



DE PROFUNDIS 428



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September 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4 LASFS Meeting	5 Open Gaming	6 Estrogen Zone
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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

CFO - 1 pm to 8 pm
 Estrogen Zone - 2 pm
 Marketing Committee - 7:30 pm
 Meets at IHOP, Manchester and Sepulveda
 Time Meddlers - 10:30 am
 TRIPE - Noon until whenever

Thursday Program Items

September 4 - Actress Suzie Plakson

September 11 - No Program

September 18 - Video Presentation

September 25 - David Gerrold

Calendar Details

Asian Cult Cinema - None This Month
 BoD - 11 am, gaming starts at 2 pm
 Cinema Anime - 1 pm until it ends

COLOPHON

De Profundis 428 –August 2008. 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 edress: 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: Mike Thorsen. **Vice-President:** Maryann Canfield - Rob Powell (tag team). **Scribe:** Matthew Tepper. **Treasurer:** Elayne Pelz. **Registrar:** Michelle Pincus.

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.

Board of Directors

Chairman: Karl Lembke (2009). **Vice-Chairman:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2009), **Comptroller:** _____ (2008). **Secretary:** _____ (2008) **Other members:** Bill Ellern (2008), Elayne Pelz (2008), Marsha Minsky (2009), Tadao Tomomatsu (2009), Arlene Satin (2010), Milt Stevens, (2010), Mike Thorsen (2010).

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:** Bob Null. Elayne Pelz, Christian McGuire, **Special Photographic Collection:** Mike Donahue. **Webmaster - <lasfs.info>:** Barry Gold. **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:** Program: George Van Wagner, Readings: Vanessa Van Wagner, Liaison to Enigma (The UCLA SF Club not the German encryption machine) George Van Wagner, **Hall Decoration:** Mike Thorsen.

De Profundis By E-mail

We would like to send you your copy of *De Profundis* by e-mail. It would save the club money and maybe a few trees too. In order to change from receiving *De Profundis* by mail to by e-mail, just provide your e-mail address to our treasurer, Elayne Pelz, and tell her you want the change.

Minsky Elected

Marsha Minsky was elected to the LASFS Board of Directors in a special election held July 17. This filled the seat which was vacated by the resignation of Ed Green. George Van Wagner and Brett Achorn have also resigned from the Board, and their seats will be filled in a special election August 21.

Autumn Party

The traditional LASFS Autumn Party will be held at the LASFS Clubhouse on the evening of Friday, October 31. This will replace the usual Friday Open House for that week.

Next LAFA Filksing

No September Filk
Saturday, October 18, 7 pm
Host: Terry Brussel
8515 Penfield Ave.
Winnetka, CA 91306
818/361-6737

For Further LAFA Information
Contact Lee and Barry Gold
(310) 306-7456
email barrygold@ca.rr.com
or lee.gold@ca.rr.com

CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

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

MEETING #3699, July 3 2008
Mike Thorsen, President
Matthew B. Tepper, Scribe

With great power comes great responsibility, or at least that's what they say in the Marvelverse. And lo, there on the head table had appeared a new implement, devised by the ever-creative David Okamura, bearing the following inscription: "Whosoever holds this gavel, if he be worthy, shall possess the power of THORSEN." As thus wielded by incoming President Michael Thorsen, there was a "blinding light and a peal of distant thunder," or a reasonable facsimile thereof, and meeting #3699 was called to some semblance of order at 2010 by the atomic clock, or "8:00 fannish standard time." Mr. Thorsen had two bananas in front of him at the start of the meeting.

Under Special Orders of Business, Marty Cantor had a

report closer to our fannish hearts, as we had lost Jack Speer, longtime fan and fandom historian who had died in his sleep in Albuquerque. Jack wrote the first history of fandom, was the first editor of the Fancyclopedia, and had even once served in the Washington State House of Representatives. In 1937, at the age of 17, he was one of the founding members of FAPA. Jack had many accomplishments, fannish and otherwise, and had lived "a full life for a wonderful person, and it really is a shame that we lost him." In view of his importance to fandom, and to many of those present who had known him personally, Charles asked for a long moment of silence out of respect for the late Jack Speer.

