



## JULY 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 LASFS MEETING	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 LASFS MEETING	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 LASFS MEETING	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 LASFS MEETING	24	25
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### KEY TO CALENDAR & OTHER IMPEDIMENTA

BoD = Board of Directors - 11 am

### CALENDAR DETAILS

### THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

- JULY 9 – ZOOM meeting this evening.
- JULY 9 – ZOOM meeting this evening/
- JULY 16 - ZOOM meeting this evening.
- JULY 23 - ZOOM meeting this evening.
- JULY 30 - ZOOM meeting this evening.

**Zoom LASFS Meetings are being held by Matthew Tepper while California's "Shelter at Home" rules are in force. Contact [susanfox@kryptonradio.com](mailto:susanfox@kryptonradio.com) to be sent an invitation.**

Updated programme information can be found at this web site:  
[http://www.lasfsinc.info///index.php?option=com\\_events&Itemid=185](http://www.lasfsinc.info///index.php?option=com_events&Itemid=185)

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**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL NOT HAVE A REGULAR MEETING IN JULY**

# DE PROFUNDIS - the *unofficial* newsletter of LASFS

## COLOPHON

*De Profundis* 567– July 2020. Publisher and Editor: **Marty Cantor**.

*De Profundis* is the unofficial newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (No current permanent address) and the LASFS does not currently have a telephone number. The club's web site is: [www.lasfs.org](http://www.lasfs.org). *De Profundis* is available only from Marty Cantor for his cost of producing the zines: 75¢ in person, \$1.25 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 hand them to me at wherever LASFS meetings are being held. The editor, Marty Cantor, can be reached at his edress: [martyhoohah \(at\) sbcglobal \(dot\) net](mailto:martyhoohah@sbglobal.net) or at club meetings 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 custom-modified Intel quad-core, DELL Workstation (using the Windows 7 Professional 64 bit 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. *De Prof* is available on paper solely at cost: currently 75¢. Mailed copies, domestically, will be \$1.25. Subscriptions will be accepted; however, as prices are set at approximate cost of production, there will be no discounts for long-term subs.

*Marty Cantor, 11825 Gilmore Street #105, North Hollywood, CA 91606, USA. (818) 761-9401. [martyhoohah \(at\) sbcglobal \(dot\) net](mailto:martyhoohah@sbglobal.net). July, 2020. Hoo Hah Publication Number 2316. Thanks go to Elayne Pelz, Charlie Jackson, Karl Lembke, Kristen Gorlitz and Nick Smith, Lee and Barry Gold, and any others who are helping me in providing news to LASFS members*

## LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers  
July - December, 2020

**President: Matthew B. Tepper. Vice-President: Susan Fox. Registrars: Michelle Pincus and Michelle Dane. Scribe: Eyalat Poliner. Treasurer: (elected in mid-year, serves for full year) Elayne Pelz and Debra Levin.**

## Board of Directors

Chairman: Karl Lembke (2021). Secretary: Marty Cantor (2021). Vice-Chairman: Nick Smith (2020), Comptroller: Gavin Claypool (2022). Other members: Michelle Pincus (2021), Scott Beckstead (2022), Debra Levin (2021), Christian McGuire (2020), Elayne Pelz (2020), Rob "Gizmo" Powell (2020), Mike Thorsen (2022). 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 toners, LASFAPA/APA-L Liaison: Marty Cantor. Librarian: Gavin Claypool. Assistant Librarian: Elayne Pelz. Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS: Christian McGuire. 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: Elayne Pelz, Christian McGuire. Webmaster - <<http://www.lasfs.org>>: Barry Gold. Webmaster Assistant: Lee Gold. Sysadmin: Chaz Baden. Editor. Computers & LASFS Archivist: Christian McGuire. LASFS Historian: Fred Patten. Westercon Liaison: Christian McGuire. Program: Michelle Pincus. Hall Decoration: C.B. McGuire, Charles Lee Jackson II. Science Officer: Bill Green (with Nick Smith). Marketing and Promotion: Michelle Pincus.**

