

De
Profundis

DE PROFUNDIS 434



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

APRIL 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 LASFS MEETING	3 Open House	4 ESTROGEN ZONE
5 LOSCON MEETING	6	7	8	9 LASFS MEETING	10 Brewster Rockitt Fan Club	11 Tom Safer Cartoons - Cinema Anime
12 BoD Meeting Open House	13	14	15 Marketing Committee	16 LASFS MEETING	17 Open House	18 CFO
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26 FWEMS	27	28	29	30 LASFS MEETING	31 - ARCHIE MERCER DAY	

KEY TO CALENDAR & OTHER IMPEDIMENTA

ESTROGEN ZONE = Ladies Auxiliary Sewing and
Fallout Society
TRIPE = Temporal Retrieval of Information
Programming and Entertainment.
BOD = Board of Directors
2nd Sunday = Board and other gaming
Cinema Anime = Japanimation, time after 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

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
FWEMS - Mystery & Suspense

THURSDAY PROGRAMME ITEMS

APRIL 2 - 2nd reading Standing Rules (if necessary)
& Early SF television, part III
APRIL 9 - No programme set at press time
APRIL 16 - Hugo nominees discussion
APRIL 23 - BIG Auction
APRIL 30 - No programme set at press time

(programme items subject to change)
without notice)

LALACON

JUNE 6 & 7

DE PROFUNDIS - the *unofficial* newsletter of LASFS

COLOPHON

De Profundis 434 – April, 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. *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 LASFS 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 the clubhouse on Thursday evenings or at his address: martyhoohah (at) sbcglobal (dot) net. 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. 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.

Marty Cantor, 11825 Gilmore Street #105, North Hollywood, CA 91606, USA. (818) 761-9401. martyhoohah (at) sbcglobal (dot) net. April, 2009. Hoo Hah Publication Number 1361. 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.

LASFS OFFICERS

**Elected Procedural Officers
January - June 2009**

President: Mike Thorsen. **Vice-President:** Maryann Canfield, Rob Powell

(tag team). **Scribe:** Karl Lembke. **Treasurer:** (elected in mid-year, only) Elayne Pelz. **Registrar:** Michelle Pincus.

Board of Directors

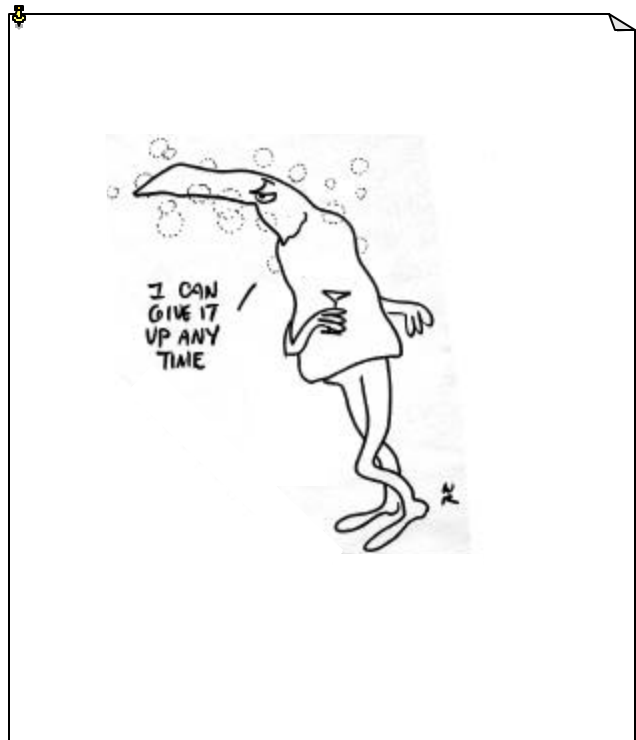
Chairman: Karl Lembke (2009). **Vice-Chairman:** Merlin R. "Bob" Null (2009).. **Comptroller:** Christian McGuire (2011). **Secretary:** Darnell Coleman (2011). **Other members:** Marsha Minsky (2009), Elayne Pelz (2011), Rob "Gizmo" Powell (2011), Arlene Satin (2010), Milt Stevens, (2010), Mike Thorsen (2010), Tadao Tomomatsu (2009). **Special Advisor:** Charles Lee Jackson II. **Advisors:** Forrest J Ackeman, 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 Gavels:** 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.



Illo by Bill Rotsler

EDITORIAL

by Marty Cantor,
incoming DE PROFUNDIS
editor

I want to give some thanks in this editorial, starting with some going to the LASFS' Board of Directors when they gave me this zine after they found they had to cut expenses. I promised them (as I promise you, the reader) that this zine will continue to be - mostly - a newsletter connecting the club to its members. It will continue to provide timely news and a calendar so that you can plan club attendance.

