



DE PROFUNDIS 419



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December 2007

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Legend of Inscrutable Abbreviations

BoD - Board of Directors
 CFO - Cartoon Fantasy Organization
 Cinema Anime - Japanimation
 Estrogen Zone - Ladies Auxiliary Sewing and Fallout Society
 FWEMS - Fourth Sunday Movies - 2 pm
 Time Meddlers - Dr. Who Club
 TRIPE - Temporal Retrieval of Information Programming and Entertainment
 TSPC - Tom Safer Presents Cartoons - 10 am

Estrogen Zone - 2 pm
 Gift Exchange - Opens 7 pm, Exchange 8 pm
 Marketing Committee - 7:30 pm
 Time Meddlers - 10:30 am
 TRIPE - Noon until whenever
 Winter Holiday Party - 3 pm

Thursday Program Items

December 6 - Nominations for President.
 Discussion of change to Century Fund

December 13 - Nominations of Other Officers and Elections

December 20 - TBA

December 27 - Whither LASFS? (roundtable discussion)

Calendar Details

Asian Cult Cinema - 2 pm
 BoD - 11 am, gaming starts at 2 pm
 Cinema Anime - 1 pm until it ends
 CFO - 1 pm to 8 pm

COLOPHON

De Profundis 419 – November 2007. Editor: Milt Stevens. Mailing List and Mailing Labels: Elayne Pelz.

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, Milt Stevens, can be reached at the clubhouse on Thursday evenings or at his address: miltstevens@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.

Statements herein are those of the speaker/writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the club. Interjections in square brackets [[]] are solely the responsibility of the editor.

LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers

President: Marcia Minsky. **Vice-President:** Joan Steward, Mike Thorsen, Tadao Tomomatsu (tag team). **Scribe:** John DeChancie, Joe Zeff (tag team). **Treasurer:** Elayne Pelz. **Registrar:** Joyce Hooper, Michelle Pincus, Arline Satin (tag team).

Board of Directors

Chairman: Karl Lembke (2009). **Vice-Chairman:** Mike Thorsen (2007). **Comptroller:** Brett Achorn (2008). **Secretary:** George Van Wagner (2008) **Other members:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2009), Ed Green (2009), Tadao Tomomatsu (2009), Liz Mortensen (2007), Cathy Beckstead (2007), Bill Ellern (2008), Elayne Pelz (2008). **Special Advisor:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Advisors:** Forrest J Ackerman, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

Official Committees

De Profundis Editor: Milt Stevens. **Speaker to Gestetner:** Marty Cantor. **Librarian:** Vanessa Van Wagner. **Assistant Librarians:** Elayne Pelz, Darnell Coleman. **LASFAPA/APA-L Liaison:** Marty Cantor. **Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS:** C.B. McGuire, Elayne Pelz ** **Eulogist, Public Relations, Video Collection Curator, Film Coord. Committee, & Party Rabbi** (take a deep breath here): Charles Lee Jackson II. **Assistant Video Curators:** Doc Reames, Alison Stern. **Asian Affairs Desk:** Brett Achorn. **Key Control:** Liz Mortensen, Bob Null. Mike Thorsen. **Special Photographic Collection:** Mike Donahue. **Webmaster - <lasfs.org>:** Scott Beckstead. **Sysadmin:** Chaz Baden. **Ministry of Silly Gavels:** Bob Null. ** **Committee for Children's Literature:** Anne Morrel, Editor; Greg Barrett, Facilitator. **Computers & LASFS Archives:** Bob Null. **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. **Shaggy Editor:** Ed Green. **Program:** George Van Wagner, **Readings:** Vanessa Van Wagner, **Liaison to Enigma** (The UCLA SF Club not the German encryption machine) George Van Wagner

Honorary Officers

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

LASFS
GIFT EXCHANGE

Friday, December 14, 2007
7:00 pm Clubhouse Opens
The Gift Exchange will begin at 8:00 pm

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. 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.
 6. 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!
7. 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!

Celebrating One Year In This Dimension

Yes, Kira Korp has been with us for one whole year, although it may seem longer to her parents. To note this event, there will be a birthday party from 3 pm to 6 pm on Sunday, December 9 at the LASFS Clubhouse. The usual Second Sunday Open House will also be happening that afternoon. If you intend on attending the party, please RSVP to Laura Korp at (818) 921-9289 by December 1.

