



DE PROFUNDIS

Published by The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society

Issue 324

Volume 1 Number 4

June 1999

Club Calendar:

June FWEMS: June 27

Jesse James Rides Again

Part 1 of 2

African Adventures:

Tarzan's Greatest Adventure

Hatari

Dust Devil

Programs for July:

1: Final Nominations for Parking
space allocation

8: Panel: Games LASFian play

15: Speaker TBA

29: Video: Allegro Non Troppo
(Highlights hosted by Tom Safer)

Pre-program: Starting 8 July at

7:30: Ace Drummond (Universal
1936, 13 chapters)

UPCOMING PROGRAM IDEAS

The history of the NASFiC

LASFS Members' "Other" hob-
bies

The dearth of publishers in
LASFS

(If you're interested in participat-
ing in any of these panels, please
contact CLJH at LASFS or (818
246-2552)

LASFS Officers

President - Cathy Beckstead

Vice - Merlin R.(Bob) Null

Registrar - Rebecca Torrell

Scribe - Karl Lembke

Treasurer - Liz Mortensen

LOSCON 26 Chair - Liz Mortensen

LOSCON 27 Chair - Shaun Lyon and
Christian McGuire

Appointed Procedural Officers

LASFS/APA-L Liason - Tim Merrigan

De Profundis Editor - Scott Beckstead

**Committee to Gouge Money from the
LASFS** - Bruce Pelz, Ed Green, Tadao
Tomomatsu

**Euologist, Public Relations, Records,
Shangri L'Affaires Editor, Video
Coordinataor, Programming Commit-
tee, party Rabbi, & Tontine Commit-
tee** - Charles Lee Jackson II

Hall Decoration & Silent Auction

Coordinator - Tadao Tomomatsu

Key Control - Liz Mortensen, Bob Null

Janitorial Services - Greg Bilan &
Mike Thorsen

Philatypus & Chair Chair - Mathew B.
Tepper

Special Photographic Collection - Mike
Donahue

Honorary Officers

Seargent at Arms - Roy Tackett

Windmill at Arms - Kees Van Toorn

Samurai at Arms - Takumi Shibano

Librarian at Arms - Heather Stern

The LASFS Board

(Expiration of term)

Chairman - Christian McGuire(1999),
Comptroller - Mike Glycer(1999),
Michael Mason(1999), Vacant (1999),
Bruce Pelz(2000), **Secretary** - Mike
Stern(2000), Mike Donahue(2000), Bob
Null(2000), Liz Mortensen(2001), Mike
Thorsen(2001), Kim Marks
Brown(2001), **Special Advisor** Charles
Lee Jackson II, **Advisors** Forrest J.
Ackerman, Walt Daugherty, Len & June
Moffatt, and Fred Patten.

Board Appointed Officers

Audio-Visual Collection - Charles Lee
Jackson, II, **Assistant Video Curator** -
Alison Stern, **Children's Literature
Committee** - Greg Barrett, **Computers
& LASFS Archives** - Bob Null,
<lasfs.org> - Mike Stern, **LASFS/SCIFI
Liaison** - Allan Rothstein, **Librarian** -
Mike Mason, **Librarian Emeritus** -
Leigh Strother Vien, **Assistant Librar-
ians** - Greg Barrett, Lucy Stern, Alison
Stern, & Tadao Tomomotsu, **Special
Guest Librarian** - Charles Lee Jackson
II

Loscon 25 & 26 Hotel Liaison -
Christian McGuire

Upcoming Events

Saturday, July 10, 1999 7 PM to ???
5102 W. 136th Street
Hawthorne, CA 90250
310/679-5662
Pre-Filk Dinner: 5:00 PM

DINNER: Magic Skewers
restaurant, 1126 22nd St. Manhat-
tan Beach. Middle Eastern Kebabs.

TYPE OF CIRCLE: Poker Chip

Bardic Please bring chips
DIRECTIONS: 1991 (or older)
Thomas Bros. LA Co. Page 62, E-15
1992-9 Thomas Bros. LA Co.
Page 733, B-3

0. Bring Munchies and Beverages.
Paper/Plastic goods supplied.
1. Chair shortage, please bring
folding chairs if possible.
2. Cat Warning! 1 units in resi-
dence, but banished for evening.
- 3 Avian Warning! not! (Deleted,
but not by item #2)
4. Supervised smalls (children) OK.
House is NOT kid proofed.
5. Bring all of your usual filk stuff.
6. NO SMOKING indoors PLEASE!!
7. At roommates' request, dealers
room must close by 11:30PM
8. Some crash space available Call
ahead if you plan to stay over.
9. The last survivors on Saturday
night will be conscripted into clean-
ing up the remains. (not often a big
job)
10. HI-8mm video tape in 6hr audio
mode can be used to record the
evenings music, let me know if there
are any objections. I can use PAUSE
button