Menace of the previous week's meetings were read to a respectfully quiet crowd, fiddled with a bit, and finally approved as "Dr. Pournelle's favorite set of minutes so far this year" – "I object!"

Doug Abe was the week's honoree as Patron Saint. Your humble Scribe remembered Doug as having been a regular attendee in the 1970s; he came to Southern California from Hawaii, was another of those members known as a "human wallet," and endeared himself to club members with his habit of giving out free paperback books at meetings. Joe Zeff remembered Doug coming here on his Saint's night a few years ago and doing exactly that. Marty Cantor recalled that Doug had once been sent by his employer to Japan, and complained afterwards that people would come up and speak to him in Japanese, which he doesn't speak or understand. We awarded Patron Saint Doug Abe three "Banzais" "and a very small tree."

Registrar Michelle Pincus reported that we had no new guests, but amazingly, some had returned from last week. No Gouge.

Moment of Science: Karen Anderson marched to the head of the class wearing a t-shirt bearing the slogan, "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the precipitate." She reminded us that the 100th anniversary of the Tunguska Event had been a few days earlier, and the possible cause is still being debated to this day. One interesting point she mentioned was that, if it was a meteoroid and if it had struck a few hours later, it would have destroyed St. Petersburg. (What a loss – no Shostakovich!)

The Scribe recalled that Karen had recently reminisced that a con hotel had illustrated their in-house magazine's cover with Karen's costume, "A Leigh Brackett character in search of a story." And by a strange chance, he had turned up his copy of that very issue, and presented it to Karen as a gift, to the delight of all those present.

Timebound Announcements: Eric Hoffman rattled off a long list of some DVDs of interesting TV shows and/or movies, including a Holmes pastiche, "A Taste for Honey." Sony's "Icons of Adventure" series includes some pirate movies, but unfortunately is not rated "R." Hare Hobbs said that Bill Mummy has a new album coming out Tuesday. (Buy it, or you'll get sent to the cornfield.) Mummy and his band will be giving a free concert Saturday night, July 12th, at Universal City Walk. Dr. Pournelle said that David Morrison of the University of Hawaii has collected an interesting summary of theories about the Tunguska Event; this is referenced at dvorak.org/blog www.jerrypournelle.com. Doug Crepeau had a spare headset for a Motorola cell phone, and so was offering it for free for anybody who needed it to be in compliance with the new hands-free law. How odd; your humble Scribe has dated many women who told him they have their own hands-free laws.

Dr. Pournelle was pleased to note that Baen Books is publishing a combined hardcover edition of two of his books from the 1970s; buy often and read! The book, *Exile and Glory*, can be pre-ordered through Amazon.com, for example. Eric Hoffman had read that somebody is making a feature film about the Shaver Mysteries; some discussion ensued.

Reviews: Tom Safer highly recommended "Get Smart," especially if you are a fan of the original tv series. It has lots of references and interesting cameos, although he was warned against giving spoilers! Hare saw "The Incredible Hulk" and enjoyed it "immensely" (not "incredibly"?), although he thought it does look a little cartoonish. It is not a remake or sequel to Ang Lee's film, but a reboot. He also liked *Sunrise Alley* by Catherine Asaro, about an android becoming a human, with a couple of nice twists but nothing really spectacular. Doug Crepeau strongly recommended *The Time Ships* by Stephen Baxter, a sequel to H.G. Wells' *The Time Machine*. Your humble Scribe agreed with Doug's favorable assessment, and noted that it had been authorized by Wells' assigns. Jesse Weinstein found "Attack of the Pattern Snatchers" from the latest issue of *Analog* "wonderfully imaginative," about control over the biological aspect of pattern recognition.

Fannish Committee Reports: Joe Zeff had a head-shaking story about his visit to a Rite-Aid in Camarillo, where the pharmacist didn't know what witch hazel was. (Perhaps Irwin the Troll had something to do with it?) Doug Crepeau mused that the present flak about the CERN supercollider reminded him that the Brookhaven Cyclotron had gotten the same sort of flak from about the same sort of people, ten years earlier. (In the discussion which ensued, Jerry Pournelle was heard to intone, "We're all gonna die!" at least four times.)

