

De  
Profundis

# DE PROFUNDI S 442



PDF versions of DE PROF are at: <http://www.nyx.net/~bgold/deprof.html>

## DECEMBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 LASFS MEETING	4 OPEN HOUSE	5 Estrogen Zone
6	7	8	9	10 LASFS MEETING	11 GIFT EXCHANGE	12 Cinema Anime
13 BoD Meeting Open House	14	15	16 Marketing Committee	17 LASFS MEETING	18 OPEN HOUSE	19 CFO/ Tom Safer
20 Time Meddlers	21	22	23	24 LASFS MEETING	25 Winter Holiday Party	26
27	28	29	30	31 LASFS MEETING		

### KEY TO CALENDAR & OTHER IMPEDIMENTA

FWEMS -

ESTROGEN ZONE = Ladies Auxiliary Sewing and Fallout Society  
TRIPE = Temporal Retrieval of Information Programming and Entertainment.  
BOD = Board of Directors - 11 am  
2nd Sunday = Board and other gaming - 2 pm  
Cinema Anime = Japanimation, time after Tom Safer Cartoons  
CFO = Cartoon Fantasy Organisation  
Work Party = Varies with what needs doing  
FWEMS = Fourth Sunday Movies - 2 pm  
TIME MEDDLERS = Dr. Who club  
Tom Safer Cartoons = 10 am  
Gift Exchange = 7 pm

### CALENDAR DETAILS

TRIPE - Noon until whenever  
BoD - 11:00 am, Open House starts 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

**The rules of the LASFS Gift Exchange**  
start on page 7 of this zine.

### THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

**DECEMBER 3** - Presidential Nominations and Early TV SF

**DECEMBER 10** - Procedural Elections

**DECEMBER 17** - (not scheduled at this time)

**DECEMBER 24** - No Program

**DECEMBER 31** - New Year's Eve Party

(programme items subject to change without notice)

### LASFS MERCHANDISE NOW AVAILABLE!

Want a mug with the LASFS Logo?  
Looking for a gift for friends and family?  
Want to help the club raise money?  
Then check out our new store!

20% of the proceeds go to benefit the LASFS.

GO TO: <http://www.zazzle.com/lasfsincinfo>

# DE PROFUNDIS - the *unofficial* newsletter of LASFS

## COLOPHON

*De Profundis* 442– December 2009. Publisher and Editor: **Marty Cantor**.

*De Profundis* is the unofficial newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601, USA). The LASFS' telephone number is: (818) 760-9234. The club's web site is: [www.lasfsinc.info](http://www.lasfsinc.info). *De Profundis* is available only from Marty Cantor for his cost of producing the zines: 55¢ in person, \$1.00 by domestic mail. Out of country rates quoted upon request but it is recommended that copies be downloaded - or at least read - from the *DE PROF* web site.

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).

I 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 his address: [martyhoohah \(at\) sbglobal \(dot\) net](mailto:martyhoohah@sbglobal.net) or at the clubhouse on Thursday evenings. Deadlines are a bit fluid, but mid-month Thursdays are probably it.

If anybody who receives *DE PROF* via the mail happens to move without letting me know the new address; well, I have more important things to do than to be chasing down addresses so I will stop sending zines to you even if you have given me money to do so.

I will accept no advertising in *De Profundis* but I will always try to find room to announce upcoming events of interest to LASFS members.

Even though *De Profundis* is no longer the official newsletter of the LASFS, I intend to run the zine as if it still belonged to the club. Mostly. 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 new custom-built Intel dual-core computer (using the XP Pro operating system) and printed on an HP 4700dn colour laser printer.

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.*

**Addendum:** At the LASFS' Board of Directors meeting of February 8, 2009, the Directors accepted the proposal by Marty Cantor to take over *De Profundis* as his own fanzine, or as one of them, and he will be assuming the entire cost of production. Marty Cantor has promised to use his 5+ years experience of running *De Prof* as a guide to pubbing the zine as the *unofficial* newsletter of the society. The proposal was put to the Board because the Board had previously indicated that costs were dictating the discontinuance of the zine. As of this issue, *De Prof* will be available on paper solely at cost: currently 55¢. Mailed copies, domestically, will be \$1.00. Subscriptions will be accepted; however, as prices are set at cost of production, there will be no discounts for long-term subs.