## 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. Statue with no arms: Venus di Milo.**

If there is an X in this space, your sub has run out \_\_\_\_

**LASFS' \*NEW\* TEMPORARY MEETING SPACE**

**LASFS has moved to ON-LINE— temporarily!**

*I am still looking for a replacement editor for DE PROFUNDIS.*

*However, if I cannot find a replacement before LASFS gets a new clubhouse, I will return DE PROFUNDIS to the LASFS Board of Directors after our first meeting in our new clubhouse.*

## CONDENSED CREAM OF MENACE

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

**Meeting 4270, June 13, 2019  
(Minutes not yet given to me)**

**Meeting #4273, July 4, 2019  
(Minutes not yet given to me)**

**Meeting #4275, July 18, 2019**  
**(Minutes not yet given to me)**

**Meeting #4276, July 25, 2019**  
**(Minutes not yet given to me)**

**Meeting #4277, August 1, 2019**  
**(Minutes not yet given to me)**

**Meeting 4282, September 5, 2019**  
**President Marty Cantor, presiding**  
**Gavin Claypool, scribing**

President Marty Cantor called the meeting to order at 8:01 PM, with Scribe Gavin Claypool at his side.

President Cantor announced the passing of author Katherine MacLean on September 1 in Portland, Maine, age 94. She won the Nebula Award for Best Novella of 1971 for *The Missing Man*, which she later expanded to novel length.

John deChancie announced that Brad Linaweaver had passed away from prostate cancer on August 29, three days before his 67th birthday. Writer, political analyst, libertarian, Brad wrote (among many works) the Nebula Award nominee "Moon of Ice", four novels based on the *Doom* video game (with Dafydd ab Hugh), and three *Battlestar Galactica* novels (with Richard Hatch).

Nick Smith noted that this week (Sept. 1) marked the 144th anniversary of the birth of Edgar Rice Burroughs, first star-level writer in Los Angeles. The reason he started writing: he realized "that if people were paid for writing such rot as I read, I could write stories just as rotten." His first two novels, *A Princess of Mars* and *Tarzan of the Apes*, were published in 1912.

Nick also mentioned the passing of Terrance Dicks (84), screenwriter and novelist, who worked on *The Avengers* and *Doctor Who*. He had attended a number of L.A. Who conventions and met a number of local fans.

George McUrso announced that: Ronni Rubin has survived left hip replacement surgery. She's in the recovery unit; see him for contact information.

## MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were read. Hare Hobbs said that there is a Disney-dubbed version of *Phoenix 2772* in the works. Christian McGuire pointed out that he had invited everyone within the sound of his voice to the opening reception of the ADG "Fantastic Voyage" exhibition. Nola Frame-Gray reminded the scribe that her name ends with "hyphen Gray".

Charles Lee Jackson II added a story about **Patron Saint Allan Rothstein**. When Allan retired, one of his retirement gifts was two tickets to Disneyland; Allan took CL as his guest. While there, Allan heard that he could upgrade the ticket to an annual passport for an additional fee. After extracting a promise that CL would go with him anytime that Allan wanted to go again, he up-

graded both tickets and told CL, "Merry Christmas, Happy Birthday, and Merry *Next* Christmas." Sadly, Allan passed away before another Disneyland trip occurred.

Matthew Tepper named the minutes "Chichester" for \$3; the minutes were approved as corrected.

**Treasurer's report: none.**

**PATRON SAINT: Greg Bilan**

Frances Hamit – For many years, he helped out at the club; for six or seven years he was homeless. George McUrso – One of the hardest workers in the club. Hare Hobbs – Once unloaded a convention truck all by himself, rather than wait for the other helpers to show up. Christian McGuire – Could be overenthusiastic at times; saw him at ConJose 2018, he's now living in the Bay Area with his brother Steven Bilan. Marty Cantor – Donated enough to the club in his relatives' names to make Patron Saints of both Steve and Mark. Mike Thorsen – Made posters for many conventions, but with typos that he wouldn't correct.

**PATRON SAINT: Emil Luwish**

Emil is Mike Luwish's father.

Three Cheers were given.

