



MEETING PROGRAMS

JULY

Meeting information for July was unavailable.

OTHER MEETINGS

JULY

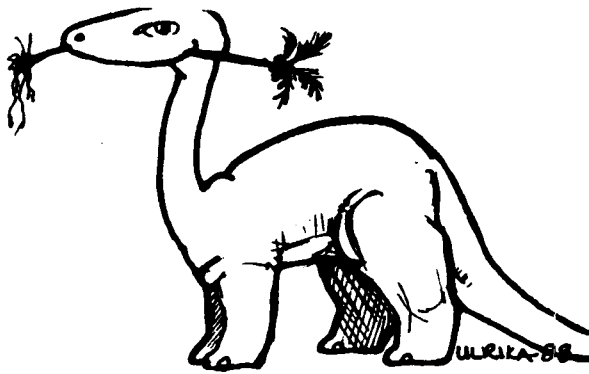
- 14 2nd Sunday
- 21 Time Meddlers meet at 10am
- 17 Fandom Universal Computer Club
- 28 Movie Day

Board of Directors Meeting July 14, 11am. SCIFI meets July 20th, time TBA. LOSCON 18 meets June 30th, 1pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Results of the procedural elections:

- | | |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| President | Fang Van took |
| VP | Drew Sanders |
| Secretary | Mike Glycer |
| Treasurers | Elayne Pelz and
Robbie Cantor |
| Registrar | Alison Stern |



Triviabilia #9
Precursor to LASFS

by

Walt Daugherty, Charter member

Traditionally fans of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Gothic literature are imbued with real imagination. Assuming this to be true, I shall call on the reader to use it to the fullest extent for this article. If you are less than 70 years of age it becomes absolutely necessary at this point.

Today there are entire areas in magazine racks, pocket book and hardcover racks devoted to our genre. Sections in tape rental stores contain literally hundreds of our programs. Almost any week you can catch six, eight or even ten of our movies on the TV screen.

Times were very difficult prior to the formation of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society and especially prior to the first issue of a Science Fiction magazine that appeared on the news stands in 1927. Most of us started with Tom Swift or Don Sturdy books with a rare find in a library of 20,000 Leagues Under The Sea or a few Edgar Rice Burroughs books or an occasional story in a pulp like All Story Magazine.

Very seldom would you see any references to movies except "Frau en Munde", "Nosferatu", "The Silent World", and "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" but those movies were unobtainable. Then "Frankenstein" in 1931, "Dracula" in 1930 and "Just Imagine" 1930 were shown at local theatres so, of course, you saw them so often that you could recite lines and lines of dialogue.

Unorganized fandom got off to a small but very speedy start when "Letters to the Editor" showed up in the pulps, and with good reason. If a letter appeared it almost always contained the name and address of the writer and one could hardly wait to get off a letter to the individual. If you were real lucky you might find a letter from a local reader. Then you could either call him by phone or go to his house to see him.

These contacts were extremely important as we did not talk to just anyone about science fiction as we were considered odd balls. Riding on a street car or bus and reading one of the pulps you could often hear comments between other passengers: "that guy is one of those screwballs who thinks we are going to go to the moon by airplane" or "He needs to be locked up in the booby hatch because he thinks that they will have things circling the earth way up in the sky". More remarks of this type were too numerous to quote in a short article. The facts were that we were ahead of our time by far and the general public was not ready to accept our belief in space flight. As a result, any contact we would get with someone with our same interests were not only scarce but were latched onto with glee.

This situation continued for several years with only slight improvement being evident. In fact, our first real breakthrough was after the Atom Bombing of Hiroshima. At least some began talking to us in a minor way with, "Say, fella, what is this science fiction all about?" The door finally opened and slowly but surely we began to spread the word and the rest is history.

The Martian Viking
Tim Sullivan
Avon Books, New York, NY
\$3.50, 272 pp
Review by Karl Lembke

This dark fantasy is set in a future where non-productivity is a crime. Well, maybe not quite a crime, but the unproductive are drafted by the Conglomerated United Nations of Earth (the Conglom) for service in space.

College Professor Johnsmith Biberkopf is about to become unproductive. I guess he's over qualified, being one of the few college professors who has actually bothered to learn to read. (Most of his peers look askance at his "elitist" attitude.) He has managed to rock the boat enough to lose his job. After cleaning out his desk, his next stop is the Space Selective Service board. After that, he'll be sent to the Moon. If he's lucky, to Mars.

Well, he's lucky. He gets sent to Mars. (Obviously he gets sent to Mars, since the book isn't titled "The Lunar Viking".)

Once he and the rest of his group arrives on Mars, he begins a session of good old fashioned Basic Training, including combat and weapons use.

And there are people to fight on Mars.

Johnsmith finds himself working at a factory that makes ones. Ones are little pellets that, when held, produce hallucinations. For some reason, a group called the Arkies is stealing ones before the Conglom can get them into circulation in the criminal markets on Earth and imprinting them with images of a Viking longboat.

The Arkies can't make their own ones, so they have to raid the Conglom base to steal the unimprinted ones.

Why a viking longboat? And why is it important enough to stage bloody raids over?

