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This is the newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society. The LASFS meets every Thursday night at the clubhouse, 11513 Burbank Blvd, North Hollywood, at 8 pm. The clubhouse is also open on Friday nights from 7:30 pm, with the front building open for socializing and the back building open for card playing. There is also an open house on the Second Saturday of each month, from around 2 pm on. DE PROFUNDIS is available free to active members and to those who have paid the Voluntary Active Membership Fee.

LASFS ELECTIONS UPCOMING

The annual election for the LASFS Board of Directors will be held on December 1st. All who have been active members for at least one year are eligible to vote. The terms of three members expire at the end of the year: Dan Alderson, Don Fitch and Marilyn Niven. Mr. Alderson has announced that he will run for re-election, but the plans of Don and Fuzzy are not known to the editor. In addition to Dan, we understand that Harry Andruschak, Marty Cantor, Sandy Cohen, Marty Massoglia, Larry Rothstein, Bill Welden and Barry Workman plan to run.

This is a very important election, as Board members serve three year terms and make the crucial decisions on policy and financial management of the club. It is therefore important to elect someone who is intelligent, can come up with fresh ideas, is able to work with other people, will be responsive to the club he represents and will fulfill his obligations as a Board member. This is not a popularity contest, nor is it an honor. It's a working position with a great deal of responsibility.

The election of procedural officers will be held on December 8th. Procedural officers are elected for six month terms. They are responsible for running the weekly meetings and the week-by-week club business. You will be looking at them every week for the next six months. These are also serious and responsible positions and as the club grows larger, there is more work involved in being an officer of the club. Allan Rothstein is not expected to run for reelection as director; we do not know of anyone who has officially announced they are seeking that post. Bruce Pelz says he will run again for Senior Committeeman if nominated, but is not actively seeking the post. Chandra Sargent has indicated her willingness to run for the post of Junior Committeemen; we understand the incumbent, Sue Fox, is not expected to seek reelection. Mike Farkash and Harry Andruschak have announced they intend to run for the post of Secretary. Both the incumbent, Ed Finkelstein, and Elayne Pelz have announced they are running for the post of Treasurer.

UPCOMING LASFS PROGRAMS

On December 15th, Harry Andruschak has arranged to show some NASA films. "JPL 1053 - Project Voyager to the Giant Planets," "JPL 308 X Minus 80 Days," a 20-minute film from March 1958, and "JPL 862, The Space Duet of Spider and Gumdrop," a 26-minute film with Beatles music. This promises to be an interesting program.

Auctions are also planned to be held in the future on a regular basis. These are good chances to get bargains in reading material as well as to encounter other surprising things.

DAVID McDANIEL DEAD AT 38

David McDaniel, known to most people in fandom as Ted Johnstone, died on October 30th in his home, due to an accident; he apparently fell while taking a shower. The body was discovered by Charles Lee Jackson II on the 31st. There was a memorial service for Tedron on December 2nd at Forest Lawn in Glendale. The service was attended by many current and formerly active LASFS members. David leaves a wife, Joyce (also called Lin Johnstone), and a son, Tommy.

Tedron joined LASFS on June 21, 1956, and was an active member of the LASFS for the next 21 years. He was a prolific fan writer, appearing in a wide variety of fanzines, and for years contributed to APA-L. He was also active in Dungeons & Dragons fandom in recent years. He made amateur and semi-professional movies, and attended countless SF conventions. He served several terms as LASFS secretary, and wrote three books in the "Man from UNCLE" series of paperbacks, The Vampire Affair, The Monster Wheel Affair and The Dagger Affair; he leaves unpublished the last book in the series, The Final Affair. He also wrote the SF novel, Arsenal Out of Time. A separate obituary and memorial flyer will be included in the next issue of DE PROFUNDIS.

TOM REAMY DIES

LASFS member Tom Reamy died recently of a heart attack. He was found slumped over his typewriter, having just finished the editorial for the next issue of his fanzine, Nickelodeon. Tom was very active in Texas fandom for years, and had more recently been living in the Kansas City area, and served on the Worldcon committee in 1976. He is perhaps best known as editor of Trumpet, a major fanzine in its day. Recently, he had turned to professional writing and had received several honors for his recent science fiction short stories.

The deaths of these two BNPs is a great blow to science fiction fandom.

LOSCON 4

Loscon 4 was a great success, thanks to the chairman, Marty Massoglia, and his happy merry workers. There were about 250 members. Interesting features of the convention were an excellent film program, open parties every night, a semi-successful hucksters room, a small art show, an auction, and a masquerade with some very good costumes. The programs too were good, and there was a program book. Loscons are finally becoming real conventions. The atmosphere was friendly with people hanging around the con suite talking, drinking beer and soda pop and eating munchies until all hours of the night. The open parties in honor of Tedron were not morbid, and in fact were lots of fun. He would have liked them. All in all, it was rather like an old-fashioned Westercon.