**Registrar's report:** Rick Lakin from San Diego, who has written and published novels, visited tonight and immediately joined the club.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors will meet September 8 at 11 am.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Program Committee:** Charles Lee Jackson II reported no program scheduled for this week or next week. But subsequently—

- Sep 19 – Major Auction
- Sep 26 - Trivia for Chocolates (theme: 1960s comics)
- Oct 3 - Forry Award nominations

**LOSCON 46:** Elayne Pelz announced that two members have memberships for sale at less than \$35 each.

## A MOMENT OF SCIENCE

Francis Hamit brought four items to the club's attention:

- (1) MIT and colleagues in Amsterdam are developing robotic boats ("roboats") that can form bridges autonomously. (*Will one of them be*

named Lloyd? - ed.)

- (2) The Arizona State University women's robotics team placed first among United States teams and third in the world in a robot submarine contest held last month in San Diego. The team was formed as part of the effort to encourage more diversity in engineering fields, due to the small percentage of women majoring in engineering, math, statistics, and computer science.
- (3) Scientists have detected evidence of a predicted magnetic field associated with a vast intergalactic bridge (*Also named Lloyd? - ed.*) of neutral gas that stretches 75,000 light-years between the Large and Small Magellanic Clouds.
- (4) Birth defects attributed to Agent Orange are being seen in grandchildren of Vietnam War veterans. (*Is not Agent Orange now President of the United States? - ed.*)

Michelle Pincus reported that the NASA Administrator has declared that Pluto is a planet. (*HOORAY FOR HIM!!!! - ed.*)

Nick Smith offered two items:

- (1) Satellites circling Mars couldn't confirm the methane that the rover *Curiosity* was detecting. It's been determined that the reason the satellites didn't find it was that the satellites were looking during daytime, and the rover detected it at night. There is an atmospheric theory to explain this, but they still can't find the *source* of the methane.
- (2) New hypothesis about the funny holes in the *T. rex* upper skull; alligators have similar holes filled with fat and blood vessels for radiating excess heat. Previously, these holes were thought to be filled with muscles that helped operate the powerful jaw.

**AN AUCTION HAPPENING HAPPENED**, with things being sold.

#### TIME-BOUND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nick Smith announced a double feature at the Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood Saturday night. At 7:30 pm will be *Haunt*, an advance screening of a new horror film by the writers of the 10 pm film, *A Quiet Place*.

On Saturday from 9 pm to Noon, Dapper Cadaver is holding a pre-Halloween sale of props, 7648 San Fernando Road in Sun Valley.

The Bearded Lady's Mystic Museum (3204 W. Magnolia Blvd., Burbank) is staging an exhibit of artwork and props related to the *Evil Dead* movie series; opens this Saturday evening and runs through December 7.

A Kickstarter campaign is under way to enable publica-

tion of a restored Robert A. Heinlein manuscript, *The Pursuit of the Pankera*, a companion volume to *The Number of the Beast*.

#### REVIEWS

George McUrso liked *Spawn*, now on Amazon Prime: compelling story, good art.

Christian McGuire reviewed *Rurouni Kenshin*. The anime was excellent for its time but is dated now. Set in the beginning of the Meiji era, a former samurai wanders about, atoning for his past crimes.

Deb Levin reviewed *Good Omens*, says everyone must read and watch; it's wonderful.

Francis Hamit reviewed *Carnival Row*, now streaming. Very deep, very rich. Co-created by René Echevarria (*Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*). Has a complicated history, it's fantasy *noir*—with pixies. He also reviewed *The Naked Director*, about the porn industry in Japan. Based on a novel about a real-life director, a second-rate encyclopedia salesman who becomes the top director in the field; he pushes the envelope a lot and often lands in jail. Not for the prudish.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Hare Hobbs said that available online is an interview with Brad Linaweaver made when the *Doom* movie came out.

CLJII is now 26 books ahead of his publisher.

Christian McGuire said that a film, *How to Talk to Girls at Parties*, based on a short story by Neil Gaiman, with Nicole Kidman, and directed by the *Thor: Ragnarok* guy [Taika Waititi] is coming soon. [However, imdb.com says it was released in the U.S. on May 25, 2018, and was directed by John Cameron Mitchell, so Christian will have to give directions as to WHERE it's coming soon...]

Deb adds to her review that David Tennant was really great in *Good Omens*.

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

#### Meeting 4283, September 12, 2019 Marty Cantor, Presiding Pointedly Nick Smith, Scribing Spicily

President Cantor called the meeting to order at 8 pm. Comment from the President: we're looking at celebrating the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LASFS. We can't do a party in the gym here on the meeting night, but other options are being explored. One is to do a restaurant fundraiser. A brief discussion ensued. (*Fortunately, nobody discussed their own underwear.* - ed.)

