

<i>De Profundis Ad Astra</i>	DE PROFUNDIS #604	
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PDF versions of *De Prof* are available at <https://tinyurl.com/LASFS-DeProf>.

January 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 8 p.m.: LASFS meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 8 p.m.: LASFS meeting*	10 Anime LA	11 Anime LA
12 11 a.m.: Board meeting	13	14	15	16 8 p.m.: LASFS meeting	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 8 p.m.: LASFS meeting*	24	25
26 Pasadena Comic Con	27	28	29	30 8 p.m.: LASFS meeting	31 Creep I.E. Con	

All times are PT. Events in black text are LASFS events. Events in gray text are not.

*** Thursday Programme Items:** Jan. 9—Hybrid meeting at Denny's (5525 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Sherman Oaks, CA 91411); Jan. 23—Susan Fox presents Sci-Fi Radio

Meeting Tech Specs: LASFS meetings are currently held online via Zoom—and in person once a month. Contact host Susan Fox at susanfox@scifi.radio to receive an invitation, the meeting password, and weekly reminders.

COLOPHON

De Profundis #604 (January 2025)
Publisher and Editor: Heath Row

De Profundis is the newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society. The club's Web site is <http://www.lasfs.org>. *De Prof* is available in PDF format for free and in print from the editor at cost for printing and postage. Print subscribers must fund and maintain a balance for printing and mailing.

Westercon is a service mark of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, Inc. (LASFS, Inc.). Worldcon and NASFiC are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society (WSFS).

The editor requests news items of interest to LASFS members. While the editor accepts no advertising in *De Prof*, he will attempt to publish relevant event announcements.

Send such material to Heath Row at 4367 Globe Ave., Culver City, CA 90230; via email to kalel@well.com; or via fax to 323-916-0367.

Deadlines are fluid. Any material deemed not appropriate for *De Prof* will be considered for apazines published by the editor.

The editor will prioritize content mandated in the LASFS By-Laws and supported by any applicable club traditions.

Print recipients are responsible for informing the editor of address changes. The editor will stop mailing newsletters to anyone whose mailing is returned.

Statements herein are those of the editor or writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the club or other members. Parenthetical interjections are solely the responsibility of the editor. Any resemblance betwixt smartassery and responsibility are purely coincidental.

Addendum: At the LASFS Board of Directors meeting Dec. 11, 2022, the directors accepted Eylat Poliner's proposal that Heath Row become editor of *De Prof*.

De Profundis is published by Heath "Scribbles" Row, 4367 Globe Ave., Culver City, CA 90230; kalel@well.com; 718-755-9840 mobile; 323-916-0367 fax. It is prepared for members of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society and select others. A recent copy can be requested for the Usual. A member of the Fan Writers of America. This is a Karma Lapel publication.

LASFS OFFICERS

Elected Procedural Officers
January-June 2025

President: Cathy Johnson
Vice-President: Susan Fox
Registrar: Derek LaPorte
Scribe: Nick Smith
Treasurers: Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz

Board of Directors

Chairman: Matthew B. Tepper (2026)
Vice Chairman: Heide Nichols (2025)
Comptroller: Gavin Claypool (2025)
Secretary: Susan Fox (2027)

Other Members

Cathy Johnson (2027), Dean Johnson (2025), Christian B. McGuire (2026), Elayne Pelz (2026), Michelle Pincus (2027), Eylat Poliner (2027), and Rob Powell (2026)

Special Advisors

Charles Lee Jackson II
Deceased/honorary positions: Forrest J Ackerman, Walt Daugherty, Len and June Moffatt, and Fred Patten

Appointed Officials

Cat Liaison, Computers, Editor, LASFS Archivist, Publications, and Westercon Liaison: Christian B. McGuire; Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS and Key Control: Christian B. McGuire and Elayne Pelz; *De Profundis* Editor and APA-L Liaison: Heath Row; Film Coordination Committee, Honor Guard, Party Rabbi, and Video Collection Curator: Charles Lee Jackson II; Hall Decoration: Charles Lee Jackson II, Christian B. McGuire, and Elayne Pelz; LASFAPA Liaison: David Schlosser; LASFS Information: Lee Gold and Matthew B. Tepper; Librarian: Gavin Claypool; Assistant Librarian: Elayne Pelz; Marketing and Promotions: Michelle Pincus; Patron Saints List Manager: Elayne Pelz and Eylat Poliner; Photographic Collection (Special): Mike Donahue; Program: Eylat Poliner; Science Officers: Bill Green and Nick Smith; Assistant Video Collection Curator: Tom Khamis; Webmistress: Kristine Cherry; Web Advisors: Barry and Lee Gold

Condensed Cream of Menace

(Official, approved minutes are also available online at <https://www.lasfs.org/lasfs-meeting-minutes>.)

Board Meeting

Sept. 8, 2024

Matthew B. Tepper, chairing
Susan Fox, Secretary

Call to Order

Called to order at 11 a.m.

