

## **Condensed Cream of Menace of the LASFS**

### **Meeting #4521**

April 4, 2024

Scribe: Heath "Scribbles" Row

### **Call to Order**

Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m.

### **Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)**

#### Hatchings

- Author Stanley Gene Weinbaum (b. April 4, 1902; d. Dec. 14, 1935)
- Author Dan Simmons (b. April 4, 1948)
- Actor Hugo Weaving (b. April 4, 1960)
- Actor Robert Downey Jr. (b. April 4, 1965)

#### Dispatchings

- Author Lynne Reid Banks (b. July 31, 1929; d. April 4, 2024)
- Visual effects artist Tim McGovern (b. June 24, 1955; d. March 30, 2024)
- Actor, writer, and comedian Joe Flaherty (b. June 21, 1941; d. April 1, 2024)
- Actor Barbara Rush (b. Jan. 4, 1927; d. March 31, 2024)
- Actor Barbara Baldavin (b. Oct. 18, 1938; d. March 31, 2024)
- Actor Louis Gossett Jr. (b. May 27, 1936; d. March 29, 2024)

#### Media anniversary

On this date in 1968, *2001: A Space Odyssey* premiered in Los Angeles.

### **Reading of the Minutes (Heath Row)**

Scribbles read the Condensed Cream of Menace for March 28, 2024.

### **Additions and Corrections**

Eylat Poliner indicated that Kristine Cherry created the Web site form with the QR code.

### **Auction to Name the Minutes**

Susan Fox bid \$5, won, and named them "Meh Meh Meh."

### **Call for Approval**

Moved to accept as corrected, and approved.

### **Celebration of Patron Saints**

Charles (Chuck) Donahue II was celebrated and recognized by Chris Marble and Nick Smith. Donahue received three cheers—and his birthday is April 1.

Tom Stern was celebrated and recognized by Cathy Johnson and Matthew B. Tepper. Stern received three cheers.

### Committee Reports

- Programming (Eylat Poliner)
  - April 11: In-person (hybrid) meeting at Denny's—By-Laws discussion and first vote
  - April 18: By-Laws vote
  - May 2: Charles Lee Jackson II reading of "The Diamond Men"
  - May 9: In-person (hybrid) meeting and Big Auction at Denny's
  - May 23: In-person (hybrid) meeting at the Consulate General of the Czech Republic (One Westwood building, 10990 Wilshire Blvd. #1100, Los Angeles) followed by a screening of *Restore Point* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uA0c4uchstk>)
    - Matthew B. Tepper: This might be the first LASFS meeting taking place on foreign soil.
  - May 30: Robert Sawyer reading of *The Downloaded*
  - June 6: President nominations
  - June 13: In-person (hybrid) meeting and procedural elections
- Loscon 50 (Eylat Poliner)
  - If you knit or know someone who knits, we're making hats for the American Cancer Society. We'll accept donations of such hats at Loscon.
  - If you can bring items for the auction, the proceeds will also go to the American Cancer Society.
  - Marketing report (Krystal Rains): Loscon was at WonderCon last weekend and sold three memberships.
    - This Saturday, there's a City of STEM event at the Los Angeles State Historic Park. (<https://www.cityofstem.org>)
    - Later in the month, we'll attend AnaCon in Anaheim. (<https://www.anaheim.net/4743/AnaCon>)
    - If people know about upcoming events we can table at, reach out to us.
    - We also have Loscon logo pins for \$12. We'll have them at the meeting next week.
  - Eylat Poliner thanked Krystal Rains for tabling at WonderCon.
    - We also found some LASFS pins. Krystal Rains has them. They also cost \$12.
- Fandom Wellness Committee (Chris Marble)
  - He just got off the phone with George Mulligan, who's doing OK. He's getting physical therapy five days a week again.

### Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

The Spot of Honor is held in honor of Tom Digby, who is well remembered, well loved, and well beyond the bounds of rationality.

**Registrar** (Heide Nichols)

Eylat Poliner stood in for Nichols, who isn't feeling well. We have no guests.

