

Condensed Cream of Menace of the LASFS

Meeting #4495

Oct. 5, 2023

Scribe: Heath "Scribbles" Row

Call to Order

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

Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)

Hatchings

- Actor John Hoyt (b. Oct. 5, 1905; d. Sept. 15, 1991)
- Actor Skip Homeier (b. Oct. 5, 1930; d. June 25, 2017)
- Author, playwright, director, and artist Clive Barker (b. Oct. 5, 1952)
- Courtesy of Susan Fox
 - Actor Karen Allen (b. Oct. 5, 1951)
 - Actor, dancer, musician, and singer Glynis Johns (b. Oct. 5, 1923)
 - Astrophysicist and author Neil deGrasse Tyson (b. Oct. 5, 1958)
 - Comedian, actor, and screenwriter Bill Dana (b. Oct. 5, 1924; d. June 15, 2017)

Dispatchings

- None

Media anniversary

The Seeker: The Dark Is Rising, the movie adaptation of Susan Cooper's children's fantasy novel *The Dark Is Rising*, was released on this date in 2007.

Reading of the Minutes (Heath Row)

Scribbles read the Condensed Cream of Menace for Sept. 21, 2023.

Additions and Corrections

Eylat Poliner will continue to serve in programming until she is replaced.

Auction to Name the Minutes

Susan Fox bid \$5, won, and named them "I Just Chirped Up Because Lynn Maners Isn't Here."

Call for Approval

Moved to accept as corrected, and approved.

Celebration of Patron Saints

Steve Bilan was celebrated and recognized by Cathy Johnson and Christian B. McGuire. Bilan received three cheers—and a friendly Klingon brother.

Committee Reports

- Committee to Gouge Money from the LASFS (Christian B. McGuire): Eylat Poliner requested that there be a Big Auction on Oct. 19. Thank you to Susan Fox for uploading and organizing the pictures of the items on auction.
 - Fox asked if she could donate books to the auction. McGuire said that the LASFS is always open to donations, but books have to go through Gavin Claypool to check against the library holdings.
- Programming (Eylat Poliner):
 - October 12: Forry Award nominations and vote.
 - October 19: The Big Auction
 - November 2: Board of Directors nominations.
 - November 9: Meeting #4500. Board of Directors election.
 - November 16: History of the LASFS with historical LASFSians.
 - November 23: Meeting at Loscon 49.
 - December 7: Nominations for President.
 - December 14: Procedural elections.
 - December 28: Loscon Retrospective.
- Loscon 49 (Michelle Pincus)
 - Cathy Johnson reminded members that the con is held Thanksgiving weekend.
 - Eylat Poliner reported that there's a staff meeting on Oct. 28 at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott.
 - Johnson directed interested volunteers to Kandis Caringer.
 - Poliner remarked that the hospitality team is looking for volunteers to staff the con suite, the staff lounge, and serve other functions.
 - Poliner also reminded LASFSans that Peter S. Beagle is our Guest of Honor.

Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

The Spot of Honor is held by CLJII's Hallowe'en Haunts, Highlights, and High-jinks, which is now open on Facebook for its 11th season.

(<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064562504969>) It will run until Nov. 1.

Registrar (Eylat Poliner)

We have a guest tonight named Kandis Caringer. She lives in San Bernardino and learned about the club from Loscon. Michelle Pincus invited her. She's attended Loscon five times and has stepped up to assist with volunteers. She's a major fantasy fan and enjoys the work of Mercedes Lackey. She's also a critic, writer, and aspiring professional, as well as a library assistant.

Treasurer (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

Elayne Pelz reminded members to pay their dues. We've got lots of people who haven't paid dues tonight. Some of you have been skating the last couple of weeks. If you've been in attendance, you owe dues.

Kandis Caringer asked what the pun fund was, and Cathy Johnson explained what pun fines are. Eylat Poliner detailed that they're 25 cents, inspired by the novels of Spider Robinson. Dean Johnson said that it's basically punning it forward, and was fined accordingly.

Board Report (Michelle Pincus)

Susan Fox indicated that the next board meeting will be Nov. 12 at 11 a.m. There will be no meeting in October.

Nick Smith commented that the board chairman and vice chairman were interviewed by two students from Chengdu, China, for a business magazine there because of the upcoming Worldcon. They wanted to learn more about the history of the club and its involvement in sf fandom globally.

The interview was held in the coffee shop on the ground floor of the Bradbury Building.