Well, it seems there's a belief among the Arkies that a real Viking ship does appear from time to time over the Martian desert. Of course, Johnsmith believes anyone believing that has a serious leak in his pressure suit. After all, how would a Viking longboat get to Mars, and where would you sail one?

I won't disclose the answer to that question, or how Johnsmith learns it. I will say, however, that Mr Sullivan seems to have painted himself into a corner with this story, and he extricates himself in a manner that leaves me very unsatisfied. I have never actually found a story that ends with "and then he woke up - it had all been a dream", but this comes as close as any I've seen. It is a pity, too. Mr. Sullivan has a nice touch with characterization, and this story could have had an ending to suit its beginning and middle.



REPORT OF THE CHILD'S LIT COMMITTEE

We (being me, myself and I) mailed out the press release about the recommended reading list on Monday April 22. There were about 480 of them sent. They were sent to newspapers in every state in the union. Others were sent to magazines oriented toward children or parents or librarians. A few were sent to local TV stations and the big networks in New York. I sent one to Late Night With David Letterman's Viewer Mail.(It was late, I was tired.) I sent one to Barbara Bush with a cover letter.

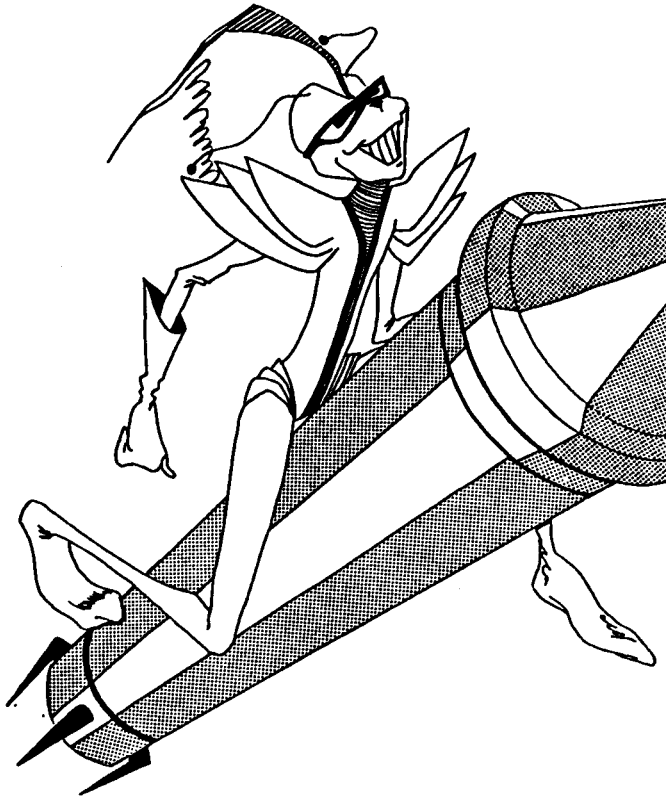
If any LASFS members see any mention of the recommended reading list in the mundane press, please bring it in so that I and the rest of LASFS may see it also. Please do not, I say, do NOT assume that because you have seen it, I have seen it too. I would like to know if my work has had any results.



Galen A. Tripp

Children's Literature Committee

Atsion Dapre Finkel



LOS ANGELES SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY, INC



11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, California 91601. (818) 760-9100

From: Galen A. Tripp, Children's Literature Committee

To: Members of the Press and the Academic Community

For Immediate Release

April 23, 1991

The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society has compiled a Recommended Reading list for young people ages 9 and up. This list is free to anyone who sends a stamped self-addressed envelope to the address below.

The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society is a non-profit literary and educational organization interested in imaginative fiction. It was founded in 1934. LASFS is the oldest and may be the largest such group in the world.

The LASFS has put together the Recommended Reading List to promote reading and help fight illiteracy. The LASFS feels that people who learn to enjoy reading when they are young will continue to enjoy reading throughout their lives. The list is intended for older children and young adults with an interest in imaginative literature (science fiction and fantasy) or the parents of young people who are so inclined. The list would also be of use to parents who feel their children might or should be interested in imaginative fiction, as an introduction to the field.

It has been noted that many people who have made the sciences their vocation or avocation first became interested in science by reading science fiction. But more importantly, reading imaginative fiction is fun. Children who find reading fun will read. For this purpose, in service to general literacy, the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society has composed the Recommended Reading List.

For more information write to Galen A. Tripp, Children's Literature Committee at the address below.

A free copy of this list may be obtained by anyone sending a self-addressed stamped long envelope to:

Recommended Reading List
c/o LASFS Inc.
11513 Burbank Blvd.
North Hollywood, CA 91601-2309

GAT

Report of The Child's Lit Committee

We have had some promising results from the nearly five hundred press releases sent out almost a month ago. As yet, so far as I know, three publications have printed our information about the recommended reading list. I expect more over the next few months. The most recent was the Ventura County Star-Free Press just this last Monday. The results from that are not in. The first was the Evansville Courier for Sunday May fifth in Evansville Indiana. A copy of that article is on the bulletin board and will run in APA-L. This is the only one I've actuality seen.

The most successful in terms of response (i.e. requests for the list) was a note in the Nebraska Library Commission Communicator. Last Thursday alone I got fifteen requests for the list. For the most part, from May fifth we have been getting eight to ten requests a day from public libraries, school libraries, and private citizens. Almost exclusively, these requests are from Indiana and Nebraska, the centers for fan activity in the 21st century.

