

DECEMBER 1991

De Profundis

ISSUE 237

MEETING PROGRAMS

December

- 05 Board of Directors
Elections
- 12 Procedural Elections
- 19 open
- 26 Films hosted by CLJ2

THE LASFS GIFT EXCHANGE will be held on Friday the 13th of December at 7:00 PM. The exchange proper will start at 8:30 PM.

THE LASFS WINTER HOLIDAY PARTY will be held separately at Freehafer Hall on 25 December, starting around 2 PM and continuing until midnight or so.

OTHER MEETINGS

- 08 BOARD OF DIRECTORS 11am
- 08 2nd Sunday
- 15 Time Meddlers
- 18 Fandom Universal Computer Club

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve Barnes, SF writer and **Lasfsian**, wishes to announce the publication of his newsletter ***Ronin Arts*** for persons interested in self-awareness, inner strength and personal freedom. To request a copy please send SASE to: Ronin Arts Gazette, c/o Ronin Arts Productions, P.O. Box 2041, Canyon Country, Ca. 91386.

JAN. 9th will be an abbreviated meeting with a large auction to follow in an attempt to clear out the front corner of the clubhouse. Filing cabinets, books, etc.



WESTERCON - How it all began

by Walt Daugherty - Charter Member, LASFS

Over the years there have been several references to how the WESTERCONS began. I suppose that 50 percent of these mentions are correct and possibly 50 percent more that are incorrect in one way or another. The major error that appears quite often is the matter of who originated the idea of having a WESTERCON. Here is how the Con actually got started?

The first World Science Fiction Conventions were held back east. Because of the depression only Forest J., Morojo, and Ray Bradbury were able to attend the first Con from the west coast and I vividly recall that local fans waited with "baited breathe" for Ackerman to return and give us a full report on went on at the affair.

Many of the regular attendees at LASFS meetings really decried the fact that the outstanding majority of members could not afford the cost of attending these conventions in the east. At this time there was no idea of having a World Con on the west coast. At least there were no verbal ideas forthcoming along this line.

One evening 4E and I were having some refreshments at a coffee shop when I brought up the subject. (paraphrased) "4E, it seems a shame that most of us in the LA area are not able to attend the world Cons back east. With about 20 to thirty members in attendance at our regular meetings and at least another 30 to 40 Sci Fi fans who are sporadic guests at the meetings from the area, what would say to getting everyone we can together for a one day miniature Con where we invite all to a one day whing ding?" 4E answered with a resounding "GREAT". We talked about it a bit more deciding that we would call it "The West Coast Science Fiction Conference". I then went out to find what we could get for a meeting hall for the event. I took odd times during the next two weeks to investigate. I ended up with finding a place which was a two story Union office with just what we needed on the second floor and further found that they also had a dining room with an adjoining kitchen on the same floor. The place was on the North West corner of seventh street, one block North of Alvarado. We discussed the rent and then found that they could serve us a banquet at a very reasonable price. This added greatly to my enthusiasm for the project. Another conference with Ackerman regarding the expanding of the idea - We could have an exhibit in the regular hall of some rare books and original art work from 4E's collection along with some originals I had, and maybe others could furnish us more material for the fans to see. Because the dinner price was very low we figured that a banquet during the evening with a few pros as guest speakers could possibly be arranged so we contacted several pros among them being Bryce Walton, Care Winger Harris and as luck would have it we got an O K from Dr Richardson of the Mount Wilson Observatory who was then the foremost authority in the world on Mars which was his specialty with the Observatory.

I then returned to the Union Hall, got the details ironed out with the Union people, set the date and I gave them a deposit on the Hall and away we went. At this point no one in LASFS knew anything about the Con. At the following meeting of LASFS we made the announcement of what was happening and the response from the club was very enthusiastic. After the meeting E E Evans asked us what he could do to help. I accepted his offer along with a few others and we were on our way with the first Westercon, which was successful far beyond our hopes.

On the last day before the event, while at the hall with 4E, EEE, and couple of others and myself I asked EEE if he would be the MC for the banquet as I would be so darn busy with the exhibit, ticket collecting, watching out for the exhibit material

etc , and he accepted with reluctance because he figured I should do it. I convinced him of my problems so he accepted and did a very creditable job at the podium. I can only imagine that him being Master of Ceremonies at that banquet that he was recognized as the originator of the Westcon as he was credited in several places but he didn't get into the act until all of the preparations were made and he heard our announcement at the LASFS meeting along with the rest of the club. To my knowledge he never claimed that he originated the affair, he was not the sort of person to make any such claim.

The fact that he has been credited by several people and published here and there that he was the instigator of the Con has never bothered me in the least. EEE was such a great person for helping with members and club projects that crediting him with the event has always been fine with me. I just thought that this might set the record straight.

Dear LASFS:

Sept. 21, 1991

Just in case anyone ever wonders what happened to the Trimbles after they moved from LA to the wilds of Houston, life goes on in the Pineywoods. A forest in Texas? Yup! The Big Thicket, one of the largest forest areas in the US, extends across much of the south. In Kingwood, we've got a mini-forest in our front and back yards, with oak, maple, and other trees.

LA Times columnist Jack Smith's "boat-tailed grackle" is here! Many birds seldom seen in CA; cardinals, orioles, tanagers. Jays, grackles and squirrels wage war in our backyard, intent on controlling feeder stations. Hummingbirds arrive here on a seasonal basis; they don't stay around all year as in LA, but migrate to Mexico.

Kathryn is now 27 and works at McDonald's on weekends. She was delighted to get a paycheck for having so much fun! Kat is learning to use the sewing machine and serger to make toys and simple clothes; she's an avid embroiderer and active member of the Kingwood Quilt Guild.

John is a supervisor at the company that owns the Gallup Poll. His workers phone you during your favorite TV show to ask questions about your taste in ice creams or world figures or medical insurance.