ANNUAL BANQUET

The Anniversary Banquet was held on Friday, November 2nd, at the Quality Inn, in conjunction with Loscon. It was well attended and the food was decent enough so that most people ate it. The Forry Award for service to science fiction was given to L. Sprague De Camp, and was accepted by David Gerrold, who gave a nothing speech. The Evans-Freehafer Award, for service to the LASFS, was given to a very surprised Jerry Pournelle. Jerry has been of great benefit to the LASFS in recent years. He's given quite a few impromptu programs at meetings, and has been present at most of the work sessions. He was the main engineer for the improvements and renovation in the meeting room. He decided what supplies to buy and directed most of the carpentry work, which he also did a lot of. It was a joy working with him. Jerry was also Guest of Honor at Loscon.

BUILDING REPORT

We have been meeting in our new building for several months now, and have had work parties almost every weekend. We have accomplished a great deal at these sessions. The walls of the back building have had the studs reinforced with exterior and interior plywood applied to the Northeast corner. The beams were turned. A window was installed, as well as two doors. The library shelves were built, painted and installed. Two rooms have been painted and lots of patch-up work has been done in both buildings, and much more work needs to be done. We have to patch and repair plaster in many areas, and need to buy panelling for the back building. We have contracted for carpeting in both buildings, which will cost about a thousand dollars. We would not have our clubhouse in its current good condition if it were not for the hundreds of hours of labor donated by our loyal and industrious club members. The club could not have afforded to hire all of this work done.

TREASURY REPORT

The club has spent most of the money in the Building Fund, and we again need donations (hello, NESFA). It is depressing to list all of the outgo after seeing the Building Fund go up so steadily for the past several years. Our treasurer, Ed Finkelstein, will prepare our annual financial statement, and that will be included with either the next DE PROFUNDIS, or the one after that.

Remember: donations to the club are tax-deductible, and the year is nearing its end.

BRUCE PELZ HONORED

Bruce Pelz was the Guest of Honor (fan-type) at Penulticon held the weekend of November 19-20. Both Bruce and Elayne were flown to Denver, with all expenses paid by the convention. Bruce was on two panels on fanzines and fandom, and he spoke at the banquet on bibliographic projects for fanzines. The professional Guests of Honor were Leigh Brackett and Fred Pohl. Leigh Brackett has been optioned to do the next STAR WARS script, and started to work on it this week. There were about 400 fans in attendance with people from such faraway (from Denver) places as Vancouver, Chicago, Seattle and New York. The second Penulticon is planned for Spring of 1979.

NEW BOOK by Jerry Pournelle

A collection of science articles from Galaxy magazine, including "Survival with Style," "Black Holes and Cosmic Censorship," and "Building the Mote in God's Eye" with Larry Niven are included in this book. The introduction is by Larry Niven, and the cover is by Ray Capella. It was published by Extequer Press, and was produced by Gavin Claypool. For more information, write to Gavin c/o Extequer Press, P.O. Box 84087 - VA Branch, Los Angeles, CA 90073.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

The editor and her husband were privileged to see CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND in an advance press screening, and it was terrific. It is a major original science fiction movie costing \$20 million. Columbia Pictures gambled their very survival on the success of this movie, so you can see that science fiction is now seen as major box office material. (The very bad DAMNATION ALLEY is even making money.) This film was planned and begun before the phenomenon that became STAR WARS was known; in fact, the directors of both films are close friends.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS is an absolutely beautiful picture by the young director of JAWS, Steven Spielberg. Without giving away the

plot, I will say that it is a very upbeat picture and a major departure from alien visitation films of the past is that it doesn't produce fear or paranoia. This film, along with STAR WARS, will help bring science fiction to all the people. It will not need the financial support of fandom to survive, because it has a broad appeal, but go see it anyway as it will be a thoroughly enjoyable experience.

LOSCON 5

It's not too late to join the rush to become a member of Loscon 5. This is the next Loscon, and will be held in November of 1978. Memberships are currently \$5. Make your checks payable to the LASFS or to Loscon, and mail them to Cheryl Chapman (treasurer of the convention) at the club address, 11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601

CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE

On December 23rd in the evening, the LASFS will hold its annual Christmas Gift Exchange. Rules: bring a present worth at least \$2, preferably having to do with science fiction. You will be given a number as you enter, and when all gifts are assembled, the numbers will be called randomly. The first person can choose any gift; the second can choose any gift, and if he/she doesn't like it, can force-trade with the first person. This continues until all numbers have been called, at which time the first person can force-trade any opened gifts. After that, informal trading is allowed. The exchange will start at 8:00. Any gift that the audience votes as crud will be withdrawn, and the person who chose than can pick another one.

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