Present

Chairman Matthew Tepper, Vice Chairman Heide Nichols, Secretary Susan Fox, Eylat Poliner, Gavin Claypool, Christian B. McGuire, Cathy Johnson, Dean Johnson, and Michelle Pincus. Non-board members: Webmistress Kristine Cherry and club member observer Matt Mitchell. Excused absences: Treasurer Elayne Pelz (at Armadillocon).

Minutes

Approved

New Members

There is a new member but it is on Elayne Pelz's computer. We will have to wait until next month.

Treasurer's Report (Elayne Pelz)

Excused absence: I am currently in Texas at Armadillocon and will not be back until Sunday evening. I have no access to the checkbook here.

I have paid Chris Marble back his loan plus interest for two months. There is a new member, but unless Christian B. McGuire can figure out how to retrieve it from my computer, we will have to wait until next month.

We got the escrow money back.

We can talk about what I wanted to bring up next month.

30-Second Reports

Chairman (Matthew Tepper): No report

Vice Chairman (Heide Nichols): Away from home due to heavy smoke from the Line Fire.

Secretary (Susan Fox): No report

Comptroller (Gavin Claypool): There is \$956,067.60 in the investment account.

Library (Gavin Claypool): No report

Quartermaster (Susan Fox): No report

Archives (Cathy Johnson): No report

Physical Plant/Storage (Rob Powell): There will be an event at storage next weekend around

noon. It will be much cooler. We're getting ready for upcoming conventions. Powell might be able to acquire another mini fridge. Please let him know if you need one.

AV Equipment (Dean Johnson): No report. The equipment is in storage.

Events (Eylat Poliner): Since July, Spider Robinson has had to resign as GoH for Loscon. Larry Niven is now our honored author.

Hotel liaison Christian B. McGuire: Good news, we have nearly filled our hotel block. We are having trouble getting them to give con rates for the "shoulder nights." They have to go to corporate to clear it.

They are not willing to just add room nights to our block without some sort of signed contract. McGuire will negotiate an adjustment to the contract so we can get more rooms at the con rate. The block closes in the first or second week of November.

Dean Johnson: Can we put in a rider for an adjustment like this, rather than have to renegotiate next time? They don't seem to be inclined to do something like this for a brand new (to them) convention. Once we have a track record, after this con, Loscon 51 will handle it.

Heide Nichols: Can we ask for authorization for increasing the room night block for this year?

McGuire: Yes, with board authorization.

A motion was made to direct Christian B. McGuire to adjust room nights as appropriate. It was approved.

McGuire: This is a new contract at the new hotel. We have a "cold" relationship with them. This is typical for a new contract. It should be smooth by the end of the year.

Nichols: At Strategicon, it occurred to her that we could do a "cutesy" video about navigating the hotel and parking area.

Michelle Pincus: We could shoot video at the next in-person meeting.

Kristine Cherry: Agreed. Dennis has taken photos with some text about the complicated parking with convention rate arrangement.

Powell: Did anyone at Strategicon or other previous cons make a video or instructions before? No.

Poliner: A video would be helpful to our older population.

Pincus would love to do a Loscon blog video that gives a tour of the facilities.

Claypool: Would the hotel require us to get permission?

McGuire: Yes. They would want to see the final cut before it was posted. This is in a standard hotel contract. He will ask ASAP.

Tepper: Do we have a cartoonist to do this with no hotel photography?

Dean Johnson: Same—drawings and sketches instead of actual video?

McGuire: If some other fan just happened to post a hotel tour video, we could repost it!

Cathy Johnson: How about a FAQ about the hotel logistics? This is not mutually exclusive to a video.

Pincus: Let's find out if we can make a video with the hotel.

Poliner: This is a con chairman decision. Video might be too complicated. McGuire has enough on his plate. We shall do a FAQ with detailed instructions for self-parking, elevators, and other LAX Hilton-specific details.

Powell: Has anyone already done such a FAQ?

Nichols: Strategicon has not.

Claypool: Not a new question. Another option: Maybe shoot video during Loscon 50 for 51.

Cherry: If we do it ourselves, put it on their personal Facebook page and then share it.

Tepper has found the following videos:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzaoD2APnL8>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mlQNbPEgJ4w>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2xkc5AMdzk>

McGuire: We have good numbers for room nights, and increasing the block is a good thing.

Poliner: More about Loscon 50—The dealers room is almost sold out. 453 memberships total. Poliner has been working with “Obi-Shawn” Shawn Crosby as master of ceremonies. There will be something special for the opening ceremony. Poliner thanks Kristine Cherry for her work on the Loscon 50 Web site, and thanks the board for letting us keep and maintain the Web site for future Loscons.

Thanks to Elayne Pelz who has been helpful, amazing, and supportive. Thanks to Cathy and Dean Johnson for setting up the Zoom and walking around with the mic at Loscon staff meetings. Thanks to Joyce Sperling for making nearly 80 hats for the American Cancer Society so far. People also want to bring stuff to the convention for the Loscon auction.