My STAR TREK CONCORDANCE missed 25th Anniversary celebrations this year, but hit glitches in getting it on computer (was originally typed on an IBM Selectric.) With luck, next Spring. I'm studying natural dyes and hope to participate in local "living history" demos, soon. My old garage sale Nikkoromat camera works fine now that I know f.stop doesn't mean "feet".

We miss LA and our friends but DE PROF helps keep us in touch. Thanks! We enjoy Texas, walking greenbelt trails with our remaining pet, Princess (little basenji-corgi mix), visiting the zoo or natural history museum and traveling. John loves history, so he really enjoys such things as our visit to a tourist camp which was once part of Friday Mountain Ranch - Frank Dobie wrote in the main bunkhouse.

Many evenings I go on BIX (Byte Information eXchange) to communicate with Jennifer Junper in Seattle, since we share co-moderator status in the Science Fiction conference. Anyone with a modem can find sign-on info in Byte Magazine or ask Jerry Pournelle.

Hoped to make it to CA in November for a triple-head visit to Forry's birthday, Ulrika's wedding and LosCon, but our Caravan has been declared "on its last legs" so doesn't look like we can make it. Ah well..!

TX fans are excited that San Antonio plans a WorldCon bid for 1996. Look for them at the next several WorldCons: volunteers in "Texicana" apparel and cowboy hats. The bid newsletter, THE ALAMO CHRONICLES, will have articles about Texas by the ever-freckled Rjo Trimble. They plan to ask Sci-Fi and NewFa for advice on con-running. For more info: LoneStarCon 2, POB 291015, San Antonio, TX 78229-1015.

Anyone coming to Houston, let us know. We're no longer Fan Central, but we're only 15 minutes from Houston Intercontinental Airport and the couch still makes down into a bed!

TEXAS SURREALIST REPORT: Hubbard, TX has a Westworld Hotel.

Best,



STAR TREK

artists needed



The original encyclopedia of STAR TREK is being updated and reprinted! *THE STAR TREK CONCORDANCE* is targeted for Spring publication!

I'm also planning "Gene Roddenberry approved" STAR TREK MOVIE & STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION CONCORDANCES. I'll need artwork for these books later, but am concentrating on the original series right now.

- If you like to draw people, aliens, starships, futuristic equipment, space scenes & technical stuff...
- If you can draw as well or better than the examples on this page...
- You don't have to love STAR TREK; just be a good artist!

CONTACT ME!

Send a photocopy sample of your work on 8.5"x11" paper, so I can see your style and what you like to draw. **DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL ARTWORK!** Keep the original safe with you. Samples will not be returned unless requested.

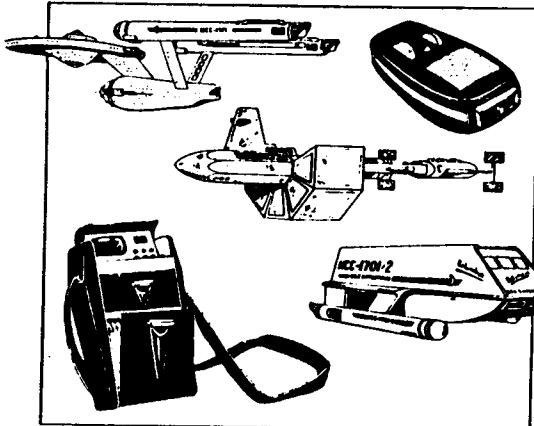
If you already have clean black & white line work relating to the original STAR TREK series or animateds, send a photocopy.

Name & address must be on the back of **EACH** piece of work.

Art may have been published before. A letter must accompany it, with permission from copyright holder (editor, publisher, or artist) for me to reprint it. Give the fanzine's address and date of publication.

U.S. artists: Send long #10 stamped self-addressed envelope for full details on what I need (and don't need).

Canadian, South American, & Overseas artists: Just request information -- don't bother with an International Mail Coupon; the Post Office never gives us your paid value, anyway.

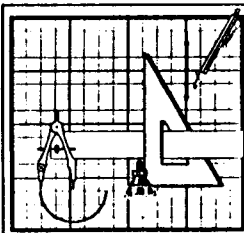


**DEADLINE FOR ART TO BE IN MY HANDS:
December 31, 1991**

MAIL TO:

**Bjo Trimble
2059 Fir Springs Drive
Kingwood, TX 77339-1701**

* Yes, this announcement was made once before; this time, *THE CONCORDANCE* will be published! If you sent art last time & did not get it back, please contact me.



Logo Design Contest

\$50 First Prize

\$30 Second Prize

\$10 each for three Third prizes

- **ORIGINAL** designs only! Do not use copyrighted designs! Examples below explain design concepts desired. Logo design may not use comic book characters, Sue Dawe's unicorns, movie Frankenstein's monster or "Dracula", Real Musgrave's dragons, Lucasfilm's R2D2, etc.
- Design must contain three elements:
 - (1) **ADVENTURE** (concept: Sheena, Indiana Jones, Buck Rogers)
 - (2) **FANTASY** (concept: dragons, wizards, castles, swords & sorcery)
 - (3) **SCIENCE FICTION** (concept: nuts & bolts starships, planets, space)
- All work must be in black ink on white paper. no color work.
- Art must be on 8.5"x11" (or smaller) sheet of paper. Do not send larger artwork. Paper may be folded for #9 or #10 business envelope.
- Design may be enclosed in a circle, square, or other shape, if desired.
- We want good logo ART; please do not include lettering.
- Entries require: artist's full name, address, and postal code on back of EACH piece of work. An address sticker or stamp may be used.
- **DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL ART!** Keep originals safe in your files and submit a good photocopy.
- Art must be clean, sharp lines. Minimal use of shading: no washes.
- Art must be adaptable to logo, letterhead and computer printer uses.
- Enter as often as you wish. All entries may be sent in one envelope and there is no limit on how many entries you may submit or how many times you may submit.
- Art may be entered at the same time in FANDOM DIRECTORY art contest. Send photocopy of your work to both addresses...win twice!
- Art will **NOT** be returned unless return postage is included.
- Winning a prize does not necessarily guarantee use of art as a logo.
- Contest is open to everyone. Pass the word to your friends!
- Prizes are **NOT** purchase prices. Designs chosen by Tullamore Incorporated will be purchased later at graphic design prices. We reserve the right to combine elements of several designs to create a workable logo; artists will be paid accordingly.

