

De Profundis

MARCH 1988
ISSUE 194

De Profundis is the official newsletter of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society located at 11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, California 91601. It is free to all active members and Patron Friends. It is available for trade with similar publications and The Usual. De Profundis is always interested in receiving news of interest to fans. Any late but not time bound material will be held over.

The by-laws of the LASFS requires that certain items must take precedence over any letters, announcements, ect. These include the Minutes of the regular meetings and Board of Directors meeting, the regular monthly calendar of LASFS sponsored events, and any and all special documents relating to the operations of the LASFS as a non-profit organization. Remit your items to the address above, or to the mailbox in Freehafer Hall, De Prof slot.

LASFS PROGRAMMING

MARCH

03 Auction. Going, going, it's a long fly ball...er..I mean, its that time again. Time for one of the LASFS's team of jolly auctioneers to try and wrestle away all your money.

10 SF Computer Music. David Joiner and Mark Bojman will explain and demonstrate computer music.

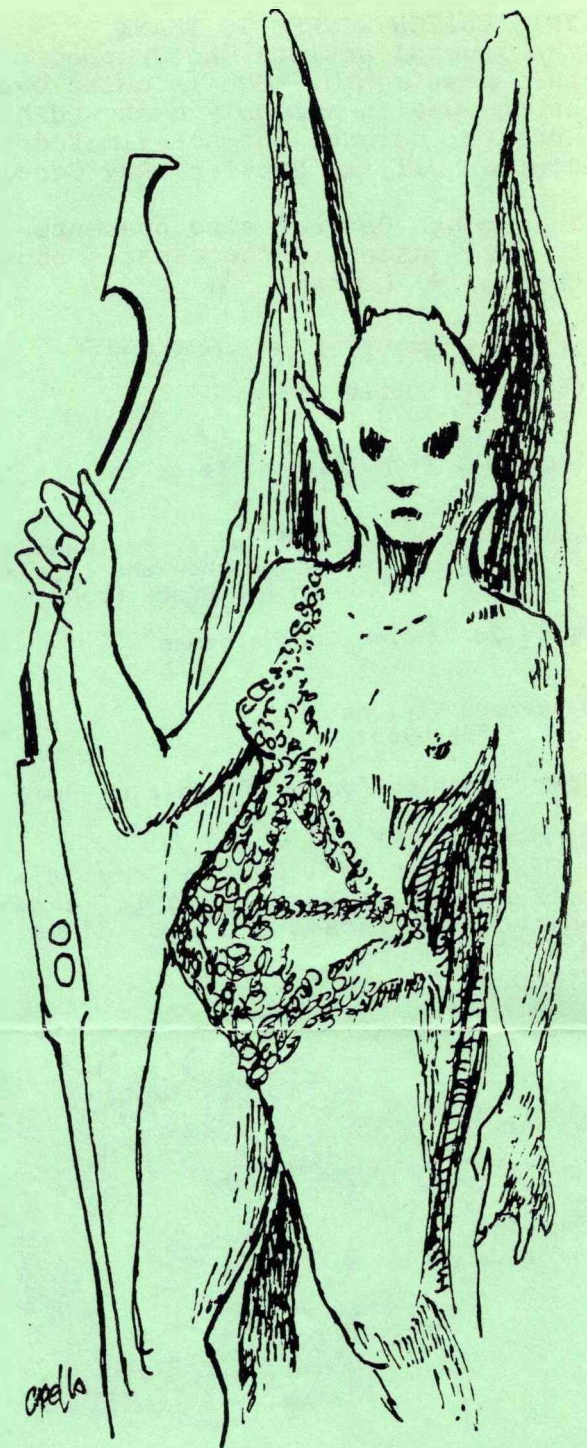
17 Ray Capella. What draws your eye to one specific book on the rack? The art one the cover! Ray Capella will present a slide show of work by artists who are the Masters of SF Cover Art.

24 Assorted cartoons. What a novelty. Animated cartoons in English. Full animation. All that kind of stuff. Come see an array of classic (and not so classic) cartoons from Warner Bros., Paramount, and other studios.

31 JAPANIMATION (what a novelty)

BUISNESS MEETINGS

Board of Directors April 24 3:00PM
SCIFI April 23 at the Tower - Directors only
LOSCON 15 March 12 2pm at C. Chapman's



OTHER MEETINGS

March

13 2nd Sunday
16 FUCC
20 Time Meddlers
27 Movie Day

April

17 Time Meddlers
24 Movie Day
28 Film: Kiss of the Vampire

THIS EDITOR WISHES TO THANK the several artists who dropped off artwork this past month. She is quite overwhelmed at the wealth suddenly bestowed her. Artists include, but not limited to: Ulrika, William Rotsler, Ray Capella.

This month De Prof also presents here-to-fore-unseen-in-these-pages bookreviewer Charles R. Lembke.