Next LAFA Filksing
Saturday, August 14, 1999
Brandyhall, Lee and Barry Gold,
hosts
3965 Alla Rd.
Los Angeles, CA 90066
(310) 306-7456
FOR LAFA INFORMATION: Contact
Lee & Barry Gold, (310) 306-7456

Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting

11 April, 1999

Chairman: Christian McGuire

Secretary: Mike Stern

Present:

Christian McGuire, Mike Glyer, Michael Mason, Bob Null, Kim Brown, Liz Mortensen, Mike Thorsen, Mike Donahue, Mike Stern, Bruce Pelz, Elayne Pelz

Absent:

None

Present (others):

Joe Fekete, Joe Zeff, Greg Barrett, Karl Lembke, Greg Bilan, Lucy Stern, Tadao Tomomatsu, Others and sundry.

Due to the minutes not being copied, the meeting was called to order at 11:22

Board of Directors meeting TREASURER'S REPORT

A full Treasurer's report was presented for year-end 1998. Total income, including donations was \$28,163.52, and total expenditures were \$18,563.67, for an increase of \$5,806 to the treasury for the year. There were two budgets presented to the board: One for 1999, and a "generic" budget to be used in future years. The board cut Donations from both proposed budgets, for a savings of \$500, and reduced the Furniture budget by \$500 in the "generic" budget for a further saving of \$500 in the generic budget. The furniture budget was not cut for the 1999 budget. Due to the variability in income from donations and conventions, the "generic" budget still

retains an overall loss to the club of \$5,668. The 1999 proposed budget (after the board got through with it) shows a gain to the treasury of \$3,492.00, but it should be higher, because conservative figures were used for all income figures. Due to problems with insurance coverage of renters, along with increased need of the facilities for club activities, the LASFS will not be renting the clubhouse as of June 30th. The 1999 budget reflect this loss of income. The following letter has been sent to our renters certified, return receipt requested:

Dear Renter,

For many years, the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society has been fortunate enough to be in the position to be able to rent out its clubhouse to other organizations. In doing this, we have enjoyed several benefits, not the least of which is the income that we derived from such rentals.

Things have changed over the years, however. The LASFS has continued to incur additional utilities cost as a result of renting the clubhouse; some of these are being offset by the rent increase we instituted earlier this year. Insurance regulations regarding rental properties are changing. Our own members are increasingly looking for "open dates" to hold club functions and meetings, and none are available due to the high number of rental dates we have in a given month. We feel it is not in our best interest to force our own members to look elsewhere for a facility in which to hold a function, or to force club committees to hold meetings at private residences because the club is not available.

Therefore, as of June 30th, 1999, the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society will no longer be renting out our clubhouse to any

outside organizations. We are sorry that our facilities will no longer be available to you; we trust that you will be able to find suitable rental facilities in the intervening three months. The LASFS has every intention of honoring scheduled rental dates through June 30; if it turns out that you no longer need a date that you have requested, I ask that you please let me know a week in advance, and we will release the date and refund any monies due you.

We may, at some time in the future, return to renting out the clubhouse. If you wish to be considered for rentals, if and/or when that occurs, I ask that you let me know. We will consider future rentals on a case by case basis only, and there is, of course, no guarantee that the same dates you have now would be available. And, quite frankly, there is no guarantee that we will be renting out the club in the foreseeable future.

If you have any questions, please, feel free to reach me in the evenings at (Liz' Phone Number).

Sincerely,
Liz
Mortensen
Treasurer
Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The following people were accepted as new members of the LASFS on a vote of

10-0-1: Kit Russel, Thomas J Khamis II.

OLD BUSINESS DE PROFUNDIS

De Profundis will be published late in April, due to Ooo-La-LaCon.

SIGNS

Mike Stern has not yet gotten the signs. He will attempt to do so in the following month.

ARCHIVE COMMITTEE

No report.

CLUB MACHINES

REFRIGERATOR

Deja vu. Bob will contact a refrigerator repair service Monday, and move the new refrigerator.

COMPUTERS

Bookie monster's replacement was obtained for \$475 (\$25 under the amount voted by the board). It will be finished being set up after the board meeting.

AV EQUIPMENT

Bob will check the speakers we have for flakiness. The video projector has developed another blue line, but it may still be under warranty. The warranty will be checked to see if it has expired.

HALL RECONSTRUCTION

MAILBOX

Mike Donahue is still looking for a proper mailbox.

DOOR TO BACK BUILDING

Mike Donahue got money for a metal plate to repair the back door (under treasurer's discretion, so it didn't have to be voted).

HALL DECORATION

The motion to purchase another display cabinet was re-examined at the April board meeting, and deferred to the end of the meeting. At that time, it was deferred until the board meeting after the Refrigerator was moved.