I also want to thank certain club members who have promised to contribute services to me - as they did to the De Prof editor when the zine belonged to the club: Elayne Pelz, Cathy Beckstead, Barry & Lee Gold, Charlie Jackson, and the Librarian.

LASFS Library Donations FAQ

Does the library accept donations?

Yes. Please speak to or write to the librarian before bringing anything in.

What should I do if I have some books I'd like to donate to the LASFS library?

Thanks for thinking of us! Please speak to or write to the librarian before bringing anything in.

I just want to get these books out of my place. What's the worst that could happen if I dump them off here at the clubhouse?

You will cause the librarian added stress and he might break out in oozing hives.

I've been a member since the Eisenhower administration. I chaired Fubarcon 6 times. Furthermore, my roommate's cousin used to date John DeChancie's barber. Can't I just drop off my 67 boxes of books?

The library greatly appreciates your many contributions to fandom. No.

I would like to donate my collection of the complete works of that giant of literature, Dick Logoflattus. Will you put them on the shelves tonight?

No. Not all donations will be added to the collection. We might sell them or donate them to someone else. Please speak to or write to the librarian before bringing anything in.

I just made a large donation. Surely the librarian will show gratitude by taking me to the airport/worming my dog/buying me lunch/giving me some free books in return.

Sorry, no, although the LASFS appreciates your generosity.

I saw the librarian putting books in the dumpster!

Donated items with bugs, mold, rodent droppings or other signs of infestation will be discarded. The LASFS generates its own plagues in-house.

What happens to books the library doesn't want?

They may be placed on the sale shelf (see above). They may be donated to Operation Paperback, an organization that sends books to military personnel in Afghanistan and Iraq. They may be distributed to random panhandlers. We regret that we can't offer any guarantees about the eventual disposition of donated items.

Fewer and fewer places accept large donations of books. Many charities and thrift stores will only accept one box at a time. If you know of a specific place that accepts books in quantity, we would very much like to know about it.

Who decides what gets added to the collection?

The librarians do, based on the following criteria:

Do we already have the book? Yes - it goes on the sales shelf.

Does it complete one of our incomplete series? Yes - we keep for the collection.

When was the book published? Very old - probably keep. Very recent? Probably keep.

5 - 10 years old - depends.

Who's the author? A LASFS member or significant other thereof? Keep.

What's the subgenre? We're heavy on military SF of the 90s and early 2000s, light on recent dark fantasy.

Sale shelf

Items that are not being added to the collection (see

above) may be placed on the sale shelf. Items selected for the sale shelf are usually things that, in the librarian's subjective opinion, are likely to sell.

The librarian knows that:

Books can be sold.
Former librarians X and Y did things differently.
You, your mom, and your 6-toed kitty have an opinion on the disposition of any given book.
Books can be mailed at a special rate.
You may be right.

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)

Meeting #3724, December 25, 2008
Mike Thorsen, President
Matthew B. Tepper, Scribe

All good things must come to an end, and so also must 2008.

Menace were read, sanded down, bludgeoned and wiped with sulfuric acid before they were finally approved as "a cat's claws."

Michelle said we had no **guests** this evening, but Tim & Serena Powers had finally gotten around to joining. Your humble Scribe exulted: "Serenity now!"

The final passel of **Patron Saint** celebrations began with **Elayne Pelz, the Sacred Spryngbok**. Hare Hobbs said that when he joined, she was the Treasurer, and would get money out of him and others with her glare. She didn't carry a pouch in those days, but then, spryngboks are not marsupials. Marty Cantor said Elayne is on the Board of Directors now, a good thing because she is expert at saying "No!" to expenditures. George Mulligan said he has always found her amenable to pleasant conversation. Maryann Canfield noted that Elayne is essential at keeping this club going, "which is more than it sounds like." Nick Smith called Elayne "one of the most organized people in fandom." In fact, when he wasn't attending Thursday night meetings, she ultimately tracked him down to give him his membership card which he had never picked up. CL said "she learned at the feet, er, trunk of a certain master." She is skilled in cooking and various crafts, very intelligent and well-read, and fluent in at least three languages including Russian (which she and Bruce used for private asides when others were around). Your humble Scribe had taken a German class with her at Santa Monica College, so could vouch for her familiarity with that language. We awarded Patron Saint Elayne Pelz cheers "and a nice broad Veldt upon which to scamper."