AUTOGRAPH PARTIES

Change of Hobbit
(213) 473-2873

March 19, 2-4pm Raymond Feist to sign "Faerie Tale"

April 2, 2pm William K. Hartmann autograph, slide show and lecture "Artist on the Space Frontier"

April 23, 2-5pm Joe Haldeman

Dangerous Visions
(818) 986-6963

None scheduled for March, call to check.

NEWS ITEM

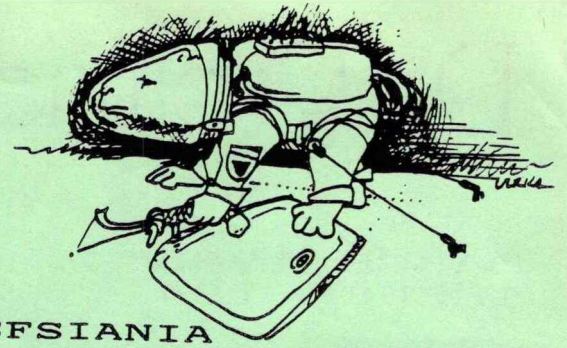
LASFS member Raul Garcia Capella's story will appear in Barbarians II, a new book edited by R. Adams and P.C. Adams and M.H. Greenberg.

END NEWS ITEM



FANZINES RECEIVED

Baycon 88 Progress Report 1
C/fo Bulletin #79
Congames #4
Fosfaux #124
Galactic Dispatch Sept. and Oct.
Instant Message #433
Interphase, February
Minicon Report #2
Mythprint #92
Phoenix Quill, February
The Ragged Edge #1
SFSFS Shuttle #434
Smartash #39
Transmissions #249/250
Westwind #125
Worm (Cybercity!), Vol.1 #4



LASFSIANIA

MORE TRIVIABILIA

by Walt Daugherty, Charter Member LASFS

I often recall many trivial incidents in my life connected with science fiction and one that comes to mind concerns Edward Arnold, the prominent character supporting actor of the 1940-50's.

Ed was under 7 years of MGM's contract players and had been loaned to Warner Bros. to play the father in three pics of the "Janie" series, a fairly successful trio under the director Michael Curtiz. One day, on the set, I was reading a science fiction magazine and was somewhat surprised when Ed, who had been glancing over my shoulder, remarked that a magazine like this had completely changed his acting career. This was in 1944, after Arnold had had his name well established in the movie industry. He was not able to give me the title of the story, or what magazine it appeared in, but was able to give me a very good synopsis of the plot. Over the next weekend I got together with Ackerman and by a melding of our recollections we managed to locate the magazine and on the following Monday morning on the set, I gave Arnold a copy of the magazine from the duplicates in the "Garage". Ed was absolutely delighted to have the copy and then told me of his experience:

It was closing night of a three day try out for the play that was to return to Broadway for its regular run after its sampling of audience reaction in Chicago. A talent scout for MGM had seen the first night of the play and talked to Arnold about a role in an upcoming MGM pic that he thought Ed was ideal for the part and immediately left for Hollywood to discuss it with the studio and said he would call Arnold at his hotel on the closing night between 11 and 12 o'clock to let him know MGM's decision. Arnold was in his hotel room awaiting the call before he left on a 1 o'clock train for New York (for which he had train tickets).

While waiting, he had found a science fiction magazine laying on the night table in his room, left by a former tenant, and to kill time he had read the aforementioned story, which so intrigued him that he read almost the entire magazine when his phone call came through from Hollywood wanting him to catch the next train for the west...his contract would be waiting. He accepted, as he wasn't too interested in the play he was to appear in and had not signed a run-of-the-play contract. He then got out his New York train ticket in preparation for going to the train station to trade his New York ticket for a ticket to Hollywood. He glanced at his watch and

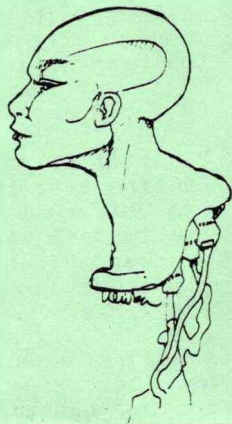
was shaken by the time...it was 1:20pm...he had gotten so engrossed in the magazine that he had missed his train. His call from MGM had come in a minute or so past 1 o'clock. If he had not been so enraptured in the magazine, he would have been on his way back to New York.

He took the train the next day for Hollywood, where they signed him to a long term contract after his screen test. Had it not been for his engrossed state with the magazine, he would not have been signed in Hollywood...maybe at a later time, but who knows? At any rate, it changed his career.

Ironically, the play on Broadyway was a bomb...and closed its run in three days...

BOOK REVIEWS

Her editorship actively seeks book reviews from the membership. You too can see your name in print in something other than an obituary.



How Much for Just the Planet?
John N. Ford
\$3.95
Pocket Books
A review by Charles R. Lembke

This is NOT a book to be taken seriously. This book is about weird things happening. It starts with the food dispensers on the Enterprise giving out things like blue orange juice. The crew on the Klingon battle cruiser, Fire Blossom, on the other hand, are getting blue yolked eggs. Although no explanation is ever given for this, it turns out to be the most normal event of the week.