LIBRARY

Heather Stern had written new Library software, but due to Bookie's troubles, it was unable to read the program. Now that Bookie has been replaced, Heather is not here to feed the beast. The new software will be re-obtained sometime during the coming month.

VIDEO COLLECTION

No CLJII, no report. Bob said that CL has been buying small amounts of inexpensive videos.

P.A. SYSTEM

Mike Thorsen stated that due to a change in circumstances, Brett Achorn and Stacey Hallman will not be donating their old stereo amplifier soon. Mike was unable get prices on a P.A. amplifier that is able to reach the front building speakers.

CHILDREN'S RECOMMENDED LITERATURE LIST

The list is being updated. Three people contributed to the list. The list will be published before Ooo-La-LaCon.

RECOMMENDED LITERATURE LIST

Although Michael Mason has not completed the list, he is already getting requests.

LASFS.ORG

Minor improvements, nothing major.

LOSCON XXV

Loscon XXV turned over an additional \$153, for a grand total of \$14,111.56.

LOSCON XXVI

Liz said that she has 434 pre-paid members, not counting pass-ons.

LOSCON 27 (or is it XXVII?)

Shaun Lyon and Christian McGuire got the bid.

LOSCONS OF THE FUTURE

OOO-LA-LA CON

It was announced that there are 48+ members so far, tee shirts will be available.

RECYCLING

\$17.50 was collected in April.

PLAQUES

Plaque person Mike Donahue has scheduled some time in May to determine what needs to be done in terms of plaques. Bob Null indicated that the Loscon Plaques need some work, and promptly volunteered to do it.

BYLAWS

Glyer, having gained the droit

de seignoir, provided a copy with all the revisions that he could find, and a list of those that had been mentioned in Menace or Minutes, but that he could not find. Bruce mentione that he had some of the missing wordings. Mike Glyer will present a new copy of the revised revised by-laws and standing rules next month. Glyer was thanked for all the hard work. Discussion over the Century fund amount ensued. A consensus was reached that, given the budget figures presented during the treasurer's report, the amount for the century fund turnover was too low. Mike Donahue will present a motion to the club to raise the amount for the Century Fund turnover to the club.

CONVENTION DELEGATES

Baycon - Greg Bilan, Liz Mortensen, Michael Mason, Christian McGuire, Sherri Benoun

Confurence - Greg Bilan

PURCHASE OF EXPANDED/ EXTENDED DIGS

No discussion this month

FUNDRAISING TAPES

There were no attendees to the viewing set at Wednesday, 7 April 1999 at 8:00pm. Tapes may still be borrowed from the treasurer.

Yard Sale

We made \$140, but fun was had, and we got rid of a lot of crap. A donation was made to Goodwill, and our premises were cleaned up.

LASFS Public Relations

The following has been left in the minutes from the February meeting to serve as a tickler to the board. This matter was not discussed at the March meeting. CL was not at the April meeting, so it was deferred again until he shows up.

CLJII pointed out that the Worldcon display was intended to be temporary, to be used only for

LACON. Since that time, it has been used at many conventions, and needs updating. CL said that a new display could be produced for under \$300.

LASFS MEMBERSHIP DATA BASE

Data Czar Bruce has started the master database, copies are being sent to J.S. Lyon for formatting.

New business

Time Meddlers

The Time Meddlers showed up to ask for a reduction in rent, but said that in light of the letter to renters (see above), it might be a moot point. After some discussion, it was decided that, due to the large amount of cross-over membership between the LASFS and the Time Meddlers, there should be a LASFS event called "The Time Meddlers meeting", to which all LASFS members may attend, but that ability to vote would be restricted to Time Meddlers membership. This proposal was turned over to the Time Meddlers for discussion/negotiation.

Star Wars Party

Greg Bilan asked for permission to hold a Star Wars party at the clubhouse. It was decided on voice vote to allow this to be an Open House event, provided that Greg reworded and spell-checked his flyer, although Mike Stern was of the opinion that a change to Los Angeles Science FATNASTY Society would more accurately depict fandom.

Festival of Books Fund

There was no objection to continuing the fund - 11-0-0

Memorial Book

Joe Fekete asked for LASFS' permission to publish a LASFS memorial publication called "Death Will Not Release You" that will contain remembrances for dead LASFS members (if you want to be politically correct, use "metabolically challenged"). The book is to be published at no cost to the LASFS.

The go-ahead was granted on a vote of 9-0-2.

Oops!

Since this was the first board meeting attended by Elayne Pelz, who was elected by the club to fill out the remainder of Gary Louie's term, She was (finally!) greeted warmly by Chairman Christian McGuire, who also acknowledged Gary's long term as a board member. The meeting adjourned at 1:40. The next meeting will be on 9 May 1999.

Selected menace...

MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY, INC. Meeting 3212, March 4, 1999. President: Cathy Beckstead. Secretary: Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary.

Tonight was the twelfth rerun of Mystery Science Fiction Club 3000 and the President suggested we wait until Rob Cole wasn't paying attention, then sneak in and start the meeting. But as soon as Cathy rapped the gavel there were the usual calls to ignore, remain stationary or to boil the meeting. "It's a wrap," agreed Cathy. "A bum rap." Ed Green added. "Leave my bum out of it," commanded Cathy. Where was he, anyway?

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: When Christian McGuire went home after the Gary Louie Memorial on February 28 he discovered that while he was gone his roommate John had a heart attack. John felt a heavy pressure on his chest that wouldn't go away, so he took an aspirin and dialed 911. Contrary to his hopes, when paramedics arrived they did not say, "No problem!" They carted him away to Sherman Oaks 6 Hospital. Despite it all, John expects

to be back at LASFS for Friday night gaming within a week.

Len Moffatt eulogized Allan Hershey, a Procedural Director (i.e., President) of the LASFS in the late 1940s who died on February 26 at the age of 81. His health had been weakened by a series of strokes in past years. Hershey led the club at a time when he was the only one speaking to both of its two feuding factions. Len said, "We had many good times together, and a couple of bad times." He remembered them staying up late one night drinking beer and solving all the problems of the world. Glenn Glazer said Allan is survived by two sons and two daughters, one of whom is LASFS member Allison Hershey. The club observed a moment of silence.

MINUTES: Hearing the minutes inspired Tim Merrigan to offer a reality correction: *this week is Marjii Ellers' patron saint meeting, last week was Maureen Garrett's*. Well, darn, Marjii will just have to bring in another five pound chocolate bar.

There were, of course, the usual corrections to the minutes themselves. Matthew Tepper wanted it known that the movie title is *Quigley Down Under*. And don't forget Bottom in *Midsummer Night's Dream*. "Capacious, capricious, let's call the whole thing off," surrendered Matthew (also providing the tagline by which tonight's minutes were approved.) Cathy said Ed Hooper was looking for the owner of a paperback who left it at Gallifrey, not looking for the rest of the series. Frank Waller reminded that the heart test he'd been in for was an ultrasound examination. Charlie Jackson 2 stared at Frank: "You're having a baby?"

PATRON SAINT: Cathy handled things by declaring last week to be this week and this week to be last week. Charlie described tonight's Patron Saint, Maureen Garrett, as "sucked into Lucasfilm mainly by Craig Miller." She took over the Star Wars Fan Club and wound up moving with the company to Northern California. We administered three cheers, with Charlie supplying the tagline, "and a *semper fi* - oh, you said *Maureen...*" Charlie left to get a dis-semper shot.

APPOINTED COMMITTEE REPORTS: And came right back to report that because *De Profundis'* announcement about the Board election should have also included information about nominations, the nominations now would take place on the second Thursday in April, with the election held the third Thursday. The Loscon bid vote will still take place on March 18.

Mike Stern had fixed things so tomorrow night would be the first Friday of the month. He also hoped it would be fixed for him to win the Magic tournament for a change, since he hasn't done it so far this year. The new Magic release would be legal. Stern also reminded people to "send in your links" - so people can immediately get off the LASFS web page, I guess....

Charlie Jackson 2 sent his lovely assistant among us with an empty Sparkletts water bottle and orders for us to fill it with money for the Faith Fund. "You have faith I'm not ripping you off," explained Charlie, who says the cash will go to a secret project that will go to something every member will enjoy. "You're building a spindizzy!" exclaimed Mike Stern, with a look of

ecstasy on his face. Charlie gently disagreed, but said he would give us a clue – indeed, he was only giving these clues because it please Shaun Lyon. The clue was: “Big or small, it only goes in one direction at a time.” There seemed no doubt that would please Shaun.

Bret Achorn elaborated the Cinema Anime schedule. Tadao gave out flyers for OoLaLaCon, happening April 24-25. Its fan guest of honor, Bill Ellern, was even at tonight’s meeting. What an amazing visual aid! When Tadao mentioned the chili cookoff, Mike Stern asked if the con was going to supply antacid. Ant acid – wasn’t that what made Jommy Cross a Slan?

Auction: Ed Green’s donation to tonight’s auction was a promotional water bottle that Nelson Marketing had sent to the club care of “Ms. Ed Green.” Mike Stern gasped, “Ed, you’re pregnant again!”

Timebound Announcements: Registrar Beckie Barber (formerly referred to in these pages as Rebecca Torroll) introduced a guest who heard about us at Gallifrey and is a reader. (Then why didn’t he *read* about us at Gallifrey?)