Galen A. Tripp

Children's Literature Committee

THE WHITE HOUSE

May 16, 1991

Dear Mr. Tripp,

You were so good to write and tell me of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society and their interest in literacy. How wonderful to know that you have a recommended reading list for young people.

Young people need so much to learn the pleasure, as well as the importance of reading, and having a good reading list of interesting books is helpful.

With best wishes for continuing success,

Warmly,

Barbara Bush

The Evansville Courier (Sunday, May 5, 1991)

Evansville,
Indiana

Science fantasy book list offers summer imagining

SC 5-5-91 p.F3

I've always considered summer the season for reading lists, those catalogs of classics that teachers and school librarians used to give us at the end of the school year.

So I was surprised by both the timing and the focus of a list I received last week, in the middle of spring — a list of science fiction and fantasy fiction.

The list, put out by the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, "a non-profit, literary and educational organization," includes some 150 titles, most of which I'd never seen on any of the book lists.

My childhood lists featured the likes of "Huckleberry Finn," "Call of the Wild," "A Tale of Two Cities" and "The Red Badge of Courage."

I'm quite sure they never included titles like "Lila, the Werewolf," "Lizard Music," "Earthman's Burden," "Star Rangers," "Revolt of 10-X" or "The Invisible Man."

All of those works are on the list by Galen Tripp, chairman of the society's Children's Literature Committee.

The idea for the list came when the society, which was founded in 1934, was listed as an information source in one of Isaac Asimov's "Library of the Universe" series.

The organization is the oldest "and maybe the largest such group in the world," said Tripp, a past president and a director for the group.

The organization has a clubhouse, a 7,000-volume library, and an international dues-paying membership of about 350.

The total membership numbers in the thousands if you count membership over the past 50 years. The society counts members even if they've died.

"One of our mottos is: 'Death will not release you,'" said Tripp.

Telephoned at his home in Los Angeles, Tripp wasn't sur-



**Roger
McBain**

Staff writer

prised that I'd never seen "Lila the Werewolf" on any other lists.

"Certainly, science fiction has been in a ghetto," he said.

"There is a feeling by many that it is 'escapist.' They use the word derogatorily. But really, all fiction is escapist — it's just science fiction does it better.

"The truth is that science fiction, in my opinion, captures the human drama, the human condition, better than any other forms of fiction. The scope of science fiction is so large that it can capture any situation a human being might face. It has more possibilities to capture the imagination."

And capturing a child's imagination can be the key to developing an interest in reading, writing and science, said Tripp.

The list, aimed at readers 9 and older, includes a broad enough category of titles to capture anyone's imagination.

Along with the science fiction of Asimov, Ray Bradbury, Arthur C. Clarke, Robert Heinlein and Jules Verne, the list has works by J.R.R. Tolkien, Rudyard Kipling, Ian Fleming, L. Frank Baum, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Lewis Carroll and many authors I'm not familiar with.

Tripp assured me they are all esteemed in their genres.

If so, then this may not be so different from the book lists I remember — in the world of fantasy and science fiction, this is a catalog of classics.

To receive the list, send a self-addressed, stamped, long envelope to: Recommended Reading List, LASFS Inc., 11613 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, Calif. 91601-2309.



MEETING MINUTES

MENACE OF THE LASFS: Meeting #2794 -- February 20,
Mike Glyer, the Once and Future Secretary

Continuing his meeting-opening motif of re-enacting old tv and radio introductions with a LASFS twist, Charlie recalled the early U.N.C.L.E. episodes with this script:

NARRATION (CLJ2): In Los Angeles, California; in North Hollywood, there's an ordinary clubhouse... or, is it ordinary? We've entered through the SMOFs entrance and are in the headquarters of the L.A.S., F.S.. That's the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society. LASFS is charged with maintaining silliness and faannishness throughout the world.

DREW SANDERS: My name is Drew Sanders. I'm Vice-President here at LASFS.

MIKE GLYER: I am Mike Glyer. Like my friend Drew, I show up and I put up with the activities of our Chief.

CHARLIE JACKSON: [distracted] Eh? Oh, Charles Lee Jackson, the Second, here; in charge of these, our Los Angeles headquarters. It's from here that I conduct these meetings...

At the end of the script Marty Cantor declared, "Not silly enough." Charlie threatened him obscurely: "I have 11 million units of erythromycin at home." Ed Green said, "You had a busy weekend!"

Glyer read the minutes and Charlie tried to top one of the jibes at his expense. Gee, the notes seem to have smeared to unreadability at that point.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Last week's attendance was 116. We have \$37,937.00 in the till. Charlie relayed word from the Directors meeting that our last DWP bill had been for \$270. Wolf Foss wondered, "Did somebody discover my hot tub out back??" The club is also under water rationing restrictions and Charlie ordered, "Leave your jugs at home." Since the electric bill was also high, Glyer added, "And all Leyden jars will be checked at the door.." Hm, perhaps the notes ought to have been smeared there, too..

As our "chief engineer" Charlie reported the club has a water heater problem: ours has a very large hole in it.