The survey ship Jefferson Randolph Smith discovers vast stores of dilithium on the planet Direidi. The Fire Blossom Discovers the Jefferson Randolph Smith discovering the dilithium, and the chase is on.

The only chance to get word to the Federation is to bail out onto the planet below and let the Jefferson Randolph Smith tear off in the direction of the Federation at speeds that would kill any humans on board.

Of course, the ship crosses paths with the Enterprise.

Enterprise and Fire Blossom now high tail it back to Direidi and each prepares to pit their respective governments against each other in a contest of efficiency; the entity that is able to most efficiently develop the planet gets to keep it, according to the Organian Treaty.

When the representatives of the Federation and Klingon Empire get to Direidi, they immediately start treaty negotiations with the inhabitants. Each side is trying to be ever so civil to the other while working to secure exclusive rights to the planet. Meanwhile, the natives are behaving very oddly.

Right at the outset, they show a tendency to break into song. Most times, appropriate background music will issue from a convenient source, but occasionally, a singer will accompany him or herself on an instrument. In one case, a man puts an old-style record on a phonograph and sings as it plays.

The crews of the two ships wind up in some of the most outlandish adventures, including Scotty taking umbrage at a Klingon who makes disparaging remarks about the structural integrity of the Enterprise and challenging the Klingon to a game of golf.

If this sounds crazy, it is. This book pushes "willing suspension of disbelief to the outer limits and, at times, beyond.

But what the heck, it's Trek.

The Day the Universe Changed
by James Burke
about \$25.00
Little, Brown, & co.
A book review by Charles R. Lembke

Human beings are unable to see the universe as it really is. All sensory data are filtered through a model of how the universe is believed to be put together. Optical illusions, such as are found in the drawings of M.C. Escher, take ruthless advantage of this fact. They present a set of ambiguous cues, which we try to make fit the model of a three-dimensional, Euclidean universe filled with solid objects. We can shift our perspective back and forth endlessly, but we can never reconcile the entire picture with the "real" world.

This process of reconciliation is the same thing that happens when we are presented with a picture of the universe. We reinterpret the lines and shadings of the picture until it fits our notions of reality. When an old belief is discarded and replaced with a new one, it is as if the universe has changed.

James Burke, author of *Connections*, presents us with the history of nine such shifts of perspective, and their consequences for people living in the age when they occurred, as well as for us.

This book is engrossing not merely for its narrative style and interesting subject matter, but also for the thoughts it stirs about how things might have been different. For example, had Germany not been defeated in World War One, quantum mechanics might have never been discovered. (Or at least, the discovery might have come about much later.)

Particularly valuable is the insight that many discoveries we think are vital were made only because someone decided to look outside the lines drawn by the prevailing model. An example given in the book is that astronomers who believe the universe is made up of omelette will build their instruments and structure their tests to find traces of egg between the stars. Any data that do not fit the omelette model are likely to be discarded as irrelevant.

If you can't afford the \$25 or so the book costs, try the libraries. You may have to hunt for it, but it's well worth it.



Ulrika's artistry adorns these inside pages. With Ray Capella on the First Page Main Illo, an Rotsier illo bkpg.

Dragon's Gold
Piers Anthony
\$3.95 TOR Books.
A book review by Charles Lembke.

Take one child with funny looking ears, one Prophecy about a child with funny looking ears, and one usurper. Throw in some dragons with scales of solid gold, highwaymen, a kidnapping and a slave auction, and a war against an evil sorcerer. Stir well, and don't forget True Love.

If this begins to sound like an unbawdlerized fairy-tale, well, so does this book.

Piers Anthony seems to write two or three types of book, and the fairy tale is one that he writes adequately.

The story begins with Kelvin, a round-eared boy in a world of pointed-eared people (think elves), and his sister Jon, masquerading as a boy. They set off into dragon country to look for scales shed by passing dragons. What they find instead is a sleeping dragon.

Wonder of wonders, they kill it.

On their way back home, they are set upon by highwaymen and robbed, and Jon is taken to the Boy Market to be sold into slavery.

When Kelvin goes into town to try and find a way to rescue Jon, he finds a magic gauntlet and a patron who identifies him as the Roundear of the Prophecy. (Remember the Prophecy?)

How Kelvin manages to overthrow the evil sorcerer, bring a few hundred pounds of gold back to his mother, and find True Love in the process makes an engaging, if lightweight, read.

Do not expect Great Truth or unexpected turns of plot. This is a book to read when you want to have a little fun without too much work.

FANZINE REVIEWS

Fanzines sent to the clubhouse are available to the general membership. Faneds who wish their fanzines to be considered by Harry for review would do best to send him a copy personally at P.O.Box 5309, Torrance, CA 90510-5309.