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*Marty Cantor, 11825 Gilmore Street #105, North Hollywood, CA 91606, USA. (818) 761-9401. martyhoohah (at) sbglobal (dot) net. December 2009. Hoo Hah Publication Number 1435. Thanks go to Elayne Pelz, Cathy Beckstead, Charlie Jackson, Lee and Barry Gold, and any others who are helping me in providing news to LASFS members.*

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## LASFS OFFICERS

### Elected Procedural Officers July—December 2009

**President:** Christian McGuire. **Vice-President:** Maryann Canfield, Rob Powell (tag team). **Scribe:** Karl Lembke. **Treasurer:** (elected in mid-year,

serves for full year) Elayne Pelz. **Registrar:** Michelle Pincus.

### Board of Directors

**Chairman:** Karl Lembke (2009). **Vice-Chairman:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2009). **Comptroller:** Christian McGuire (2011). **Secretary:** Darnell Coleman (2011). **Other members:** Marsha Minsky (2009), Elayne Pelz (2011), Rob "Gizmo" Powell (2011), Arlene Satin (2010), Milt Stevens, (2010), Mike Thorsen (2010). **Special Advisor:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Advisors:** Forrest J Ackerman, Walt Daugherty, Len & June Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

### Official Committees

**De Profundis Editor, Speaker to Gestetner, LASFAPA/APA-L Liaison:** Marty Cantor. **Librarian:** Whiskey. **Assistant Librarians:** Elayne Pelz, Darnell Coleman. **Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS:** C.B. McGuire, Elayne Pelz. **\*\* Eulogist, Public Relations, Video Collection Curator, Film Coord. Committee, & Party Rabbi:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Assistant Video Curator:** Tom Khamis. **Asian Affairs Desk:** Brett Achorn. **Key Control:** Bob Null, Elayne Pelz, Christian McGuire. **Webmaster - <<http://lasfsinc.info>>:** Barry Gold. **Webmaster Assistant:** Lee Gold. **Sysadmin:** Chaz Baden. **Ministry of Silly Gavel:** Bob Null. **\*\* Committee for Children's Literature:** Anne Morrel, **Editor. Computers & LASFS Archives:** Bob Null. **LASFS Historian:** Fred Patten. **Westercon Liaison:** Christian McGuire. **Program:** Charles Lee Jackson II.

### 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.

If there is an X in this space, your sub has run out ____
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### CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

(complete minutes are supposed to be filed in the LASFS' files and can be read there - also at [www.lasfsinc.info](http://www.lasfsinc.info))

### Meeting #3760, September 3, 2009 President Christian McGuire, presiding Karl Lembke, Scribe

Meeting 3760 was opened at 20:08:32

Special Orders of Business

The **Menace** were read and approved as "Huh?"

Now, under special orders, Michelle Pincus announced good news. Karen Anderson's house didn't burn down.

Thanks to Bill Taylor, for storing a lot of Karen's artwork. Also thanks to the police department, and to the fire department.

Lucy Stern had an addition: They have a suspect. HE was trying to kill someone by burning his house down. The victim did not die, but two firemen did, so he's to be tried for murder.

Karen added, the URL on the board is the movie Martin Tay's took from Karen's roof.

**Registrar:** Michelle Pincus announced Madeline Goff, re-

cently moved to Hollywood

We have a **treasurer's** report. (*Which is probably Top-Secret as the Scribe did not write it down. -ed*)

**Patron Saint, Emil Luwish.** Christian: He's the one not in the room. Matthew Tepper: HE was the father of Mike Luwish. Mike respected his father and the LASFS at the same time by giving us money in honor of his father. Joe Zeff offered the obligatory "He didn't look Luwish".

**Patron Saint, Greg Bilan.** Marty Cantor offered, Greg does covers for APA -L every now and then, including tonight's cover. Scratch: He's our favorite Klingon in disguise. HE works very hard, and started the LASFS presence at the Festival of Books. Arlene: he's been very helpful to the marketing team, going out with bookmarks to places most of us can't get to, because we don't speak Klingon.

Tadao: He can empty a truck in a single bound. (By himself, before the rest of the people get there.) Matthew Tepper: He, while in the Navy, served on board the USS Enterprise. Karl: He's a winner of the Evans Freehafer Award. Three Cheers, and Kapla!

**Committee Reports:** Christian announced, at the beginning of this disastrous Presidency, they had an auction that involves the Minutes. Next week, we need to make the meeting short, so we're auctioning off the right to name the person who names the Menace. Hopefully, this will make the meeting a bit shorter. Or not.

And so we moved on to the Committee to Gouge...  
"Pournelle, you already scare me." said the winner, Eric Hoffman.

The Science Monitor rose to tell us all about something she hasn't written up yet. Years ago, she heard theoretic work about chaotic orbits in planetary systems. The Wasp (Wide Angle Search for Planets) program has been finding very large hot Jupiters very close to their suns. The chaotic transformations of orbits may have to be invoked to explain it.