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 31, 1991

This is final date for artwork to be in our hands

MAIL TO:

Tullamore Incorporated, Suite 372
1807 Slaughter Lane, #200
Austin, Texas 78748-6200



NUFOM

25 Oct. 1991

Dear Friends,

This is just to let you know that the **National UFO Museum™** is very much alive and well, and to give you an up-date on our current progress and future planning.

We began the project to open the National UFO Museum in the Spring of 1990. In the short time since then the national and international UFO communities have quite overwhelmed us with the warmth and volume of their response. We have received quite literally thousands of cards and letters. The local business and tourist industry of Reno, Nevada has also welcomed us with open arms. Reno is in a time of change and it is recognized by farsighted leaders that Northern Nevada needs more non-gaming tourist attractions, which NUFOM would be. It certainly seems that a UFO museum is very much needed and wanted by the peoples of this world.

One indication of our perceived value is that UFOlogists and general public alike have flocked to join our "Friends of the Museum Association". New member applications arrive in the mail just about daily. The FMA is our principal support vehicle. Membership in the Friends of the Museum Association is more than just a subscription to our quarterly journal of UFOlogy, *Notes from the Hangar*. Members also get discounts on items offered for sale in our bookstore catalog and, once we are open, will receive discounts on admission and invitations to special 'members only' functions. We decided to take our fund raising directly to individuals, rather than the government or big business, because we decided that it would be unwise to accept grants from a government that we believe is lying to us about UFOs. In this way NUFOM is truly 'owned' by the UFO community and not beholden to vested interest. This, of course, makes the task of fund raising much more difficult, but we believe it necessary to maintain our integrity.

Currently we have several full time staff and many local volunteers. We have an administrative office in downtown Reno, just two blocks from the World Famous Reno Arch. It is located in the heart of the casino area across Center Street from the Club Cal-Neva and across Second Street from Harrah's high-rise Hotel and Casino Resort. From there we publish our journal and other in-house publications and research papers; as well as doing all the other administrative functions necessary to bring together the money and materials needed to make the National UFO Museum a reality. As I write this we are beginning work on the third issue of *Notes from the Hangar*.

We are also busily engaged in pulling together a bookstore and gift shop of UFO, New Age, and Space, Science, & Aviation related books, jewelry, gifts and other products. The list of materials we can offer for sale, often at substantial discounts to FMA members, grows weekly. Our first full catalog should be out by the time you receive this letter.

Our current plan is to open a bookstore and gathering place in the Spring of 1992 and then to open the museum proper within the following year. Once the gathering place is open we will immediately begin holding lectures, film and tape 'plays', radio talk show listen and call in sessions and so on. The bookstore will be a big boost to raising the tremendous

amount of money necessary to making NUFOM a reality.

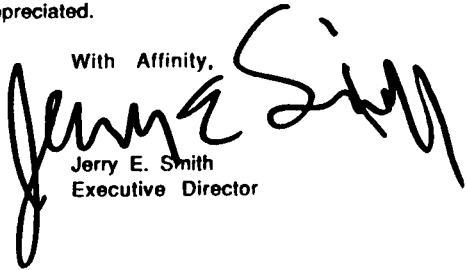
You can help too! Your publication can help to make the National UFO Museum better known. By running press releases and articles about the museum and its 'mission' to help the world to understand that UFOs are real you can help us get the word out. We would also like to exchange advertising with you. We will run your classified or display advertisement (up to half page) for free in **Notes from the Hanger** in exchange for your running a comparably valued ad for us in your publication. Such an exchange would both aid NUFOM and make your products known to our public as well.

Notes from the Hanger is digest size (1/2 of 8 1/2 by 11), 64 pages, with a newsstand price of \$4.95, though free to members of our Friends of the Museum Association. **Notes** has a lively letter column, cutting edge articles, fascinating close encounter reports, interviews, book reviews and more. Our current circulation is 1000 copies per issue distributed throughout North America and Europe. To date we have more than 60 trading partners whose publications cut across a broad spectrum of the small and alternative press from UFO and Fortiana through the New Age, neo-pagan and Wiccan movements to radical politics (left and right), satire, and beyond. Our readers are equally eclectic in their interests. UFOs are a fact, they have been seen by every type of person, of every age group on every continent, thus making our readers hard to 'pigeon hole'.

I have enclosed with this letter some material on NUFOM, its founders, and activities as well as our current exchange ads. Please feel free to use this material in any way you see fit. If you wish to change the ads appearance or even the wording to better fit your publication please do so. Please send us your ad or informational release at your earliest convenience. Camera ready (black and white) is preferred, but we can typeset your material if needed.

Your assistance is much appreciated.

With Affinity,



Jerry E. Smith
Executive Director

National UFO Museum FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM Association

Annual Member	\$25
Group Member	\$100
Charter Member (lifetime, self)	\$250
Founding Member (lifetime, family)	\$1,000

Notes From the Hanger is the quarterly journal of the National UFO Museum
(\$4.95 per issue)

Join Today!
National UFO Museum
PO Box 20593 • Sun Valley, NV 89433

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MENACE OF THE LASFS: Meeting #2822 -- September 12, 1991
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

It's time to play -- "I Can Name That Tune In Three Notes - But I Wouldn't Touch It With A Ten Foot Pole!" Fang's CD player oozed that sticky-sweet theme from "Love, American Style" 'til it was time to start the meeting with a tomahawk chop from the screaming axe.