Chaz Boston Baden had taken dozens of pictures at the Gary Louie Memorial and mounted them on a triptych which was displayed on one side of the room. He is still taking write-ups for the memorial web page. Christian McGuire followed up by saying that when you’re looking at the Gary Louie Memorial web page you might want to look at the rest of the NASFiC web pages because there were some in the room who hadn’t joined the convention yet. Christian admitted there were some who had

save all their money to go to Australia, but others who could do both “because you’re even richer than I imagined!” To help out those on the borderline Christian had good news – the Anaheim Marriott has lowered all NASFiC rooms rates (single through quad) to \$99.

Christian rattled off the NASFiC guest list, including 4-time Best Fanzine Hugo winners Dick and Nicki Lynch. Glycer asked that if he won his fourth Best Fanzine Hugo in Australia, unlikely as that might be, could he be made GoH retroactively? Christian said, “As long as you don’t want hotel, airfare and meals.” Glycer readily agreed, “What would I do with them a week after the con?”

Speaking of cons, Ed Green announced the 2002 Worldcon bid for Roswell, New Mexico. The chair, Liz Mortensen, was taking \$5 for presupporting memberships. Ed explained, “While we started out with one thing in mind, it’s turned into something even sillier.” And then there’s the 2002 bid.

Charlie Jackson 2 revived his old series of tooth announcements because on Monday he got a phone call and on a Tuesday he got a surprise root canal. Dang, it sounds like the makings of an urban legend to me!

Fannish Committee Reports: Mike Stern wanted to update us on a sex scandal we may not have heard about. Three chimps are pregnant at the LA Zoo, despite zookeepers’ having vasectomized all their adult male chimps. Today they revealed that the prime suspect was Shawn, one of the vasectomized chimps. “But enough about our former Scribe,” concluded Mike.

Ed Green revived a different old LASFS department, the Emergency Preparedness Committee. He reminded us about the minor social disturbance that followed the verdict in a trial of four police officers a few years ago. Well, the National Guard was just notified that around March 15-19 this year, four other police officers will have their grand jury investigation completed.

Rebecca Barber announced that after last Thursday she can now official change her name to Rebecca Barber.

Karl Lembke had heard about some entrepreneur selling Y2K compliant cutting boards and salt shakers. Mike Stern's employer had asked him an equally brilliant question about whether their modems are Y2K compliant, which he answered by explaining that there is nothing in them that uses a date. Christian McGuire had unsettling news about a nuclear power plant which took its backup system offline to try their supposed Y2K compliant program. They put in the 00 date. It crashed. It took the main system out with it. Nothing bad happened because the plant also has manual controls. The company has now decided this is something that really needs to be taken care of.

Chaz told us his company had been hired to lock down the loose nukes in Kazakstan and while one of the employees was their they talked to the Russians about Y2K. One Russian engineer said their computers are sold old they won't have a problem. A more alert engineer said it was a serious problem and asked the US for \$3 billion to bring Russia's nuclear launch systems up to Y2K

compliance.

Reviews: Matthew Tepper, apparently having strained his voice correcting the minutes, got Tadao Tomamatsu to read aloud his review of NBC's movie of *Alice in Wonderland*. As Tadao spoke, Tepper mouthed the words along with him. (And they say Matthew's no dummy.) Tepper said the movie reminded him of NBC's old *Nero Wolfe* series which painstakingly designed sets to correspond to the books, yet allowed obvious character errors into the stories. But he did like Gene Wilder in the role Cary Grant had in the old black-and-white movie, as the Mock Turtle. At the end of the review Tadao added, "I can't read Matthew's writing - and he typed it!"

Miscellaneous: Tim Merrigan announced that APA-L's copy count goes up to 45 next week. Someone wondered where the 35 extra copies would go.

Mike Stern told us Jim Dennis is now working for Linux Care, specializing in corporate support for Linux. Jim's counter to their job offer was to take less cash and more stock options.

The meeting ended with Christian McGuire demonstrating how to carefully disassemble a cardboard 12-pack box for Diet Coke and admonishing the rest of us to do this at home and bring the boxes to him. You know, if I got this in an e-mail I would have assumed it was a hoax. Hoping you are the same....

MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY, INC.
Meeting 3216, April 7, 1999. President: Cathy Beckstead. Secretary: Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary.

President Cathy Beckstead has won the complete, unthinking trust of at least one LASFSian. She looked out over the room, saying, "I know, it's really crowded and stuff." And Tadao Tomamatsu immediately started searching the front row for someplace to sit, asking at each empty seat, "Is this seat taken? Is this seat taken?" He could have gone on for quite some time. Fans occupied less than half the seats. Members who voted in the last election hadn't even bothered to send in their proxies tonight.