**Time Bound announcement:** The rate of mutation in the human genome has been quantified. Average is 100 mutations per generation. (*And all of these 100 mutations appear to have occurred right in this room. -ed*)

**Reviews:** Marc Schirmeister reviewed a big art book, about Frank R Paul's work

Milt, having watched too many good movies, has seen War of the Worlds II. This should be truly god-awful. In fact, it was almost mediocre. The Tripods were OK, the plot made no sense whatever, but it broke his string of good movies.

Christian adds that every 2.5 hours, he passed by the SyFy channel. He saw Giant Crocs, Invasion of the Crocs, and Dino Croc. So the state of the SyFy channel is thoroughly crocked.

Jerry Pournelle was reading File 770, a letter reminded him of Children of the Atom, put together from stories in Astounding. He went out and found the book, and it still holds

up. It's quite good, and he was astounding to realized how much it affected his development. It's why he read Aquinas and also Poe's essay on creating a story.

Karen Anderson expanded. Two (Three – JP) parts were published in Astounding, and they were put together with a final piece to make the novel.

Christian was reminded of eFanzines.com. ON it, you can find File 770. In issue 155, you'll find a review of the Rotsler Winners by the most recent Rotsler winner. It's well worth reading.

Hare: Went to Writers of the Future signing at Barnes and Noble in Burbank. He handed out bookmarks to people waiting in line, suggesting they could come to the club and meet Niven and Pournelle.

Jerry Pournelle notes the current Writers of the Future collection contains at least 4 really good stories. The grand prize winner this year was an easy favorite. It's a splendid novelette. The stories this year are better than they have been in a while. The anthology is worth paying for this year.

**Misc.:** Frank Waller announced on the west end of the SF valley, in Northridge, Bob's Big Boy is now open on Corbin and Nordoff Place.

Bill added that a wildfire produces as much CO2 in a couple of days as all the autos in California do in a year. (*Or all of the members in a LASFS meeting. -ed*)

We adjourned at 21:09:00.

**Meeting #3761, September 10, 2009**  
**President Christian McGuire, Presiding**  
**Karl Lembke, Scribe**

Meeting 3761 was opened at 20:12:35

**Special Orders of Business:** Richard Costas' mother has passed at the age of 92, presumably as the result of the stroke she had. The Scribe was asked to send an appropriate card. We had a moment of silence in her honor.

We have a **treasurer's report** (*which can be gotten from the Treasurer. -ed*)

It's a good thing Charlie Jackson has not figured out how to force a bottle of late-harvest wine through the DVD player .

The **Menace** were read and approved as "The LASFS should know better", by Tadao Tomomatsu

**Patron Saint, Mike Thorsen.** Scratch said he gave us money. Joe Zeff said he originally visited the LASFS because of the description he read in Fallen Angels. During La-LaCons, he's a serious contender in the Chili cook-off. Mike Stern: Nine cents.

CLJII: Mike has been a great asset to the club, and he's like the son Bob Null never had. He knows electronics and equipment. And at Loscon, he manages the Kermit-cam. And he does stuff around here all the time. He helps out by keeping the soda machine stocked. Hare noted, back when Babylon 5

was on the air, he started TRIPE to show the episodes people missed. Sandy Cohen notes one of the objects in the display case is the Thorsen gavel.

Allison Stern called him a good gamer, and he helps with the decoration and set-up of the LASFS Gift Exchange. And he's really good at Mah -Jongg. Frank Waller called him the voice of reason. MaryAnn said he made a magnificent attempt to follow Bob Null as Veep

Jerry Pournelle is proud of having attracted him to the club. Karl notes he's another of those Evans Freehafer Award Winners. Hare notes when reading the book, he was coming down the book, looked up, and saw the sign. He took that as a sign.

**Patron Saint, Dale (Barksdale) Hales:** CLJII: AS it happens, he's the person in LASFS he's known the longest. They went to elementary school together. They lost touch when CLJII was in 6th grade. They met again at the Loscon Charlie ran. He was an amusing friend when young, and a great person now that he's older. Arlene called him a great friend to the marketing team. He's been helping with the Imax theater stuff. Marty: Dale helps out on things like the Gift Exchange. Lately, he's gotten into board gaming, so he tends to show up on Friday nights and Second Sunday. Sandy: He's one of those truly nice people. He's just naturally that way.

Ally: He's very good at doing the usher jobs at Loscon and other masquerades, taking charge of ushers and making sure people get in and out safely. Dale Hales was given three cheers and blessed silence.

Before **Registrar** Michelle Pincus announced, it was noted we have three sterns and a Siladi in the club. Michelle announced three guests. We have Matt Yochi, Emmanuel Noelle, and Theresa Steward.