Glycer read the minutes, then left a vacuum that Fang tried to fill with -- more vacuum! Checking his pockets for \$1,000 bills and finding none, Fang was forced to admit that no one had taken his offer last week to join the roll of Patron Saints. So he did not lead three cheers. Or even one.

The vacuum continued as Fang announced that tonight's program might not have an audience (if the present attendance continued) but two members brought video cameras to record it. And the perfect end came when Fang looked for a Treasurer's Report, but the cupboard was bare.

Just as we were getting used to the idea of nothing happening at LASFS, Ed Green announced the Board of Directors appointed him chairman of the "Post-Apocalyptic Preparedness Committee." What documents did people think needed to be kept off-site so the club could keep going in case of disaster? Ed emphasized this is a serious committee, just the same, tonight it looked like he ought to forget about paperwork and find some members to stash away so we can have a quorum at the Apocalypse.

Marty Cantor had a note from Forry Ackerman that Bernie Zuber is still alive, contrary to old reports, and recovering locally from another breakdown. Tepper asked, "what did he die of the first time?" Someone else thought the story should go in Rotsler's book of excuses, perhaps under "Late for LASFS."

Galen Tripp said tonight was the deadline for suggestions of books to be added to the Children's Recommended Reading List published by LASFS.

Kate Halloran enthusiastically recommended the Book of Board Games, containing 15 games with instructions and necessary pieces. It's by the same publisher who brought us Juggling for the Compleat Clutz.

Ed Green snickered that people in St. Petersburg, FL, are circulating a petition to hold a vote on changing the city's name to Leningrad. Call it entropy. "Will Moscow, Idaho, change it's name to Yeltsingrad?" asked Rick Foss.

Carolann Cranston had seen the 23rd Tournee of Animation. She named a long list of enjoyable cartoons, including one that shows what would happen if we really did bury all our waste. As sort of a comment on Carolann's Ohio accent, Lynn Maners declared. "I've been baring my waist for years!"

Matthew Tepper breathlessly informed us the Friday night movie at the Nuart is Pea Wee's Big Adventure.

Rick Foss praised a production at a new Santa Monica playhouse, "Alms for Oblivion: An Evening with Will." It's a one-man show of William Shakespeare, showing him in his early years as an intent student of people: he watched them, and stole their best lines.

Francis Hamit unknowingly repeated a stupid crook report about a woman who saw her neighbor wearing a dress stolen from her house. When Tepper said we'd heard that months ago Francis said, "I sit corrected." If Francis stood corrected it would mean he was wearing orthopedic shoes. The rest is left as an exercise for the LASFS...

Louis Grey mentioned an ad for a "straw filter" from Popular Science that costs \$13 and will remove chlorine and pesticides as you sip your way through 30 gallons of water.

Lynn Maners thought the Catholic Church has nothing to worry about from the comedy The Pope Must Die, partly because they're changing the name in ads to The Pope Must Diet and partly because it's not good enough to draw many viewers.

THE FORRY AWARD: Vice-Chairman of the Board Robbie Cantor said it's time for the LASFS to select the annual Forry Award winner, given by the club since 1966. She read the list of past winners, then accepted nominations, which were: Alan Dean Foster, Dean Ing, Tanith Lee, C.J. Cherryh, David Brin, Robert Asprin, Stanley Weinbaum, Curt Siodmak, Orson Scott Card, William Gibson, Gene Roddenberry, Clive Barker and David Eddings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Len Moffatt said a friend of his at a publishing house said Asimov's wife asked his publisher to see if they could get the new manuscript he just delivered out by the end of the year. Perhaps Asimov is expected to die before the end of the year.

Hare Hobbs reported h will soon be getting glasses, and Lynn Maners warned him not to make a spectacle of himself. "Too late," concluded Galen Tripp.

Terry Karney moved to adjourn but we forged on anyway. Mike Stern talked about an article copied for him by Bob Null, which reported radio transmissions faster than light -- across 62 centimeters. Someone asked for a copy. Stern said he could get it to him next week. "Can't get it faster than that?" marveled Ed Green.

REGISTRAR: Alison Stern introduced guests Stephanie Wallace, Nancy Taylor and Nick Walkada. That and a couple other comments led us to the end of the meeting. Fang turned the stage over to Bill Rotsler who had promoted his talk by saying, "I've written 24 of the 27 movies I've done and [there] wasn't a one where a woman didn't take her clothes off." Hoping you are the same...

MENACE OF THE LASFS: Meeting #2023 -- September 19, 1991
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

Fang's portable CD player aired a full orchestra playing "The Merry-Go-Round Broke Down", also known as the Warner Brothers cartoon theme, "in beautiful, tiny stereo." Fang emphasized that was tiny not tinny.

After the screaming axe signalled the start of the meeting, Glycer read the minutes and insisted they were clever, not cleaver.

Fang said tonight's program is a tribute to Chuck Jones, "assuming it shows up." It's a cinch Chuck won't. And speaking of something missing, Fang said there was no Patron Saint again tonight. There just never seems to be somebody with a spare thousand dollars around when you need him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bob Null let us know the computer club met last night. He brought in some public domain programs, including three resume programs someone might want to use who's job-hunting.

Rick Foss, beginning tonight's reports from the Committee on Surrealism in Everyday Life, said the winning entry in the "Name That Bridge" contest in Avon, Colorado, was "Bob" -- four votes to two. Rick's second item, about that full-time wacko, part-time porno-fighter and part-time S&L looter, Charles Keating, used to like to spend money -- such as the year he flew in a band from

New York for his Christmas party, and had \$2,000 worth of Silly String there. We quickly checked our in-house experts for confirmation there was nothing intoxicating or illegal you could do with \$2,000 worth of Silly String.