Next up was another many-time LASFS Treasurer,

Robbie Bourget. Hare avowed that she had a different style of collecting, namely, fixing him with that cat-that-ate-the-canary look and exclaiming, "Give me money!" Joe Zeff said Robbie's doctor had instructed her to eat *more* food with cholesterol in it. George Mulligan said he once bought Robbie a button which said, "Oh s---, you're going to talk to me!" and she immediately put it on. Marty said their divorce had been amicable, and they still get along, many years afterwards. CL said that Robbie had made a silent observation upon seeing him with red hair. But Mr. Thorsen had once seen her with most of her hair chopped off; Marty explained that she was allergic to her own hair! Also, the \$20 bid of "a Cantor" for parking spaces was named for her (when she was married to Marty). We celebrated Patron Saint Robbie Bourget with three cheers "and an airport."

Last up was **Patron Saint Marty Cantor**. CL recalled, "my mother told me that if you can't say anything good about somebody, to not say anything." Hare felt that "you need somebody like him to say things that nobody else will say." Qarl Lembqe felt there was a need for a new unit of measurement: six tons per second of hot gas escaping had to be called a Cantor. Maryann said that Marty was a former editor of *De Profundis*, is a gamer, and is our resident curmudgeon. Mark Poliner called Marty "a stubborn and a nice guy." Your humble Scribe averred that Marty has excellent taste in music, including an appreciation of the classical side of things; when K-Mozart got banished to the AM airwaves a couple of years back, Marty called them and complained so much that they gave him an HD radio so he could hear the station in better sound, although maybe they just wanted to shut him up. We touted Patron Saint Marty Cantor with three cheers "and Al Jolson on a raft."

Timebound Announcements: Maryann said that due to work commitments, she would not be able to guarantee her presence through the entirety of the New Year's Eve Party of Last Resort, if we were to have one; Thorsen stepped up and volunteered, suggesting a starting time of 4:00 p.m.; bring your own supplies if you can.

Reviews: Tom Safer was the latest LASFS member to perform among dead people; his choir sang Mozart's Coronation Mass, K. 317, with the New Valley Symphony Orchestra at the Hall of Liberty at Forest Lawn in Hollywood Hills; he thought it was a beautiful place to sing. And the audience wasn't likely to complain, either.

Faanish Committee Reports: Robert Jansen said that a white dwarf star has been detected emitting only ultraviolet, at a super-hot 200,000^o K. Also, the cost of genetic engineering has come down so far that amateurs can do it. (Maybe Dr. Sheldon Cooper can have his glowing fish after all!) Eylat has her website up and running for trading and blogging: it's at <http://allottastuff.com>.

CL said that he is far behind in his film viewing, and may

only make it up to a grand total of 325 features viewed in 2008.

There was nothing that could possibly be added to that, so we adjourned at 2125, and the Scribe quacked happily back to the couch.

***Meeting #3725, January 1, 2009
Matthew B. Tepper, President
Karl Lembke, Scribe***

Meeting 3725 was gaveled to order at 20:10:46, by Matthew Tepper as the most senior former president in attendance. Both veeps and the registrar were absent, and the Board members in attendance were busy.

Special Orders of Business: Marty Cantor noted that English fan, member of rat fandom, Leroy Kettle, was given the OBE some years ago. Now, Terry Pratchett has been knighted, and most important, the award was given during a period when he can still appreciate it. Terry is giving what he can to the fight against Alzheimer's, and challenging fans to match his donation, half a million pounds (sterling) to date.

In his turn, Charlie Jackson noted the passing of Donald Westlake, who wrote mysteries and was known to a fair number of LASFSians who read mysteries. He also wrote SF under a pseudonym.

The **Menace** from last week were read and accepted as "for once the LASFS members not only have nothing clever to say, but they know it".

Guests: In the absence of a Registrar, Elayne Pelz announced the existence of a guest. Dan Nichols was introduced by Ryan Nichols. They were assured the dangerous ones were usually plainly marked. Unfortunately, you have to be able to see vacuum ultraviolet to read the markings.

Patron Saints: Dan Alderson. Scratch recalled Dan as a sane mad scientist, great guy, whose favorite words were "weep wail." He's missed. Tom Safer recalled Dan as always here, even though he didn't say much, and he was important enough to have a parking space named after him. Joe Zeff stated that Dan wrote down the Alderson Method for elections, which is easy to understand, if you're a computer programmer. Dan dictated one complex computer package to him after he lost his eyesight, and never got lost or got anything out of order, because he had everything organized so anyone could keep track of it, and he alphabetized variable names. Jerry Pournelle notes Dan is the sane genius appearing in *Lucifer's Hammer*, though not under his own name. Also, a re-issue of Exile and Glory features Dan as a supporting character. He had lots to say to friends, but didn't speak in public much. The Alderson drive in Mote in God's Eye is named after him. Unfortunately, no one could talk him into taking better care of himself.

