

Condensed Cream of Menace of the LASFS

Meeting #4484

July 20, 2023

Scribe: Heath "Scribbles" Row

Call to Order

Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:59 p.m.

Special Announcement

Kristine Cherry informed the LASFS about the death of Frank Waller over the weekend. Cherry offered some details and information about Waller's recent health situation, and LASFSans shared some memories. A graveside service will be held Sunday at Mount Sinai Memorial Park in Simi Valley. Cathy Johnson called for a minute of silence, which the LASFS recognized.

Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)

Hatchings

- Actor Diana Rigg (b. July 20, 1938, d. Sept. 10, 2020)
- Actor Fritz Sperberg (b. July 20, 1951)
- Faned and educator Guy H. Lillian III (b. July 20, 1949)

Dispatchings

- Chris Marble reported that fan and folksinger Bill Laubenheimer (b. Aug. 19, 1956, d. July 19, 2023) died while participating in Pemmi-Con.
- Matthew B. Tepper pointed out an obituary for convicted hacker and computer security consultant Kevin Mitnick (b. Aug. 6, 1963, d. July 16, 2023).

Media anniversary

Frankenstein 1970 was released on this date in 1958. In 1969, American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin landed on the moon as part of the Apollo 11 mission. Armstrong was the first person to walk on the moon, the first words there broadcast on national television. Susan Fox added that *Plan 9 From Outer Space* premiered July 22, 1959.

Reading of the Minutes (Heath Row)

Scribbles read the Condensed Cream of Menace for July 13, 2023.

Additions and Corrections

Nick Smith clarified the name of Kari Wahlgren, which Scribbles had totally and entirely botched.

Auction to Name the Minutes

Lynn Maners bid \$5, won, and named them "Go with God, Frank Waller. You Will Be Missed."

Call for Approval

Moved to accept as corrected, and approved.

Celebration of Patron Saints

Bill Curry was celebrated and recognized by Nick Smith. Curry received three cheers.

Committee Reports

- Programming (Eylat Poliner)
 - Aug. 10: Planetary physicist Kevin R. Grazier
 - Aug. 17: Gail Carriger, *Divinity 36: Tinkered Starsong Book 1*
 - Aug. 24: Tom Safer presents a program of cartoons after the meeting
 - Sept. 7: Arlene Busby, Aerospace Legacy Foundation
 - Sept. 28: David Raiklen, on the music of *Star Trek*
- Loscon 50 (Eylat Poliner)
 - Loscon 50 will be the first Loscon at the LAX Hilton.

Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

The Spot of Honor is held by Loscon 49. A few weeks from now, we will have a new recipient of the Spot of Honor.

Registrar (Eylat Poliner)

We have no guests tonight. Poliner thanked Heide Nichols for sitting in for her for the last few weeks.

Treasurer (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

Debra Levin reminded members to pay their dues.

Board Report (Michelle Pincus)

The next board meeting will occur Sunday, Aug. 13, 2023, at 11 a.m.

Old Business

Cathy Johnson mentioned plans to return to meeting in person at least once a month. The idea will be picked up again after Pemmi-Con.

New Business

None

Time-Bound Announcements

- Heide Nichols told members about the Midsummer Scream horror convention (<https://midsummerscream.org>) at the Long Beach Convention Center at the end of the month. Nichols is volunteering in the game room.

- Eylat Poliner mentioned that the Greater Angeleno Gourmet Society (GAGS) will meet July 23 at La Fogata Mexican Restaurant in Sherman Oaks.
- Nick Smith:
 - Dark Delicacies will not be open next weekend because the staff will be at Midsummer Scream. There is a signing this Saturday with authors Robert Stromm, Mimi Gibson, and Jimmy Hunt for *Cries in the Night: Children in Film Noir*.
 - The New Beverly Cinema will screen *Pitch Black* and *Hook*.

Moments of Science

- Tom Safer mentioned several notable scientists from Today in Science (https://www.todayinisci.com/7/7_20.htm)
 - Sir Edmund Percival Hillary
 - Robert D. Maurer
 - Alberto Santos-Dumont
 - Birthday of Gregor Mendel
 - Events
 - Mars landing
 - Man walks on moon
- Lynn Maners offered additional information about the earliest dated human-made tools, indicating that the cores are the size of a bowling ball. We still don't know which species used the cores to make the first tools.

Regular Announcements

- Tom Safer: The next monthly screening at the Frances Howard Goldwyn Hollywood Regional Branch Library will be *Frozen II* on Aug. 19.
- Scribbles told LASFSans about a new project, *The Los Angeles County Fanac Guide*, seeking member submissions of favorite cons, stores, historical locations, and other items of interest. (<https://tinyurl.com/LA-fanac-form>)
- Damon Brown reported on an Arkansas Freethinkers book discussion focusing on John B. Eichler's *Damn Computers*, an upcoming visit to the Center for Inquiry office in LA, and his promotion as an officer for the USS Blackstone. The Blackstone would like to schedule a meeting with the LASFS to discuss clubs.

Reviews

- Scribbles commented on *Doctor Who* Series 13, "Flux," which was a good finish for Jodie Whittaker as the Doctor—and a serial!
- Charles Lee Jackson II read a shooting script for the 1951 movie *Nightmare*, AKA *Superman and the Mole Men*. The script includes an extra scene not included in the movie.
- Tom Safer recommended *A Shot in the Dark*.
- Cathy Johnson recently saw—and enjoyed—*Into the Woods* at the Ahmanson Theatre.

Miscellaneous

- Lynn Maners remarked that Harry Turtledove's book *Three Miles Down* offers the world's best author photograph. Matthew B. Tepper held the book up for the camera—and also recommended it.
- Cathy Johnson reminded members about the aftermeeting.

Call to Adjourn

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