SCANDINAVIAN FANZINES

Swede Ishes
c/o Ahrvid Engholm
Renstiernas Gata 29, II
S-116 31 Stockholm
SWEDEN

Now here is something really special!! It is a collection of Swedish fan writings, translated into English by Ahrvid. This zine is sold for the benefit of the Scandinavian European Fan Fund, and 1/2 the income will go to the SEFF. I now quote their prices... "1 pound sterling, incl postage and everything; or 1 US dollar excl postage (add one international reply coupon, IRC for postage); or 10 Swedish Crowns incl postage. Paper money in these currencies are accepted (mail at your own risk!). For orders in other currencies use the exchange for 1 pound sterling. If you can use the European Postal Giro system, my Swedish PG-No is 436 32 00-9."

Ahrvid also comments "the name "Swede Ishese" is picked from a chapter in Harry Warner's "A Wealth of Fable", which dealt with the history of fandom in the 50's and Swedish fandom which then had started."

Here are the top ten writers and 11 artists of Sweden, and they do have a lot of talent. I hope the problems of price are not too much for you, because I do recommend the fanzine. The English translation, by the way, is quite good. It lacks that fluid flow of the native speaker, but it gets the ideas across quite well.

FEAST OF FRIENDS
Pekka Supinen
Ulvilantie 29/5 D 442
SF-00350 Helsinki
FINLAND

Now here is a fanzine worth trying to get.

I cannot do better than to re-print what Pekka himself has to say in his editorial:

"Welcome to the feast of friends! It tells you everything you might want to know about science fiction in Finland, about books, magazine comics, and fandom. Also included are representative short stories by two of our leading sf writers: Johanna Sinisalo and Pekka Virtanen.

There has been quite an sf-boom in Finland during the 1980's and it has, of course, been reflected in the fast growth of fandom. Some measure of this growth might be gotten from the Finnish Worldcon attendance. In SEACON 79 it was less than a handful, at Conspiracy 87 is it around 30.

Feast of Friends is the 2nd English language fanzine ever published in Finland. The first was Universal Mind in 1983 and our intentions are in many ways similiar to those of that pioneering publication. We want to tell you all about ourselves and contact fans all over the world. You had the first contact when you got this zine (however that happened). More permanent contact might be got by sending us a letter of comment or by mentioning us in your own zines

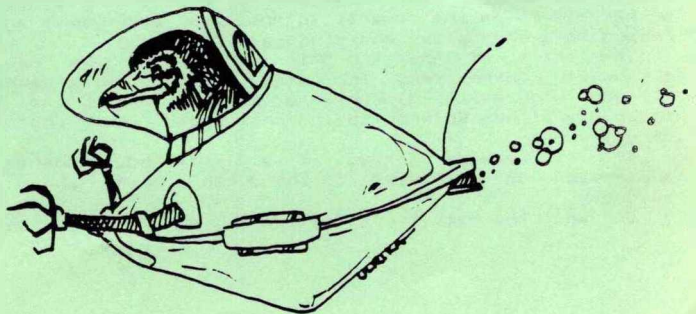
And finally, Feast of Friends is available for The Usual, that is: by trade with your own fanzine or by sending us a loc. We hope that you will enjoy our feast and come again in the future." --

I can add little to that mini-editorial, other than to urge you to send for a copy. This is a well printed and packaged fanzine, and a credit to all concerned. Probably the most informative article is the one published by Leena Peltonen, describing how sf is or is not published in Finland. The obvious problems are the language barrier and the small population. I think we USA fans tend to take the sheer amount of sf in English too much for granted.

Harri Haarikko has an article on the Finnish SF Magazines and the struggles they have to survive. I get the impression that most are what we in the USA would call semi-zines.

As is the case all over the world, distribution is one of the biggest problems.

All in all, a fine fanzine to introduce you to a new world of fandom.



MEETING MINUTES

MEENACE OF THE LASFS: Meeting #2633 -- January 28, 1988
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

Still trying to fathom the antics of the LASFS, the media's latest representative, R. Daniel Foster of the Los Angeles Times, was on hand developing material for an article about the club. Excitement was rampant. President Casey was so excited her lips were immobilized while she desperately tried to pronounce the meeting number. Having mastered that, she moved on to larger figures, namely the ones in the Treasurer's Report.

It was a Saintless Thursday -- prompting Adams Douglas to point out it was one of the last available to be named after the next donor of a mere thousand dollars...

After Bruce Pelz auctioned four parking spaces for the month of whatever, Glycer read the minutes for the previous week's meeting. The members, unaccustomed to being allowed to correct the minutes, confused the occasion with announcements, committee reports and reviews. Is nothing sacred?

Casey scanned the horizon for the Registrar, who was evidently still rounding up the unusual suspects.

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS: Charlie Jackson 2 of the Film Coordinating Committee gestured vaguely at the chip on his shoulder from last week when the president failed to accord him his due slot in the committee report rotation. Then with menace in his eye, he announced tonight's program would be a showing of The League of Frightened Men -- no matter what it says on the board. Then if time -- and Charlie declared he would be the sole arbiter of whether there is enough time -- he would play a video tape of the segment from 20/20 on The Phantom of the Opera. Still abuzz with hormones, Charlie said he was renaming the EEOOTSOT -- the event will go to a monthly schedule, and not be on the third Sunday. He'll run half a serial one month, and the other half the next month. Rick Foss intuited, "That'll be difficult to work out an acronym for." David Joiner called on Casey to refer the problem to the Society for Creative Acronymism. Allan Rothstein broke himself up trying to make another pun, prompting an excursion into New Business. (Charlie expressed his opinion of having his report truncated by walking out of the meeting. "Did he ever return? No he never returned, and his fate is still unlearned...")