#### Special Orders of Business:

Yesterday would have been the 90th birthday of one of the most quirky fantasy writers of all time, Bjorn Nyberg. If you don't recognize the name, then you must not have

been a Conan the Barbarian fan, because almost all of his professional writing, and much of his amateur writing, centered on that character. He worked with L. Sprague de Camp and Lin Carter to write new Conan stories many years after the death of Conan's creator, as continued sales of the original stories showed that there was still a market for adventure fantasy. Apparently, he was a really slow writer, because in twenty years he only wrote two novels plus a few short stories and essays.

#### **Patron Saints:**

##### **Dale Hales**

He spent years helping with refreshments for the Gift Exchange. When he lived in the Antelope Valley he would come to board gaming at the club, but he lives farther away now.

##### **Mike Thorsen:**

George mentioned Mike's video work for the club, which included Kermit the Frog impersonations.

#### **Three cheers and lots of soda sales**

**Minutes of the last meeting** were read. Christian paid \$3 to name them Deety's Nipples Went Sprong. They were approved by voice vote.

#### **Introduction of Guests: none**

**Board of Directors report:** next board meeting will be on October 13th

**Treasurer's Report:** none

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Program Committee: Charlie's not here**

**LOSCON 46:** Matthew reported that things progress. More news next week.

#### **LOSCON 47:**

##### **A Moment of Science:**

India's lunar lander Vikram seems to have suffered an unfortunate failure to achieve a soft landing on the surface of the Moon. The Indian space program lost contact with it a couple of kilometers up, while decelerating for a landing, so either the final deceleration didn't work, or something else failed in the attempt. The lander was designed to explore near the south pole of the Moon, where there are indications of underground ice. Mike Thorsen said that initial video suggests that it was accelerating downward.

Another extra-solar object is wandering into our solar system over the next few months, and this one is acting more like a comet...just not one from around here. Spotted first by an amateur astronomer from the Ukraine, C/2019 Q4 looks like an approaching comet should, but it's not in a solar orbit, and is coming in from almost 90 degrees off the ecliptic. It will pass through our solar system out beyond the Martian orbit, but will be moving slowly enough that scientists can observe it for several

months, unless it does something silly like hit one or more asteroids.

#### **Small Auction**

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** none

#### **Announcements:**

An interactive science fiction dinner theater play is being staged downtown, just next Wednesday. It's called **Alt Delete**, and to make it even stranger, it's being staged in a game store and restaurant called Dragon and Meeple, near USC. The address is 3742 S. Flower Street, and the ticket price is a little vague, because your total price depends on what you're having for dinner. The Dragon and Meeple restaurant has good reviews so far, but their menu is decidedly odd, with an Austrian/Southern/Canadian mixture of foods.

Just opening this weekend is **Velvet O Ween**, an exhibit of scary artwork at Velveteria, the Museum of Velvet Paintings, at 711 New High Street in downtown Los Angeles. If you want to attend the opening reception this Saturday evening, there is a \$20 admission fee. If you just want to see the museum's exhibit at a later time, regular admission is only \$10. Yes, an entire museum of artwork painted on velvet is pretty scary...

The Arena Cinelounge is warming up for Halloween, with the premiere of the new film **Haunt**, as well as screenings of a neo-Frankenstein story called **Depraved**. They have also begun showing short films in between feature films, and this week one of them is a short SF film called **Red Tape**.

For those planning ahead, on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 10 am to 5 pm, **Nerd Expo 2019** will be at the Pasadena Convention Center. The group putting it on has been hosting fannish events in the San Gabriel Valley for a few years now, and this event previously had the hard-to-say name of "NerdBotCon". It's especially aimed as cosplayers, gamers, and people who sing karaoke versions of theme songs. There's even a performance by a sort of filk rock band called...wait for it...Ragna Rock. Anyone who has ever read a Thor comic or seen the movies may now groan...Advance tickets are currently \$20, and will be \$24 at the door.

#### **Reviews:**

George mentioned a comic strip called Harley, about a biker whose ambition is to leap a canyon. He has a sarcastic cat and a low success rate.