Lynn Maners hailed Rick's new record: none of his reports came from "News of the Weird." Rick said that's because he couldn't find a copy of the Reader. Maners chuckled, "Neither could I!"

Kate Halloran mentioned the high-tech tapeworm diet aid reported in the LA Times. Francis Hamit thought it was "the perfect pet. It goes where you go and eats what you eat." Joanne Dow agreed, "And you never have a problem checking into a hotel with it."

The laughs flew thick and fast. One of the guests making an announcement started, "I don't know how to follow a tapeworm." Ed Green said, "With a proctologist."

The guest told us Filkcon is coming soon. The first one was held at the LASFS clubhouse 10 years ago, and grew.

Phil Castora said, "I got dragged off to Fairplex yesterday." That's what they're calling the Pomona Fairgrounds these days. At the LA County Fair he saw the largest huckster room he ever saw in his life. Phil said Ed Buchman rode the roller coaster with a video camera and taped the whole ride.

Francis Hamit saw on the window of a barber shop a flyer for an animal righters' motorcycle run, called "Critter Run." John Pomerantz bet they wore naughahyde jackets.

Renee Christy, from Las Vegas, said they were having their very first science fiction convention at the Palace Station hotel in October.

Registrar Alison Stern, he adamantly didn't want to use a microphone, introduced Renee Nelkirk, Annamarie Safer and Renee Christy. Later she got Martin Morse Wooster, too, lucky guy...

FORRY AWARD: After tonight's final round of nominations we would vote on the winner of this year's Forry Award for service to the science fiction field. The club had gotten a letter from Ackerman during the past week, which Fang read aloud. Forry urged LASFS to vote the award to Curt Slodmak, for this is Curt's 90th birthday, and the 50th anniversary of his story Donovan's Brain.

Curt Slodmak	9	11	15	15	16	23
Alan Dean Foster	2	3	1	x		
Dean Ing	1	x				
Tanith Lee	1	x				
C. J. Cherryh	4	5	5	5	x	
David Brin	3	5	8	10	14	17
Robert Asprin	1	x				
Orson Scott Card	2	2	x			
William Gibson	1	x				
Gene Roddenberry	1	x				
Clive Barker	2	2	x			
David Eddings	0	x				
Stanley Weinbaum	6	7	8	10	10	x

"Less music by dead guys," chimed Glenn Glazer, and after Weinbaum was dropped, Forry's suggestion was named the 1991 award winner.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REVIEWS: Hare Hobbs said if you wanted to see Wolf Foss' five seconds of fame preserved, he's on The Crisis in the Gulf, a new four-volume video set about Desert Storm. Remember: this is where Wolf appeared on Nightline and said he hoped somebody would shoot Saddam in the back. Rick Foss later announced Wolf's other grab for fame: a new daughter, Madeleine Elizabeth.

Carolann Cranston was trying to get a group to attend Bladerunner when they show Ridley Scott's director's cut at the Nuart. Glenn Glazer was recruiting sponsors for his 10K AIDS walk on Sunday. Gavin Claypool said Dr. Stephen Hawking would be lecturing at Cal Tech this fall. His A Brief History of Time was purchased by some just to put on their coffee table.

Fang adjourned to a brief auction, to be followed by two hours of Chuck Jones cartoons.

MENACE OF THE LASFS: Meeting #2824 -- September 26, 1991
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

Sometimes brain fatigue can produce moments of terror. After many weeks I've formed the habit of writing "CD" first thing in my notes, to be followed by the name of the latest theme song Fang has used to start the meeting. But when I sat down to write the minutes I had some kind of secretarial flashback that Chuck Donahue was president again.

As if it wasn't bad enough already that Dr. Suess had died. Fang played "Happy Trails To You" and wished he had the theme music for a Suess special like "The Cat in the Hat."

Then it was time to abuse the secretary. When Glycer fatuously claimed he was writing this stuff for posterity, Kate Halloran scoffed, "Like Posterity cares!" Then again, maybe it does, otherwise why would Rick Foss go to the trouble of correcting the erroneous name he gave for his new niece at last week's meeting? Attention posterity: the right name is Madeleine Rose.

TIMEBOUND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Carolann Cranston knew she couldn't collect a hundred people to get the Nuart group discount, but she was still bent on getting a group to see the director's cut of Bladerunner at the Nuart on September 28.

NEW BUSINESS: We almost never have new business at LASFS anymore, and it was time to remember why. Marty Cantor, seconded by Allan Rothstein and thirded by Gary Louie (and pre-opposed by Gavin Claypool), moved that "In the interest of not allowing them to get too tired that the standing rules be allowed (after all of these years) to sit down." Matthew Tepper wanted an amendment allowing them to squat now and then, if they want to. Ed Green hoped we would move on since the wordplay wasn't funny. Seeing which way the crowd was moving, Fang promptly ran to get out in front by calling for a voice vote. There was racket on both sides, and Fang decided the motion passed.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS: Francis Hamit also noted the passing of Theodore Geisel, dba Dr. Suess, and Fang timed a minute of silence. After what seemed like forever Craig Miller said, "That should have been a moment of silence." Fang said, "For somebody I cared about less, it would have been."

Ed Green said the horror story from Long Beach continues: although the Long Beach Naval Hospital was finally convinced he wasn't pregnant, hospital benefits are administered by the CHAMPUS network, who today sent Mrs. Sgt. Green a bill for all her Ob/Gyn work that was recently done.

Changing subjects, Ed said there is a stage play of Return to the Forbidden Planet featuring "deliberately bad" special effects contrived by Gerry Anderson, of Thunderbirds fame. The play's version of Robby the Robot looks like a mechanical Stan Laurel.

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Ed thought the whole thing was reminiscent of one of the hoax panels at Loscons, but Craig Miller assured him the whole thing was real and had been performed in London for years.