McGuire: Have them deliver it to the Loscon office. He will post some rules about what is worthy of the Big Auction, what should just be donated to the library sale, or just quietly disposed.

Poliner has already informed the office, which has a key to lock up the goods. Auction items are being left with the office, and not ops, which makes them both happy.

Poliner would like to be in touch with Loscon 51. McGuire says Loscon 51 Chairman Sherri Benoun is available by DM and probably has not much to share at the moment.

Poliner would like to thank Michelle Pincus and Krystal Rains for their work on marketing for Loscon 50 and all Loscons.

Publications (Christian B. McGuire): No report. Continues to thank Heath Row for the most recent *De Profundis*, Nick Smith for scribe reports, and Eylat Poliner for events reports.

Marketing and Recruitment (Michelle Pincus): Loscon might be tabling at San Diego Comic Fest. We have mutual marketing, social media posts, links on each other's Web sites. Will attend each other's cons as we can afford to.

Significant Others

Club President (Cathy Johnson): LASFS still meets Thursdays, most on this Zoom channel, and on the second Thursday of the month at Denny's plus Zoom. Forry Award nominations will be held this week.

Christian B. McGuire: Should he bring some small auction? A few items, after the Forry vote, as we have time. Elayne Pelz has the white board for the election.

Webmistress (Kristine Cherry): She has been doing updates today on the LASFS Web site, including meeting minutes. Plug for the Loscon Web site. If you have some new information for members and potential members, please send it! Progress Report #5 is in progress.

Business Before the Board

Westercon mark: Discussion postponed to October to include Elayne Pelz.

Eylat Poliner and two others are submitting a proposal to raise the dues (weekly \$5, monthly \$17, yearly \$180) and membership application fee (to \$20).

A signed proposal will be presented to the club president and scribe for presentation at a LASFS meeting.

Cathy Johnson: How many co-signers does a proposal need? Three. It used to be more, but we reduced it in the By-Laws. Gavin Claypool cites the By-Laws for the standing rules. It must be presented twice.

Kristine Cherry was not aware of the application fee.

Matthew B. Tepper read the proposal, signed by Eylat Poliner, Debra Levin, and Tepper on Sept. 7, 2024. A scan will be sent to Tepper and Susan Fox.

Claypool: Standing rule #4 states that the membership application fee is \$10.

Heide Nichols would like to make sure that the official proposal uses the same language as the By-Laws and Standing Rules, with citations to the changes.

Cathy Johnson clarified that we are presenting the proposal this Thursday, discussing and first vote at a future Thursday, and if it has not been entirely voted down, more discussion at the following meeting. Claypool confirms.

Poliner will work up the final proposal and schedule.

Claypool suggests that the dues and the membership application fee proposals be separate.

Open Forum

Take-Aways

Matthew B. Tepper will finalize the dues increase proposal wording.

Whoever is going to do the FAQ should get started.

Next Meeting Date

Oct. 6, 2024, at 11 a.m.

Adjournment

Adjournment at 12:08 p.m.

The Arts and Culture Caravan Rides into the Wastes Again! Meeting #4544, Sept. 12, 2024

Cathy Johnson, presiding
Nick Smith, Scribe

Call to Order

Call to order by President Cathy Johnson at 8:03 p.m. due to technical issues.

Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)

The birth anniversaries of author Stanislaw Lem, actors Desmond Llewellyn and Ian Holm, and movie and TV composer Hans Zimmer were noted. The media anniversary was for the TV series *The Man and the Challenge*, which premiered on this date in 1959.

The deaths of James Earl Jones and comic book artists John Cassaday and Karl Moline were noted.

Reading of the Minutes (Nick Smith)

Smith read the minutes for meeting #4542.

Auction to Name the Minutes

Christian B. McGuire bid \$20 to name them "A Cantor Bid Is for \$20."

Call for Approval

Approval of the minutes happened.

Celebration of Patron Saints

Dale Hales: Charles Lee Jackson II noted that he had known Dale since elementary school, but they lost touch until 1984. Matthew B. Tepper noted that Dale inherited money and spent much of it to benefit the LASFS. Mary Ann Canfield noted that Dale enjoys gaming and is a generous soul.

Mike Thorsen: Leigh Strother-Vien did a write-up for the gift exchange, and Mike was the person who turned that into a video. Heide Nichols mentioned the Kermit-Cam that he took around Loscon. Matthew B. Tepper mentioned that Mike worked hard for the club but knew how to have fun, too. Eylat Poliner mentioned his fondness for mahjong. Christian B. McGuire recalled his auction antics. Given three cheers "and nine cents."

Committee Reports

Loscon was reported on.

Programming for the next few meetings was listed.

Fandom Wellness Committee (Chris Marble): Marble reported that George McUrso was having trouble communicating but was awake and aware when he visited.

Don Fitch is doing well, age 94-plus. He might be our earliest still-living member of the LASFS.

Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

Registrar (Derek LaPorte)

We have one new guest, John.