NEW BUSINESS: Casey called for, and claimed to have heard, a voice motion and second to reinstate Pun Fines. Past President George Jumper asserted the pun fine was instituted long ago to prevent a certain member from doing puns. Otherwise there are only occasional puns, and George questioned why we need a fine. Robbie Cantor said it should be pointed out that during Patrice Cook's term as President pun fines were abolished. Casey turned her imperial nose up at that suggestion, and as Czarina said to trash all this democratic stuff -- she would impose a pun fine.

REENTERING COMMITTEE REPORT ZONE: Hare Hobbs explained the Container Painting Committee couldn't report. They had met, however, their secretary, Therri Moore, was absent. Hare couldn't read her notes, and knew the people didn't want to see Mark Pollner, and would rather wait a week for the chance to see Therri Moore -- and maybe even listen to the report... Allan Rothstein, prompted by the minutes' report of the container painting controversy, suggested as a compromise that the container be painted several solid colors.

Elayne Pelz announced a work party February 6. All bodies were requested to show up. In particular, they would clean up the striped occupational hazard and load it with mimeo paper. Vans were welcome, to help retrieve the paper from Self Help. Glycer's suggested "ream-passing brigade" was ignored, except by the secretary.

Bob Null report the LASFS Computer Club has expanded its library of MS-DOS disks available for copying.

REGISTRAR: Dee Dee introduced guests Ken Coleman, Steven Levy, Michael Powers, Frank Waller, and Jim T. Dennis who listed the following special interest on his green card: "I'm going to build a background starship and leave this dirtball in a cloud of cosmic dust."

REAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (Don't Eat Quiche): Tom hyped the Festival of Animation at CSUN, then parted with a verbal bouquet to Charlie: "If anybody makes this place run, it's Charlie."

Cheryl Chapman advertised '88 Equicon memberships for \$20. John Lavalley reminded members it was the second anniversary of the Challenger disaster. Casey Bernay called for 73 seconds of silence. Afterwards, Tommy McDaniel said a tv call-in survey (on a 900- number) asking voters whether they preferred the US spend more or spend less on the space program resulted in 83% of the voters wanting the US to spend more.

Wolf Foss bought three motorcycles last week -- now he'd like to sell all three. Ah, the Mulligan of motorcycles! One of them had clear papers and ownership. One had engine damage. The third he termed "a strange, Spanish moped."

Adams Douglas announced LASFS Second Sunday's menu of computer games, personality analysis, and matching. Yes, you could win up with somebody just like you -- what luck! Adams also said he and David Joiner appear on tv's Computer Chronicles the first or second week of February.

George Jumper did a number on last week's speaker. He called it the usual UFO stuff. The speaker, J. Randolph Winters, was personable but a little shaky on his science, and didn't understand certain scientific terms. He spoke of aliens from the star Merope in the Pleiades, light-skinned humanoids, looking like us. George purred this was fine except for a few things.

For example, Merope is a young, very bright star emitting lots of UV -- how did a humanoid race evolve without a terrific suntan? Rick Foss just assumed they invented sunblocker before the wheel. George also pointed out from our observations we know Merope is in an area with a gaseous atmosphere, which would not be possible if it had planets.

Referring to last week's resolution to make copies of the bylaws available, Casey had discovered the copies on hand contained on the odd-numbered pages. Elayne said that was okay -- the edition was out-of-date anyway... Robbie Cantor jumped in with a request for an insurance agent who can undercut the \$5,000 quote we just got for the club's 1988 insurance.

Doug Crepeau reported on having filled out his Nielsen viewer diary. He included nothing but sf and selected PBS items, and showed the tv as being turned off all the other times.

The meeting dissolved as David Joiner and Casey Bernay discussed the feasibility of a bylaws amendment to repeal all the bylaws on even-numbered pages. It all seemed to hinge on whether the instructions for amending the bylaws were on an odd-numbered page, therefore in Casey's copy....

THREAT OF THE LASFS Meeting 12634 -- February 4, 1988
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

Casey Bernay rang the club's chime to get our attention and begin the meeting. Members called on one another to explain the rust-colored halo about our president's head, so reminiscent of Russian religious icons. Had the Vandroids struck again? It seemed a color they would approve. No, rest easy -- it was the president's own handiwork.

Casey elicited three cheers for St. Mike Luwish, "wherever he is" -- the answer to that being, "in Japan, usually."

Extending the olive branch to Charlie, who felt that his vital presentations to the members had not been allocated their proper time during the past couple of meetings, Casey let the Emperor begin the night's official business.