Charles Lee Jackson, the Second said that his cable TV provider in Glendale has a "Sounds of the Season" music channel which has lately been running patriotic American music, but which included "The Colonel Bogey March." And as though this could possibly be topped, Hare said that Barenaked Ladies have issued a children's album. Well, if Shel Silverstein could write children's books, why not?

Miscellaneous: CL said that his magic number (feature films seen so far this year) is 180, slightly under par. "I've been spending too much time with women," he explained. Dr. Pournelle was livid: "Shame on you! Shame on the women!" Scratch Galloway said he is teaching D&D again. "The first week, I had 74 kids." (Wow, that's more than that fertility doctor had!) Frank Waller said that he's still normal. Some in the crowd wanted to precede that with "Abbie." CL had word from Phil Castora, who says he's "subnormal as usual."

President Thorsen thanked David Okamura for "crafting up this mighty uru-hammer," noting that "you never know when a troll or a frost giant is going to wander in through the door." [At this moment, Frank Waller really ought to have entered the room, but unfortunately he didn't.] Albert had read that Tolkien's heir hasn't received a penny from the Lord of the Rings movies. (Evidently they lost money on the whole thing?)

"President" Scratch Galloway tried to take over the vote from Thorsen in order to have us adjourn at 2107. Mr. Thorsen had eaten one of those two bananas during the course of the meeting

MEETING #3700, July 10, 2008
Mike Thorsen, President
Matthew B. Tepper, Scribe

It was 2016 when President Michael Thorsen took the enchanted uru-mallet in hand, and called order to rain down upon the "Los Angeles Science Fantasy, Marching and Feasting Society." If there was any marching going on, it went unnoticed by this hand, particularly as it was already July. Special Orders of Business? Charles yielded to your humble Scribe, who lamented the passing of restaurateur Isaac "Ike" Starkman, founder and owner of the Jerry's Famous Deli chain – which included Solley's, an aftermeeting venue of bygone but fairly recent years. Then Marty Cantor was called to bring the sad news that writer and poet Tom Disch had taken his own life on July 4th. CL brought home news that was all too close to us, that Bruce Dane had sustained injuries from a fall, and had been declared brain dead. A final report came from Tadao Tomomatsu, who said Seattle fan Roberta Carlson had died in a vehicular accident on the way to Westercon. There was a long moment of silence for

these individuals.

Menace of the previous week's meeting were read, corrected, and approved as "We're all gonna die!"

Patron Saint Marc Schirmeister was not only present, but celebrated his night of honor by bringing some semi-exotic soft drinks from a distant Galco's. Michael "Scratch" Galloway called him "a marvellous comedian with pen and ink, and he's a good friend." Hare Hobbs added, "He's the one who brought all these microbrew sodas that we're drinking, so we should thank him for that." Charles Lee Jackson, the Second expanded: "Marc has long been interested in cartooning and imagination, and often provides us with cartoons on DVD. He was once described as a young coot, but he's older now." Karen Anderson had high praise: "He puts a line exactly where he wants it, and has an unusual way of placing that line." Your humble Scribe told again of the wonderful feeling of discovery when he, Elst Weinstein and Mike Glycer stood agog at their first encounter with Marc's artwork. Joe Zeff recalled that Marc had designed a Rose Parade float; CL remembered the title as "Going to the mooovies," complete with a 3-D Schirmeister cow. He added that Schirm has now been announced as Artist Guest of Honor for the 2010 Westercon, to be held in Pasadena. This was met with applesauce applause from the crowd. President Mike Thorsen called him a "collector of odd things, of which he seems to know the background histories in great detail." Having heard all this praise, we let out with three rousing cheers, and "an unspeakable thing but cute."

Registrar Michelle Pincus had scouted out a guest: Ed Murphy, who had heard about us in a Slashdot article mentioning our library. We also had visiting for the first time in a long while, Patron Saint Steve McGinty and Patron Saint Woody Dodge.

Tadao said Christian B. McGuire was sick tonight, so there would be no Money Gouge. This didn't explain the presence of the walking stick seemingly abandoned on the front table; there were many explanations, some of them even Marvel-lous, but none were to Mr. Thorsen's satisfaction.