Treasurer (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

Debra Levin reported that in-person folks had all paid their dues.

Board Report (Matthew B. Tepper)

The board of directors' October meeting will be Oct. 6, 2024, at 11 a.m. via Zoom.

Old Business

The Forry Award voting was run by Charles Lee

Jackson II. This year, the award is going to Hayao Miyazaki.

New Business

None

Time-Bound Announcements

Francis Hamit has copies of his new novel here at the meeting for \$25.

Program

A short auction was postponed until a later date.

Daughter.

Meeting #4545, Sept. 19, 2024

Cathy Johnson, presiding

Nick Smith, Scribe

Call to Order

President Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order.

Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)

Actors Adam West and David McCallum, along with musician and actor Paul Williams and authors Tanith Lee and N.K. Jemison had their birthdays celebrated.

For media, the anniversaries were the 1952 *Adventures of Superman* and the more recent *Talk Like a Pirate Day*, whose theme song was written by fan and filker Tom Smith.

The death of songwriter Billy Edd Wheeler was noted, as his songs were very prominent for the past 60 years, including the soundtracks of both fannish and mundane films.

Reading of the Minutes (Nick Smith)

Auction to Name the Minutes

James de Tar bid \$7 to name the minutes of meeting #4543 "Science Fiction Pirates."

Victor Khaze bid \$5 to name the minutes of meeting #4544 "The Arts and Culture Caravan Rides into the Wastes Again!"

Celebration of Patron Saints

Karl Lembke, who passed away in 2022: Eylat Poliner pointed out that he was chairman of the Board of the LASFS for 21 years. He was club scribe several times over the years. He donated blood platelets to the Red Cross many times, to the point where they recognized him. He ran Loscon and Gallifrey hospitality suites for a long time.

C. Anita Nunez said that Lembke was the

first person in fandom who really welcomed her and Phoenix when she came back to fandom. Susie Searight related how he was a connecting and welcoming person. Nola Frame-Gray said that Lembke was a superlative host of the Loscon hospitality suite but also helped with the Green Room at cons.

Three cheers were given.

Committee Reports

Loscon (Eylat Poliner): The con will be held Thanksgiving weekend. Poliner gave the list of guests. Shawn Crosby will be MCing events at the con. The auction will be raising funds for the American Cancer Society. If you knit or crochet, make hats for the ACS to give to those who have lost their hair during chemotherapy. There will be memorials for Fuzzy Pink Niven and John Trimble, and a toy drive.

Programming (Eylat Poliner):

- Sept. 26, 2024: Potential increases on membership fee and dues amounts
- Oct. 10, 2024: Hybrid and possible auction at Denny's
- Oct. 24, 2024: *More Movie Memories* with Craig Miller

Fandom Wellness Committee (Chris Marble): Marble visited George, and he is much more aware and coherent, so treatment seems to be working. He is still on oxygen, but he is improving.

Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

Jackson said that the Spot of Honor is held by Halloween Haunts, Highlights and Hijinks, with links to fun stuff. From the equinox to Halloween, the site will be live... or is it undead?

Registrar (Derek LaPorte)

The registrar celebrated Carol's conversion from guest to member, pending confirmation by the board at the October meeting.

Treasurer (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

Elayne Pelz said to pay your dues and donate generously.

Board Report (Matthew B. Tepper)

The next board of directors meeting will be Sunday, Oct. 6, 2024, at 11 a.m. on Zoom.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Time-Bound announcements

Events at American Cinematheque, Dark Delicacies, and Octavia's Bookshelf were noted.

Moments of Science

James de Tar reported that there has been a breakthrough in earthquake prediction, using AI to analyze and predict tremors. First reports suggest that analysis of a particular locale can lead to predictions in that locale.

Lee Grixit had made several reports on making sensors out of various things. A new generation of Wi-Fi could be used as a simple radar. This has progressed quickly, and with possible medical applications.

Victor Khaze reported that lab-grown human brain organoids have been integrated into networks with small robots. Basically, human brain tissue is being used to control tiny robots, with training by the use of dopamine. Susie Searight, a neuroscientist, said that this work has been going on since 2009, and it is indeed horrifying.

Regular announcements

Reviews

Nick Smith reviewed both *Thicket*, with Peter Dinklage, and *Killer's Game* with Dave Bautista.

Matthew B. Tepper reviewed *Sherlock Holmes and the Telegram from Hell*, by Nicholas Meyer. He enjoyed it.

Lee Grixit reviewed the Netflix series *Kaos*, in which society seems to have derived from Greek history and mythology. Matt Mitchell was going to review exactly the same series and pointed out that Jeff Goldblum was in it as Zeus. Both said that it could be better, but was interesting.

Charles Lee Jackson II reviewed a Halloween cooking show.

Miscellaneous

Eylat Poliner asked for more volunteers for Loscon.

There is no aftermeeting tonight, but the concept could come back soon.

Call to Adjourn

We adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

I Thought You Weren't Gonna Fact Check Me!