Marty Cantor said Dan was friendly with everybody. Professionally, in his community, he worked for JPL. He was the one who designed the Trajectory Monitoring package that was used by JPL. Jerry Pournelle amplified, saying Dan wrote a Fortran program that incorporated the celestial mechanics of the solar system. He did the equivalent of low-thrust trajectory tracking. To the best of his knowledge, all low-thrust trajectory craft still fly with at least a piece of Alderson's software in it. Scratch added, "he had the ability to pick up an idea, mull it around, come back, and tell you the answer when you were least expecting it." Charlie Jackson added, "Dan's program was called Trajectory Monitor, or TRAM for short." It's what got Voyager through the asteroid belt. Thus, when Star Trek I came out, fans called it "The revenge of Dan Alderson". Joe Zeff said Dan had a sense of humor and low self esteem. These once combined in a near-fatal way. He was in a car with Phil Castora and remarked, "I suppose we could always hold a self-denigration contest. Of course, I'd lose." Inducing that amount of laughter in the driver of a car at 64 MPH is not safe.

Dan Alderson was given three cheers, and "weep, wail".

Joe Zeff: Hare Hobbs recalled that when Dan Alderson was at his sickest from the effects of diabetes, Joe was Dan's caretaker. Tom Safer appreciates how Joe has been a loyal and helpful cartoon fan, and has helped put a number of shows together. Scratch has known Zeff for a few days, and when we were having D&D played here on Fridays, he'd run some of the most **unique** characters – some of which he can use in the class he teaches, others he doesn't dare.

Jerry Pournelle called him an imaginative person. He's reliable, he never promises what he can't deliver, and always delivers on what he promises. Greg Barrett says, Joe is steadfast both as a member of the club and as a friend. He can't think of another member who is more so than Zeff. His friendship is something he cherishes. Mike Thorsen has known Joe since joining the club. He's very imaginative, and has an incredible memory for tiny details and obscure trivia, which he loves to put into his stories and characters. He particularly enjoys trotting out references that no one recognizes. (Charlie Jackson is a challenge.) Glenn Olson met Joe Zeff the first time he came to a meeting. Glenn thought Joe was actually a paid performer for the club, on account of his stupid computer user and other reports. He now misses them. He was furiously shushed by some in attendance, fortunately, without bloodshed.

Joe Zeff answered a question that had arisen earlier: His sacred object is the Sacred Sideburns. He added that most times, he doesn't make the obscure references to stump people, but simply because they amuse him.

Joe Zeff was given three rousing cheers and a Civil War general.

Lafa

(Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous)

Lafa Filksing

Saturday, April 18, 2009

Filk: 7:00 PM

The House of Perpetual Commotion: Hosts: John & Mary
Creasey

3754 W. 170th Street, Torrance, CA (310) 329-6772

Pre-filk Potluck Dinner: 5:00 PM

Golden Camel Mongolian BBQ,

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!

DIRECTIONS: Thomas Brothers.

L.A. CO. PAGE 733 GRID E-7

Type of Circle: TBD & Theme basket -- John and/or Mary
will be Demighod.

NOTES (abbreviated) - 1. Mucho crash space available; call to
reserve yours; bring sleeping gear in case we run out of beds.

2. Critter Warning: There are rats, hamsters, newts, and a gecko.
They will be upstairs in their room.

3. Children welcomed on good behavior.

4. Bring all of your usual filk stuff.

5. NO SMOKING indoors, PLEASE!! (except users of smoke-filter
ashtrays)

6. There is a piano, it's playable but very old and tuned to a hair under
440

7. There be computers here! (PC clones).THEY WILL BE IN
HIBERNATION for the night except for song archiving. 'Tis a
filksing, not a bytebash.

8. There is a copier available; slight cost to cover supplies.

9. The last survivors will be conscripted into cleaning up the remains.

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

Committee Reports and Time Bound

Announcements: Elayne Pelz announced that it's time
to pay dues – monthly, annual, and otherwise.

CLJII reported on the program for the evening, a couple
of Buster Keaton shorts from the 30s.

Reviews: Eric noted that many Yahoo groups linked to
reviews, including one with the headline, "Klaatu Barada
Stinko".

Safer reviewed some shorts (Matthew said, "No clothing
reviews!"). They are the shorts included with Wall-E.
Both are recommended.