Charlie started, "Place your hands over your hearts..." Rick Foss stood up and declared, "If we're praying to Charlie, I quit!" Rather than divine services, we got a report of the Film Coordination Committee, to the effect that LASFS would be seeing Buster Keaton's The General this month. We would be seeing neither the long nor the short version, as it turns out, but a version missing four minutes. Glycer explained, "It was done by Nixon's grandfather." Joe Zeff, recalling only one of the versions had a sound track, asked Charlie, "Does it have a sound track or do we have to provide our own?" Horrified by the suggestion, Charlie threatened a body search at the door where members' kazoos will be taken away, and in some cases, their noses will be impounded.

As the SS of the FCC (Serial Subcommittee) Charlie explained we're about 1/3 of the way through The Spider's Web. The next serial on tap is The Fighting Devil Dogs. Switching chapeaux, Charlie ranted on behalf of the Engineering Committee that the computer room, unlike other rooms which are only no smoking on Thursday nights, has a ban on smoking at all times. Food and drink are also banned. Charlie carefully explained that the computer cases and printers are not really table tops for fanzines and bags of food. Really getting into his parental nasal whine, Charlie slowly and pointedly told members the telephone in the front building is their friend -- if it rings and they are standing right next to it, they should feel free to answer it. He then gave a lesson on how to answer the phone that would have prompted Marcel Marceau to give up pantomime in favor of becoming a disc jockey.

After nearly a page of minutes, it's hard to believe that Charlie wasn't done when Casey caught him pausing for breath, and took back control of the meeting. It was either that, or rename the Los Angeles Serials and Films Society. Glycer put down his smoking pen and read the account of last week's meeting. Several corrections were made, including one from Tom, who said his compliment had been intended for Glycer, rather than Jackson.

Somehow the other corrections were less memorable! Casey rang her bell and the minutes were approved -- by her -- as nitpicked.

She read the treasurer's report. She also raised the question of the bylaws again. It seemed Craig Miller's "official complete copy" of the bylaws had been used to clone other copies, which are now available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Glenn Glazer said he was starting a birthday committee to announce the natal days of club members. Having gotten a late start he called forward last month's birthday kids, including Craig Miller, Patrice Cook, Regina Hopwood. Glenn's last mistake was trying to lead the club in singing "Happy birthday." While the club couldn't carry a tune in a bucket anyway, it didn't help matters that a third of the members were singing "Happy Birthday" to the tune of the "Volga Boatmen."

Program Czar Craig Miller told us he had in store an auction tonight, featuring the first of several guest auctioneers, Rick Foss. Jerry Pournelle will speak on the 18th, the film The General will be shown on the 25th, and Ray Capella's slide show of sf art will run on March 17. Also being a man of many hats, Craig shifted to Chairman of the Board, in order to announce that a chairman is sought for the 1989 Loscon. Applicants need to show up at the February 28 Board of Directors meeting. The Board will submit to the club all the applicants it considers "qualified", and the club will make a final selection. Bidders known in advance are Rick Foss and R. Laurraine Tutihasi.

As a last item, Craig announced a fundraiser February 13 at Golden Apple comic shop, with a number of well-known comics pros. They're raising money to pay the lawyer who appealing the conviction of the owner of Friendly Frank's comic book store on charges of selling pornography to minors.

George Mulligan announced a Tai Chi hiatus, and an imminent change in location to the YWCA on Laurel Canyon. Since they'll have to pay for the space, the weekly fee will jump to \$5. That well-known Party Animal, Adams Douglas, said LASFS' Second Sunday, February 14, will be a lighthearted salute to Valentine's Day. There will be computer games, computer dating software, and 3 vintage copies of the "Mystery Date" board game. Elayne Pelz had her own party in mind: a work party on February 6. Workers were needed at 10 AM, and she had the written list of tasks to satisfy anyone's curiosity.

REGISTRAR: Rick Young, under some rationale standing in for the divine Ms. Joe, introduced guests: Michael Ferguson, Celeste Satter, James R. Haldy, Yvonne Lewis, Kathleen Barrett, Olen Pell, and Larry Ho (from the L. A. Times, photographing the meeting.)

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS: Galen Tripp announced it was that time of the month -- De Profundis was out. (Is that why the issue was pink?) Anyway... Fred Patten is assembling a Loscon XIV photo album, and wants more photos to select from. Fred also expounded on Australia's introduction of plastic money.

NEW BUSINESS: Adams Douglas, seconded by Galen Tripp, moved "That the LASFS designate the 4th meeting of each year -- that being the week usually falling closest to January 28th -- as the 'Challenger Memorial Meeting'. And that this be so indicated at the start of said meeting, and that 73 seconds of silence be observed at that time, where members present be encouraged to use that time to think of ideas for promoting space exploration."

Mark Pollner recalled a similar motion a year ago was hotly debated and failed. George Mulligan asserted that was because we tried to put it in the standing rules. Tonight's motion passed by voice vote with two nays.