Larry Niven reviewed volume 1 of Drive by Dave Kellett, and highly recommended it. Nick Smith commented that the author is currently doing a Kickstarter for a book of cartoons about authors, and it includes a lot of classic SF authors.

#### **Fannish Committee reports:**

George McUrso would like to see a Steampunk version of Lord of the Rings.

#### **Miscellaneous:**

Amazingly, we had nothing miscellaneous to say.

Motion to adjourn and put chairs away at 8:55 pm. Passed without fear of contradiction.

### **Meeting #4284, September 19, 2019 Marty Cantor, Presiding Particularly Nick Smith, Scribing Strictly**

President Cantor called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm.

**Presidential comments:** No comments at this time.

#### **Special Orders of Business:**

Yesterday was the 70th birthday of dinosaur artist and art publisher William Stout. He has worked for both Disney and ILM, and has done design work on many films, ranging from *Conan the Barbarian* to *Pan's Labyrinth*. He's a generous man who loaned production artwork to the museum exhibit I curated a while back.

Also, this week would have been the 135th birthday of author Gertrude Barrows Bennett. If you don't recognize the name, that's because she has been largely overlooked in modern times, but she helped create the genre of dark fantasy in the early 1900s, and was possibly the first woman to publish science fiction under her own name, in Argosy magazine. Her first sale was at the age of 17, and she continued to write under her own name and a pseudonym, Francis Stevens. Sadly, some of her stories were lost when a publisher went out of business after buying them, but some still exist, in print and online.

Sadly, longtime fan Bill Schelly passed away after a brief illness. He's one of the few people who managed to turn fandom into an academic and literary career, and so in addition to writing for fanzines for many years, he wrote a number of biographies of SF and comics writers, artists and publishers, and even one about a silent movie comedian. His books about SF writer Otto Binder and about Forry Ackermann's publisher, James Warren, are classics, but one of the other cool things he did was to document the history of comics fandom, to parallel the work already done by others about SF fans.

#### **Patron Saints:**

##### **Matthew B. Tepper:**

George described Matthew as one of the first LASFS people he met, and always friendly and personable.

Mike Thorsen mentioned Matthew's skill with the game Cards Against Humanity.

Tad Daley mentioned the running Nobel Peace Prize gag. Michelle Pincus mentioned the running gag of introducing Matthew and Nick Smith to each other.

##### **Karl Lembke:**

Not here tonight, but back at work. Still has a lot of medical treatment to go, and has to be careful of his diet, since the new heart valve is still settling in.

Mike mentioned that Karl is a skilled Mah Jongg player and cook. He also has a tendency to take in stray humans, and re-civilize them.

John DeChancie said that Karl is so intelligent that it hurts.

George McUrso said that his handling of things like con suites has been outstanding.

**Minutes of the last meeting** were read. Christian McGuire paid a small cache of looted doubloons to name them "Arrh! Pirates no more!" They were approved by voice vote.

#### **Introduction of Guests: none**

**Board of Directors report:** The next board meeting will be on the second Sunday of October.

**Treasurer's Report:** none

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### **Program Committee: Charlie's not here, man!**

Auction tonight, Trivia for chocolate next week, with a 60's comics theme.

First meeting in October will be the Forry Awards nomination and award voting.

**LOSCON 46:** Matthew announced the addition of Nicholas Meyer to Saturday. The new Holmes novel takes place in 1905 in Russia. Nick added more details, but this was basically due to a lot of extra work by Kristen Gorlitz.

**Loscon 47:** No report

##### **A Moment of Science:**

**Bill mentioned** that the Wilmington fault is just south of downtown Los Angeles, which was considered a "dead" fault, but apparently it's only dormant, a thing currently being studied. If it becomes less dormant, that would be very bad.

Nick mentioned the DNA analysis of ancient Denisovans producing a rough portrait, and the applications of this to modern forensics.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** none

#### **Announcements:**

##### **Tad Daley** announcements:

1. His wife has an online book club for kids. He brought bookmarks.

2. His wife just published her first book, Welcome to Washington, Fina Mendoza, a juvenile mystery.

3. Citizens for Global Solutions is working on the idea of world government as a solution to prevent war. There

will be an annual event on November 2<sup>nd</sup> here in Los Angeles, with Tad Daley and Gene Roddenberry Jr. at the Peace Center on Sepulveda in Culver City.