New at the LASFS Library

Red Seas Under Red Skies by Scott Lynch

Sandworms of Dune by Brian Herbert and Kevin J. Anderson

Philip Pullman trilogy:

The Golden Compass (movie opening in December)

The Subtle Knife

The Amber Spyglass

Next LAFA Filksing

Saturday, December 1, 2007, 7 pm

Hosts: Terry and Paul Gibbons

8515 Penfield Av.

Winnetka, CA

For Further LAFA Information

Contact Lee and Barry Gold

(310) 306-7456

email barrygold@comcast.net

CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

(Copies of the complete minutes are filed in the archives.)

LASFS Board of Directors

Sunday, October 14, 2007

Karl Lembke, Presiding

George Van Wagner, Scribe

Attending Board Members: Karl Lembke (Chairman), George Van Wagner (Secretary), Tadao Tomomatsu, , Brett Achorn (comptroller), Ed Green, Bill Ellern, Liz Mortensen, Bob Null, Mike Thorsen (vice-chair), Elayne Pelz

Absent: Cathy Beckstead (excused)

Others Attending: Milt Stevens, Tony Benoun, Heide Nichols, Judy Zeff, Vanessa Van Wagner, Joan Steward, Joyce Sperling, Michael Pell, Marty Cantor, Anne Morrell, Rob Powell, Joe Zeff, Arlene Satin, Gavin Claypool, Frank Waller, Sherri Benoun, Fred Lazelle, Marcia Minksy

Meeting called to order at 11:10

A special meeting was declared. The regular meeting stood in recess. Proposed that The Board approve a request to the general membership that we be allowed to withdraw, as needed, expenditures up to \$30,000 for maintenance and repairs to the facility. Upkeep is necessary in order to maintain value of the property. A committee will need to be established to monitor the progress of the work projects and insure timely payment.

Concerns that were expressed: that the funds be spent on necessary infrastructure repairs rather than cosmetic improvements, that the fund not be raided for additional funds beyond the \$30,000, that a gatekeeper monitor the expenditures, that it be may be sure the money is being spent appropriately. It was noted that no decisions can be made about priorities until we have a list of what needs to be done and some ideas of costs. The main belief is that priority should be placed on fixing the roof.

Current balance in the Century fund is \$75,000.

Motion passed with one abstention to allow spending up to \$30,000 from the Century Fund for capital repair and improvement, individual project expenditures to require a majority vote from the Board of Directors.

The President proposed that the special meeting of the general membership be held on the first Thursday of December. It was confirmed that in order for this change to be adopted, the proposal must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the general membership. Motion to be forwarded to the membership via an announcement at the general business meeting. Also to be published in the upcoming issue of De Prof thus:

“The Board of Directors discussed and approved a motion to be forwarded to the membership requesting that the general membership of the society approve the expenditure of up to \$30,000 from the Century Fund to be spent on infrastructure repair and improvement with individual project expenditures to be approved by a majority vote of the Board. A special meeting of the Society will occur on the first Thursday of December, 12/06/07 to consider and vote on this motion.”

There was a brief review of upcoming dates related to elections. Nominations for available seats on the Board of Directors are two weeks before Loscon. Vote is one week before Loscon. Nomination and election of procedural officers is in December. Special meeting was adjourned.

Regular meeting resumed.

Minutes: Approved as submitted

New Members: Ryan Nichols of Buena Park, Natalie Luskin of Woodland Hills, Cathy "Nolly" Mullican of El Cajon, Jackson Dodd of Pasadena, Adam Wills of Agoura Hills, Judy Zeff of Camarillo. All approved.

Miscellany, Part the first:

Admin note: the Chair has been told there is a set standing rules for the Board of Directors, though he has never seen a copy. They were embedded in the Society's by-laws at one time and can perhaps be extracted.

Standing rules that have been voted on:

Unaccompanied minors need to be either accompanied or off the property by midnight

Zero tolerance for consumption of unprescribed drugs or alcohol on the property at all times

Chairman of the Board of Directors cannot be the procedural president during that term.

Clubhouse not to be used as a residence.

Ed Green will re-write these and distribute them so that they can be placed into the by-laws. An undated copy of standing rule 25 refers to Jan. 20, 1991. There are several electronic copies of the by-laws available. We are trying to figure out which one is current. The 2003 version appears to be the most recent, but additional research is required. It was noted that the standing rules for BOD are not on the website and some other areas of the website need updating. This problem is being addressed.

Treasurer: We are running considerably under our expenses for the year (woohoo!).