Cathy's start of the meeting was marked by the usual flurry of bogus motions, including Matthew Tepper's motion "To Rob Cole to pay Paul." Ed Hooper said, "What?" So Mike Stern repeated the foolishness. (Now wait, Mike – repeating foolishness at LASFS is *my* job!) "Where are all the people?" asked Cathy. Stern said, "It's all those flying monkeys." It was not a repetition. Until now.

Stern said it's nice to have a holiday that's named after the LASFS. Cathy agreed, but added, "We're missing our favorite fool." She asked, "Are there any special orders of business?" There weren't.

MINUTES: Glycer read the minutes, then the rain came indoors – a rain of corrections, that is. Mike Stern wanted the last line restored to Rothstein's anecdote – "But don't tell anyone!" Tepper corrected that Charlie Jackson 2 is a cousin to the Deckerts, not the Cooks, through Zachary Taylor. (And he has the same family connection to Leigh Strother-Vien.) Stern said the minutes should be approved as a moment of silence. Glycer mentioned civet cat dung. Final approval was given to the minutes as a moment of silence with coffee).

PATRON SAINT: Tonight's Patron Saint was Sue Haseltine, former LASFS Librarian and current Regency Dancer. Three cheers were administered.

NEW BUSINESS: There was a motion

submitted in writing from Joe Zeff, seconded by Ioanna Stern and others:

Whereas the President of LASFS has challenged the maker of this motion to present new business to the club, and,

Whereas this motion is being presented on a date commonly used for the propagation [sic] of less-than-sensible ideas,

It is hereby moved and seconded that this motion be tabled until next week.

Michael Mason objected to consideration. Shaun Lyon asked, "Is this a perpetual motion?" Mike Stern objected to the objection to the objection. It being April Fool's Day, there were a lot of wise guys at the meeting.

Cathy called on Sandy Cohen for technical advice and learned the motion to object to consideration required a 2/3 show of hands. Glycer appointed himself a committee to remind LASFS that Sandy Cohen's mastery of the subject is the very reason LASFS abandoned Robert's Rules (before Glycer ever joined the club). He reminded members that LASFS meetings run under the President's rules, which only correspond to Robert's to the degree desired by the President. Which was close enough for jazz at the moment, because she called for a vote. The motion to object to consideration failed.

Mike Stern asked to make a friendly amendment to the main motion. Dale Hales asked that the motion be passed around for more signatures. Shaun observed, "It looks like the motion is on the table, not on the floor," so Cathy threw it on the floor. And got up to stand on it, preventing any motion by the motion. But Shaun made a motion to call the motion off the floor for purposes of discussion. Mike Stern spun that: "Move to call the president on the carpet."

Sandy Cohen asked for a point of information: Didn't new business have to be published somewhere? Nice try, Sandy, but Cathy answered, "No, it only has to be on my table." Or under her feet, I guess. Spoilspport Francis Hamit asked, "Is there any chance that there will be any real business done tonight?" Cathy frankly answered, "No." So Francis shoved off.

Scott Beckstead moved to send the motion to the Patent Office for consideration. At this point the question was called. There was a vote in favor of not having the motion read again. There was a further vote for Cathy to bend down but not read the motion again. One of these motions passed by voice vote. I guess you had to be there. Unfortunately, I was.

APPOINTED COMMITTEE REPORTS: There was a motion to adjourn. Mike Stern said, "You shouldn't even entertain that motion." David Voyt moved that we pretend the last 60 seconds didn't happen." This passed by voice vote.

Mike Stern announced the First Friday Magic Tournament. Christian McGuire reported that our member who had a heart attack is doing fine and wanted to thank LASFS for its generosity and thoughtfulness. Brett Achorn announced Cinema Anime would happen Sunday. Mike Stern wanted members to give lasfs.org the link to their web sites. Greg Barrett reminded fans they had one day left to get him more recommendations for the Children's Recommended Reading List.

Tadao introduced himself as "a former Asian who's now stuck in the LASFS." While he's stuck here, he's running OoLaLaCon, which you can join for \$15,93 at the door. Shirts are being made by MJ. JMS will be there Saturday – eighthish.

Registrar Shaun Lyon had found no guests tonight.

AUCTION: One item in the auction was a plastic mug with interchangeable paper inserts. Mike Stern said the one with Eastern bunnies should be colored green and pink and given to Valentina for use as a tattoo design.

FANNISH COMMITTEE REPORTS: Kris had three friends who each tried to get an MTA job and were turned down for lack of reliable transportation – their plan to ride the bus was not accepted as having reliable transportation.

Matthew Tepper gave us the sports report – Fabio 0, Goose 1. He said, the gentleman who works as a body builder somehow, and endorses a margarine substitute, was riding a roller coaster when a bird flew into his nose, leaving a 1-inch gash. Sources did not agree what kind of bird it was. Some witnesses claimed it was a goose. But usenet says it a goose went honker to honker with Fabio, it would have done him a lot more damage. Glyer, always eager to gather these bits of scientific enlightenment, asked, "What is the airspeed velocity of an unladen goose?"