Rick Foss called our attention to Smithsonian Air and Space's report about a company planning on taking the cremated ashes of people who specifically paid for the service and launch them into space. The company was stopped by a lawsuit. A judge ruled the company would be turning Earth orbit into a graveyard, which Florida law required have a paved entrance -- which isn't possible, even with good intentions.

Foss was also blown away by his \$300 helicopter ride and dinner date. The chopper whisks a couple from Van Nuys Airport to the First Interstate Building to eat at the Tower restaurant, flying between skyscrapers and stopping to hover 100 feet in front of the Hollywood sign.

Francis Hamit tried to start a report by describing it as "surrealism from an unlikely source: my father." Fang replied, "I don't know: he produced you." Proceeding valiantly ahead, Hamit said his father was working on the lawn and went back and forth to the garden store for bales of peat moss. The woman at check-out asked him what he was doing. Hamit's father asked, why, what could you do with peat moss that is illegal? The saleswoman said, "Well, some people smoke it." Summing up, Ed Green said, "Well,, we got from flying in downtown Los Angeles to flying in downtown North Carolina."

REGISTRAR: Alison Stern introduced guests Andrew Rothmund, J. Anthony Bernardi and John DeChancie (the Pittsburgh sf writer.)

Lynn Maners's wife had been to Scotland where she clipped a photo from the newspaper showing a sign in a public bathroom: "WET PAINT. P.s., This is not an instruction."

Christian McGuire was unwavering in his support of Vegascon, as he listed its guests including Steve Barnes, Larry Niven, Algis Budrys, and fan guests Bruce and Elayne Pelz. It's November 2-3. Lynn Maners cracked, "I think I hear three lemons coming up."

One, anyway. Glenn Glazer told us last Friday night was one of the best at the club ever, and there was general laughter, but he never did say what had happened. Glazer raised \$550 at the AIDS walkathon. He announced APLA benefits at Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm.

Carolann Cranston thanked John DeChancie for autographing five of his books in the LASFS library.

Frang used the screaming hatchet to close the meeting, but quickly had to reopen it long enough to lead three cheers for Patron Saint Ron Ellik and get someone to auction parking spaces. I suggested Christian. Fang asked him if he was interested, to which McGuire replied, "You need a fat guy who's obnoxious?" Tepper jumped in, "But grow a beard first." Maners said, "I need a Dramamine," and the meeting official wiggled to an end.

MEGACE OF THE LASFS: Meeting #2825 -- October 3, 1991
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

The meeting began by the playing of the theme from "Cheers", recorded by Matthew Tepper. -- I'm sorry, I'll read that again. Sitting in as secretary, Matthew Tepper recorded Fang played yet another tv theme on his portable CD. There was some static in the line -- Marty Cantor moved to adjourn, and Galen Tripp agreed, "I'll have some of what that man's having."

Fang read the treasurer's report, noting there had been only \$1 in donations. Then came even less profitable idiocy.

Sgt. Ed Green, our Committee to Assure That You Sleep Soundly at Night, corrected reports that the Soviet officer with the nuclear weapons launch codes was sent home during the coup. Newsweek says that a duplicate "football" with the codes had been seized by the plotters, but it was sabotaged by military loyal to the legitimate government. Ed's second news item was that the AT&T staff was meeting about how to avoid a major outage -- at the time of the major outage.

It may not have made Matthew's day when Glycer arrived, but what secretarial candidate could fail to have the cockles of his heart warmed by the wave of ennui that greeted Glycer's minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: When the tide went out, Len Moffatt reminded everyone that Bouchercon was happening in a week at the Pasadena Hilton. The world mystery convention is for everyone, said Len, it doesn't really matter if you're interested in mystery fiction. Glycer whispered to Fang that sounded like something it shared with the science fiction worldcon!

Ed Green had seen the "alleged director's cut" of Bladerunner and deemed it even better than the theatrical version, which he loved, because now 99.9% of the narration is eliminated.

Charlie Jackson 2 returned to LASFS after a prolonged recovery from arm and shoulder injuries sustained in a fall at the clubhouse. He made sure everyone else was in stitches by announcing the "Top Eleven Things I Did Instead of Attend LASFS the Last Four Months." (11) Founded Rex Allen Western Sitting and Feasting Society (RAWSFS); (10) Redecorated apartment; (9) Movies! Movies! Movies! (cable! cable! cable!); (8) Began policy of storing nuts for winter; cheated out of them by squirrel with crooked dice -- no, wait, that was a cartoon I sat through 26 times before I figured out how to change the channel on the damn tv set left-handed; (7) Wrote acceptance speech for re-election to LASFS presidency -- oops! (6) Gloated over club in hands of Drew Sanders! (5) Masterminded new Russian revolution from comfort of chaise lounge; (4) Anxiously awaited phone calls from LASFS members I hoped to hear from -- tried to avoid calls I did receive! (3) Saw big eclipse just as well as Ed Buchman! (2) Learned to shave left-handed (special bonus: Heidelberg dueling scar!) (1) And the #1 thing I did these past four months -- produced documentary about private lives of LASFS members, "Sex, Lice and Videotape."

At that very moment Drew Sanders walked through the door saying, "So now you show up!" CLJ2 promptly loaned Drew his notes to read.

Fang led three cheers for Patron Saint Harry Andruschak. Hare Hobbs told about his meeting with a behavioral ophthalmologist. Someone asked Fang, "Whatever happened to the museum thing," but Fang hadn't had time to do anything with it.

Doug Crepeau announced John Brunner recently wed Lily Yee, a Chinese citizen he met in Poland.

Hare Hobbs showed an advertisement for a mountain bike called "The Rock Lobster" (remembering the B-52's hit). There's another bike on sale which advertises its suspension system as "The Future Shock."

Frank Waller asked if anyone had seen The Fisher King -- on Ed Green clapped. Frank said Robin Williams was at his funniest in the film. "It gets you here, and here," said Waller. Noting there had been no significant hand gestures, Lyn Maners asked, "Where and where?" Waller demurred that this is a mixed audience. No doubt. Most of the eight sexes were present...