Ryan reviewed Iain Banks' *Matter* – It's super-cool. It
features "shell worlds" – multi-layered habitable worlds
of unknown antiquity, and a social hierarchy between
inhabitants of the shells. In the novel, the relationships

get overturned.

Jerry Pournelle warned the club away from the opera,
"Doctor Atomic" by John Adams with Peter Sellers as
librettist. Don't see this one. It's so bad, it got JP
wondering if there was something wrong with him. They
can't have spent so much money on something and have
it so bad... Miss it if you can. Go see The Magic Flute
instead.

Mary Ann Canfield reviewed the Party of Last Resort. It
was a small group, maybe 10 people. Good food, good
company, and good movies. A good time was had by all.
Jerry Pournelle doesn't remember what happened at
Larry Niven's party.

Miscellaneous: Glenn Olson saw by the papers, a list of
things to look forward to. Included in the list is, the one
millionth word will be added to the English language.
Tom Safer notes that in addition to the millionth word. A
college has nominated a number of words and phrases
that should be eliminated from the English language.

The program this night is the Great Stone Face, starring
one Joe Keaton, also known as Buster. And so we
adjourned.

Meeting #3726, January 8, 2009

Mike Thorsen, President

Karl Lembke, Scribe

OK, guys, did you feel the earthquake?

Meeting 3726 was gavelled to order at 20:10:27

The **Menace** were read and approved as Klaatu barada
stinko.

Guests: Michelle announced that we have guests. Anita
Nunez, who heard about us from a friend in college, more
than 12 years ago, and the family of Gloria McMillan,
Chris McMillan, Bob McMillan

Patron Saints: **Bruce Pelz**, Sacred Elephant and Pillar
of the LASFS. Hare Hobbs called Bruce was the last of
the Omni-fans. Also, if you've read Silverlock by Myers
Myers, he's one of the people who put the songs and
poems therein to music. He chaired many conventions,
and was noted for doing them very well. He was also
noted for gouging the members of the club for money.
And he had a great sense of humor

Scratch: Bruce had the distinction of being a collector of
collections. Ed Hooper: He had the patience of a saint.
He'd listen to people ranting and raving, and not kill
them. Charlie Jackson: Bruce was a man of eclectic
tastes, and an omnivorous fact accumulator. When he
thought of a joke that required knowing Flanders and
Swann and Pokemon, Bruce got it. Bruce was a member
of the Epitome of Evil, Ltd. He was the smiling one. That
makes him a comic book character. Comic book

characters never die, they just go into limbo until a new editor comes along. Bruce is also the inspiration for the Brontosaurus and Toad character, Bruce E. Phant

Tadao Tomomatsu first met Bruce as a dealer, and then again at the club. He recalled Tadao from years before. He was the great translator, able to translate a reference at a moment's notice. And he had a unique perspective on things. Joe Zeff: Among others of his talents, he had a fine talent for matching people with books they'd enjoy reading. After he retired, he sold books here, and introduced him to the Amelia Peabody mystery series. Karen Anderson: If there was an organization or activity in fandom that was the least bit interesting, he'd get in to it. He also created organizations for things he was interested in, including the Organization of Erudite Bastards.

Charlie Jackson: He not only joined the Los Angeles Socializing and Feasting Society, he became the rat bastard treasurer. Joe Zeff: He collected ribbons. Including, at one convention, "The Ribbon Bruce Pelz Won't Get." Marty Massoglia: Once, in a trivia team contest, the opposing team thought they were very hot, until, on the first fannish question, Bruce buzzed in with the correct answer, "I did." Bill Ellern: Bruce was a great one to talk to to get your head straightened out. He'd listen, and have a bit of useful advice. John Hertz: The best single remark about Bruce yet heard was, "He had a fruitful imagination" A remarkable quantity of the things Bruce dreamed up came to pass. Bruce Pelz was given three cheers, and a round-the-world cruise.

Saint **Christian McGuire**: Ed Hooper noted he's been known as the rocking chair, because of the way he rocks back and forth. He also put himself on the line for a decade running Gallifrey One. Hare: Christian seems to be one of the main ones to take up Bruce's job of chairing cons. He chaired many, including the last Worldcon. He's one of several to take over the job of gouging the LASFS. He's almost as important to LASFS as half a Bruce. Tadao: Christian is a go-getter. He goes charging through. He'll stay up hours on end to make sure stuff gets done. At 3 am, when he's had one drink too many, take away his cell phone.