Tepper said that Heather Stern claimed the bird was a duck, but that is a false canard. Mike Stern noted, "If it was a stool pigeon, it would have hit the other end."

Tepper neatly segued into further discussion of birds flying into things. There's a Canadian not-for-profit organization concerned with buildings leaving their lights on at night and birds, thinking it's starlight, collide with the buildings. The group is called Fatal Light Awareness Program, and can be accessed at www.flap.org

Hare Hobbs thought it was probably only the bird's wing that hit Fabio. "The information keeps coming in," greeted Tepper.

Mike Stern told us about the Bovine Bouffant Bureau. That means – wigs for cows, designed by a Swiss farmer for cows competing in agricultural shows. Stern expected the next step for cows will be a

William Shatner look-alike contest.

Stern also reported a locality had passed a law against buying and selling urine. You know what they say. If urine is outlawed, only outlaws will have urine.

Joe Zeff had not so much a Stupid User Report as an example of the side-effects of mild dyslexia. He told a user, "Type EXTRACT /Y." The user typed, EXSTRACT SPACE /Y. Mike Stern wanted to know what happens when you extract space slashers.

Karl Lembke reported on the Japanese TV show where viewers learn the bare facts of survival. Someone spent a year in a TV studio in front of a camera, living off whatever he could win from contests. He was nude the whole time, because he never did win any clothes. What's more, the show had to keep moving whenever journalists closed in. Oh, and the fellow ate everything raw because never won any cooking utensils, either. Now there's an idea to do send the guy to do the same kind of show in Korea, with the added challenge that he doesn't know Korean.

Chaz Boston Baden and others reported on the arrival in the area of a popular donut chain known for showcasing its donut-making machine. Matthew snarled, "For some of us, this is absolutely the worst time of year to learn about these donuts." Kris figured it could be worse – by the end of the year the chain will have an outlet here in the Valley. Cathy wondered why they didn't open one near LASFS – we have the police station, after all.

REVIEWS: Hare Hobbs recommended people read the five short stories in the same series before tackling Niven's *Rainbow Mars*.

Stan watched *Wing Commander* and warned the rest of us that until it comes on *Mystery Theater 3000*, don't bother. George Mulligan translated that to mean: "When it comes out in video, get a copy and you can use your TV for a vacuum cleaner."

Hare Hobbs saw *Matrix* while sitting five rows behind J. Michael Straczynski, which made him conscious of a lot of the movie's comparisons to *Babylon 5*.

Kris liked the scene in *Futurama* where the person is revived, walks out on the boulevard and finds the Angelyne billboard is still there.

MISCELLANEOUS: Frank Waller was still waiting for his doctor to give him an opinion about the ultrasound run on his heart. Frank imitated collapsing on the front table to illustrate what he feared to be the worst-case scenario if the doctor didn't get back to him quickly. Mike Stern seemed to have a wildly divergent idea of the worst-case, saying, "If the pink bunny rabbit dies we'll know you're pregnant."

Cathy immediately called for a vote by all those who were in favor of the motion that was on the floor. Everyone voted for plergb, defined as whatever it takes to end the meeting immediately.



MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES SCIENCE FANTASY SOCIETY, INC. Meeting 3221, May 6, 1999. President: Cathy Beckstead. Secretary: Mike Glycer, the Once and Future Secretary.

LASFS was ready for a rip-roarin' celebration of the Seis de Mayo, the traditional observance of those who didn't consume enough tequila to stay passed out until the Siete de Mayo.

Despite the holiday nearly everyone was on hand as Cathy started the meeting. The only conspicuous absentee was Rob Cole, and as soon as Mike Stern realized it he heroically leaped in with his own motion to adjourn. Joe Zeff commended Mike's alertness by moving that he be designated a virtual Rob Cole, for this purpose only.

Cathy agreed to that, but when Mike Stern repeated his motion to adjourn she sternly answered, "Too bad!"

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: It's written in the notes that Charlie Jackson 2 said something was a Special Order of Business, but there's a big blank where I ought to have written down what that something was. Could this be a premise for a latter-day *Death Takes A Holiday*? That they haven't actually died if Charlie's announcement is omitted from the minutes? Great idea. Let's cast Anthony Hopkins as Charlie Jackson 2, and then we'll cast Brad Pitt, uh, overboard....

MINUTES: Glycer read the minutes of things that had been written down the previous week. A few members who were seriously hallucinating thought they could

improve on this sterling prose. Joe Zeff wanted to change a phrase to some reference that Mike Stern would remember, except Mike denied remembering it. Charlie said it's a list of his 150 *favorite* films. Karl Lembke said it should be "ingested" not "sucked." Mike Stern agreed, "Sucked is better." Two motions contended for the honor of saying how the minutes would be approved. Mike Stern moved that "these minutes are better than being sucked by geese." Charlie Jackson 2's winning motion was to approve the minutes as Percy Dovetonsils. A dissenter's motion was dispatched by Dale Hales' rebuke that "We already have 15 motions to adjourn on the table."