The report by the container painting committee was held for next week's business. Hare Hobbs synopsized the recommendation that the container panels be divided into four parts and assigned for painting, with the far end being a fifth section. Charlie Jackson said the end facing the comic book store should have a large sign painted on it saying, "Go Away!"

Dan Deckert's LASFS 50 Project committees were fondly remembered by Casey Bernay, exhibiting a not-uncommon fannish trait of feeling nostalgic for a time she did not experience. She brought up Charlie's suggestion for a LASFS Public Relations Committee. Charlie volunteered to head it, on the theory he was already doing all the work. Casey wanted anyone else who was doing committee work for the LASFS to sign in on Charlie's book when they left the meeting tonight, so she could get a list of what's being done, and get those people some help. Charlie's still, small voice insisted such a list was already in the computer.

REVIEWS: Francis Hamit reviewed a Shakespeare Society of America production. Day of the Dagger, which had its world premiere production this week. It's set in France circa 1572, and concerns the St. Bartholomew's Eve Massacre. Francis said, "If you wonder what that has to do with SF..." It had considerable to do with the Society's forthcoming production of Hamit's own play. But Ren Faire fans might like the historic costumes. The play is at the Globe Playhouse in West Hollywood, a halfscale replica of Shakespeare's theater.

George Mulligan spoke kindly about the animated feature film Lightyears, scripted by Dr. Asimov. He thought the story was choppy.

Charlie Jackson resumed his place at the front of the meeting orating about serials and films. Those who have been up at 6 AM Saturday morning to watch the serials on KABC should join Charlie in calling on them to run Commando Cody. It's your cultural duty!

MENACE OF THE LASFS: Meeting #2635 -- February 11, 1988
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

In her Valentine's Day scarf and magenta shades, Casey raised suspicion she'd been possessed by the spirit of Elton John. For the occasion she dispensed with the usual three cheers and asked members, the the Dating Game style, to give St. Mike three big juicy simulated kisses. Glycer was touched -- however, there was no exchange of bodily fluids...

REVIEWS: Casey mentally shuffled her deck, too fast for the members to count whether she was playing with a full one, and decided Reviews came first on tonight's order of business. Marty Cantor raved enthusiastically about Cirque Du Soleil, a one-ring circus from Quebec Robbie had dragged him unwillingly to see. He thought it was terrific. The only animals it uses are human animals. "Drop everything and go see it!" he declared, "if you can get tickets." The scheduled run at a tent in Santa Monica had sold out, but they extended the run: there might be some seats left.

Rick Foss reviewed the Museum of Neon Art, a new show of kinetic light and neon art on Tracton Street off Alameda near 3rd Street in downtown LA.

AUCTION: Next, Bruce Pelz auctioned off used bookshelves. Marty Cantor auctioned off binoculars, and allowed Glenn Glazer to check them out. One assumes he was microscopically examining Casey, by Foss accused him of trying to make Glycer look even larger. Pelz returned long enough to auction off a last item which Glazer described as a "glow-in-the-dark" thermos, though it was probably just a portable light. As the traditional Committee To Gouge Money Out of The LASFS, Pelz also announced SCIFI had acquired 2.5 tons of mimeo paper and loaded it into the shed. The going price is \$4/ream, \$35/case (10 reams) -- colors are buff, blue, pink and green.

MINUTES: Casey unleashed St. Glycer to dispatch the minutes. Under corrections, Casey answered a question about her new hair color with the old Clairrol slogan, "Only her hairdresser knows for sure." Ed Glaser shouted, "And those fingers will never die..." Casey assessed him a pun fine.

STUFF: Casey read the slightly-soggy Treasurer's Report. She praised those who had been at Saturday's work party, and read off their names. Bruce Pelz asked her to add the people who loaded their vehicles for transporting the mimeo paper from Kelly to the clubhouse.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Marty Cantor reported on a toy exhibition back east, including his favorite item, a robot that eats spaghetti. (And I thought Betsy Wetsy was sufficiently disgusting!)

Adams Douglas reported on the President and NASA's announcement of a new National Space Policy, and the claim an additional \$12 billion will be requested for NASA's budget next fiscal year. Carol Ann Cranston alerted members to the benefit at Golden Apple coms February 13 raising money to pay for the legal appeal of a comics dealer convicted in Illinois on charges of selling porn to minors. Hal O'Brien commemorated the 42nd anniversary of the introduction of the first general purpose computer, and the recent death of one of its developers.

David Joiner publicized the novel concept of grass-roots level development of space-exploration and industrialization hardware. For example, making experimental models of tele-operated equipment to permit an earthbound operator to cope with the 3-second lag in communications between here and the Moon.

Rick Foss announced Kees and Angellique Van Toorn had a boy January 20, Lenard Van Toorn.