Meeting #4546, Sept. 26, 2024

Cathy Johnson, presiding
Nick Smith, Scribe

Call to Order

President Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order.

Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)

Birth anniversaries of artist Winsor McCay, actress and singer Olivia Newton John, actress Linda Hamilton and author Tanya Huff were celebrated.

The media anniversaries of *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and *Star Trek: Enterprise* were noted.

The deaths of actress Kathryn Grant Crosby and David Graham were noted.

Reading of the Minutes (Nick Smith)

Auction to Name the Minutes

Susie Searight bid \$5 to name them "Daughter" in honor of National Daughter's Day.

Approval of the Minutes

Done

Celebration of Patron Saints

Mike Donahue: Chris Marble said he enjoyed his company. He lives out past Lancaster now, but he used to come to LASFS with movie trailers. Eylat Poliner said that Donahue was one of the ones who built bookcases for the club library.

Ron Ellik: Nick Smith mentioned his Doc Smith scholarship. Matthew B. Tepper and Charles Lee Jackson II mentioned his nickname, which was Squirrel.

Barry Workman: Nick Smith mentioned his building one set of Hugos for a Worldcon, and that later in life he became a licensed pyrotechnic artist.

Committee Reports

Fandom Wellness Committee (Chris Marble): Marble visited George, and he is getting stronger and was much more coherent and communicative.

Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

The Spot of Honor is celebrating the Halloween Haunts & Hijinks page on Facebook. Eylat Poliner bid \$25 to split the October spot between the Facebook page and Loscon.

Registrar (Derek LaPorte)

Since there were no guests, Cathy Johnson gave our registrar permission to repeat a joke. Be very afraid.

Treasurer (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)
Almost everyone has paid their dues for tonight.
Next week is next month, so pay up then.

Board Report (Matthew B. Tepper)
The board of directors is set to meet the first Sunday of October, Oct. 6, 2024, at 11 a.m. on Zoom.

Old Business
None

New Business
Three people brought a proposal to the board to make a Standing Rules change, and Eylat Poliner explained it to the meeting.

Two parts:

- Increase in dues from \$4 to \$5 per meeting, with adjustments to monthly and annual amounts in proportion.
- Increase in member fee charged to new members at time of application from \$10 to \$20.

The first motion passed, with amendments.
The second motion failed.

Time-Bound Announcements
Events at American Cinematheque, the New Beverly Theater, and Vidiots were noted, as well as book signings at Book Soup and Dark Delicacies.

Debra Levin just finished making a hat for Loscon. Lee Grixit said the chemotherapy caps should be made smaller than you probably think because people without hair need a smaller hat size.

Chalkfest is occurring near Grixit, and it's really very entertaining. It's on Saturday.

Moments of Science

Regular Announcements

Reviews
Mark Poliner reviewed *Legends and Lattes*, a weird fantasy story involving a coffee shop in a fantasy world. It's very good, and there's a sequel.

Derek LaPorte reviewed episode 1 of *The Penguin*. It's very good, in the first episode anyway, and is a direct sequel to events from the Batman movie.

Miscellaneous
There will be an aftermeeting.

Eylat Poliner said that Genny Dazzo and Craig Miller got disconnected by their cat, which is why they suddenly disappeared.

Call to Adjourn
Motion to adjourn at 9:17 p.m.

Enjoy Your Meal.
Meeting #4547, Oct. 3, 2024
Cathy Johnson, presiding
Nick Smith, Scribe

Call to Order
President Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m.

Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)
Birth anniversaries celebrated included Charles Middleton, who played the Emperor Ming; Ray F. Nelson, who popularized fannish propeller beanies; Katherine Kerr, who turned from her game hobby to becoming a successful fantasy author; Clive Owen, who somehow went from playing King Arthur to driving cars in long commercials; and Jessica Parker Kennedy, whose career so far has involved playing superheroes, pirates, and Christmas elves.

The media anniversary was for *Somewhere in Time*, the 1980 film with Christopher Reeve and Jane Seymour.

Deaths noted included actress Dame Maggie Smith; singer, songwriter, and actor Kris Kristofferson; actor Ken Page; actor Drake Hogestyn; actor John Amos; and producer Robert Watts.

Reading of the Minutes (Nick Smith)
Smith read the minutes for meeting #4546.

Auction to Name the Minutes
Susie Searight bid \$10 to name them, "I Thought You Weren't Gonna Fact Check Me!"

Approval of the Minutes
Approval of the minutes happened at 8:21 p.m.

Celebration of Patron Saints
Steve Bilan, brother of the late Greg Bilan: Cathy Johnson mentioned that she had met him and he was a nice guy. Greg was moving north to be with him when his health problems arose.

Committee Reports
Loscon (Eylat Poliner): Poliner listed the guests and some of the programming for the con, reminding people about the auction for the

American Cancer Society. Debra Levin, Joyce Sperling, and Heidi Nichols are already knitting hats for the donation at the con. There will be a maker's room, a cosplay contest, and other things.