Zeff: When Christian was new to LASFS, he jumped in to help. He even took over for the scribe. Three times, he had to refer to Joe, but didn't know his name. That's how Joe became "The Guy With The Sdeburns." He's fan GOH at this year's Loscon. Charlie Jackson: For years, Christian partnered with Shawn Lyon, and the pair were known as Aslan. There's no truth to rumor that Shawn's recent disappearance has anything to do with the extra weight Christian has put on.

George Mulligan. He's a hell of a nice guy. John Hertz: Because of him that Hertz considers himself a member of Christian fandom. Hare: Before he became President for a while, he was Science Monitor. Christian has always done well at keeping track of interesting things to know.

Christian was given three rousing cheers and a bridge to bain.

Committee Reports: Elayne says it's a new year. Give money.

Charlie Jackson reminded one and all that if the deadbolt is thrown, turn the knob to pull it back in. Leaving it out damages lock, door, frame. We also have a library, with a collection of videos for LASFS members to borrow. Remember to bring them back. No program tonight or next week.

Mike Thorsen: Tomorrow night, no open house, this being the start of 2009, we're curtailing lightly attended things. Open house is 1st and 3rd Fridays.

Mike Thorsen announced: We've had the front repaved. Please don't park there. We need to give it time to set. After Sunday, it should be OK. After they remove the rope, it should be OK.

Once again, we've had some rearrangements to scheduled monthly events. If you showed up Sunday to attend TRIPE, sorry. Tripe is now First Saturday of odd-numbered months. Estrogen Zone is first Saturday of even-numbered months.

Science report: Karen Anderson read to us about Gamma Ray Bursts. The NASA Swift satellite noticed the burst, and within minutes two optical scopes had turned to observe it. In less than 15 minutes, a low-resolution spectrophotometer at Keck observatory determined the burst was 11 billion light years away. Thanks to the intensity of the burst, scientists were able to learn about the molecular composition of the gas in early stellar nurseries.

Reviews: Michelle Pincus found a nifty book: The Pirate Primer. It's a dictionary giving historical, movie, and literary references for pirate talk. Matthew Tepper asked, what's the first listing under "R" – Actually, it's not arranged like that. But chapter 15 is "Arrgh". Thorsen asked, do they explain all the permutations of the meaning of the word "Parlay"? Actually, I'm told it's more of a guideline.

We adjourned at 21:00:30

Meeting #3727, January 15, 2009
Mike Thorsen, President
Karl Lembke, Scribe

Meeting 3727 was gavelled to order at 20:08:33

Special Orders of Business: Karen Anderson announced the passing of Ed Cartier, the artist who did the first Hoka illustration, and other things, mostly pulps. He was 94. We observed a moment of silence.

The **Menace** were read and approved as "absence of mallard aforethought".

Patron Saint: Jeff Siegel. Jerry Pournelle: Lt Col. Jeff Siegel was an Air Force Academy graduate. Was his oldest son's best friend. He is now an ordained minister in the Lutheran church, married to an Air Force veterinarian. He doesn't live anywhere near this state, so he doesn't come to LASFS much any more. Fred Patten noted he was also an early fan of Japanese animation. Jeff Siegel was given three rousing cheers and a chunk of kryptonite.

Guests: Michelle announced three guests. Douglas Stingley "The Captain", who heard about us on the Internet. Seth Talley, "Seth", a drive-by. The website is what encouraged him to visit. Louis Steiner, encouraged by Michelle.

LASFS has adopted a code of conduct. It's fairly simple, fairly short. "Respect yourself, others, and the property of LASFS. Treat them respectfully while on the premises."

Mike Thorsen offered a clarification: The premises in question are the LASFS premises. We're not as worried about what happens off the LASFS premises.

Old Business: Christian announced bidding for Loscon 37 would begin at the February Board of Directors meeting, 2/8/9.

The **Committee to Gouge** was present, and did so. The Star Trader book brought in twice as much money as did the Fetish book

Time Bound Announcements: Doug Crepeau announced the particle count in the room. It registered at 63,000 per cubic foot. [*And all of them were media fans, talking about movies. – ed.*]

Karen Anderson rose to report on science. She sank for a moment to retrieve her reading glasses, and then told us of an investigation of the creators of the Nazca lines. Alfred Krober, UK LeGuin's father, had acquired a collection of ceremonial trophy skulls from the area. Tooth enamel from these skulls was collected. Analysis showed the skulls belonged to people who also lived in the Nasca region. It had been thought that these heads might have been from enemies taken in war, and from some distance away.