Michael Siladi notes BASFS will be having its 1000th meeting the last week of September.

**Old Business:** The Forrest J Ackerman Award!!!! Many were nominated. Few were ready to vote.

We vamped with **reviews**... Mike Stern recommended an author. A. Lee Martinez, one of the better Sfantasy authors. The first book of his he read was a hardboiled detective novel, where the detective was a robot created by a mad scientists to destroy the world – The Automatic Detective.

Ed Hooper reviewed The Drowning City by Amanda Dow nham. The main character is a necromancer and a spy, sent to a city to start a revolution to keep the country from attacking her own country.

Bill Ellern went to a convention in Arizona, the Disc-world convention. It was very successful, with 900 people. There were people from all over America, and probably from elsewhere. He brought back some cards, which are entitle whoever had them to download a preview of the book.

Jerry Pournelle said ChiCon 2 in 1962 was in a twin towers hotel in Chicago. There were 500 people in that Worldcon, and the other convention was a Midwestern Baptist

Women's convention. The interactions between the two conventions were "interesting". The police were only called twice.

Tadao notes in Burbank, there's a place called Rocket Fizz. They have sodas he's never seen before. Rfizz.com. It's on Magnolia, after Hollywood Way.

Gary Gibson reviewed Internal Combustion by Mr. Black. It's about the the rise of oil as an energy source. It features discussion of a battery Edison made, which lasts 100 years. It's available at Barnes and Noble, or Borders. \$16 with tax.

Now that we've vamped, on to the nominees. Many were nominated, few were chosen. Ultimately, there can be only one, and that one was Fred Patten. Runners up included Karen Anderson and Terry Pratchett.

We adjourned at 21:43:06.

**Meeting #3762, September 17, 2009**  
**President Christian McGuire, Presiding**  
**Karl Lembke, Scribe**

Meeting 3762 was opened at 20:07:13.

Into the past, to 1964 – Christian read the suggested order of business at the time. How things have changed...

**Special Orders of Business:** We have a Saganload of them.

Michelle Pincus announced yesterday was Karen Anderson's 77th birthday.

Marcia Minsky announced Tuesday was Joe Zeff's birthday. Joe Zeff announced that it was also Mike Stern's Birthday

Tadao announced the birth of Aurora Valentina Owens. The **Menace** were read and approved as "Once, Twice, Three times Siladi"

We have a **treasurer's report** We have money, most of which is in the Century fund.

Guests! **Registrar Michelle** announced, we have two returning members and a new member. Brenda DuPont has returned. Ken Estes showed up, and Stephanie DeVoy joined

**Patron Saints, Len & June Moffatt.** Since they wanted to get together, and are together, we accept comments about both simultaneously. Milt: June's mother was a fan. June's first husband, Eph Konigsberg was a LASFS member. She spent that period raising three kids. Len got into fandom in the 30s, was in the Marines as a medic, and afterwards settled out here. He was in FAPA for many years, and chaired a Worldcon back when the concom size was less than half a dozen. And he won TAFF, and did a TAFF report.

Marty Cantor: The Moffatts contribute every week to APA -L. Unfortunately, they've been away due to health problems. They're very nice people, and it's a shame they're not here. Karen Anderson notes their interests include the JDM Bibliophile events, and the Bouchercons. Len occasionally sells

light verse to Ellery Queen's mystery magazine. Christian: The Moffatti were involved in the creation of Bouchercon, and one of them chaired one of the cons. Jerry Pournelle notes Len was a good friend of John D McDonald. They never got him to come to one of the cons.

CLJII: The Moffatti, together, have many things to recommend them as fine and upstanding people, but they did adopt Ed Green as a fan-child. JP: And that makes up for all their good deeds. CLJII: And it's shameful that they've let mere debilitation keep them away.

Christian: In the LACon IV member book, there's an article where Len remembers Pacificon in 1946. He's also sold several stories. Sandy Cohen mentioned Len is a member of Blustering Gales of the Southwest, a Sherlockian club. Christian claimed June is an incredibly kind person. In return for an incredibly insignificant favor, she gave him a home-made sugar-free cheesecake.

CLJII: Len is a recipient of the Forry Award, for his assistance to fandom, his publications, and all the good he's done. We had six very loud cheers for Len and June Moffatt ... And two tigers!

**Committee Reports:** Marcia Minsky announced Loscon 36. Anyone familiar with WETA Workshop? They did Lord of the Rings, and Steampunk guns. They're sponsoring an old-fashioned science fair, and donating \$500 of their merchandise as prizes. Bring a science project – you might win something.