Appointive Committee Reports began with Arlene Satin, reminding us that Monday the 14th at 6:30 would be the Children's Short Story Reading Night at the Valley Plaza Library in North Hollywood. Our own Chris Johnston would be reading from My Teacher is an Alien, by Bruce Coville and Mike Wimmer. Also, the West Hollywood Book Fair would enjoy the participation of Harry Turtledove, Steve Barnes, and Larry Niven. The event is on 28 September from 10:00 – 6:00, with set-up the day

before, so let Arlene know if you can volunteer to help out.

Treasurer's Report? Elayne Pelz shook her head. CL muttered, "The treasurer was in Vegas last week, so we're broke." Doug Crepeau noted, "We have crap tables here every auction." President Thorsen corrected him: "More like tables of crap." That's right, and it should be hauled away as garbage.

Thorsen said "since the appointed committees that exist seem to be doing a good job, I'm perfectly content to let them continue to do so," except that he is adding himself to the Hall Decoration Committee.

Reviews: Hare Hobbs admitted, "I'm definitely a butthead." In other words, he likes Barenaked Ladies' new children's album, which he thinks is definitely fannish. Chris Johnston greatly enjoyed "Hellboy 2," of which he had seen an advance screening. Qarl Lembq had ordered the new Blackmore's Night album from amazon.com, and then "found" a copy online so he could listen to it in advance of receipt, and gave it a favorable review. Gizmo had attended Animé Expo at the Los Angeles Convention Center and felt they did a good job, but could see the event going in several different directions at this point. Karen Anderson had been to The Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden and stated, "Peafowl chicks a week old are impossibly cute!" German had found "WALL-E" enjoyable, but said it also looked like one big advertisement for "Hello Dolly." Diane Lask said she "couldn't understand how a bunch of corporate bastards could make this movie," until multiple voices reminded her, "It's Pixar!" Frank Waller said his mother gave him a stack of George Carlin CDs for his birthday, and they're very, very good.

Fannish Committee Reports: Tadao said that the Westercon committee had asked "somebody" to do an Elvis impression during the course of the con, after which the recurring line was, "I understand you had a very good Elvis impersonator. Does he have a license?" Doug told of a "young" galaxy, only twelve billion years old, developing lots of stars more quickly than the Milky Way does. Gosh, your honor, the galaxy sure looked like it was over eighteen billion! Joe Zeff, as a Putridity Report, related a line from Usenet that a citizen, accosted by a door-to-door Jehovah's Witness, said, "I'm sorry, I can't be a Jehovah's Witness – I didn't see the accident." This reminded Dr. Pournelle of the story of how T.E. White (author of The Sword and the Stone, and other works) retired to the island of Sark and grew a long white beard; one day he was visited by Jehovah's Witnesses, so he claimed to be Jehovah, and demanded "his" money. The village constable had to lock the kids up for their own protection. Hare learned of a new medical procedure

where naanites are injected into blood vessels, eat the crap therein, and then get filtered out.

David Okamura said the Merriam-Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary, 11th Edition, contains a lot of new words including "fanboy." They claim it goes back to 1919, which certainly predates television shows, including even "Buffy the Vampire Slayer." Other words include "Mondegreen" and, yes, "air quotes." (CL told us what Mr. Wolfe would have been doing with that dictionary.) Albert said Jehovah's Witnesses had visited his mom, who explained to them how the story of the Garden of Eden is really a metaphor for childhood, while the expulsion therefrom represents the passage into adulthood; they couldn't understand, and never bothered her again.

CL noted that "Br'er Castora would say 3700 meetings seem excessive." Qarl Lembqre reminded one and all of the Board of Directors meeting and Second Sunday Open House, which will probably be entirely free from Jehovah's Witnesses.

At this point any old silly motion would have been acceptable, but President Thorsen chose to recognize one suggesting that we all run screaming into the dark, so we stood adjourned, at 2115.