David Okamura announced that scientists analyzing spectral readings have detected traces of methane in the atmosphere of Mars. Mars may have life. Or did once. Jerry Pournelle pointed out methane is not necessarily produced by life. Mars has been hit by the occasional comet. Karen Anderson pointed out that the methane is being outgassed from somewhere on the planet.

Doug Crepeau noted the Milky Way galaxy is 50% larger than originally thought. Weight Watchers and Nutrasystem are thumb-wrestling for the franchise rights.

Reviews: Martin Young reviewed a book. Descartes' Bones. Said bones were first buried in Sweden. Then the French wanted them back. Why review here? We like independent thinking. Descartes sold independent thinking to the world. The book is subtitled, "A skeletal history of the conflict between faith and reason."

Matthew Tepper, after being interrupted by Jerry Pournelle, added that Franz Josef Haydn's head also was lost. Also, see the LA Opera production of The Magic Flute. It's a delightful production. Gerald Scarfe designed much of the production. The music, of course, is glorious, and the singing grates – er, **is** great.

Karen Anderson reviewed the discussion of the Ingmar Bergman production of the same opera.

(You didn't think you were actually running the meeting, Mike, did you?)

We adjourned at 21:21:16.

Meeting #3728, January 22, 2009
Mike Thorsen, President
Karl Lembke, Scribe

It's raining, it's drizzling, the LASFS is ... er ... sizzling!

Meeting 3728 was gaveled to carbonation at 20:12:15

The **Menace** were read and approved as "Farty red planet".

Onward to **New Business:** We have a motion to allocate \$200 for snacks etc. for the Forry Ackerman Memorial this coming Saturday. The motion carried, so we can pig out while we mourn. Refreshments will not include martinis.

Committee Reports: Elayne announced it's time to pay dues.

Marcia Minsky announced memberships for Loscon are \$30.

Milt Stevens is attempting a 2-page news zine, Ad Astra. Copies are on Elayne's Desk.

The **Committee to Gouge** was present, and did so. Amazingly enough, the value of some pieces of cloth increased

Time Bound Announcements: Mike Thorsen: tomorrow, being the 4th Friday of the month, don't show up to play games.

Karen Anderson had something scientific to tell us about. Chemical and biomolecular engineers have developed chemically triggered nano-hands. Details are published in the Journal of the American Chemical Society. The grippers are 0.03 inches across. The list of authors and

researchers apparently did not include Waldo F. Jones.

Reviews: Anathem, set in a parallel earth where scientists have been segregated into monasteries where they can do the work they want. Neal Stephenson.

Tadao Tomomatsu reviewed a shop across from Dark Delicacies, Emerald Knights – a comic book store. They will support gaming on the upper floor.

Miscellaneous: CLJII: This week is Fred Patten's last weekly contribution to APA -L. He just can't keep up the pace. Scratch was wondering what it would take to extend his streak for historical (hysterical) purposes. [It already is the longest continuous zine-string – by far – in any APA. ed.] Jude-Marie Green, the creator of Abyss and Apex plugged it, and recommended that we nominate for Hugos.

Patron Saints: Rick Sneary. Len Moffatt didn't rise to say anything about him

Milt says he became most famous for a joke that got out of hand. AS a joke, in the late 40s, he started "South Gate in 58". No way could it end up in South Gate. When Los Angeles wanted to bid for the Worldcon in 58, there was this ready-made slogan. Some negotiations were undertaken, and the convention hotel, the Alexandria Hotel in Downtown L.A. was ceded to South Gate for the duration of Labor Day weekend. There was a written Mayoral proclamation and everything. CLJII noted that Rick Young, who thought well of Mr. Sneary arranged for South Gate in 88 as a motto for that year's Loscon.

Matthew Tepper notes he was a sweet, kind, soft-spoken gentleman who was unfortunately in poor health. This did not prevent him from being active in fandom, mainly through writing. Because he was home-schooled, sometimes his spelling was unconventional. Fan editors agreed not to correct the spelling, because the errors were so charming. Rick would have preferred to be corrected, but it had become a Tradition. Bill Ellern became acquainted with his name through his letters to a professional magazine. They treated him the way fan editors treated him. Three cheers for St Rick Sneary, and South Gate is Fine in 2009.

Gail Selinger: Marty Cantor raised his umbrella to tell us Gail was going with Frank Gasperik when Marty first got to the club. Gail decides to learn something about a topic, and she goes all the way. If you're watching a program on History Channel, or National Geographic Channel, about Pirates, she will probably be interviewed on it. She used to be a school teacher, and lives in the valley. She's a very nice person. Matthew Tepper added that he knew Gail before she was a blonde. She was indeed a school teacher in New York City public schools. It's a tough job, and she's tough when needed. She's sweet and charming with her friends. Currently, she writes romance novels, which she publishes online. Scratch was around her when she was with Frank. She put

up with Frank. She's a saint. Gail Selinger was given three cheers, and a month with an arrr in it.