Galen Tripp asked for an appropriation so that the press release for the Children's Literature Committee, announcing the availability of our recommended reading list, could be distributed to the media. Tripp, seconded by Jerry Pournelle, to appropriate \$200 for the printing and mailing of the press release. This was passed by voice vote without dissent.

SERCON COMMITTEE REPORTS: Charlie Jackson's listing of future programs included April 11th's discussion of Evans-Freehafer award winners.

REGISTRAR: Ed Green had found no guests. Sandy Cohen concluded that everyone has heard about us by now.

FAANNISH COMMITTEE REPORTS: Charlie Jackson recognized "the honorable Mr. Foss", and Wolf Foss rose to complain about the insinuation that his brother is the dishonorable one: Rick beamed proudly at the suggestion. To assure that LASFS stays up to date with all the war news, Wolf reported that at today's Pentagon briefing, General Kelly assured any Iraqis surrendering that they won't be eaten. (After all, you don't know where they've been!)

Sgt. Ed Green reported on Operation Desert Speedbump. He told anecdotes heard through the grapevine about the battle having moved so fast that it outran the maps given to the units, and required almost constant movement of the command vehicles. The most common report over the raido was, "We're off the map!"

Jerry Pournelle said that when historians dig into the files they'll find out this was supposed to be called Operation Desert Sword, and was accidentally announced as Desert Storm by the President's press secretary, forcing the change.

Hare Hobbs repeated anecdotes about surrendering Iraqis, including the fellow who tried to surrender to a reconnaissance drone aircraft, a historic first surrender to a robot...

Charlie Jackson 2 led three cheers for Patron Saint Marjii Ellers. Then he mentioned that next week's program is a double feature of a 1950's sci-fic movie, 4-Sided Triangle, followed by The Arizona Cowboy, with Rex Allen.. And on the first Sunday in April, LASFSians will picnic at the Bronson Canyon picnic area. Maps will be provided.

Parking spaces were auctioned, then Bruce Pelz renewed the Committee to Gouge Money Out of the LASFS in a 20-minute auction.. One of the items was a wall-sized map of the lunar surface. When Bruce unfolded it for display, Chuck Donahue accused him of mooning the LASFS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Tonight's sole announcement came from Heather Stern. She had news about an Illuminati game fest March 9 in Huntington Beach,

REVIEWS: Virtually drooling, Matthew Tepper said, "We can't do clothing reviews, or else I'd review Erica." The aforementioned Erica was resplendent in a Levi miniskirt. Now we know one other thing that the secretary of LASFS may do which is disallowed to the rest of the membership, and this new one seems to have more potential than mere permission to mention "rubber tips."

Heather Stern favorably reviewed "Time Trekkers", an HBO sf movie. where a renegade scientist plans to eliminate the inventors of time travel by murdering their ancestors. [Insert footnote here about why that won't work -- see A. Bester, "The Men Who Murdered Mohammed."]

Speaking of science fiction that shouldn't work, President Jackson termed the previous night's episode of Flash as the worst yet: Flash is blasted into the future, then goes back in time and eliminates the event that started the adventure.

Kay admired THE MATHEMATICAL TOURIST, an overview of current developments in the field of mathematics, written for the bright layman. Ed Green informed members that the Game Design Workshop has published the DESERT SHIELD FACTBOOK, a well-done compendium of military equipment employed in the theater.

MISCELLANEOUS: Ed Green didn't bat zero tonight after all: he introduced guest Russell Whitaker before the end of the meeting. We'd hate to report that Ed didn't score!

MENACE OF THE LASFS: Meeting #2802 -- April 25, 1991
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

Marty Cantor declared the silence and delay at the start of the meeting to be the best opening yet, and where was Maxwell's silver hammer just then, anyway? Just then, President Charlie Jackson 2 sounding more like an Irish tenor than Earl Scruggs, began to sing:

Come and listen to my story 'bout Ackerman,
A poor little guy, didn't know he was a fan,
Then one day he was looking through a book,
And he found some weird stuff and went "ook-ook":
Fantasy...and Science Fiction.
Well, the first thing you know, ol' Forry was a fan,
And he became a prophet to the land.
Said, "Science Fiction is a genre that is keen,"
and then went out and published him a zine --
Fan- that is. Lettercols. Stupid puns.
Then he helped to found the LASFS, right here in LA.
And that is why we're still here, to this very day.

"Set a spell. Don't take your shoes off," added Glycer.

Glycer read half the minutes of last week's meeting, and made up the other half. Rob Cole felt encouraged to correct a quote of something Charlie had said last week, pretty ordinary stuff until Cole revealed that he hadn't even been at LASFS last week, whereas the secretary had listened to Charlie from a range of about two feet and Charlie said the quote was correct. But it doesn't take long to separate the troublemakers from real trouble during corrections of the minutes. For example, Mike Stern said he had reviewed an eatery called Mi Peru, "Spelled M-I space P-E-R-U," said Stern, managing to make the place sound a bit science fictional.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Last week's attendance was 112. The bottom line of the LASFS, no longer a petite size five, is now \$34,067.67.

