

Condensed Cream of Menace of the LASFS

Meeting #4504

Dec. 7, 2023

Scribe: Heath "Scribbles" Row

Call to Order

Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)

Hatchings

- Author Leigh Brackett (b. Dec. 7, 1915; d. March 18, 1978)
- Actor Johnny Duncan (b. Dec. 7, 1923; d. Feb. 8, 2016)
- Author Kelly Barnhill (b. Dec. 7, 1973)

Dispatchings

- Screenwriter and producer Norman Lear (b. July 27, 1922; d. Dec. 5, 2023)
- Fan, LASFS member, and crafter Marilyn "Fuzzy Pink" Niven (b. Aug. 25, 1940; d. Dec. 3, 2023)

Media anniversary

On this date in 1996, the television movie *The Cold Equations* first aired. It was based on the short story by Tom Godwin.

Reminiscences

Marilyn "Fuzzy Pink" Niven was celebrated and recognized by Charles Lee Jackson II, Heide Nichols, Michelle Pincus, Scribbles, Allison Stern, and Peggy Wu. Niven received three cheers.

The club then recognized a minute of silence in honor of Niven.

Reading of the Minutes (Heath Row)

Scribbles read the Condensed Cream of Menace for Nov. 16 and 23, 2023. (Susan Fox had previously read Nov. 23 on Nov. 30, 2023.)

Additions and Corrections

- Nov. 16: Heide Nichols requested that patron saint Milt Stevens also be recognized as a sacred object and heavenly body in the minutes.
 - Eylat Poliner expanded on the questions she posed to open the panel discussion.
- Nov. 23: Susan Fox clarified the surname of John Spence.

Auction to Name the Minutes

Nov. 16: Heide Nichols bid \$6, won, and named them "I Miss You, Uncle Milty."

Nov. 23: Eylat Poliner bid \$10, won, and Susan Fox named them "Unnamed."

Call for Approval

Nov. 16: Moved to accept as amended, and approved.

Nov. 23: Moved to accept as amended, and approved.

Celebration of Patron Saints

Marty Massoglia was celebrated and recognized by Charles Lee Jackson II, Cathy Johnson, Chris Marble, and Allison Stern. Massoglia received three cheers.

Susan Cross was celebrated and recognized by Matthew B. Tepper. Cross received three cheers.

Chris Marble was celebrated and recognized by Charles Lee Jackson II, Cathy Johnson, Heide Nichols, Eylat Poliner, Allison Stern, and Matthew B. Tepper. Marble received three cheers—and mutton chops.

Committee Reports

- Programming (Eylat Poliner)
 - Dec. 7: Nominations for President
 - Dec. 14: Procedural elections
 - Dec. 28: Loscon Retrospective
- Loscon 50 (Eylat Poliner)
 - Poliner mentioned Loscon 50's guests of honor: Writer GoH Spider Robinson, Artist GoH Laura Brodian Freas Beraha, Artist Ghost of Honor Kelly Freas, Music GoH Kathy Mar, and Fan Guests of Honor Genny Dazzo and Craig Miller
 - If you have programming ideas for Loscon, check back on the Web site in the next few weeks. You can submit a Google form to our programming person, and she will receive it.

Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

The Spot of Honor is held by CLJII's Christmas Carols, Confections, and Caprices, a free Facebook page. (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064562504969>)

Registrar (Eylat Poliner)

We have no guests today.

Treasurer (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

Elayne Pelz reminded members to pay their dues.

Board Report (Michelle Pincus)

The next board meeting is Sunday, Dec. 10, at 11 a.m.

Old Business

Presidential nominations (CLJII)

- Next week the LASFS will hold elections for the procedural officers for the first half of 2024.
- This week, we open the nominations for president.
- Jackson described the role and duties of the president. (<https://lasfs.org/lasfs-by-laws>)
- Nominations
 - Heide Nichols nominated Cathy Johnson, who accepted
 - Chris Marble nominated J.P. Van Gordon, who was held in abeyance.
- The nominations were recessed until next week.

New Business

None

Time-Bound Announcements

- Nick Smith
 - Dark Delicacies is hosting a double signing this Saturday, including a Christmas horror title, Brian McAuley's *Candy Cain Kills*; Jonathan Maberry's anthology *Weird Tales: 100 Years of Weird*; and Kevin J. Anderson's anthology *Joe Ledger: Unbreakable*.
 - The Egyptian Theatre will screen *The Terminator* on Friday.
 - The Aero Theatre will show *Metropolis* on Saturday and *Interstellar* on Sunday.
 - The New Beverly Cinema will host its Cartoon Club and screen *Mary Poppins* on Saturday.

Moments of Science

- Nick Smith: NASA offers a new streaming Web site called NASA+, <https://plus.nasa.gov>.
- Heide Nichols: A temple linked to Hercules and Alexander the Great was discovered in a megacity in Iraq. (<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/temple-linked-to-hercules-and-alexander-the-great-discovered-in-ancient-megacity-in-iraq>)
 - Also, one of the nascent volcanoes along the Pacific Rim erupted recently underwater and might have caused an earthquake in Japan.
- Victor Khaze: Armenia launched its first homegrown, home-designed satellite with SpaceX about a week ago. (<https://www.azatutyun.am/a/32710347.html>)

Reviews

- Eylat Poliner is very excited about the new *Doctor Who*.
 - Nick Smith remarked that the first new *Doctor Who* special is based on a 1980 Marvel UK comic book.
- Matt Mitchell also enjoyed the new *Doctor Who*. He also indicated that the Tubi streaming service now offers the first seven doctors. (<https://tubitv.com/series/300001752/classic-doctor-who-the-first-doctor>)
- Nick Smith dispelled the myth of mermaids not being dark skinned by discussing Yuruba folklore and Natasha Bowen's *Skin of the Sea*, a fascinating book. (<https://www.amazon.com/Skin-Sea-Natasha-Bowen-ebook/dp/B08WC8FB8X/>)

- Charles Lee Jackson asked Smith if his publisher can quote his review of *Your Best Entertainment*.
 - Smith gave such permission.
- Michelle Pincus reported that *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds* is great, *Godzilla Minus One* is very good, and *The Boy and the Heron* is also good.
- Chris Marble said that *The Marvels* was fine.

Miscellaneous

- Chris Marble went to see George Mulligan earlier today.
- Charles Lee Jackson II has been having difficulty with mail delivery. A recently received voting reminder appeared to have been tampered with.
- Michael Siladi reported not receiving recent voting information in Mountain View. Somehow, his registration address had been changed to one from 40 years ago. He encouraged members to check their registrations to ensure you're eligible to vote.
- Cathy Johnson reminded members of the aftermeeting.
- Jackson reminded people that next week we'll vote on president, vice president, registrar, and scribe.
- Matthew B. Tepper is planning to see the forthcoming movie *Migration*, which is about ducks.

Call to Adjourn

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