

Condensed Cream of Menace of the LASFS

Meeting #4529

May 30, 2024

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

- Voice actor and radio personality Mel Blanc (b. May 30, 1908; d. July 10, 1989)
- Author and painter Hal Clement (b. May 30, 1922; d. Oct. 29, 2003)
- Actor Keir Dullea (b. May 30, 1936)
- Screenwriter and producer Michael Piller (b. May 30, 1948; d. Nov. 1, 2005)
- Actor Colm Meaney (b. May 30, 1953)

Dispatchings

- Songwriter Richard M. Sherman (b. June 12, 1928; May 25, 2024)
- Courtesy of Hare Hobbs and Mae Hobbs-Scott: Their mother, Shirley Hobbs, died Tuesday. Hare would like company at the house. His phone number is 818-366-5130.
 - The LASFS recognized a minute of silence to recognize the death of Shirley Hobbs.

Media anniversary

On this date in 1919, the silent film *The First Men in the Moon* premiered in the United Kingdom. No known copies of the film, based on the H.G. Wells novel, survived.

Reading of the Minutes (Heath Row)

Scribbles read the Condensed Cream of Menace for May 16, 2024.

Additions and Corrections

Dr. Susie Searight clarified the pronunciation of Seanan McGuire.

Auction to Name the Minutes

Dr. Susie Searight bid \$10, won, and named them "Mira Grant."

Call for Approval

Moved to accept as mispronounced, and approved.

Celebration of Patron Saints

Ed Baker was celebrated and recognized by Susan Fox, Cathy Johnson, and Scribbles, who read a profile from APA-L. Baker received three cheers—and a "Huro!"

Committee Reports

- Programming (Eylat Poliner)
 - June 6: President nominations
 - June 13: In-person (hybrid) meeting and procedural elections
 - June 27: In-person 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>)
 - There will be no Zoom meeting, but we will probably open the room for a homebody hangout.
- Fandom Wellness Committee (Chris Marble)
 - Greg Barrett sends his greetings and is doing fine.
 - George Mulligan is no longer receiving his regular physical therapy, but he will receive some.
 - Marble has not gotten in touch with Don Fitch.

Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

The Spot of Honor is held by Loscon 50.

Charles Lee Jackson II entertained bids for the Spot of Honor in June. Eylat Poliner bid \$20 and dedicated it to whatever Jackson would like to put there. We will find out in the future!

Registrar (Heide Nichols)

Heide Nichols introduced guest Emiran Saleh, who learned about the LASFS from Matthew B. Tepper. Saleh is 18 years old and a new member of the LASFS. He likes to live action roleplay and re-enact, particularly the American Civil War. He's also interested in the Revolutionary War. He participates in a LARP called Amtgard and is active in Westmarch, Kingdom of Amtgard.

Mike Sheffield is another member who hasn't been around in some time.

Treasurer (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

Debra Levin reminded members to pay their dues. It's the last week of the month. If you pay monthly, pay for next month. It's too late to pay yearly.

Board Report (Matthew B. Tepper)

The board of directors will meet at 11 a.m. June 2, 2024, not June 9. Members and interested parties are welcome to attend.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Time-Bound Announcements

- Charles Lee Jackson II: Next week, we hold elections for the president. If you'd like to learn more about the position, refer to the By-Laws. (<https://lasfs.org/lasfs-by-laws/>)

- Nick Smith:
 - American Cinematheque will screen *Dick Tracy* at the Egyptian Theatre Hollywood on Friday.
 - At the New Beverly Cinema, *The Neverending Story* will screen this weekend.
 - Landmark's Nuart Theatre will screen *Tron* on Friday.
- Susan Fox on behalf of Tad Daley: On June 22, the Los Angeles Central Library will host *The Parables Convening: An Octavia E. Butler Celebration*. (<https://lapl.org/labs/octavia-lab/parables>)
- Eylat Poliner: Mae Hobbs-Scott indicated that Shirley Hobbs's memorial service will be held June 20.

Special Event: Robert Sawyer reading of *The Downloaded*

- Sawyer is a lifetime member of the LASFS. He wrote the novel *Illegal Alien*, which features Los Angeles. (<https://sfwriter.com/index.htm>)
- The author read a six-minute portion of *The Downloaded*, "Interview with Roscoe Koudoulian," and talked about the six-month exclusive with Audible, as well as the audio production, which included voice acting by Brendan Fraser.
- He also talked about non-sf readers' perception of sf. Their awareness might be limited to Star Wars. He wanted the novel to be a taster menu of science fiction concepts and broaden their perception of what sf is and can be.
- Koudoulian is an Armenian name. In all of Sawyer's work, he tries to include an Armenian. One of his best friends is a survivor of the Armenian diaspora who lives in Glendale. This particular Armenian name is for Greg Koudoulian, who gave his permission.
- Spider Robinson is also a friend, and a fellow Canadian. Sawyer told a story about a signing early in his career at White Dwarf Books in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Not many people showed up, and Robinson invited him to his house for a party with members of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association to welcome Sawyer as a new author to the community.
- Scribbles asked Sawyer to send his regards to R. Graeme Cameron, longtime supporter of fandom and publisher of *Polar Borealis* and *Polar Starlight*. (<https://polarborealis.ca>)

Moments of Science

- Heide Nichols: My Moment of Science starts lighting up the sky the night of June 2. (<https://astronomerswithoutborders.org/programs/observing-events/observing-events-2021591/worlds-align-june-2022>)

Regular Announcements

- Hare Hobbs volunteered to help prepare the new clubhouse for use.

Reviews

- Nick Smith: Annabelle's Book Club on Ventura Boulevard in Studio City is a family-owned bookstore that looks like it was designed by a teenager.

(<https://annabellesbookclubla.com>) It emphasizes young adult literature. They have a delightful sf and fantasy selection.

Miscellaneous

- Chris Marble: His and Beth's 38th wedding anniversary is next week.
- Cathy Johnson reminded members about the aftermeeting.

Call to Adjourn

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