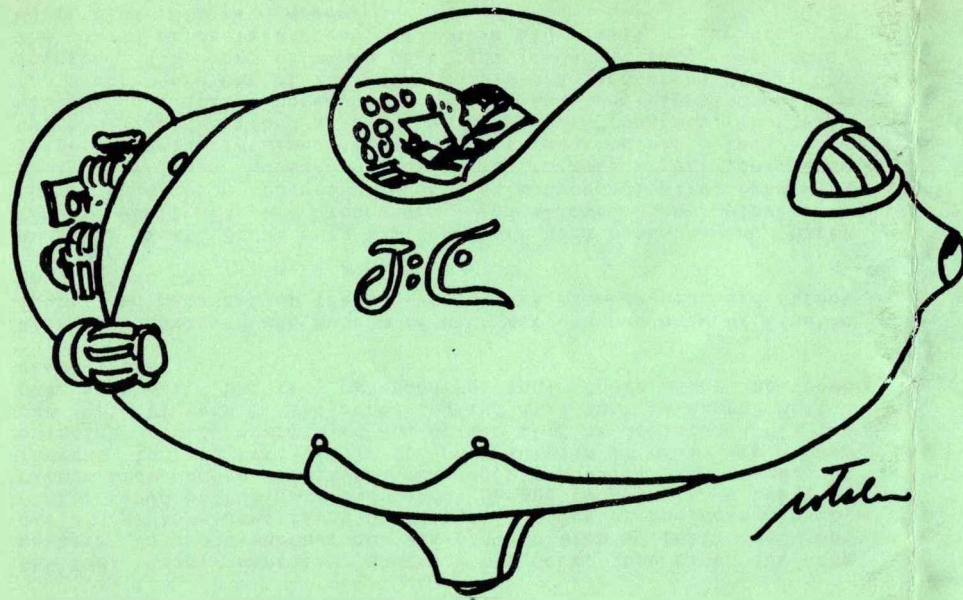
COMMITTEE REPORTS: Craig Miller expanded on the Golden Apple comics fundraiser, giving a handout describing the events and issues in detail. He reviewed our schedule of future programs, including tonight's filksing led by Barry Gold, Jerry Pournelle on 2/18, and SF Computer Music on 3/10 with Mark Bojman and David Joiner.

REGISTRAR: Dee Dee introduced guests: Kenneth Bell, Virginia Wetherby, Penny Fleming, Martin Choate, Jerry Beck, W. L. F. Ryan, Jonathan C. Cromwell, Ken Christianson, Steve Galacci, and Steve Serling. Steve said he was brought by Mark Poliner, causing a group intake of breath, until Craig Miller said, "Even a blind pig finds an occasional acorn."

MORE COMMITTEES: Glenn Glazer set about announcing birthdays, and alluded to the problem we had last week singing "Happy Birthday". He asked that this week we all try singing the same version, the traditional version. So the club tried it again, a musical drone that probably started every dog in the neighborhood looking for a full moon. Casey Bernay concluded, "Now I know why Princess Leia wore her hair that way!"

Adams Douglas and Fang plugged upcoming Second Sunday activities, computer matching with fannish type information, and the available materials to make our own Valentines. The cards -- the cards! Jerry Pournelle insisted we should send a suitable Valentine to NESFA...

Joe Zeff, disguised in a three-piece suit, reported on an episode of "Evolution in Everyday Life" -- the man so intent on observing the fire in the next-door apartment building that he fell out of his third-floor window, to his death. Then it was Charlie's turn to speak, and Pournelle alleged, "Now we have an example of



MORE MINUTES

devolution in everyday life..." So Charlie sat down, either in a snit or in his chair, until the people coaxed him to get up and give his report. They chanted, "Charlie! Charlie!" Jackson smiled and said, "Try, 'Sire! Sire!'" But Glycer seemed to recall something about yelling "Sire!" in a crowded theater.

Charlie reminded us about the upcoming film program with Buster Keaton's The General. He also described a weekend film program.

Casey reminded Glycer to put something in the minutes about Misty Johnstone. "Uh, thank you," said Misty, blushing uncertainly.

Then we moved into tonight's main event. Casey read the "Seatainer Committee" report held over from last week. In brief, they recommended we paint the cargo container white, partition the surface into five sections, and have an artist do a design for each section based on science fiction of successive decades from the 1930s onward. They proposed a budget of \$100.

Distilling the rather intense discussion... Charlie Jackson warned the surface of the container was so irregular he doubted the result would turn out as they imagined it. Jerry Pournelle firmly recommended the president pick one artist and have him do it, for the alternative will look as if a committee did it. Charlie Jackson passed on Bill Warren's suggestion that if we were to give Marc Schirmeister paint and no instructions, he would cover the container with something interesting.

Bruce Pelz attempted to summarize the alternatives, (1) leave it alone, (2) paint it a solid color, (3) get other artists to paint it. Casey rejected this, as having been the purpose of the committee, that had just submitted its report. Charlie Jackson felt the crux of the problem was how to select from among the dozen competent artists who attend the club, and also how to assure their styles don't clash and make an ugly mess. Marty Cantor felt the committee's concept, that interested artists should apply, would fail to meet our needs, for artists would not submit to a competitive selection. He urged the members to recruit a specific artist. Casey sent the issue back to committee, while having a little verbal set-to with Dr. P.

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