Dark Delicacies bookstore, right up the street at 822 Hollywood Way, is ramping up for Halloween with some book signings. On Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> at 4 pm the signing will be for the book *The Show Won't Go On*, which is a book of true stories of performers who died on stage, and not just from lack of applause. Then on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4 pm they have a multi-book, multi-author signing. My favorite of the titles listed for that event is: *The Werewolf Whisperer*.

This coming Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 10 am to 5 pm, **Nerd Expo 2019** will be at the Pasadena Convention Center. The group putting it on has been hosting fannish events in the San Gabriel Valley for a few years now, and this event previously had the hard-to-say name of "NerdBotCon". It's especially aimed at cosplayers, gamers, and people who sing karaoke versions of theme songs. There's even a performance by a sort of folk rock band called...wait for it...Ragna Rock. Anyone who has ever read a Thor comic or seen the movies may now groan...Advance tickets are currently \$20, and will be \$24 at the door.

The L. A. Valley Film Festival will run from the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>, and will mostly be at the Laemmle Noho theater and the Alley Studio, a couple of blocks south on Lankershim. This year there will be quite a bit of programming of and about music at the latter site, but the films at the Laemmle will include a lot of thrillers and SF, including *Boris and the Bomb*. Check [www.valleyfilmfest.com](http://www.valleyfilmfest.com) for the schedule.

Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm will be another classic SF double-feature at the Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut. This one will feature giant arthropods, with the films *Them* and *The Black Scorpion*, both from the 1950s.

#### Reviews:

Tad went to Worldcon. It was his first overseas Worldcon, and his third overall. The con suite was in hiding [Elayne said it was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the hotel, and only had munchies]. No room parties, because they're not a European con tradition. Tad had a lot of fun meeting folks, but wasn't used to the local customs. He was very impressed by Becky Chambers, an author who bootstrapped up from self-publishing.

Downers: there was a huge auditorium with plenty of space, but you had to get tickets for the events there, which interfered with going to other functions. Lines for every single panel that he went to, with too few chairs in many rooms.

#### Miscellaneous:

Christian mentioned a Steampunk convention in San Diego next week. The Gaslight Steampunk Expo runs from September 26 to 29. No one has yet learned why this was Miscellaneous rather than an Announcement.

Motion to adjourn and put chairs away at 9:2 pm.

Passed without fear of contradiction.

### Meeting #4285, September 26, 2019 Marty Cantor, Presiding Pontifically Nick Smith, Scribing Ceremoniously

President Cantor called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm.

President Cantor announced that this is Banned Books Week.

#### Special Orders of Business:

Today is the birthday of actress Linda Hamilton, who has spent most of her career doing SF and fantasy roles. She's best known for her roles in the Terminator movies and as the female lead in the Beauty and the Beast TV series of the 1980s, but she was also in Children of the Corn, King Kong Lives, Black Moon Rising...okay, so maybe we'd better stick with Terminator and Beauty & the Beast...

#### Patron Saints:

##### Mike Donahue

A member of the Director's Guild who has written and directed feature films in both the horror and SF field.

##### Ron Ellik

He co-authored *The Universes of E. E. Smith*, a Lensman concordance, and a Man from U.N.C.L.E book called *The Cross of Gold Affair*.

In the club he was a folksong writer and a poker player.

By day he was a satellite engineer in Operations Research and Satellite Design.

##### Barry Workman

Went with Jerry Pournelle to Baja California back when there were no roads, and apparently without the use of an anti-grav hovercraft. On this trip, he discovered a new species of brine shrimp and got to name it.

Larry Niven mentioned that he got the nickname in Baja of El Fuerte the strong one.

He built his own harpsichord. He was also part of the crew that re-built the clubhouse that the club owned on Burbank in North Hollywood, as well as one year's Hugo awards.

**Minutes of the last meeting** were read. George McUrso paid \$2 to name them "Giant scorpions and giant ants both chirp." They were approved by voice vote.