MEETING #3701, July 17, 2008
Mike Thorsen, President
Matthew B. Tepper, Scribe

It was unprecedented. Or at least, un-Presidented, as Michael Thorsen was not yet here, so we had a loud Vice President Rob "Gizmo" Powell call us to order at 2014. "This is called order!" he exclaimed, to scoffing laughter. "I am stepping in due to the lack of Michael Thorsen." A voice from the house drawled, "You do know what you're stepping into, don't you?" Gizmo ignored the quip, and advised the members assembled to make sure their library dues are paid off so that they could vote in the evening's. And as if from nowhere, The Mighty Thorsen finally arrived at 2018 to repossess the usurped gavel from Gizmo. Tadao Tomomatsu gasped, "that's the shortest counter-coup and coup-coup we've ever had!" Pshaw, he should have been around for some of the meetings we had back in 1970. As a Super-Timebound Announcement, the rarely-seen Len Dorsky said he had available a rare commodity, namely two four-day tickets to Comiccon.

Menace of the previous week's meeting were read out to a worshipfully silent crowd, and after a bit of tie-breaking by Thorsen, were ultimately approved as "Hauling away garbage – no, wait!"

Registrar Michelle Pincus was nowhere to be seen, but Scratch Galloway said that two men he thought were guests had been here and already fled.

The evening's Patron Saint was Bill Curry. Joe Zeff called him "a very nice man who managed to survive a career with the Post Office without going postal, and used to sell books in the front room during the meeting." Darnell Coleman said, "I enjoyed his company when he was here." Thorsen said that when he had been hospitalized, Bill had sent him a three-page letter, which was difficult to read. All told, we gave Patron Saint Bill Curry three cheers "and a fine italian ham – or perhaps a Howard ham."

An auction took place, which included "the fifth and sixth elephant" (a reference for Pratchett fans). There was some discussion of the terms "Money Gouge" and "The Committee to Gouge Money Out of the LASFS," with your fossilized Scribe insisting from decades of experience that they were the same thing.

A Treasurer's report in Elayne Pelz' distinctive small print was sent to the front of the room, indicating that we had \$89,568.44.

Chairman of the Bored Board Qarl Lembqre took charge of the head table for Old Business, namely the evening's Special Election to fill the seat left vacant by Ed Green's resignation. Glancing at the Scribe's rusty trusty Toshiba Satellite, he noticed only now how his name has been spelled in the Menace so far this year. The method was the standard one used for regular annual Board elections: The nominator explains the reason for nominating, while the accepting nominee must make a statement regarding their worthiness for the Board. Qarl expressed the importance of selecting board members based on ability and dedication. He also mentioned in passing that Brett Achorn has also resigned, and that George Van Wagner has stated his intention to do so, and there would be elections later to fill their terms. There will be no Board meeting in August due to Worldcon. (As a result, the 2nd Sunday open house will begin a couple of hours early.)

Nominations: Maahtin Young nominated Michelle Pincus (who had since arrived), calling her an industrious member who cares deeply about the club. Michelle accepted, and promised to do her "utmost best" for the club. Christian Bainbridge McGuire nominated Marcia Minsky, saying she is patient, can put up with fools, and is able to make good decisions about her area of responsibility. Marcia accepted, saying she will take into account all sides of issues, and is open to anybody's suggestions. Don Wenner nominated Darnell Coleman, who has diligently served as an Assistant Librarian, and

is important as new blood we need for the club. Darnell said he has experience with Board of Directors-level work in his church organizations, and has served as RPG head for Loscon for 10 years; he hoped to use this experience to promote the future of the club. Clare Lasby nominated Heide Nichols, whom she praised as conscientious and hard-working, and a regular attendee of Board meetings. Heide accepted, saying she wants to serve on behalf of old-timers and the newer people too. It was moved and seconded that we close nominations, and this passed, even though Scratch was very eager to select the color of the ballot. Maahtin paid \$10 to call it "carved deep into hard cheese by electric monkeys." Elayne said the total number of ballots was 54, so 28 was required to elect.

Only one go-around was necessary: Michelle 10, Marcia 31, Darnell 8, Heide 5. Qarl reminded us that there will be elections for those two further seats in August, and that he heard good speeches this evening, which he took as a good sign for the future.

Mike Thorsen duly resumed his station. "Is there any new business?" he intoned. CL said, "Yes, Marcia wants to resign from the Board. She was scared by Jack Harness as a child."

Michelle finally got to do her job as Registrar, welcoming Chris Pope, who had heard about us from a friend, is a locksmith by trade, and lives in Arizona.