Programming (Eylat Poliner):

- Next week: Hybrid meeting at the Denny's, maybe an auction
- Oct. 17, 2024: Orty Ortwein will read from his book *The First Geeks*
- Oct. 24, 2024: Craig Miller will read from his new book

Fandom Wellness Committee (Chris Marble): George is improving and is no longer in the ICU. The hospital thinks he will be moving back to a rehab facility. Selina Phanara fell last week and suffered a concussion but is getting better.

Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

Jackson's Halloween *Facebook* page is in the place of honor, and it has fun Halloween stuff.

Registrar (Derek LaPorte)

Treasurer (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

New month—pay your dues

Board Report (Matthew B. Tepper)

The board of directors is meeting this coming Sunday on Zoom at 11 a.m., a week earlier than usual.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Time-Bound Announcements

The UCLA Film and Television Archive is running a film series on weekends through December called *Science Fiction Against the Margins*. It's at the Billy Wilder theater at the Hammer Museum on Wilshire.

Upcoming screenings at American Cinematheque, the New Beverly Theater, and Vidiots were also noted.

Moments of Science

Lynn Maners mentioned the reevaluation of Easter Island. For years, we thought that it had gone bad due to overpopulation, but the DNA analysis showed otherwise. It looks like until 1853 it was doing fine, and that the collapse was man made. Also, Viking tattoos were not really a thing. The only real source for such a thing is from a single Arabic source, who described

"Rus" as being heavily tattooed. There are no Viking names that mention tattoos in distinctive names.

Tomatoes came from the new world and had a huge impact on world cooking, but Polynesian foods had a smaller but similar effect. Coconuts and sweet potatoes are examples of this, and the common name in the Pacific languages is "kamala."

Lee Grixit mentioned that in physics, people are learning more about static electricity. There is now a hypothesis about the electron swap that suggests it comes from an imbalance in the interaction, which is not a complete answer. Also questions of tweaking electron orbits.

Regular Announcements

Eylat Poliner has added a disability studies minor to her degree, which means graduating in 2026, and she is now planning to go to grad school.

Reviews

Charles Lee Jackson II reviewed the Haunted Mansion holiday edition at Disneyland. He and Elayne Pelz got sort of a preview. The normal opening date is Oct. 1, 2024, but it wasn't ready.

Lee Grixit reviewed short videos by PBS: *Eons*, which is about evolution and the environment and the other called *Story*, which includes literature and folklore related to things like werewolves. They're 10-18 minutes each and very well done.

Nick Smith reviewed *The Substance* and *Megalopolis*. Most of *The Substance* was really good, except for a truly awful ending. *Megalopolis* was a labor of love for Francis Ford Coppola, and it's marvelous cinema but the story will not appeal to everyone.

Victor Khaze reviewed *Wasteland*, sort of an immersive live RPG in the desert. He went with the "arts and culture caravan," which puts on Mad Max puppet shows. If you're good with desert camping, which is hot and rugged, you might enjoy it, but it is hot out there.

Charles Lee Jackson II mentioned Curt Siodmak's contribution to the lore of werewolves, and a movie that was too long for its own good. He also reviewed the first episode of *Witches: Behind the Truth*.

Chris Marble reviewed *Beetlejuice Beetlejuice*, and it was good enough to not be disappointing. George had wanted him to look for Batman references as running gags, but he saw none.

Miscellaneous

Charles Lee Jackson II had trouble renewing his driver's license, and he had trouble with the written test, when suddenly the written test was cancelled.

Nick Smith mentioned pumpkin spice chardonnay wine cooler at Trader Joe's and chocolate hummus at Amazon Fresh.

Christine Lipscomb mentioned that you still have to do the physical exam to get the senior driver's license.

Julie Scott mentioned an ad for pumpkin spice beer. There was a stunned silence, followed by adjournment.

Upcoming Conventions

Jan. 3-5: EsCon, Escondido, <https://www.reesgames.com/escon/default.php>

Jan. 9-12: Anime Los Angeles, Long Beach, <https://animelosangeles.org>

Jan. 10-12: Megabyte Nation Gaming Expo, <https://megabytenation.com>

Jan. 17-19: Conquest Ventura, Ventura, <https://pacificongameexpo.com/website/cq-ventura-jan-17-19-2025>

Jan. 25: SoCal Games Day, Burbank, <https://www.socalgamesday.com>

Jan. 26: Pasadena Comic Con, Pasadena, <https://pasadenacomicon.com>

Jan. 31 to Feb. 2: Salute to Xena, Burbank, <https://www.creationent.com/cal/xela.htm>

Jan. 31 to Feb. 2: Creep I.E. Con, Ontario, <https://creepiecon.com>

Jan. 31 to Feb. 2: GamerCon, San Diego, <https://gamercon.com>

Upcoming Events

Jan. 7-9: *Nosferatu* (2024) at the New Beverly Cinema

Jan. 8: *Christine* at Brain Dead Studios

Jan. 8: *Prometheus* at the Los Feliz 3

Jan. 10: *Death Proof* at the New Beverly Cinema

Jan. 10: *Midnight Prowlers* at Gardena Cinema, Gardena

Jan. 10: *Our Heavenly Bodies: Indexicality in Astronomy* at Brain Dead Studios

Jan. 10: *Flow*, *The Brother from Another Planet*, and *Battle Beyond the Stars* at Vidiots