Maintenance: The roof has been patched for \$675. Thanks to Elayne for finding a good roofer. Computers have been set back up. The Board thanks Karl, Joan, Spike and Kevin, Drew Nolan, Mike Thorsen for handling the emergency tarping of the roof. The flat part of the roof needs to be cleaned off every three months. The future roof repair would presumably remedy this. **Neighbor Situation:** There has been no reply from the neighbor. The rose bushes have been removed. The

sprinklers are still there. No additional action to be taken at this time.

Cleaning: Current cleaning person is indisposed. It was proposed that the second bidder be asked to take over cleaning.

Asphalt: 4 bids on asphalt repair, ranging from \$1000 to \$4000. If we come up with a scope of work to show to bidders, we will be better able to compare bids.

Electronic Equipment: There is still an issue with the video setup. The parties responsible for setup and maintenance of the equipment are aware and working towards a fix.

Marketing Committee Report: The West Hollywood Book Fair went well, with a large turnout of helpers. Visitors have come to the club as a result of coming to the booth. Library sold \$63 worth of books. It is recommended that we do the fair again next year with a larger space. There is a possibility of a children's reading to be held at the Bodhi Tree Book Store. Continuing to making connections with local libraries and bookstores.

An analysis was done of the green cards that are given to visitors. It was noted that the figures are not exact because some past Registrars didn't know what to do with the cards. Steps will be taken to insure that cards are properly handled going forward. The Board thanked Susan and Arlene for compiling this data and giving us solid information about how our various visitors hear about the club.

The De Prof archive URL is alive again.

Miscellany Part the Second:

Rob Powell: wanted to inform LASFS about One Laptop per Child and see if we are interested in participating. On November 12th, certain retailers are doing two for one sales on laptops - buy a \$400 laptop and a laptop of equal value will be donated to a child in a developing country. Additional information may be found at oltpc.org. It was recommended that this idea be presented to the general membership at a regular meeting.

Speaker to Gestetner: Marty has checked various stores for a power cord lock but hasn't been able to find one.

Soda Machine: It was confirmed that the responsibility for pricing of soft drinks rests with the vice-presidents. Vice-president reports that due to increased costs it will be necessary to raise prices soon.

Library: Book Fair sales were better than expected. Books are being bought. The adult reading list is being revised. Dee Dee Lavendar's widower died. The relative who is handling his estate called to offer the Society his assorted fan memorabilia. It was recommended that the person be put in contact with Joe Siclari and Marc Olsen, who would be more interested in these items. SCIFI has paid the yearly rent on the library's outside storage facility. The Board thanked the rat bastards SCIFI for their generosity.

Archive: Long Range Planning: the special meeting came up with a ten year plan for the LASFS, with one year, two and a half, five, seven and a half, and ten year benchmarks. In ten years we would like the Society to be a resource to the sf community as a whole, both fans and pros, have activities that bring in people, keep them here, give them what they want, provide outreach to the community. To do these things, we need to have a large, stable membership. The year one through ten benchmarks are to be distributed to the Board.

Institutional Memory Committee: New agenda format: Various members of the Board will have specific responsibilities. They will have 30 seconds (per director) to make a report to the Board. If more than 30 - 60 seconds is required, the item needs to be on the agenda. Certain areas (for instance, library, Speaker to Gestetner, treasurer) will make their own reports. Directors may cede their time to others if they want. The idea is that we pin down action items by having a specific name attached to them. If we aren't going to do something, we can come out and admit it and stop wasting time. Open forum: members attending the meeting have an opportunity to speak. The Board is not allowed to respond. Chairman will be responsible for getting the agenda distributed and posted for the general membership.

Westercon Trademark: PTO website indicates emailing of non-final action on 9/8/07. If we didn't receive email, we need to check. This will have a deadline for response.

Events:

Loscon 34: was discussed in closed session.

Loscon 35: Writer Guest of Honor is John Scalzi. Artist Guest of Honor is Gary Lippencott. Fan Guest of Honor is Michael Siladi.

Diamond Anniversary Committee: There will be a program item in November to brainstorm ideas from the members about the Diamond anniversary celebration. **Yard Sale:** People came to rummage, despite the uncertain weather. We made \$47.25. Thanks to Mike

Thorsen, Greg Bilan, Maryann Canfield and George Mulligan for helping out.

Take-Aways: Institutional memory needs to do a task list assigning responsibilities to various Board members.

Adjourned:
1:42pm

Meeting #3660, October 4, 2007

President: Marcia Minsky

Scribe: Joe Zeff

At 8:09:19 PM, President Marcia plunked her froggy's magic twanger, bringing the week's LASFS meeting to as much order as we ever achieved.

The minutes were read and, after minor corrections, were approved as Joe Tricked me and got it right. You had to be there. Or not, as the case may be.