NEW BUSINESS: Charlie Jackson 2, seconded by Dan Deckert, moved that LASFS allocate up to \$50 to publish a video tape catalog. A copy would be available to anyone interested in the video library's holding. Marty Cantor considered \$50 too much for the job, stirring a whirlwind of debate. People actually were less interested in debating the expense than in exploiting an opportunity to discuss cartoons during the meeting. When Glycer asked if Cantor was volunteering to mimeo the catalog, and confirmed Marty was not, Charlie said the club should authorize the cost of photocopying.

Calling for a voice vote aroused a great noise of ayes and nays, so the Buchman process was applied, yielding 18 aye and 3 nay. Francis Hamit, just in from an adjacent time zone, pointed out, "Nothing says you have to spend the entire \$50, right?"

SERCON COMMITTEE REPORTS: Listing the films to be shown at Sunday's FWEMS, with its theme The Many Faces of Dracula, Charlie mentioned Son of Dracula, Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein, Dracula AD 1977, and Return of Dracula. As a bonus, he would show The Old Dark House with Tom Poston. There would also be a serial, Riders of Death Valley.

Librarian Leigh Strother-Vien said Jack Harness will return to his job on May 13, so we may expect to see him at LASFS in mid-May. Then, the recent Board of Directors meeting decided to give the library more storage space, putting 31 boxes in Monstro, and the bound pulps in cabinets in the APA L room. The Library's recent acquisitions included the fifth book of Mike Shupp's series, and the final Mallorean book by David Eddings. Leigh announced a work party for the first Saturday in June.

Charlie, as the Contemporary Archivist, read the Official List of LASFS Procedural and Board Officers. Jackson quipped that the recently-appointed Permanent Latrine Orderly, formerly Will Stockdale, now is Galen Tripp.

REGISTRAR: Ed Green's report of guests went, "In short, none." Dan Deckert retorted, "Sure it's not a penguin?" (Short nun, get it? Uh, yeah...)

FAANNISH COMMITTEE REPORTS: President Jackson 2 said, "Let's hear from the sartorial Foss." That meant Wolf, who told us of a unique case in Minneapolis where a mugging was reported by the mugger. The police found a suspect with eight counterfeit \$50 bills and were about to arrest him when he offered as his defense that he had obtained them from a victim he had mugged. Sure enough, cops found the stolen wallet in the dumpster. So they arrested the rightful owner, too. They'll testify against each other.

Wolf's second story explained how a military coup in Thailand resulted in so many claims by motorists whose vehicles were damaged in the fighting that the vehicle code was revised so that in times of national emergency, tanks have the right of way on roads, at all traffic lights, and can park anywhere they want...

Finally, Wolf recounted a drug bust where cops went to the door, were told to "Come in," but no one opened the door. Since they had been invited in they got the landlord to admit them, and arrested a suspect with his stash hiding under the bed. They also found a parrot who knows at least one phrase, "Come in."

Francis Hamit said Kenesaw, GA, had given General Schwarzkopf the dubious honor of a street named after him with his name misspelled (they put a "t" in it.) Then Hamit told of nuns caught in Quito International airport with 22 pounds of cocaine strapped to their legs: they walked like ducks. "Instead of penguins," topped Matthew. Lastly, Hamit said he had been invited to prosecute the suit against his ex-employer on television, but had refused. Glycer wondered why not add tv exposure to their humiliation. "What do they care, they're Egyptian," Hamit explained. Tepper agreed, "Bet they Copt a plea..."

Ed Green mentioned the Army reprimanded an officer whose bragging on the recent successes of military technology included the boast, "Even the \$600 toilet seats worked!"

Doug Crepeau noted the LA Times published an article on a Kurdish refugee camp named "Toontown" by US troops.

Hare Hobbs, citing it as an example of historical putridity, said Charles Manson wanted to be a rock-and-roll star, and he'd seen a copy of Manson's album at Ear Candy for \$75. "And it's terrible, too," criticized Rick Foss. "They've been playing it between bands down at Bogart's. Makes the rest of the performers sound better."

Lynn Maners said fans of the Tennessee Blind Coyote will be glad to know that fainting goats made the evening news. They are so popular their price has jumped from \$50 to \$400.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS: Charlie Jackson 2 led three cheers for Patron Sant Bill Warren. Then he reminded all that next week's program would be The Gamma People, starring the father of Adams Douglas.

On behalf of the Kiddy Lit Committee, Charlie said Galen Tripp's press release about the LASFS' recommended reading list had been sent to media in every state in the union. The club answering machine already had a response from San Diego. Then he read aloud the cover letter sent to Mrs. Bush with a copy of the list.

The members applauded. (I believe the letter said something about LASFSians doing as much as we can to advance the cause of literacy, without going so far as to read non-sf....) Rick Foss, seconded by Lucy Stern and Frank Waller, moved an official commendation to Galen Tripp. "What caliber?" asked someone. "Small boxes, as usual," replied Ed Green.

Charlie auctioned off the Alderson, Buchman and Chalfin parking spaces. The Alderson space is leftmost; Buchman is in the middle; and the Chalfin position is with your back to somebody and your hand in his pocket....

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Rick Foss announced that Excessive Decibel Levels From Outer Space would have their first full-length concert this Sunday at Bethel Lutheran Church. The a capella group sings a range of material that includes doo-wop versions of Gregorian chants, and Jimi Hendrix instrumentals (a capella, no less...)