Moment of Science: Karen Anderson called it "Science entering a new corner of the world." It seems that King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia opened a fenced-off co-ed science and technology university which is a city unto itself. It remains to be seen whether this social experiment will prevail. The idea is to bring together teachers from the west, as well as teachers from the rest of the Muslim world (who are not Wahhabi). Thorsen awarded a Sage Break for Dr. Pournelle: he had been pinched and poked by many doctors, who congratulated him for the article on Lucifer's Hammer in the recent Nature magazine. The good Dr. P spoke as he had before to Larry Niven: "Remember when I told you to stick with me, and I'd make you rich and famous? Well, you're already rich. But at least among the science community, we appear to be famous." He also chortled about Joss Whedon's online "Dr. Horrible" serial, about a mad scientist who sings. "Whedon is brilliant but crazy." You can now pre-order Inferno on Amazon.com. Chris Johnston enjoyed "Dr. Horrible" as well, noting that the main character is played by Neil Patrick Harris, with Nathan Fillion as his nemesis.

Darcee had seen the "Watchmen" trailer the previous night, and thought it was phenomenal. Her review of "The

Dark Knight" ran thusly: "Holy crap wow." She admitted that she was afraid to leave for the restroom because she didn't want to miss anything. Milt Stevens was amused to have heard "a hydraulic review" of the new Batman picture. Hare Hobbs had enjoyed Bill Mumy's free concert. The previous week, the "little green man" saw the "big green man" ("The Incredible Hulk"), and had now seen "the big red man," "Hellboy 2," which he also enjoyed. CL said he had found the Orange County Fair to be "Very orangey, even though the theme is 'Say Cheese.'"

Faanish Committee Reports: Don Wenner said that National Geographic claims that the most deadly things in the Amazon are not snakes, but rather falling trees. Scratch Galloway had been feeling the passage of time, since one of his current D&D students is the offspring of a former student. Your humble Scribe muttered: "Now you know how I felt when Heron Hollander [son of Jim] came to a meeting."

Miscellaneous: CL said the Motion Picture Academy had sent him a "big fat check" which will pay for the next three issues of his magazine. He didn't note whether this was "real life fat" or "fannish fat."

And with that, we had exhausted just about anything that the evening had held in store since the beginning, and adjourned at 2138 to "walk screaming, yelling and

MEETING #3702, July 24 2008
Mike Thorsen, President
Matthew B. Tepper, Scribe

It was 2016, and President Michael Thorsen surveyed the unruly, nay, ruly mob before him and purred, "it being about that time, whatever that time might happen to be, this meeting of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society is called to order."

Menace of the previous week were read to a silently attentive audience, and ultimately accepted as "crickets," with many of those present voting "chirp," with the occasional "ribbet."

Our first Patron Saint of the evening was Ed Green, who unfortunately was not present. Hare Hobbs said, "he was president through some of the roughest times we had here. Yet despite all this trouble, he put up with a lot, and for that he deserves special applause." Joe Zeff recalled when a bit of "performance art" by Ed with Larry Niven pretending to be derelicts with a sign reading, "Will write science fiction for money" won the "Most memorable fanac of the year award." Len Moffatt called Ed "Yet another kid we picked up off the streets – not really, but he stayed at Moffatt House for a while while working at

Farrell's. He told us many stories about that, including once getting tripped and dropping a Zoo on somebody." He and June are proud of the way that Ed, kind of like their adopted son, has turned out. Tom Safer was grateful that Ed had helped him create Tom Safer Presents Cartoons. Christian Bainbridge McGuire reminded us that Ed used to have a stand-up comedy routine, and could entertain people by talking about his Army career. At the '94 Westercon, he ran Volunteers and had a t-shirt made up bearing the slogan, "Ed Green had me ... volunteer." Christian concluded, "And he had a lot of volunteers, despite the t-shirt." Qarl Lembq̄e sounded a note of distress: "Sergeant Green is people!" Dr. Jerry Pournelle said, "I can't think of anything Ed has attempted to do that he wasn't very competent at doing. And that's high praise from me." We awarded Patron Saint Ed Green three cheers "and two like this and two more like this."