Old Business

- Cathy Johnson indicated we're still looking for a place to meet in person. If you know of such a place, where we can meet once a month, let us know and we'll look into it.
 - Elayne Pelz contacted someone else recommended by a member, but they haven't called her back yet.
- Charles Lee Jackson II explained the Forrest J Ackerman Award, which is awarded to people who have made substantial and important contributions to sf as it relates to the LASFS.

New Business

None

Time-Bound Announcements

- Nick Smith
 - Saturday, Dark Delicacies will host a signing of the 4K UHD of *Night of the Demons* and the Blu-ray of *Night of the Demons III*. On Sunday, Lisa Morton will sign her new book, *The Art of the Zombie Movie*, which comes out Oct. 15.
 - The New Beverly Cinema will host a *Pet Sematary* matinee tomorrow. Monday offers an Abbott and Costello ghost movie double feature.
 - The Los Feliz Theatre will show *The Cassandra Cat* on Saturday
 - The Old Town Music Hall is also showing classic scary movies every weekend. This Saturday they'll screen *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* and *Rosemary's Baby*. On Sunday, they'll offer *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*.
 - Marv Wolfman is being honored at the New York Comic Con next week for the Harvey Awards Hall of Fame to recognize his contribution to the body of work in the comics field.
 - This year's *First Fandom Annual* edited by John L. Coker III and Jon D. Swartz features interviews with LASFS members such as Forrest J Ackerman, Robert Bloch, and Ray Harryhausen. Order yours today. It's going to be gone by next

week.

- Rob “Gizmo” Powell
 - The launch of the Psyche space probe was postponed from today to next week. It’ll be launched by SpaceX next Thursday to the Psyche asteroid. It’s expected to be a multi-year journey. Powell works for Ground Data Systems. They’ll start receiving information in 2029. (<https://www.nasa.gov/news-release/nasa-sets-coverage-for-psyche-spacecraft-launch-to-metal-world/>)
- Chris Marble: It’s Star Wars Day at the Upland Public Library this weekend. Craig Miller will be there. Four different *Star Wars*-themed cars will be there.
- Charles Lee Jackson II: This weekend, MeTV is holding a marathon of *Sventoonie*. *Sventoonie*, the red tuna of terror, shows half-hour, severely edited versions of mostly public domain films. He and other commentators are not as mean as *Mystery Science Theater 3000*.
- Kandis Caringer: The A K Smiley Public Library in Redlands will host a family day on Saturday. They’ll read Mac Barnett’s *Oh No!: Or How My Science Project Destroyed the World* and teach children how to make their own pop-up books and design robots.

Moments of Science

- Charles Lee Jackson II pointed out a Halloween lantern he made with paper and dewdrop lights, deeming it science.

Regular Announcements

- Chris Marble: George Mulligan is back in the hospital. He had a kidney infection. He’s able to walk and get out of bed with minimal assistance. He’s off oxygen, and his weight is down.
- Charles Lee Jackson II: Music Choice’s Sounds of the Seasons channel is now playing Halloween-themed music 24 hours a day. They’ll do so through dawn Nov. 1.

Reviews

- Susan Fox gave a shout out to *Star Trek: Very Short Treks* commemorating the 50th anniversary of *Star Trek: The Animated Series*. She recommended you skip the first three and watch the most recent one. It’s only a little bit gross.
- Nick Smith almost binge watched the post-apocalyptic comedy *Twisted Metal* on Peacock. It’s the prequel to an unreleased version of a video game series.
- Kandis Caringer remarked on the subgenre dungeon core or LitRPG, which uses video game elements in fiction. She recommends Jonathan Brooks’s *Dungeon World*, *The Fusionist*, and *Academic ConFusion*.
- Charles Lee Jackson II was glad to see *The Lost Missile* again. It uses inexpensive but elegant special effects to tell a story that doesn’t have a happy ending. (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7_Ri1-QHDA)
- Larry Niven mentioned *The Creator*, which offers wonderful special effects and no plot.

Miscellaneous

- Christian B. McGuire: If you plan to see *Ahsoka*, you should see the first four seasons of *The Clone Wars* first.
 - Kandis Caringer: *Ahsoka* is almost an exact sequel to *Star Wars Rebels*.
- Nola Frame-Gray shared some memories about Greg Bilan at ConFrancisco in 1993. He saw her struggling, legally blind at the time, and helped guide her back to the convention hotel.
- Cathy Johnson reminded members about the aftermeeting.

Call to Adjourn

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