Jan. 10: *Children of Men* at the Egyptian Theatre

Jan. 10: *Dune—Part Two* at the DGA Theater Complex (sold out)

Jan. 10: *Nosferatu* (2024) at the Aero Theatre, Santa Monica

Jan. 11: Los Angeles Filkers Anonymous Filksing hosted by Lee and Barry Gold via Zoom. No pre-filk dinner. Filk style: Chaos.

Jan. 11: *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* at Landmark's Nuart Theatre

Jan. 11: *One Hundred and One Dalmatians* and *The Great Muppet Caper* at the New Beverly Cinema

Jan. 11: *The Great Muppet Caper* at Vidiots

Jan. 11: *Forbidden Planet* and *The Witch* (sold out) at the Egyptian Theatre

Jan. 12: *The Great Muppet Caper* at the New Beverly Cinema

Jan. 12: *Repo Man* at Brain Dead Studios

Jan. 12: *Clue* at the Aero Theatre, Santa Monica

Jan. 13: *Touki Bouki* at Vidiots

Jan. 13: *The Bird with the Crystal Plumage* (sold out) and *Jurko the Highwayman* at the Los Feliz 3

Jan. 14: *Hackers* at Vidiots

Jan. 15: *Wolf Man* at Vidiots

Jan. 15: *Underwater* and Viktor Kubal Animated Shorts Program at the Los Feliz 3

Jan. 17: *Death Proof* at the New Beverly Cinema

Jan. 17: *Street Trash* (1987) and *Street Trash* (2024) at Brain Dead Studios

Jan. 17: *Flow* and *Anaconda* at Vidiots

Jan. 17: *Simon of the Desert* at the Aero Theatre, Santa Monica

Jan. 18: *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* at Landmark's Nuart Theatre

Jan. 18: *The Thing*, *They Live*, and *Prince of Darkness* at Gardena Cinema, Gardena

Jan. 18: *Pinocchio* (1940), *Flow*, and *Soylent Green* at Vidiots

Jan. 18: *The Bloody Lady* and *The Lighthouse* (sold out) at the Los Feliz 3

Jan. 18-19: *The Land Before Time* at the New Beverly Cinema

Jan. 19: *Flow* at Vidiots

Jan. 20: *Paranoia* and *Mavity* at the Los Feliz 3

Jan. 21: *Memento* at Vidiots

Jan. 21: *Missile* at the Los Feliz 3

Jan. 24: *The Cell* and *Death Proof* at the New Beverly Cinema

Jan. 24: *Twin Peaks—Fire Walk with Me* and *Tank Girl* at Brain Dead Studios

Jan. 24: *Deep Impact* at Vidiots

Jan. 24-25: *Deep Red* at the Vista Theater

Jan. 25: *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* at Landmark's Nuart Theatre

Jan. 25: *Edward Scissorhands* at Gardena Cinema, Gardena

Jan. 25: *My Neighbor Totoro* and *Interview with the Vampire* at Vidiots

Jan. 25: *Art! Trash! Terror! Adventures in Strange Cinema* signing with Chris Alexander and others at Dark Delicacies, Burbank

Jan. 25-26: *From Dusk Till Dawn* and *Planet Terror* at the New Beverly Cinema

Jan. 27: *Burnt Offerings* and *The House Where Evil Dwells* at the New Beverly Cinema

Jan. 28: *RRR* at Vidiots

Jan. 31: *Death Proof* at the New Beverly Cinema

Jan. 31: *Phantasm* at Gardena Cinema, Gardena

Jan. 31: *Escape from New York* at Brain Dead Studios

Jan. 31: *My Neighbor Totoro* at Vidiots

Game Days

Mondays

Dungeons & Dragons Adventurers League at Next-Gen Games (<https://www.nextgengames.la>)

Magic: The Gathering at Next-Gen Games, Odyssey Games in Pasadena (<https://odysseygamesco.com>) and Turn Zero Games (<https://www.turnzerogames.com>)

Warhammer: Age of Sigmar at Odyssey Games in Pasadena

Tuesdays

Magic at Collector Legion in Lawndale (<https://www.collectorlegion.com>) and Next-Gen Games

Warhammer: Age of Sigmar and *Warhammer 40,000* at Next-Gen Games

Warhammer 40,000 at Odyssey Games in Pasadena

Wednesdays

Dungeons & Dragons Adventurers League at Odyssey Games in Pasadena

Magic at Collector Legion in Lawndale, Mega City One (<https://www.megacity.one>), and Next-Gen Games

Thursdays

Magic at Collector Legion in Lawndale

Star Wars: X-Wing at Next-Gen Games and Odyssey Games in Pasadena

Warhammer 40,000 at Odyssey Games in Pasadena

Fridays

Dungeons & Dragons Adventurers League at Odyssey Games in Pasadena

Friday Night *Magic* at Knight Ware (<http://www.knight-ware.com>), Mega City One, Next-Gen Games, Odyssey Games, Paper Hero's Games in Sherman Oaks (<https://www.paperherosgames.com>) and Turn Zero Games Board Game Day at Paper Hero's Games in Sherman Oaks (<https://www.paperherosgames.com>) from 2-10 p.m. (Courtesy of Nick Smith!)