Steven Barnes and Tanarive Due have graciously consented to judge a writing contest – the worst last line. “And then some idiot dropped the soap.” – CLJII. Loscon memberships are still \$40, until November.

**Science Report:** Karen Anderson rose to tell of some more planets. From a letter that was on one of the online groups by G. David Nordley – catastrophic orbital events are suspected in a lot of hot Jupiters. Planets exchanging angular momenta can result in one falling very close to the primary, and the other being ejected from the system altogether. When stars are young and close together, rogue planets can find their way to other stars and engage in a “when worlds collide” scenario.

The outreach committee reported on the reading at Valley Plaza Library. They got there, to find the children's librarian was out sick, the rest of the library thought the event was cancelled. They waited 15 minutes, no kids showed up, and so they went to an early dinner. We're still doing October and December.

**Fannish committee:** Janis Olson is an independent rep for a telecomm company. They're looking for more reps. There's a meeting Wednesday at her home to find out more.

Scott Beckstead saw a sign: haircuts \$4 – financial aid available for those who qualify. It's a barber school.

David Okamura notes Larry Niven is here today. Welcome back! And Fuzzy, too!

**Reviews:** Christian reviewed Reflections and Refractions by Silverberg. It's a collection of essays, and they're very, very

good.

Nick Smith reviewed a new fantasy/murder mystery writer – Seanan McGuire's first book, Rosemary and Rue, has hit the stands. It's a very good fantasy murder mystery, crime noir with elves.

Hare Hobbs reviewed Robert Sawyer's Flashforward – the book, not the TV series. He expects to be disappointed in the series.

Doug Crepeau saw on History, a program dealing with stuff that falls from the sky. In addition to the usual stuff, they showed microfossils of meteorites from an impact some 15K years ago, may have been responsible for extinctions of various mammals. (*Very small mammals. -ed*)

**Misc.:** Christian: if you have a time bound announcement, ask ahead of the meeting.

Frank Waller notes his father is dying, has hours to live. He had a hand in the Atlas and Gemini programs, which is his point of contact with fandom.

Card, signed by bunches...

Christian brought up another item: The last Monday of September will be BASFA meeting #1000. There will be a sympathy card. Scratch notes anyone who writes a twelve-page addendum can contribute to postage.

We adjourned at 21:35:07.

**Meeting #3763, September 30, 2009**  
**President Christian McGuire, Presiding**  
**Karl Lembke, Scribe**

Meeting 3763 was opened at 20:07:00.

We have several **special orders of business**.

Joe Haldeman is still alive, but he's had a stomach problem that required surgery. The surgery is now over, and they're awaiting results. And Rusty Hevelin is providing support.

Rick Katz of NESFA is in the hospital, as is Patrick Fahey.

Frank Waller's father passed Saturday morning, sometime between 8AM and 8:05. He was 83. He had a role in the first three rocket assemblies, and when he was in the Army, all he was thinking about was airplanes, how to fix them, how to improve them, etc. Watching the officers having fun in the Officer's Clubs inspired him to go to school and qualify to work in rocket research and development. Frank Waller is the product of father's kicking him in the ass for ten years, getting him to overcome any number of difficulties.

We had good thoughts for all the fans in hospital now, and a moment of silence for Frank's father.

The **Menace** were read and approved as “what was mine?”

We have a **treasurer's report** It's in someone else's sticky hands. We have money, you can't spend it.

**Lafa**  
(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

Lafa Filksing  
Saturday, November 21, 2009, 7 PM  
Pre-filk dinner at 5 pm., see notes  
The House of Perpetual Commotion  
Hosts: John & Mary Creasey  
3754 W. 170th Street, Torrance, CA  
(310) 329-6772  
Pre-filk dinner: 5 pm, Golden Camel Mongolian Bar-B-Q,  
21006 Hawthorne Blvd. Torrance, CA  
1/2 block North of Torrance Blvd.,  
on the East side of Hawthorne in a strip mall  
Call the Creaseys to reserve -- three days before, please!

TYPE OF CIRCLE: -TBD- & Theme basket-  
John and/or Mary will be Demighod.

Notes:  
1. Mucho crash space available; call to reserve yours; bring sleeping gear in case we run out of beds.

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

The **Registrar** announced two new members. Well, at least two people who gave us \$5. Nan Bevin and Dena Simmons

After coming up with an excuse, Christian announced ...