Patron Saint: This evening is open. Spend \$1,000 and buy it now!

Guests: Still none, following last week's precedent.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$9681 in our checking account, 80,370.63 in savings, 60.68 in cash, for a total of \$90,112.31, enough for one humongous party, but Elayne won't let us use it that way.

Committee Reports: The Marketing Committee wanted us to know that the Book Fair went very, very well, selling half the books they'd taken. Many bookmarks and flyers were handed out. CLJII pointed out that taking bookmarks to used book stores and sticking them in SF books would be following a fine, old LASFS tradition. This month's FWEMS will be eight episodes of I Spy, going around the world in our annual Tribute to the Spirit of the United Nations. The Lantern O'Jack was passed, bringing in even more money for the Autumn Holiday Party. The first Worlds of Wonder seminar will be this coming Tuesday, or last Tuesday when these minutes are read. A week from Saturday will be the club's Rummage Sale.

The Committee to Gouge did so.

No Karen Anderson, so no Science Report.

The members were unaccountably pleased by the lack of business, new or old. Sigh!

Announcements: Fred Patten reminded us that the list of Forry Award winners on the LosCon website is not completely accurate, as not all of the deceased winners

are properly marked. Ms. Minsky will remove all such mention, personally.

Reviews: Janice reports that her son thinks kindergarten is wonderful and that they should have it every day of the week. Eric reviewed *Classic Cliffhangers*, a history of such movies going back to 1914, and a bizarre mystery set against the making of *Frankenstein*, called, *Who Framed Boris Karloff*. Hare Hobbs reviewed *Caveman*, damning it with faint praise by saying that it's probably not as bad as some people think. At this point, Matthew found confirmation of the announcement about the museums. And there was much rejoicing. Hare then continued, telling us that he enjoyed *Pushing Daisies*, although his mother didn't. Larry Niven showed us the cover of the latest edition of *Oath of Fealty*, a copy of the new edition of *Nth Space, Fleet of Worlds* (new, known space stories). Think of it as evolution in action.

Faanish Committee Reports: October 3rd was Scratch's 63rd birthday. Doug Creapeau told us that George Takei now has an asteroid named after him. Jerry Pournelle tried to show us another .mpg, but kept coming up with the wrong one. Tish continues to happen.

Miscellaneous: CLJII reported that he'd spoken to David Gerrold, who will come down to the club some week RSN and speak to us. He's very pleased and will be at LosCon to accept the award. Hare Hobbs told us about how his new cat tries to reach under the bathroom door to play with people.

Programming: Tonight we're having Steve Bartlet, from the local branch of the National Space Society. Next week, we'll be finding out what you've been reading recently, followed by other neat things. Jerry finally found the .mpg he was looking for and played it for us.

The meeting finally moved to get on to the program at 9:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted by The Scribe with the Sideburns.

Meeting #3661, October 11, 2007
President: Marcia Minsky
Scribe: Joe Zeff

With a deafening flash and a blinding report, Marcia Minsky smacked her spoon on the front table and a LASFS meeting suddenly appeared at 8:10:35 PM. Alas, nobody paid attention, so the President waited until the Very Important Conversations were finished.

Special Orders of Business: George VanWagner

announced that the Nobel Prize in Literature was awarded to Doris K. Lessing, who had written some genre works. Allie Stern reports that Michael Siladi has had his hip replaced, and is now somewhat more mobile than before.

The minutes were read and after only minor nitpicking, were approved as "Tish, you spoke French." Better you don't ask.

Patron Saint: Beverly Kantor. The scribe pointed out that she'd put up with Harry Andruschak for many years, and deserves three cheers for that reason if no other. CLJII pointed out that somebody gave us a lot of money in her name. Marty Cantor creebed about the way she spells her name. She was given three cheers and a cookbook.

Guests: We have some for a change. Sam Welden from Sherman Oaks, Toni Adams (Dragonmaiden), Neil Johnson (Bookworm) and Danni Dickson a writer.

Treasurer's Report: there was none received, but we do have money and we're not blowing it on a party.

Committee Reports: There will be a Marketing Meeting next Wednesday, for those who are interested. Tonight's program is What have you been reading, and next week the program is talking to each other. The week after that is the Tribute to Mr. Wizard, followed by nominations to the Board of Directors. There will be a LosCon meeting on October 27 at 11 AM followed by an Archeology Day.

Science Report: 20 years ago, a laptop-sized hard drive could only hold about 20 Meg or so. Then, a scientific breakthrough brought about the huge hard drives of today. This is important because the two discoverers have just received the Nobel Prize.