Saturdays

Magic at Odyssey Games in Pasadena
Warhammer at Knight Ware (third Saturday of the month)

Sundays

Magic at Next-Gen Games and Odyssey Games in Pasadena
Warhammer 40,000 at Paper Hero's Games in Sherman Oaks

Please contact the con, store, or venue (or visit its Web site) to confirm any events and logistics before traveling to attend. Events and schedules are subject to change. Additions and updates welcome.

If you'd like to submit cons, events, or news items of interest to LASFS members for inclusion in *De Prof*, please do so by contacting the editor (see Colophon above).

Member News

Effective Jan. 1, 2025, LASFS dues will be increasing to the following amounts:

Weekly dues: \$5
Monthly dues: \$15
Yearly dues: \$170

Letters of Comment

I was just reading some of the old minutes in *De Prof* and read that Misty Johnston had passed away. Why did it refer to her as a "former member?"—Joe Zeff

I didn't catch that while editing the minutes—good eye. The minutes were approved by the membership, but the Standing Rules remain: "Death will not release you."

I don't seem to have gotten November 2024. Can you send it to me?—Lee Gold

There wasn't a November 2024 issue of De Prof because of other demands on the editor's time. I didn't even publish a calendar-only issue. My apologies! I'm heartened that you missed receiving the issue.

The *De Profundis* calendar would be far more useful if the meetings at Denny's were marked.—Larry Niven

Indeed it would be! I'll try to do that as standard practice from now on. Thank you for the feedback—and idea.

[P]lease find attached the newsletters of the Birmingham Science Fiction Group, AKA the "Brum Group" for 2024. The committee sends their best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all your members.—Ian Morley

Thank you very much! I asked fellow LASFS members to share your kind holiday greeting with the membership during a recent meeting. We wish you all the best for 2025 in return.

Clubzine Exchange

In addition to sending *De Prof* to the LASFS membership, we also send copies to about 40 sf clubs around the world. Some of them reciprocate with their own publications, which I can forward to LASFSans upon request.

Since the last issue, we've received: *Angels Flight* (USS Angeles, December 2024), *BFS Journal* #25 (Winter 2024), *Brum Group News* #626-636 (BSFG, January to December 2024), *FanActivity Gazette* Vol. 4 #7 (N3F, December 2024), *Films Fantastic* #19 (N3F, December 2024), *The Mark of the Beast* (BSFS, December 2024), *The N3F Review of Books* (December 2024), *Probe* #202 (SFFSA, December 2024), *Scientifiction* New Series #82 (First Fandom Foundation, Q4 2024), *The Starship Express* Vol. 37 #12 (SFABC, December 2024), *The Starship Local* (SFABC, January 2025), and *Tightbeam* #363 (N3F, December 2024)

We also heard from the Academy of Science Fiction Fantasy and Horror Films, the Bay Area Science Fiction Association, the British Science Fiction Association, the Fanac Fan History Project, the International Wizard of Oz Club, the

National Space Society, the Orlando Area Science Fiction Society, and Melody Friedenthal of the Worcester (Mass.) Public Library's science fiction book club.

Available Fanzines

New fanzines available via <https://efanzines.com> include *Captain Flashback* #72-73, *CyberCozen* Vol. 36 #12, *My Back Pages* #31, *Opuntia* #587-588, *Ornithopter Mk.Va*, *Perryscope* #49, *The Ray X X-Rayer* #182, *The Stf Amateur* #15, *Taffluorescence* #7, *This Here...* #82, *Wild Ideas* #54, and *The Zine Dump* #60.

Call for Submissions

Do you write or draw? Not only is *De Profundis* open to news items and member updates, members of the LASFS participate in two amateur press associations.

APA-L is weekly and collated by Heath Row. If you'd like to consider joining APA-L, contact him to express interest. We're especially interested in cover art, which you can submit without joining. Former members can request access to the online archives.

LASFAPA is monthly and collated by David Schlosser. You can contact him at schloss17@suddenlink.net to express interest in joining LASFAPA. Former members can request access to the online archives.

And if you'd like to contribute otherwise but not necessarily on a regular basis, Heath Row publishes a monthly fanzine titled *The Stf Amateur*. The most recent issue is available upon request. He'd welcome your fanart, poetry, filk songs and lyrics, fiction, articles, essays, reviews, jokes, and other material. Contributors will receive the issue in which their material appears.