**Treasurer** (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

Elayne Pelz reminded members to pay their dues. It is now April. It is too late to pay your yearly dues, so everybody's got to pay monthly or weekly dues.

**Board Report** (Matthew B. Tepper)

The LASFS board of directors will next meet Sunday, April 14, at 11 a.m. If you want to see how we do things downtown or uptown, tune in. Members are welcome to observe.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Time-Bound Announcements**

- Nick Smith
  - Dark Delicacies will host an interview and signing with Sarah Langan on Saturday.
  - The Egyptian Theatre Hollywood will screen *Blade Runner: The Final Cut* and *Critters* on Saturday.
  - The Los Feliz Theatre plans to show *Fritz the Cat* on Monday.
  - The New Beverly Cinema will screen *The Muppets Take Manhattan* on Saturday and Sunday, and the anime *Metropolis* on Saturday.
  - The Vista Theater plans to screen *The Absent-Minded Professor* on Saturday and Sunday. They have opened their second auditorium; tickets sold out through mid-April.
- Scribbles will be out of town for the next month. Please record meetings starting next week into early May. He'll do minutes from the video recordings.
- Rob Powell: A solar eclipse will occur Monday. It will start at 9 a.m., culminate around 11, and clear up by noon. (<https://eclipse2024.org/links.htm> and <https://www.space.com/what-time-total-solar-eclipse-april-8>)

**Moments of Science**

- Thomas Safer: From Today in Science ([https://www.todayinisci.com/4/4\\_04.htm](https://www.todayinisci.com/4/4_04.htm))
  - Steven Sasson
  - Linus Yale
  - Benjamin Peirce
  - Mrs. Potts sad iron
- Susan Rothman has to go to the doctor in April because she has arthritis bone on bone

on her hip. But maybe it was just dislocated. A couple of weeks ago, she did a set of stretches, heard a pop, and there was a slide down her leg. Since then her pain profile has been different; it's in her leg, not her hip. She's going to an orthopedist.

- Eylat Poliner: If you look at the solar eclipse, be sure to use those glasses. Don't look directly at the eclipse. (<https://www.eclipseglasses.com/> and <https://www.amazon.com/Premium-Solar-Eclipse-Viewing-Glasses/dp/B0C37N8HK2>)
  - Matthew B. Tepper: Or use a pinhole to shine it onto a piece of cardboard.
  - Krystal Rains: The Los Angeles Public Library is also giving out glasses.
  - Dean Johnson: Don't use 3D glasses.
  - Susan Fox: Use a colander.
  - Rob Powell: Use a postcard with holes punched in it and date it as a memento.
- Charles Lee Jackson II: There was a time in the past when there was a partial eclipse visible in Los Angeles. I made a camera obscura and was standing outside. A couple of children came to see what I was doing and then ran to get some more kids.

### Regular Announcements

- Susan Fox: Larry Niven Fan's Page on Facebook has a couple of posts featuring Cecil the Seasick Sea Serpent. (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/95814661182/>)
- Thomas Safer is again screening films at the Frances Howard Goldwyn—Hollywood Regional Branch Library. April 13 he'll show *Lady and the Tramp*.
- Willard Stone: The Reagan library is hosting an exhibit of Star Wars and the Strategic Defense Initiative memorabilia. (<https://www.reaganfoundation.org/library-museum/special-exhibits/star-wars>)

### Reviews

- Eylat Poliner has been watching *Cheers*. It reminds her of the LASFS. It's quite a classic.
- Nick Smith saw two movies this week: *Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire* and *Monster Mash*, which is now available on Apple TV.

### Miscellaneous

- Thomas Safer shared his \$100 story. He tends to give a lot of business to Arnold's Copy & Printing in Studio City. He recently got a phone call from a high school student about hanging a banner. Safer referred them to Arnold Sarkissian, who secured a \$900 print job. He gave Safer \$100. The banner is hanging at Hollywood Way and Magnolia Boulevard.
- Charles Lee Jackson II: In my recent attempt to get to 166 pounds, I got to 165 pounds—two days after I started eating candy again.
- Cathy Johnson reminded members about the aftermeeting.

### Call to Adjourn

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