

Condensed Cream of Menace of the LASFS

Meeting #4460

Feb. 2, 2023

Scribe: Heath "Scribbles" Row

Call to Order

Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.

Special Announcement (Michelle Pincus)

Gregory Benford experienced a stroke about a week after Loscon. He is recovering, and get-well-soon messages can be sent through Pincus. On behalf of the LASFS, Cathy Johnson offered the club's support and encouragement.

Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)

Hatchings

- Actor Brent Spiner
- Author Thomas Disch
- Actress Farrah Fawcett

Dispatchings

- Actress Annie Wersching
- Actress Lisa Loring
- Stuntman George Wilbur

Media anniversary

The Lost World was released Feb. 2, 1925.

Reading of the Minutes (Heath Row)

Scribbles read the minutes.

Additions and Corrections

- None

Auction to Name the Minutes

Lynn Maners bid \$5, won, and named them "Welcome to Our Guest Author, Tim Powers!"

Call for Approval

Moved to accept as read, and approved.

Celebration of Patron Saints

Mike Luwish was celebrated and recognized by Charles Lee Jackson II, Cathy Johnson, and Chris Marble. Luwish received three cheers.

Gary Louie was celebrated and recognized by Charles Lee Jackson II, Cathy Johnson, Chris Marble, Matthew Mitchell, and Heide Nichols. Louie received three cheers—and a box of Legos.

Committee Reports

- Eylat Poliner apologized for the technical difficulties with Tim Powers last week. We will reschedule David Brin, who was unable to join tonight's meeting because of a medical issue. She also announced that upcoming programming includes Craig Miller on Feb. 23, Dr. Laura Brodian Freas Baraha on March 2, Kristen Renee Gorlitz on March 23, and Charles Lee Jackson II on April 6.
- Michelle Pincus indicated that the Loscon 49 staff meeting April 29 will start at 1 p.m. at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott.

Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

Eylat Poliner bid \$25 and won the rights to the Spot of Honor for the rest of February. She deferred to Susan Fox for its naming, and Fox dedicated it to SCIFI.radio.

Registrar (Eylat Poliner)

Eylat Poliner welcomed guest Gregory Lipscomb. Elayne Pelz indicated that he's a member.

Treasurer (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

Elayne Pelz reminded members to pay their dues. She remarked that the LASFS prefers Zelle because PayPal has started charging fees.

Board Report (Michelle Pincus)

The next board meeting is scheduled for Feb. 12, 2023, at 11 a.m. on the usual Zoom.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Time-Bound Announcements

- Barbara Gratz Harmon: P-22 celebration of life on Saturday, Feb. 4 (<https://savelacougars.org/p-22-celebration-of-life>)
- Kevin Segall: The Hollywood Show on Friday and Saturday at the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport (<https://www.hollywoodshow.com>)
- Susan Fox: Natural History Museum's First Fridays (<https://nhm.org/calendar/nhm-first-fridays-2023-february>)
- Nick Smith
 - The green comet was discovered by a Caltech research team that includes LASFS

member Ashish Mahabal. (<https://www.adlerplanetarium.org/blog/everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-green-comet-aka-comet-c-2022-e3-ztf>)

- American Cinematheque screenings of *AI* and *The Wicker Man* (2006) at the Los Feliz (<https://www.americancinematheque.com>)
- New Beverly Cinema screening of *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (<https://thenewbev.com>)
- Dark Delicacies signing for the book and game adaptations of *My Bloody Valentine* (<https://www.darkdel.com>)

Moments of Science

- Lynn Maners
 - ChatGPT was cited as a co-author on at least four preprint or published research papers. The editors of *Nature* and *Science* remarked that ChatGPT doesn't meet the standard for authorship.
 - Primatologists studying adolescent chimpanzees noted that chimp teens and human teens engage in similar behaviors.
- Lee Grixit: Researchers who discovered an Egyptian embalming lab in 2016 analyzed residues in containers and identified where some of the preservatives might have come from—suggesting long-range trading networks.

Regular Announcements

- ???: Octavia E. Butler adaptation *Kindred* was canceled by FX after one season.
- Lee Grixit: Local gaming con MimicCon will occur April 2 in Santa Maria. (<https://www.mimiccon.com>)
- Eylat Poliner: The restaurant outing group is now named the Greater Angeleno Gourmet Society, inspired by Samuel Edward Konkin III and LASFS activities in the 1970s. The next GAGS event will occur after Gallifrey One.
- Chris Marble: George Mulligan shares greetings; he should be able to secure a day pass next month. Visitors are welcome; masks are required.
- Scribbles: The first issues of the relaunched *De Profundis* and *Menace of the LASFS* are now available.

Reviews

- Heide Nichols recommended M.A. Richter's book *Mystic Prince*.
- Cathy Johnson thought the movie *Everything Everywhere All at Once* was fantastic.
- Nick Smith seemed to enjoy the animated series *Velma*.
- Tad Daley is "really digging" Greg Bear's novel *Darwin's Radio*.
- Charles Lee Jackson II lauded Doughn-t Hut in Burbank.

Miscellaneous

- Nola Frame-Gray thanked Barbara Gratz Harmon and Susan Fox for helping her participate in the meeting.
- Cathy Johnson mentioned the after meeting.

- Tad Daley offered kudos to the programming volunteers for bringing in speakers.
- Charles Lee Jackson II shared a story about Henry Koster featuring a bust of Peggy Moran in every movie he directed after their marriage.

Call to Adjourn

Eylat Poliner so moved. That was seconded. The ayes had it.