#### Introduction of Guests: none

**Board of Directors report:** The next board meeting will be on October 13<sup>th</sup>?

**Treasurer's Report:** Same old, same old, same old.

#### Committee Reports:

#### Program Committee:

Lafa  
(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

**Note: We (Lafa) are complying with California's "stay safe at home" order. Lafa filks will be held via Zoom until the COVID-19 pandemic subsides.**

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

Tonight, Trivia for Chocolate, with new, easier questions!  
 Next week, the nominations and voting for the Forrest J. Ackerman awards.  
 October 24<sup>th</sup> will be another Trivia for Chocolate  
 Board of Directors elections in November  
 Procedural officer elections in December

**LOSCON 46:** No report.

**L OSCON 47:** none

**A Moment of Science:**

George McUrso mentioned a moment of technology. Rivion wants to create electric trucks, specifically. They have created prototypes, and Jeff Bezos of Amazon has pre-ordered a bunch.

George also mentioned a company selling an unprogrammed robot dog.

Larry Niven mentioned seeing a photo of the black hole fringe from a nearby galaxy, which is the only part that you can see.

Gizmo mentioned the Boston Dynamics robotics video that shows the new range of motion that they have managed to work out with robotics.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** none

**Announcements:**

The Shriekfest film festival is this weekend at the Raleigh Studios, 5400 Melrose in Hollywood. A weekend pass is

\$75, but you can buy separate tickets if you only want to go for part of the event. The festival includes a wide variety of short films and feature films that are horror or dark fantasy in nature, although some have elements of SF as well.

The Arena Cinelounge in Hollywood reached all the way back to the 1920s for this week's fannish film. They are showing *The Man Who Laughs*, based on the Victor Hugo novel of the same name. That is the movie most responsible for the face of Batman villain The Joker.

The L. A. Valley Film Festival will run from the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>, and will mostly be at the Laemmle Noho theater and the Alley Studio, a couple of blocks south on Lankershim. This year there will be quite a bit of programming of and about music at the latter site, but the films at the Laemmle will include a lot of thrillers and SF, including *Boris* and *The Bomb*. Check [www.valleyfilmfest.com](http://www.valleyfilmfest.com) for the schedule.

Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm will be another classic SF double-feature at the Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut. This one will feature giant bugs, with the films *Them* and *The Black Scorpion*, both from the 1950s.

Sunday boardgaming meetup at Paper Heroes will be on October 6<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup>.

So Cal Games Day in Burbank in mid-October.

**Reviews:**

Nola reviewed a podcast called *The Ensign's Log*, which is a comedy based on *Star Trek*. Parts are hysterical, but some of it very "male sense of humor."

Gizmo saw *Ad Astra*. A very beautiful film in terms of being technically sound, in terms of space travel. More about psychological and mental states of people in space. A difficult movie to portray.

Nick saw the same film and recommended seeing it for the visuals, but said that the script wasn't up to the quality needed.

Hare just saw *The Moon*, directed by David Bowie's son. Involved a helium miner on the moon.

George McUrso saw a 1967 film called *Operation Kid Brother*, starring Neal Connery, Sean Connery's younger brother. They managed to get various folks from the James Bond movies in bit parts.

**Miscellaneous:**

Hare mentioned a postponement of the Pancho Barnes film.

Gizmo mentioned Megabot, a company making a huge robot for display purposes. Now their robot is for sale on eBay. Currently up to \$91,000.