Lynn Maners showed his copy of Larry Niven's new book, Playground for the Mind, the sequel to N-space.

Doug Crepeau offered a Stupid Cop, Smart Crook report based on last weekend's 60 Minutes report of a convict who took advantage of his right to have a phone in his cell, for purposes of talking to his attorney, in order to scam millions of dollars with phony credit card numbers. He got the numbers with a fake mail order ad, and then ordered merchandise over the phone to be delivered to his confederates. Even though they caught him, they gave him back the phone. Later he was moved to a higher security prison, but Mike Wallace found the convict was repeating his scam there. Lynn Maners called it, "The Jail Cell Shopping Network."

Charlie Jackson gave a description of the remarkable recovery of flexibility to his injured arm, concluding, "Death is easier to recover from than this."

Registrar Alison Stern introduced guests Patricia Russell, Elena DeGarmo and John E. Schollars.

Betty Knight urged the club to hold a Halloween party at its October 31 meeting. Fang said there are plans to do so, "They're coming together even as we think." Orgasmically yours,...

Minus of the LASFS;
Dr, the Adventure of the Missing LASFSians
Meeting #2826, 10/11/91

At exactly a little before 8:20, President Fang Van Took played the latest Overture to the LASFS: the theme from *Underdog*, which was probably appropriate to those of us who had made the error in judgement of arriving in time to hear it. For an encore, he called the meeting to as near a semblance of order as it ever gets with his battery-powered axe.

The meeting was rather poorly attended, as many of the members were off in the wilds of Pasadena on some mysterious errand or other; since the absentees included Permanent Secretary Glycer, Phil Castora (pause for cheers & standing ovation - well, it was worth a shot) was impressed into service as Acting Secretary, which, after twenty-nine years in this silly club is about the only way it can impress me any more.

Without the minutes of the previous meeting, there were no corrections, but there were two additions - to *De Profundis*, which was announced as available: The meeting of the 17th will be followed by an auction; and S. P. Soatow will speak on the 24th.

Pretending he'd bothered to count up to 21, the number of a quorum, Our *Véridique* Fearless Leader accepted a written motion from Ed Green, complete with second by Robbie Cantor, to allot \$75 for a Halloween party on (surprise!) Halloween. A lot of people voted for it & no one voted against it.

Despite the considerably reduced attendance, the Three Cheers for Patron Saint Beverly Kantor sounded about as loud as usual.

Nothing else happened that vaguely resembled Important Business (not that much ever does), but the Acting Secretary was able to decipher the following from his hastily scrawled scribbles:

Ed Green discovered that the Virginia National Guard Band had conducted a highly successful tour of the Caribbean playing Christmas and gospel music - good work for what is officially the 666th Army Band!

Wolf Foss reported on a school that had handed out to its pupils maps of the United States and territories without the states' names. They came back with names added, including names like Cuba, Columbia, and New Hamster.

He also reported having heard a radio commercial for United Airlines, which was supposed to "fly you to five condiments" - how novel! A commercial with taste!

Sandy Cohen reported on a case brought by Holland against Belgium in the World Court for allowing the sale of low-fat imitation chocolate under the description of "chocolate". It turns out that there is no legally accepted definition of chocolate. Well, some of us know chocolate when we eat it!

On a similar note, there had been a case some time ago which had taken six years to drag thru the British courts as to the definition of whisk(e)y; at one point the Scots were claiming exclusive use of the word. (I'll drink to that!)

John LaValle announced he had worked on a scene in the episode "Disaster" for the New, Improved Star Trek series, in which Picard gets trapped in an elevator shaft; the obvious puns are left as an exercise for the reader.

Doug Crepeau announced the first annual Ig Nobel Awards, created by MIT and Harvard winners of the Real Thing. Not present to decline the honors were, among others: 1) Michael Miliken, "father of the junk bond, to whom we are all indebted" - or vice versa; 2) Dr. Edward Teller, father of the fusion bomb and a not dissimilar relative of the Strategic Defence Initiative "for his lifelong efforts to change the meaning of peace as we know it"; and 3) everyone's favorite cheap shot, Vice-President Quayle, for reasons too humorous to mention.

Charles Lee Jackson II reviewed a note enclosed with his last phone bill which purported to define the new 310 area but which instead described the boundaries of what will be left of the 213 area after 310 splits off. Geez, if you can't trust your telephone company....

Ed Green liked the new, animated show *Dinosaurs*, saying that the animation is very good and the jokes sillier and better as it goes on. He described *Eerie, Indiana* as very odd and interesting, saying so in a way suggesting he approved. (How come he's never given that impression about LASFS?)

John LaValle said the PBS miniseries *Columbus & the Age of Discovery* is excellent; he went so far as to recommend buying the videocassettes. It's remarkably objective and well-balanced. (How come he's never given that impression - well, never mind.)

Wolf Foss recommended "The Search for Intelligent Life in the Universe", starring Lily Tomlin, even tho editing has not been completed. Of course it includes an alien searching for intelligent life on Earth, and Wolf didn't ruin the surprise by telling whether or not he found any. He called it "disturbing in ways people should be disturbed". (How come he's never given that impression - oh, the hell with it.)

Referring to an earlier topic, CLJII reported that Father Guido Sarducci had revealed the clever method by which Columbus had managed to keep the three ships together on their frightening voyage into uncharted waters: he only took one pizza oven.

Registrar Alison Stern announced a total of five guests: Bennett Blum, Miriam Montufar, Jeff Cushing, Jerry Hatch, and Jarod M. Bennett. Those of the five who hadn't already escaped seemed pleasant and intelligent enough. How come....

Having run out of topics of interest, or simply of interest, President Fang adjourned the remains of the meeting at roughly 8:51:42.67Z.