Ed Green said the Pentagon has announced base closings, and cut the National Guard; California has been trimmed 7000 slots and 25 armories, including Ed's.

Rick Foss directed those who enjoy aftermeetings to try a place with medieval and Arabic music, called Art, on Sunset. The lead instrument is a hurdy-gurdy; no monkey, just a cellist, drummer and lutist. (That's why they need an audience of LASFSians.)

MENACE OF THE LASFS, MEETING #2803, 2 MAY 1991
By Matthew B. Pepper, Sub-Scribe

The meeting started late because there were a couple of mikes missing -- the one that's attached to the PA system, and the one that's attached to a red mustache. Fortunately, CLJII found the one for the PA, and someone else with a red mustache stood in for the other one. That done, at 20:24 we heard:

Come ride the Metrorail
That is coming down the track to the clubhouse
(LASFS clubhouse)
Forget about your cares, it is time to relax at the
clubhouse
(LASFS clubhouse)
And there's Sideburns Joe, with his pipe all aglow at the
clubhouse.
LASFS clubhouse!! (woo-woo)

CL admitted the song would have been better with three girls in their underwear, but they're at his place for the evening. To make up for it, he vouchsafed that we had no minutes, no Treasury report, no old business, and no new business. Thank Elmer Purdue for small favors!

Sercon Committee Reports: CL as Programming Committee spoke of upcoming programs: Japanimation, the movie "The Gamma People" (delayed from this evening), presidential nominations, and procedural elections. Sighting the lovely Leigh Strother-Vien, Librarian, her long wavy hair gleaming like burnished copper pennies, the Emperor asked if she had a report. "No," came the reply. As Lord High Janitor, Charlie said the Building 48J sink was working again, but we should be careful using it because there's a hole in the faucet. Your humble Sub-Scribe intoned, "So mend it, dear Janitor...." before he was subdued by gales of raucous laughter. Or maybe it was two big guys with a shillelagh; I really don't remember. Registrar Sergeant Ed Green had found one quest, Greg Potter, who heard about us at a bookstore.

Panish Committee Reports: Joe Zeff regaled us with several stories, including nine newly-whelped pedigreed Doberman puppies flushed down the toilet by a toddler, but rescued alive. Rick Foss' contributions included a promo item telling how to convert a hornet's nest into a piñata. Doug Crepeau spoke of a nuclear power plant worker named "Frazzle." Ed Green noted that the Iraqi government had just awarded its highest honor to the great national hero, Saddam Hussein. And Lynn Maners had an update on the fainting goats: They're being used as decoys to keep coyotes from eating sheep. CL reported on a radio announcer who mentioned the previous day's holiday by name on the air: Mayday! And Hare Hobbs reported inaccuracy in his previous mention of \$75 asked for an album by Charles Manson; the price is actually only \$15. "You could buy six of them," added Lynn Maners, helpfully, if not very accurately.

CL led a rousing tribute to St. Larry Niven, duly honored with three cheers and a new crown. He apologized for having to postpone the evening's original program, a screening of "The Gamma People," since the necessary equipment is being used at Gallifrey One, the Sequel. Next week, we'll have Hank Stine telling salacious stories about publishing on the East Coast. Various members took turns explaining who Hank Stine was, but most of them got him confused with G. Harry Stine.

Announcements: Heather Stern said she was trying to get together a group purchase of at least ten copies of the latest *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics* from the Cincinnati Rubber Company. Copies of the "Rubber Bible" usually go at \$97.50 each, but for us, \$24.95 if bought by 30 May. Let's band together, and snap to it. Eylat Eleasari announced her new job as a data processor for First American Insurance. Ray Capella announced the latest issue of Time had a major article on Scientology, causing CL to muse that L. Ron Hubbard's books have gotten better since he died.

Reviews: Your looney Sub-Scribe touted "My Life and Times," a new television series which is marginally skiffy in that it's narrated, *à la Looking Backward*, by an 85-year-old man in 2035. He particularly liked the fact that the narrator's retirement home is located next to a duck pond. Anyway, the show's already been cancelled. Lynn Maners pointed out that a character on the previous week's episode of "The Simpsons" mentioned Asimov, Bester, and Clarke, and haughtily dismissed Bradbury, who doesn't like the show. Rick Foss enthused over a band called "Big Daddy" which does doo-wop versions of modern hits; he called them "howlingly funny."

Miscellaneous and Addenda: CL recognized Joyce Sperling as not being named "Valerie." Both Charlie and Matthew enjoyed stories about continuity problems in episodes of "Rocky and Bullwinkle," due to the process of sharing the work between here and Mexico. Tim Deville reminded us of the upcoming total solar eclipse, and various people mused on the money to be made off tourists trying to catch sight of the corona in sunny Mexico. Gee, I always thought that was a brand of beer. Charlie mentioned the following evening's grand finale to "Dallas," a parody of "It's a Wonderful Life" with Joel Grey showing J.R. that everything would indeed have been better if he had never lived. And as a final running report, the Emperor Jackson said that with the year now one-third done, he had seen 150 films, 137 of them for the first time. That said, we adjourned at 20:57.