We also had a new Patron Saint, Tom Safer, of whom Eric Hoffman said, "Tom scares me; he knows more about cartoons than any man has any right to know. He's also one of the nicest people I've had the privilege to know here in LASFS." Your humble Scribe said that Tom was also a good singer, with whom he had sung "Carmina Burana" with the Burbank Chorale, and two performances in different locales of the Mozart Requiem on the same day. Joe Zeff said that Tom likes to show cartoons that really deserve better audiences than they get. Mike Thorsen had the privilege of announcing that Tom has recently donated enough money to the club to qualify as a Sacred Object: he will be known henceforth as the Sacred Video Projector. We gave Patron Saint Tom Safer three cheers "and zere is no Las Vegas in Chermamy!"

Sandy Cohen (the Sacred Chancellor of Chocolate) was glad to welcome another sacred object, and hoped other people would aspire to this lofty realm.

A Money Gouge included five LPs, which went for a "Sibelius" to Qarl. That's a Finn, folks.

Michelle Pincus was spending the night invisible, so Tadao served as Substitute Registrar and introduced to us one Buzz Malibu, a film and early comics fan who had heard about us from an article in the Los Angeles Times.

The crowd barely noticed when Mr. Thorsen said we had neither new nor old business. It was a slow night.

Appointed Committee Reports: Christian said the Loscon Committee meeting would be here at the Clubhouse on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Milt Stevens had his usual De Profundis reminder. Tom Safer said the August 16th

iteration of TSPC would feature some cartoons of all things, while the 23rd was scheduled as a full day of notable science fiction films as a fund-raiser for the club. Christian reminded us that the August 14th meeting will have the large auction, with "many items of great rarity." CL said Sunday's FWEMS was the first installment of a salute to Bill Warren's fine book. He added that upcoming programs will include a video presentation of a "recreation [by Peter Jackson] of the spider pit scene that was not in the original 'King Kong.'" Further meetings would contain an auction, an election, and a salute to the 70th anniversary of Superman. Then, in September, the multitalented Suzie Plakson (best known for various appearances in multiple "Star Trek" series) will be here, presumably to melt the club with her good looks and her lovely voice. All right, so your humble Scribe is just a little lovestruck. But only a little.

Timebound announcements of general interest to the society: Word had been relayed from Rob Lenny, the executive producer of an SF movie called "Sounds," that this would be opening soon at the Regency Theatre, having its grand premiere at the West Hollywood Film Festival. Eric Hoffman had word that Warner Brothers will be releasing on DVD a spate of interesting SF double-bills from the '50s, '60s, and '70s, but that these would unfortunately be available only at Best Buy, and probably only by mail order, which irritated him. CL had email from one Stephanie Fitzgerald, who is putting together a book on Ray Bradbury and would like to find pictures of him from earlier years. Tom Safer said the third season of "Eureka" begins next Tuesday on the Sci-Fi Channel.

Faanish Committee Reports: Joe Zeff saw an online drawing which tantalized until he noted it had an expired deadline. Hare Hobbs had read of a new variety of liposuction that has been approved for stateside use, using fat from a woman's orchestra to enhance her balcony. Your humble Scribe, who really likes orchestras, is not pleased. Bill Ellern had enjoyed "The Dark Knight" and compared it with "Return of the King." Tom Safer had attended a cabaret evening of KUSC's Alan Chapman and his wife doing an evening of satirical songs, including Tom Lehrer and Ponchielli enhanced by Sherman. This reminded Hare that "Weird Al" Yankovic is apparently producing an Allan Sherman tribute CD. CL had been amused by the movie "Siren of Bagdad," about a travelling magician and a sultan's daughter. Star Paul Henreid even gets to do a reprise of his "Now, Voyager" cigarette business, using a hookah with two stems. (And your humble Scribe laughed for a couple of minutes after hearing about that.)

We adjourned at 2122 to segue to a program of

MEETING #3703. July 31, 2008
Mike Thorsen, President
Matthew B. Tepper, Scribe

It was a light and non-stormy night. President Michael Thorsen appeared to be running late again, so once again Michael "Gizmo" Powell grabbed the reins of power (not The Rains of Majipoor) to call the meeting to "order" at 2018, trying for another coup-coup. Charles had but one Special Order of Business: longtime LASFS member Greg Chalfin had been diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Fortunately, the Asimov Procedure was performed successfully. So apart from not being able to wear bowties any more, he is OK.