We adjourned at 21:16:08.

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.)

David Falkayn: Star Trader	Anderson, Poul
Star Trek Compendium, The	Asherman, Allan
Class Dis-Mythed	Asprin, Robert L.
Navohar	Bell, Hilari
Lady in Gil	Bradley, Rebecca
Lady Pain	Bradley, Rebecca
Scion's Lady	Bradley, Rebecca
First Rider's Call	Britain, Kristen
Green Rider	Britain, Kristen
Genetopia	Brooke, Keith
Necropath	Brown, Eric
World's End	Chadbourn, Mark
Kaspar's Box	Chalker, Jack
Rising Stars	Cover, Arthur Byron
VideoHound's Golden Movie Retriever	Craddock, Jim
Riders of the Storm	Czerneda, Julie
Tempest	Denning, Troy
Hour of the Gremlins	Dickson, Gordon
Sacred Pool, The	Douglas, L. Warren
Starman	Douglass, Sara
Category 7	Evans, Bill
Wyrmling Horde, The	Farland, David
1634: The Baltic War	Flint, Eric
1635: The Cannon Law	Flint, Eric
Grantville Gazette	Flint, Eric
Grantville Gazette II	Flint, Eric
Grantville Gazette III	Flint, Eric
Pyramid Power	Flint, Eric
Freddy's Book	Gardner, John
Curse the Dark	Gilman, Luara Ann
On Fire's Wings	Golden, Christie
Curse	Grant, Alan
Dragon	Grant, Alan
Future Weapon's of War	Haldeman, Joe
Every Which Way but Dead	Harrison, Kim
Fistful of Charms, A	Harrison, Kim
Good, the Bad, and the Undead, The	Harrison, Kim
For Us, The Living	Heinlein, Robert A.
Point of Honor, A	Heydt, Dorothy
Great Secret, The	Hubbard, L. Ron
Mandalorian Armor, The	Jeter, K. W.
Before the Storm	Kube-McDowell, Michael
Shield of Lies	Kube-McDowell, Michael

Tyrant's Test	Kube-McDowell, Michael	Gnar!	Rucker, Rudy
By Slandorous Tongues	Lackey, Mercedes	Mad Professor	Rucker, Rudy
By the Sword	Lackey, Mercedes	Mathematicians in Love	Rucker, Rudy
Foundation	Lackey, Mercedes	Postsingular	Rucker, Rudy
Magic's Price	Lackey, Mercedes	Sex Sphere, The	Rucker, Rudy
Magic's Promise	Lackey, Mercedes	Spaceland	Rucker, Rudy
Oathblood	Lackey, Mercedes	Secret of Life, The	Rucker, Rudy
Winds of Change	Lackey, Mercedes	Sun of Suns	Schroeder, Karl
Fool's Experiments	Lerner, Edward	Thraxas Under Siege	Scott, Martin
Gods Old and Dark	Lisle, Holly	Alien Harvest	Sheckley, Robert
Mind of Magic	Lisle, Holly	Dead Easy	Simmons, Wm. Mark
Wreck of Heaven, The	Lisle, Holly	Ruler of Naught	Smith, Sherwood
Light Ages, The	MacLeod, Ian	Thrones of Kronos, The	Smith, Sherwood
Ship Who Saved the Worlds, The	McCaffrey, Anne	Anthem	Stephenson, Neal
Sagittarius Command, The	Meluch, R. M.	Fathergod Experiment, The	Taylor, L. A.
Enemy Glory	Michalson, Karen	Star Trek Concordance	Trimble, Bjo
Serrano Connection, The	Moon, Elizabeth	Alternate Generals II	Turtledove, Harry
Circle of the Swan, The	Oliver, Jana	Transhuman	Van Name, Mark
Guardian of Honor	Owens, Robin	Red Thunder	Varley, John
Uncovering the Secrets of the Red Planet	Raeburn, Paul	Warprize	Vaughan, Elizabeth
Sister Time	Ringo, John	Custer's Last Jump	Waldrop, Howard
Vorpal Blade	Ringo, John	Dozen Tough Jobs, A	Waldrop, Howard
As Above, As Below	Rucker, Rudy	Night Angel	Weeks, Brent
Freeware	Rucker, Rudy	Bones of the Dragon	Weis, Margaret
Frek and the Elixir	Rucker, Rudy	Hunter's Oath	West, Michelle



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