As the fans in the front row crowded against the dais like Birnam Wood to Dunsinane come, President Jackson 2 read his latest opening parody:

My name is not Victoria Winters.... Discontent has settled over the Hall of Freehafer. Victoria has vanished, catapulted through time and space to be replaced by her cousin Katy, who confounds the Society with her Ice Blue Secret -- a secret she withholds from the members. The vice-president has sprouted hair and fangs, and has loped off to the Hell table in search of a Tree. Ominous clankings come from the APA-L room, and strange apparitions appear with obscure warnings. The members listen in vain for the words that will end their suffering, the words, "meeting adjourned" -- but the President instead adds insult to injury, torment to suffering as he raises the Gillis gavel and says, "I call the meeting to order..."

Marty Cantor's weekly call for adjournment aroused members to promptly move, second and voice vote aye to defenestrate Cantor. It also resulted in something even more improbable: Charlie Jackson 2 acknowledged Cantor's the motion to adjourn and called for a vote. After a garbled voice vote, the Buchman process counted 9 aye and 17 nay for adjournment. Glowering at the members with one of his patented facial expressions that neverbally announced, "You'd better vote nay," Charlie chastised them about the possibility they might jokingly end a meeting some week and consequently miss something important.

However, this wasn't such a week. And neither was last week's meeting, according to the minutes, which Glycer persisted in reading despite interruption. At a discouraging moment, Leigh Strother-Vien told him, "Keep going and get it over with," -- raising eyebrows all over the house.

Just as Glycer was about to roll over and light a cigarette, there came corrections to the minutes. Leigh said the library workparty was scheduled for the first Saturday in June, not the day reported in the minutes. Then Milt Stevens, who had heard the minutes refer to moving the club's bound pulps into the APA L room cabinets, asked if LASFS wanted him to bid on the magazine: he reminded us he bought the last 1,000 pulps sold from the collection. Leigh said the club is keeping these, but Milt cheerfully persisted, "When you discover none of your members read anymore, remember, I buy stuff in tonnage."

TREASURER'S REPORT: Last week's attendance was 75. The treasury contained \$33,261.49. Charlie's tongue-in-cheek comment on the low turnout was, "You might have thought there was a convention in some nearby town." Nah, only Gallifrey...

SERCON COMMITTEE REPORTS: Charlie Jackson 2 reviewed the June calendar. June 6 will be Presidential nominations and June 13 will be the elections. FWEMs will have a "Comedy, Ahoy" theme.

Mike Stern urged people to volunteer to help with the science fair at the Museum of Science and Industry.

Ulrike Anderson said the "arbitrary agency" is asking people to suggest names for the features of Venus, particularly women's names. Ulrike thought people should suggest women science fiction writers. "Like, the Cherryy of Venus?" asked Glycer. Ulrike said the agency only used names of people already dead for three years. Matthew Tepper helpfully suggested, "James Tiptree Jr.'s Leap..." (By the way, it's the International Astronomical Union doing the asking.)

Francis Hamit told those who wondered how his book on virtual reality is coming that it is done, and he no longer has a co-author. The manuscript will be turned in next week. He thanked his dedicated assistants Leigh Strother-Vien and Carolann Cranston.

Fang said that "Boiled in Lead", a group performing traditional music of 400 years ago (or something that sounds like it) will perform Saturday in Malibu. Said Fang, "I have flyers if you're interested: if you're not interested, you're not paying attention."

REVIEWS: Frank Waller said this year's Renaissance Faire is very good. Ed Green called the movie One Good Cop 95% worthwhile because he disliked the ending, although he through everybody else would love it.

Kevin Sayers said the cost of peanut butter has gone through the roof -- not even sticking to it. Congress has even scheduled hearings. But the average citizen can still go to Trader Joes and buy California Almond Butter, for 2/3 the price.

Charlie Jackson 2 said he enjoyed the first hour-and-55-minutes of the final episode of Dallas, but they blew the ending. The gunshot was not explained, when we all know what happened is that J.R. shot the mirror.

MISCELLANEOUS: Charlie drew map instructions on the whiteboard. Tepper asked if we could have Hare Hobbs, who was wearing his PC Globe world map windbreaker, stand next to it for a sense of scale. Charlie ignored him, and proceeded to explain that on Saturday and Sunday at the Corriganville site there will be a benefit hosted by the restoration society. You can hang around and meet others of the same persuasion. The Corriganville restoration persuasion, that is. But Rex Allen won't be there: he's dead.

Having gotten the day corrected in the minutes, Librarian Leigh Strother-Vlien felt it was now safe to reveal she had cancelled it altogether. That day she will participate in a Veterans Administration ceremony recognizing her for the books LASFS has donated to the hospital.

Elayne advised there was a new printout of the LASFS Directory posted. She would try to come out with a new issue in a month. The news shocked several members into imitating fainting goats.

Bob Null said the LASFS computer club usually announces its meeting the Thursday after the meeting has happened, but this time he was mentioning next Wednesday's meeting in advance.

REGISTRAR: Ed Green introduced guests Bob Flick, Christine Meyers, and Mitchell Burnside Clapp.

SPANISH COMMITTEE REPORTS: Francis Hamit had been saving his clippings. One told of mutant rabbits in Scotland: bounty hunters are paid by the tail, and now there has developed a strain of rabbits with no tail. Holy Lysenko! Hamit also told about video pirates who were taping films off the movie house screen. You can tell because sometimes heads bob up, or popcorn bags rattle.