Menace of the previous week's meeting were read to an attentive room and cryptically approved as "five meetings, two attempted coups, neither successful."

Registrar Michelle Pincus had charmed filled-out green cards out of our two guests. The first was Lindsay Peet, who has lived in the neighborhood of the Clubhouse since he was a kid, and finally decided to venture inside, perhaps on a dare. Lindsay is an aspiring writer, and was hoping somebody could recommend an agent; but he pays the bills by being a plumber. Dr. Pournelle exclaimed, "Don't quit your day job!" Our other guest was Kevin Kirk from Las Vegas, who thought it would be fun to visit, is a high school teacher of 3D animation, and is another aspiring writer. If it had been any hotter in the room all of these aspiring writers would have been perspiring writers, but that's another matter entirely.

The Soup Patron Saint of the Evening was Sean Cleary. Qarl Lembqe helpfully (?) noted that he was no relation to children's book writer Beverly Cleary. While Sean is not known as being the most enthusiastic of cooks, he has managed, in one instance when Lee Gold made for him a random table of stuff to cook, selected by throwing three D10s. We awarded our evening's saint three cheers, "and ¿Que?"

We had no old business, but there was a new resolution, from Bill Ellern: "Motion on Parking Space Fees. It is hereby resolved that all fees collected for parking spaces be deposited directly into the Century Account Fund for a new building. Argument: This money is generated by the property owned by LASFS. It should be used to enhance that property." This had been dully duly signed by more than fifteen members. Treasurer Elayne Pelz was not present, so the financial impact could not be immediately assessed. Thorsen observed the auction brings in \$60-\$100 per month. Bill stated that there were individuals puzzled by his tradition of buying multiple parking spaces each month. He felt it was better

to move the bidding floor from \$20 to \$30, and has put his money where his mouth is by way of encouraging the fundraising. There was some discussion of how many years it had taken the LASFS to change from a migratory organization to a landed one. Dr. Pournelle pointed out that, if we segregate the funds into smaller pieces, the total in the general fund does not look quite so impressive. By this time, Elayne was back at her desk, and she reminded us that when the general fund is in excess of \$15K, she transfers the overage to the Century Fund, which generally happens once a quarter. However, we are running a deficit right now. That being the case, Bill withdrew his proposal.

Appointive Committee Reports: Arlene Satin said the kids at the Valley Plaza Branch Library were excited about the upcoming Reading Rocketeers program. She also touted the West Hollywood Book Fair, which will feature appearances by Larry Niven, Harry Turtledove, Brian Herbert, Kevin Anderson, and Steven Barnes. Sean Crosby is to make an appearance there, too. Your humble Scribe suspects Orson Scott Card will not be visiting West Hollywood this year. Michael Thorsen repeated his warning against parking in front of the driveway of our neighbor to the east.

Moment of Science: Karen Anderson said that Richard Branson has built a mothership, called Eve, which is named for his mother. German Gonzalez assisted by bringing in a design drawing of the craft. Also, Xcor is working on something she characterized as "NASCAR with jets." Dr. Pournelle said that members of his family were in Oshkosh demonstrating the rocket racer.

Reviews: Darcee had seen "Coraline," which she described as "still a work in progress, with wonderful 3D effects. It's aimed at a children's audience, but kind of dark." Hare had enjoyed Sister Time, the latest book in John Ringo's "Posleen War" series, about "an overly-endowed spy and her sister." CL had seen "Godzilla Final Wars," about space aliens controlling almost all of the monsters from the Godzilla family, except for Godzilla and Mothra who fight on the side of good. The "American" version of Godzilla gets dispatched by the "real" one, which must be somebody's idea of making a point. Dr. Pournelle urgently wanted to know: "Is the turtle in it?" CL replied, "No Gamera, which is a shame."

Under Miscellaneous, Michelle said that Greg Bear has a new book out, City on the End of Time. [The following week, Jerry Pournelle noted there is a neat PowerPoint presentation promoting this book.]

And there was nothing else to do but to scatter for the evening, so we adjourned at 2124 to do just that.



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