**ILLOS  
AS PER USUAL  
BY  
WILLIAM ROTSLER**



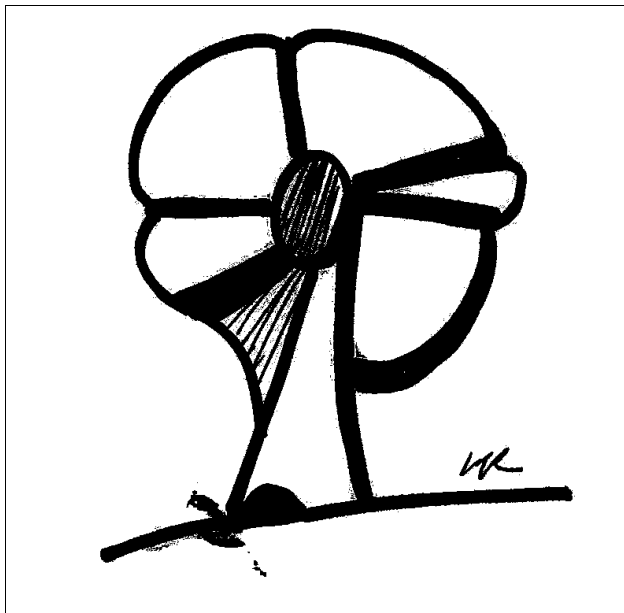
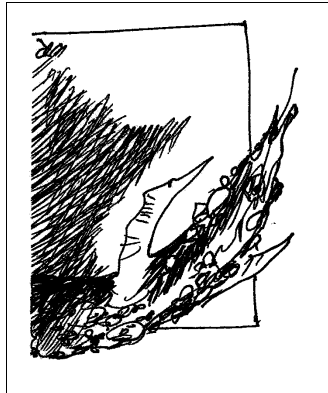
Frank mentioned that Aron Eisenberg, Nog on *Deep Space 9*, had just passed away.

**Fannish Committee Reports:**

From the Committee of Weird Coincidences, Betty Balantine, Shel Silverstein, Christopher Reeve, Mark Hamill and Will Smith were all born on September 25th... different years, of course. Our thanks to Mike Glycer's File 770 for his birthday list, which is how I spotted that.

Motion to adjourn and put chairs away at (*sometime in the evening*) pm. Passed without fear of contradiction.

**Board of Directors Meeting  
February 15, 2020  
Karl Lembke, Chairman  
Nick Smith, Substitute Secretary  
(These minutes will be brought up later)**



**BOARD GAMING  
MEETUP**

The board gaming Meetup which had been meeting at LASFS on Friday Nights when LASFS owned its own clubhouse, has moved to a temporary venue, a game store in Sherman Oaks.

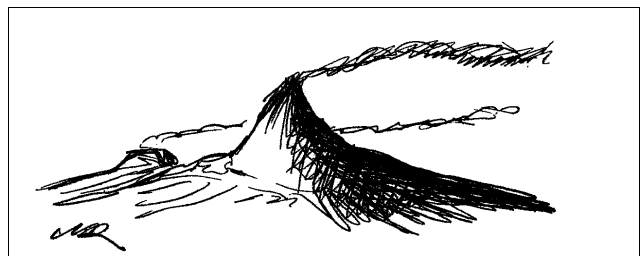
Paper Hero's Games is at 14109 Burbank Blvd., Sherman Oaks, 91401. The shop is in the interior juncture of an L-shaped strip mall on the Northwest corner of the intersection of Hazeltine and Burbank.

Our new hours are 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

We hope to see our regular gamers at that venue.

We shall move our gaming back to LASFS when the club moves into permanent quarters.

**FOR THE DURATION  
OF THE  
SOCIAL DISTANCING ORDER  
THERE WILL BE NO  
BOARD GAMING  
AT  
PAPER HERO'S GAMES**



**LASFS  
DIRECTORY**

The directory is now available.  
Elayne will e-mail  
the following directory files, free,  
upon request:  
xl spreadsheet, or  
pdf

For those without on-line  
or printer access  
Elayne will provide a printed copy upon request  
for a small fee.

Contact Elayne at:  
treasurer@lasfs.org

**WHO KNOWS WHAT ETHER  
LURKS IN THE MINDS OF FEN?**

The fannish autobiography of  
Phil Castora  
edited and pubbed by Marty Cantor  
pdf file available at  
<http://efanzines.com/Castora/index.htm>  
paper copies from Marty Cantor for \$5.00

**LASFS MEETINGS -  
WE NOW MEET IN OUR NEW  
VENUE EVERY THURSDAY**

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
747 WHITNALL HWY  
BURBANK, CA**

Parking lot is off Screenland Dr. at the end of N. Whitnall.

We are meeting in the Friendship Hall.

**DE PROFUNDIS**

is available as a .pdf file  
at the web site listed on page one,  
as a .pdf file delivered  
to your computer inbox,  
or as a paper copy  
either handed to you at LASFS  
or mailed to your home.  
Paper copies are sold at cost.  
Contact Marty Cantor for details.



**De Profundis  
c/o Marty Cantor  
11825 Gilmore St. #105  
North Hollywood, CA 91606  
U.S.A.**

**DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE RUSH**