**Patron Saint, Ron Ellik.** He gave us money, and he's not here tonight. He way predates the trio of friends including Alex Pournelle. Bill Ellern. He was a long time fan, dubbed by Bjo as the Squirrel. He started a monthly newsletter about activities among fans. He was extremely active, graduated from college in electronics and computers, wrote a Doc Smith concordance which sold quite well among Doc Smith Fans. He was known for hitchhiking all over the country to various conventions. Bill talked to him a few days before his death at age 25 about upgrading his concordance. He was flying to Minneapolis, rented a VW Bug, and had one of the bug's many single-motorist accidents, sliding into a ditch. Ron struck his head on the windshield and died of his injuries. He was good people, literate, knowledgeable, and fun to be around. He was a great fan. He was in a movie, The Musquite Kid.

He was given three cheers and a root beer.

**Patron Saint, Karl Lembke.** Matthew Tepper compared him to a very nice person which he resembles to the point of identity. CLJII: he's a fine, gregarious person, fun to be around, and almost as good a mountain climber as he thinks he is. Arlene Satin called him "one of the smartest people I know, and one of my best friends."

Joe Zeff: He's a good cook, and has turned himself into a veritable spice cadet. He runs con suites, Joan Steward: He has a fascinating mind. And has a degree in <insert degree here>. Oh, yes. Physics. He's a generous, caring, and wonderful person who deserves more than three cheers. Martin Young has many high-level and interesting conversations with him.

Marcia Minsky: he's chairman of the board at LASFS He's chaired a Loscon. He's also long-term scribe and is writing the menace even as we all speak. Mary Ann – he's a board gamer. And a gamer.

Christian McGuire said he's one of the reasons he's willing to drink water in Los Angeles. Tadao mentioned he's also been wonderful at helping LaLaCons with banquets, brewmaster, mead maker, and makes iced tea that can knock down a La-LaCon (Christian: Hint, Hint) Hare: He did something that made it possible for him to attend every Lasfs meeting – drove him to the club meeting the week of Loscon.

We auctioned off what degree Karl has in the minutes. Water-ology. Karl Lembke was given three loud cheers, and a honey dipper.

**Committee Reports:** The Science Minotaur rose to give us a report. Planetary formation seems to be showing up in real time. Over 5 months, scientists have observed the cloud of infrared gas around a star, and observing noticeable changes in that interval. Light from the inner portion of the disc changes every week, sometimes more often.

Matthew Tepper wondered if anyone else had noticed reports of water on the moon, and ice on Mars.

The second Friday in December is the 11th. That will feature the Gift Exchange. Start shopping now. It starts at 7 PM, and run to some not quite ungodly hour.

Fred Patten announced his mother had her 97th birthday, and renewed her driver's license for another 5 years.

**Misc.:** We all remember LASFS member Mark Sharpe – there's a good chance people can quit dying of AIDS. They have a vaccine, about 30% effective. Charlie announced latex caps on the bottoms of furniture legs are remarkable.

And with that, we adjourned at 21:24:10

**Board of Directors meeting**  
**October 10, 2009**  
**Karl Lembke, Chairman**  
**Darnell Coleman, Secretary**  
**unofficial minutes by Marty Cantor**

**Board Members in attendance:** Karl Lembke, Darnell Coleman, Mike Thorsen, Bob Null, Arlene Satin, Milt Stevens, Elayne Pelz, Marcia Minsky, Christian McGuire. Tadao Tomomatsu resigned, not at the meeting. Robert Powell was excused.

**Members and Guests:** Marty Cantor, Jeni Burr, Scott Tygett, Tony Benoun, Sherri Benoun, Michael Pell, Joyce Sperling, Lee Gold, Barry Gold, Karen Anderson, Michelle Pincus, Jeni Burr, Eytan Kollin, Bond Halbert, Mary Ann Cranston, Greg Bilan.

**Called to order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:15 am.

**Opening Remarks:** (Karl Lembke) Tadao has resigned from the Board of Directors and has sent a letter about this.

He writes that he will fulfill various obligations but will not be taking on any others, as he is currently gafiating from fandom.

Dik Daniels' brother-in-law has one remaining box of photos and it will be brought down or mailed. Marty had previously volunteered to make a day trip to get all of the boxes of photos. Lee Gold volunteered to pick them up at the brother-in-law's destination.

Galaxy Press presentation: We received from John Goodwin 10 boxes of Forry's documents which Galaxy Press won at auction. Lee Gold recommended that Galaxy Press get a memorandum for their charitable contribution.

**Minutes:** The minutes were accepted as presented.

**New Members:** Dena Simmons, Nan Bevan, Madeline V. Goff, Lloyd Lytle, Jeremy Weinland, and Yolanda Pascal. All were accepted.