Rick Foss gave tonight's entry for the Committee on Surrealism in Everyday Life. A recent Alaska Airlines flight from Phoenix to Seattle stopped to let off a passenger who was distressed to find out the pilot was a woman. In a second entry, he told the story of a 43-year-old husband who assaulted a 28-year-old man. The husband came home to take the kids to the park but his wife asked him to wait while she got ready. When the husband wondered why his wife was acting that way, one of the kids said it was because her boyfriend was hiding in the closet.

Charlie Jackson 2 said the 1990 Census got over 1/4-million different write-in responses to the question of "race." They included "Lay Ocean", "a find blend," "Heinz 57," "Extraterrestrial," "Exotic hybrid," and "A little bit Norwegian."

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS: Charlie led three cheers for Patron Saint Bob Null. After that Charlie explained that tonight's speaker got Los Angeles and Long Beach confused, and had his car explode, so he won't be here this evening. Instead this week's program would be a showing of: The Gamma People. He couldn't show

The Rodeo King and the Senorita because he didn't have it with him, to which Ed Green replied, "There is a God!" No, hold the phone, because the next thing Charlie announced is for next week's program Joe Zeff will organize a Bardic Circle.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Future Fosses of America just expanded their membership. Rick announced that Rebecca Elizabeth Foss was born May 4. Someone called out, "Good work." Greg Hemsath said, "Thirty seconds for him, nine months for her." Rick smacked him over the head with the LA Reader. Rick happened to be holding a copy because he is also the proud creator of an article about William Gibson in the current issue.

MENACE OF THE LASFS: Meeting #2808 -- June 6, 1991
Mike Glyer, the Once and Future Secretary

Perhaps that aficianado of '40s films, Charlie Jackson 2, had celebrated the memory of the invasion of Normandy so enthusiastically that he became an anniversary casualty. In any case, our President was absent with a broken arm and Vice-President Drew Sanders was pressed into service. The last time Sanders ran a meeting was when they were still starting on time, so in another unexpected twist at 8:01 he called things to order. Even Secretary Glyer hadn't arrived, so Drew began with the help of the Mini-Scribe, Matthew Tepper.

Drew's urgency had more to do with having a plane to catch, and he warned the meeting would be short and limited to things of immediate import. Sanders read the treasurer's report, and noted sourly that his vice-presidential expenses had been itemized as "public relations." Tepper wondered, "What should they have been listed as, bribes?" At 8:04 Glyer sauntered in, under the illusion he was on time. As an experiment, Glyer gave Tepper the minutes so he might have a turn giving the text an unsympathetic cold reading.

SERCON COMMITTEE REPORTS: Librarian Leigh Strother-Vien displayed a newly-acquired book of American and Soviet space art. She showed some of the pictures, and by the time she recalled that a picture is worth a thousand words she was up to a score of 20,000.

FAANISH COMMITTEE REPORTS: Ed Green reported on "Beach Blanket Lingo", the jargon of beach volleyball players, such as the "campfire defense" where players form a circle and the ball drops between them....

Francis Hamit said the Wilshire Division LAPD arrested a thief stealing the turf from in front of their station. On a stickler subject, Kate Halloran announced bubblegum -- probably a brand with a difficult name.

PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS: Drew said, "We are opening nominations to run this silly-ass group for the next six months." Dan Deckert amended, "This august group." Glyer tentatively agreed, "At least in one month." Although neither CLJ2 nor Fang Van Took was present, each had confided to Drew Sanders they would accept a nomination. Everyone else who was nominated had shown the foresight to attend the meeting so they could decline.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Someone recommended visiting the store, Natural Wonders, which is selling an awesome video of computer graphics called "The Mind's Eye", a collection of computer animation. "The background music is like they play on the 'The Wave'", added the reviewer with a moue of distaste.

Leigh announced a Board of Drectors meeting for Sunday. Ed Green had newly created the "Committee to Save Ed Green's Behind", and called on LASFSians to help him win a bet that he would get the most mail in his National Guard battalion during two weeks' field exercises. Failing that he will enjoy a full

body shave. "Pre-stamped envelopes are available," said Ed.

REVIEWS: Ed Green said the first ten minutes of Hudson Hawk had potential, but he gave up after the master cat burglars go in to steal a DaVince artwork without wearing gloves. "Hadn't they read about AIDS?" wondered Lynn Maners.

Francis Hamit recommended very highly Computers as Theater by Brenda Laurel. He said it's interesting to read a book on computer science that starts with reference to Aristotle's Poetics.

Drew Sanders alerted listeners to a comic book with an amusing story and witty dialog, "Why I Hate Saturn" by Kyle Baker, published by Pirhana Press.

MISCELLANEOUS: At the last minute Registrar Ed Green had found a guest, T.J. Sharp. Drew Sanders wondered what tonight's program was scheduled to be: according to Tepper, Charlie had announced a mystery movie. Drew announced Patron Saint Jim Glass, and strangely, a different person in the audience led each of the three cheers. Then Leigh Strother-Vien goaded them into three even more enthused cheers for "a former librarian." Soon thereafter, Drew, like several things in "Max Goolis", was airborne....





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