APPOINTED COMMITTEE REPORTS: Anticipatory shouts of "Fix! Fix!" greeted Mike Stern's rising to announce the monthly First Friday Magic Tournament. He urged all to bring their cards and play, or don't bring their cards and watch. George Mulligan wondered why it wasn't an option to bring your cards and not your watch.

Treasurer Liz Mortensen said the OoLaLaCon auction brought in \$696. Cathy thanked Tadao for organizing OoLaLaCon, which made \$1700 for the LASFS altogether. Tadao said he had fun doing it, adding, "I wish I could stop doing it." Charles Jackson Heinlein agreed: "It's only 'funny once'."

Ed Green mentioned that in the past we have used the Gray Ghost to haul stuff to Loscon. How would Lasfs feel about acquiring a used Main Battle Tank? The National Guard is getting rid of the last few of them. They're going to the depot for disposal to buyers who will use them for boring purposes like making

Colophon

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From The Editor

If you have a Poem related to or about Science Fiction or fandom you may submit it to me at the LASFS or via e-mail de.profundis@lasfs.org.

Articles and reviews are always welcome. Let me know what YOU want to see in the newsletter.

Thanks to the kind folks who wrote in with comments. I appreciate any feedback that I can get.

Peace,
Scott



underwater reefs. Think about the possibilities. What if we'd used one of these babies to return the Shaft? George Mulligan simply suggested we get one, store our archives in it, and call it "Tanks for the Memory." Ed was so impressed he said, "I take it back, George, you *are* a perfect idiot."

PATRON SAINT: Tonight we waited for him to walk in, and when Larry Niven arrived we stopped the auction to give him three rousing cheers.

Chaz Baden said he needed to borrow a pitchfork, among other things.

Vicki asked for donations to her school's read-a-thon. It wasn't a pledge to pay so much per book she read. Big wads of cash were welcome.

FANNISH COMMITTEE REPORTS: Mike Stern notice Alan Frisbie's credit on a photo in yesterday's "Only in LA" column in the Los Angeles Times. It was sort of a road-thingie - a Middle Eastern restaurant called Chattanooga. Stern also thought the columnist, Steve Harvey, must be a closet fan because he compiled a list of "the 21st Century according to Hollywood." This was future history, like in *Escape From LA* the San Fernando Valley has really seceded and become the San Fernando Sea.

Doug Crepeau had also been reading the paper. Next to a picture of Godzilla, the Chicago *Sun-Times* reported that officials in Urbana repealed the 1954 law that made it illegal for any monster to enter the city.

Joe Zeff said he won recognition at a Earthlink employee awards

meeting.

Matthew Tepper explained that his facial expression is the result of one side of his face being paralyzed – probably Bell's palsy. It didn't seriously affect his speech, and he felt it would soon go away. He'd be seeing his internist the next day. Meantime, he passed along a news report about a judge in Manitoba who recused himself from a case because he'd played the Fiddler in a production where one of the attorneys played the bookseller. Charlie Jackson 2 chimed in with a haggis-flavored accent, saying, "Remember, if it's near Nova Scotia, it's crap!"

Karl Lembke told about a controversy where ham radio operators complain about the intrusiveness of internet time maintained by the Swatch company. And he'd seen an article in *Forbes* about something for executives who really want to do something different. For \$695 you get three days of training with former Special Forces personnel. Their most popular scenario is POW Camp, with its interrogation resistance training.

REVIEW: George Mulligan went to see the Van Gogh exhibit at LACMA. He called it, "One of the more luminous days of my life." He recommended it to anyone who has any interest in beauty. There was a special 24-hour schedule starting over the weekend.

Mike Stern's Rob Cole-ian motion to adjourn was reinstated, and we immediately out-of-stated.

Poets Corner



The Rose

A blood red rose spans distance serene
'tween night and frosty morn
bud in evening, blooms severe
by daylight naught but thorn

so like the rose we oft delight
in simple pleasures spare
but gusto grabbed by fire light
'tis sweeter than despair

time always slips through hands of man
like grains through glass clad waist
fleeting blossoms dry and wan
of power we but taste

Ozymandias

In sandy waste there stands a block
words carved on graven stone
naught remains to read this clock
not bird nor white bleached bone

words are writ on stoney dais
their meaning still is there
oh ye mighty, I am Ozymandias
from me you learn despair

a single bloom grows near it now
none heed the words of sage
None saw the blossoms then or now
of screaming atom's rage

Conrad

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