

*Shall act as direct representatives of the general membership of the LASFS to ensure that the desires of the membership shall be made known to the committee and if possible, acted upon:*

*Shall recommend to the Chair of the Committee programming items;*

*Shall recommend to the Chair of the Committee of changes to the procedure of the meetings to enhance the programming.*

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**THE STANDING RULES OF THE LOS ANGELES  
SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY, INC.**

***Procedural Meeting Programming Committee***

**IF IMPLEMENTED, THIS WOULD BECOME  
STANDING RULE #29**

1. *The LASFS hereby creates a Programming Committee whose purpose is to insure quality programs are available for the Society, and that a consistent direction for programming is available.*
2. *This committee will consist of five regular members of the Society. The membership and their terms of office will be the following:*

*a) Procedural President of the LASFS, who will be the chair of this committee. Their term will expire at the end of their term of office.*

*b) One Regular member of the Society, as appointed by the President. Their term will expire at the end of their term of office.*

*c) One Regular member of the Society, as appointed by the Chairman of the Board of Directors. Their term will expire at the end of the appointing club officer's term.*

*d) Two Regular members of the Society, as elected by the general membership of the Society. One member shall be elected at the second regular Society meeting of June. The other shall be at the second regular Society meeting of December. Their terms will expire in one year from the date of election.*

3. *A member of this Committee may not hold two positions on it. (I.e., The President of the Society may not appoint themselves, be appointed or be elected to serve on the Committee.) If any member of the Committee is elected to office within the Society that appoints members of this Committee, they must resign their Committee membership when they take that office.*

4. *Implementation. Upon approval of this addition to the Standing Rules of the LASFS, this Committee will be formed in the following manner only to form the initial Committee.*

*a) The President will appoint One Regular member, who will serve until January 2006. This position will then conform to Rule 29, sub-paragraph A after January 2006.*

*b) The President and the Chairman of the Board of Directors will jointly appoint One Regular member, who will serve until June 2006. This position will then conform to Rule 29, sub-paragraph D after June 2006.*

*c) The Chairman of the Board of Directors will appoint One Regular member, who will serve until January 2007. This position will then conform to Rule 29, sub-paragraph A after January 2007.*

*d) The Board of Directors will jointly confer and appoint One Regular member, who will serve until January 2007. This position will then conform to Rule 29, sub-paragraph D after January 2007.*



**LASFS  
GIFT EXCHANGE**

**Friday, December 16, 2005**

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

New members elected on  
November 17, 2005  
for three-year terms

- Elayne Pelz
- Bill Ellern
- George Van Wagner
- Brett Achorn



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

DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE RUSH