**Treasurer:** We have money in the treasury – only Elayne can spend it. (See Treasurer for amount.)

### **30 Second Reports (Board Members)**

**Chairman (Karl Lembke):** He has already reported at the beginning of the meeting.

**Vice Chairman (Bob Null):** No report.

**Secretary (Darnell Coleman):** Thanked the Board for support during his bereavement.

**Comptroller (Christian McGuire):** Nothing to report.

**Library (Elayne Pelz):** We have a new printer for the library computer. We are obtaining books left, right, and center. Lots of duplicate books went away at the Book Fair.

**Physical Plant (Tadao Tomomatsu):** (He has resigned but he gave us a written report and he wrote that he will follow through on his obligations. The written report was read to the Board.) Elayne had Terminex do its quarterly termite checking.

**Letter to neighbor – any response?** There is still no official contact with our new neighbors.

**AV Equipment (Robert Powell):** No report.

**Quartermaster/Supplies (Mike Thorsen):** Sodas - This Month: 373 units, \$279.75. Sodas - Yearly totals: 13,285 units, \$8867.00 gross income.

**Publications (Milt Stevens):** I reported on DE PROF. Lee continues to put up historical information and photos. Milt discussed how he will be distributing his sf and such items to various academic institutions. There was a discussion of missing DE PROFs and SHAGGYS and Milt said he had some of both that he would contribute to LASFS if they were missing issues.

**Events (Marcia Minsky):** 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: 76 people have signed up for the Banquet – the Memory Book is in Cathy's hands. There will be presentations and speeches at the Oct. 27 special meeting. (All of the foregoing was reported by Arlene.) LOSCON is on track with member numbers and room reservations. (Milt reported problems with making a hotel reservation on the web site.) Christian (Westercon) reported that it is partnering with ConChord 23. So far, this partnering is working well.

**Fundraising and Recruitment (Arlene Satin):** Zazzler.com is still on hold

### **(Significant Others)**

**Marketing Committee (Arlene Satin):** The Book Faire was last Sunday and we had a good location next to the stage – so far we have gotten 2 new members from the Book Fair. We made about \$56 from book sales: however, there were other events in the area which cut into attendance at the Fair. We will do this again next year. Library book readings continue and we shall be holding auditions for more readers. We are still looking for expanding the programme to more libraries.

**Club President (Christian McGuire):** Other than regular meetings, nothing to report.

### **Agenda Items:**

**Money for Library (Elayne Pelz):** We ran out of money for the first time in 6 years, with this being because the Librarian has been buying books. We are requesting \$200 for the rest of year so that we can get good book discounts at LOSCON.

The Secretary of the Board requested a small place in the clubhouse to put a notebook and various handouts. He was promised that a place will be found.

Eytan Kollin has an item of possible interest. Eytan had the most fun being on panels at cons and he wants to create a web site for bringing people together be on panels (which will be held at LASFS.) No LASFS funds are needed, just permission to use the space. (Reported by Eytan Kollin and Bond Halbert, it was moved, seconded, and passed to allow these people to hold podcasting sessions here before Thursday meetings on a three-month trial basis.

**Open Forum:** With rain coming, the Board asked everybody to be aware of leaks and to report them. Karl wants to appoint Christian as LOSCON archivist. Darnell moved to thank Tadao for service. Tadao's duties will be divided between Board members until the new election and new Board members assume their duties.

**Take-Aways:** We will send a thank-you card to Authors Services. Milt will bring all of his DE PROFs and SHAGGYS to club. Advertising is needed for podcasts.

**Adjournment:** The Board meeting was adjourned at 12:24 pm.

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### **2009 Gift Exchange: Friday, December 18th**

#### **THE RULES OF THE LASFS GIFT EXCHANGE** by Leigh Strother-Vien and others, 2007

Date: Friday The 18 -Teenth of December  
Doors Open: 7:00 PM / Event Begins: 8:00 PM  
Location: LASFS Clubhouse

The Gift Exchange is considered an extension of the previous night's meeting. Dues will be collected, if not previously paid. The Gift Exchange is open to all active LASFS members who are not in arrears to the club nor under any other sort of administrative stigma. 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 at [www.lasfsinc.info](http://www.lasfsinc.info) 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.

**Force Trades:** 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 or (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 "Force 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."

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.

**Free Trading:** After the Gift Exchange is over, Free Trading of gifts may occur. Free Trading is outside the Gift Exchange rules 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 gift...just see that someone does.\*\*\*

#### **GUIDELINES & SUGGESTIONS**

- 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.

- 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.

- Craig Miller's Corollary to Rotsler's Rules for Masquerade Presentations #21 can apply to Gift Exchange presentations as well: "Short is better than long; funny is better than non-funny; short and funny is best."

- 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.

- 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.

- 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!

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 choco-



late, 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. Fandom -related things are associated with the activities of organized fandom: e.g. 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?"