Marty Cantor reported that the annual Ig Nobel prizes have been awarded. He gave the list to the scribe, expecting them to be typed into the minutes, but he was wrong.

The committee to gouge came forward and extracted money from the membership. Two more Pun Fine cards will be sold at a later date.

The club had no business and was happy with it.

Announcements: Gavin Claypool is hoping that it doesn't start raining until Saturday night, to avoid raining on the LASFS Rummage Sale. Charlie Jackson II told us that Sir Roger Moore has received his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame at 7007 Hollywood Blvd.

Reviews: Doug Crepeau reviewed a biography of Werner VonBraun that he's currently reading. I think he's enjoying it, but he didn't say. He's quite impressed by the wealth of detail on the early days of NASA. Len Moffatt recommended The Jane Austen Book Club, because one of the characters reads SF. Eric Hoffman reviewed The Intruder, a Roger Corman film about the civil rights movement, featuring William Shatner, William S. Nolan and George Takei. It's very interesting, partially because it's the only film Corman made that lost money. Jerry Pournelle reviewed The Kingdom, a movie about the FBI's investigation of the destruction of the Army barracks in Saudi Arabia, and the restrictions they suffered under.

Fannish Committee Reports: George VanWagner reports that the British are considering repealing their ban on Human/Animal hybrids. Doug Crepeau reports that it rains methane on Titan.

There was a motion go screaming into the night at 9:03:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted by the Scribe with the Sideburns.

*Meeting #3662, October 18, 2007
President: Marcia Minsky
Scribe: Joe Zeff*

The front table was looking a bit crowded, what with an external monitor for the Scribe's ailing laptop, when Ms. Minsky called the meeting to order at 8:14:29.634 PM. Alas, the members weren't paying attention and didn't come to order until 8:15:11 or so.

Special Orders of Business: Dr. Pournelle told us that Joey Bishop had died, and that this was relevant to us because he had had a book review show in New York and the Good Doctor had been on the show changing a review of The Mote in God's Eye into a sermon on the space program. After a brief moment of silence the meeting continued with Christian McGuire telling us that there were two dozen cupcakes here in honor of National Chocolate Cupcake Day.

The minutes were read and after some interesting nitpicks were approved as I'm sorry, I didn't hear those minutes, I was eating chocolate.

Patron Saints: Randy Greiner. He was one of the traditional waddling wallets, who eventually went off to Glendale have some piece and quiet. Before leaving, he gave us lots of money. He was, and probably still is a quiet, soft-spoken fan. He was given three cheers and home delivery of Kentucky Fried Chicken. Michael

Mason. He was rightfully proud of the fact that the LosCon he chaired brought in more money than any other in his lifetime. He was fond of giving wine and cheese parties, and was club librarian for nine years, longer than any other librarian since we've had our own building. He got more work done when alone in the library than with a helper because he was so gregarious. He ran the LASFS gift exchange and helped found Gallifrey One. He died on Christmas eve, far too soon and will be missed. He was given three cheers and a wee dram.

Guests: John Ford, a video editor who lives near the clubhouse and thinks it looks awesome. (He's right, too!) Asterios Kokkinos, who also lives in the neighborhood.

Treasurer's Report: We still have lots of money we're not spending on the Autumn Holiday Party..

Science Committee: If you think you're the right type of person to colonize Mars, you can try it out in Utah. They're setting up a mock-up habitat, including requiring wearing a space suit whenever you're outside of it. Men, women and children are welcome to apply. Dr. Pournelle told us how recent remarks by Dr. Watson have proven that Science is now subject to Political Correctness.

New Business: The Board of Directors passed a motion, and is passing it on to the members that the club be authorized to spend up to \$30,000 from the Century Fund on infrastructure repair and improvement. There will be a Special Meeting on December 6, 2007 to discuss and vote on this.

Review: Mr. Ellern reviewed the Phaeton group, a loose association of professors, museum directors and other individuals including one of the guests for this year's LosCon, Dr. David West Reynold. Currently, he's busy exploring the Northwest Passage, open for the first time in roughly 800 years. They've also done a whole lot of other neat things in the last few years. Dr. Reynold has published a large number of books, all owned by Ann Morell. Torchwood, a BBC program was reviewed as a British version of The X Files.

Fannish Committee Reports: There will be a Star Wars TV show that doesn't have any of the main characters in it. Locus reports that the number of people who actually read is going up.

There was a motion to Bang the Gavel at 9:18:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by the Scribe with the Sideburns.



De Profundis
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