Surrogatively submitted,



Phil Castora

MEANCE OF THE LASFS: Meeting #2827 -- October 17, 1991
Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary

After Dr. Benton Quest fissioned some uranium, Hadji charmed a snake and Race Bannon tossed an anchor to a malign frogman and said, "Hold this," Fang called the meeting to order. The last insistent beats of the Johnny Quest theme played out, promising action and adventure. Instead -- oops! -- Glycer read two weeks' worth of minutes. The Castora version of the minutes set someone to wheezing, and Glycer wondered if the pollen count had suddenly gone up. Rick Young said, "As long as the Pollner count stays the same --" Everyone in the room fell out laughing; Rick got a standing ovation; Ed Green pulled out his wallet to give Rick a cash reward.

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Galen Tripp approached the president with a big U-Haul carton that had been mailed to LASFS, bearing a return address of "The Paul Rubens Society for Artistic Appreciation." Fang seemed reluctant to open it at first, though many curious fans demanded he do so. Someone thought he was having trouble figuring out how to slice through the packing tape and asked, "Do you need a tool?" Ulrike came forward and gave Fang her Swiss army knife, even though Fang protested, "But Ulrike, I don't know how to use your tool!"

Prolonging the suspense, Fang insisted a few other items of business proceed. Hare Hobbs described Marion Zimmer Bradley's recent autograph party at Dangerous Visions. Hare noted she was recovering from another stroke and appeared to have most of her faculties, except she can't recognize people by looking at their faces, only by hearing their voice. She also has partial paralysis of one hand.

Matthew Tepper said he couldn't think of any story to top the news reports of the suggested military alliance between France and Germany.

Fang finally pulled the carton open. Inside was a veritable Library of Congress -- sexual congress, that is. The only thing that puzzled Fang is why pornographic paperbacks would have pictures of women on the cover. Matthew Tepper hastened to explain, "They're for Lesbians."

Meanwhile, back at the news, Joe Zeff repeated the new story about a woman who had foiled a mugger's attack by yanking on the elastic band of his shorts and dropping her lighted cigarette into his crotch. She was glad she hadn't quit at the Great American Smoke-Out.

Mike Stern, as part of his continuing exploration of the inventory at the store across the street, was delighted to have discovered tequila-flavored worm candy.

Fred Patten had learned the Germans have an obsession that matches Americans' devotion to Rocky Horror Picture Show. Viewers of the combination live-action/animated film Werner are encouraged to bring a case of beer with them, and buy tickets for two seats, one for the beer. This film will be shown at the Nuart.

Continuing to burrow through the carton of books, he found a decade-old list of 5,000 swingers. Doug Crepeau offered, "Well, then you can't get AIDS from them."

Somebody reported on a letter he had gotten from a science fiction fan in Sverdlovsk. After people joked about sending him the swingers magazine with a note that it was the club directory, Rick Foss seriously suggested adding the fan to the De Profundis mailing list, which was voted on and passed without dissent.

Eric Hoffman had heard someone in the Soviet Union proposed to bring back public executions, and as some kind of inducement, the family of the convict would get to choose one of four methods for his demise.

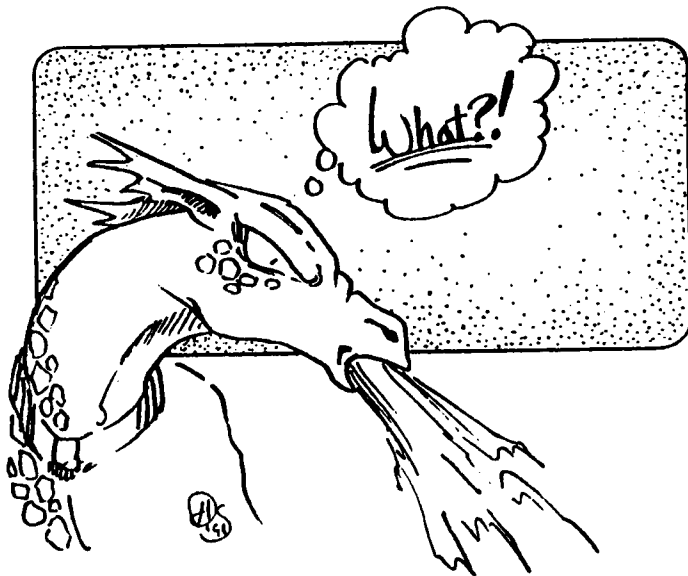
Lynn Maners' "Committee to Give Stranger News Items Than The Foss Brothers" told how the Malawi head of state security congratulated police academy graduates on their mission to restore public morality. Yes, those city women testing the system by wearing trousers indoors would be apprehended. Said the chief, "These testers will be chased around their bedrooms and placed under arrest." Someone else remembered a news story that people in a Malawi courtroom panicked and rushed out to the hall when a large monitor lizard wandered in four months ago. It was all recorded on the courtroom camera. Fang asked, "Was it a hall monitor?"

Registrar Alison Stern introduced guests Robert Kirbo, Hayley Tollers, Howard Hinman, and Lorin Nielsen.

Fang continued to sort through the porno books. The unusually helpful Glenn Glazer was assisting in the review when he suddenly found the name "Hlavaty" written on the first page of The Man From Planet X. And since the postmark on the box was Durham, North Carolina, this made considerable sense. Maybe after hearing all these stories about the Shaft, Hlavaty was offering some misguided advice about a how to store it.

Robert Kirbo announced a complex role playing game would be run October 26, and Illuminatus author Robert Wilson would be a guest. He offered a cut-rate to LASFSians who signed up tonight.

Fang thanked the Foss brothers for the Samuel Smith Oatmeal Stout they had provided. After another review, and Charlie Jackson's tantalizing note that everyone from the original Silverado is ready to make a sequel except Lawrence Kasden, we wandered into the night.



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