A: 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!

**CORRECTION TO DE PROF #441**  
from John Trimble

I'd like to correct a few errors in the comments about Patron Saint Bjo Trimble made in De Prof #441.

First, the Save Star Trek campaign was at the end of the 2nd season. The purpose was to get NBC to renew the show for at least a 3rd season. The result was that NBC did a voice over announcement over 2 episodes at the end of the 2nd season to tell us that the show was going to be renewed & to stop writing letters. So they then got a couple thousand thank you letters! The fact that the show had 3 seasons is what led to the syndication that is still on-going (plus the ST movies & four other ST series).

As for Flesh Gordon, she did the makeup, not the costumes. She got the job because Rick Baker was too young & his parents wouldn't let him do an X-rated film! There are lots of interesting stories connected with the making of that film. She managed to get Ray Kroc to replace a mean actor as Ronald McDonald, during the filming. Ask her about it if you ever get the chance.

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**LASFS WEB SITE**

The LASFS web site is looking for photos of LASFSians. The web people are willing to do the scanning.

The web people are also looking for the words to the various speeches speechified at the 75th Anniversary Celebrations. These words will be put up on the LASFS web site, [www.lasfsinc.info](http://www.lasfsinc.info). You can contact the web people there.

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**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. Reading books, whatta concept...)*

Stoneholding, The	Anderson, James G. & Seban, Mark Armstrong, Kelly
Industrial Magic Smithsonian Book of Comic-Book Comics, A	Barrier, Michael & Williams, Martin
Daughter of the Blood	Bishop, Anne
World War Z	Brooks, Max
Hot Sleep: The Worthing Chronicle	Card, Orson Scott
Planet Called Treason, A	Card, Orson Scott
Genesis	Chafe, Paul
Fafrrd and the Gray Mouser	Chaykin, Howard & Mignola, Mike
Another Thing..., And	Colfer, Eoin
Andromeda Strain, The	Crichton, Michael
Rainbow Goblins, The	De Rico, UI
Steampunk Trilogy, The	Di Filippo, Paul
Far Side of the Stars, The	Drake, David
Patriots	Drake, David
Paying the Piper	Drake, David
Seas of Venus	Drake, David
Some Golden Harbor	Drake, David
1633	Flint, Eric & Weber, David
1634: Ram Rebellion, The	Flint, Eric & DeMarce, Virginia
1634: The Bavarian Crisis	Flint, Eric & DeMarce, Virginia
1634: The Galileo Affair	Flint, Eric & Dennis, Andrew
Belisarius I: Thunder at Dawn	Flint, Eric & Drake, David
Forward the Mage	Flint, Eric
Philosophical Strangler, The	Flint, Eric

Ring of Fire II  
Dragon's Ring  
Caress of Twilight, A  
Aquantum Murder  
Montezuma's Revenge  
Judges of Hades, The  
Rackham Files, The  
Dreamcatcher  
Insomnia  
Just After Sunset  
Wizard and Glass  
Moving Targets  
Fledgling

Bengal's Heart  
Dragon Harper

Dragon's Fire

Dragon's Kin

Harper Hall of Pern, The  
Forgotten Beasts Of Eld, The  
Ringworld Engineers, The  
Crosstime  
Game of Stars and Comets, The  
Star Flight  
Ravens of Avalon  
Last Centurion, The  
Last Centurion, The

Flint, Eric  
Freer, Dave  
Hamilton, Laurell K.  
Hamilton, Peter F.  
Harrison, Harry  
Hoch, Edward D.  
Ing, Dean  
King, Stephen  
King, Stephen  
King, Stephen  
King, Stephen  
Lackey, Mercedes  
Lee, Sharon & Miller,  
Steve

Leigh, Lora  
McCaffrey, Anne &  
McCaffrey, Todd  
McCaffrey, Anne &  
McCaffrey, Todd  
McCaffrey, Anne &  
McCaffrey, Todd  
McCaffrey, Anne  
McKillip, Patricia A.  
Niven, Larry  
Norton, Andre  
Norton, Andre  
Norton, Andre  
Paxson, Diana L.  
Ringo, John  
Ringo, John

Manxome Foe

Tuloriad, The

Very Hard Choices  
Reflections and Refractions  
Endless Blue  
Overthrowing Heaven  
Worlds of Weber  
Serenity: Better Days

Night Train to Rigel

Ringo, John & Taylor,  
Travis S.  
Ringo, John & Krat  
man, Tom  
Robinson, Spider  
Silverberg, Robert  
Spencer, Wen  
Van Name, Mark L.  
Weber, David  
Whedon, Joss &  
Matthews, Brett  
Zahn, Timothy

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