APA-L May Be Back
July 10, 2025
Meeting #4587

Cathy Johnson, presiding
Matt Mitchell, Scribe

At 7:58 PM president Cathy Johnson called a 2 minute warning! Chris Marble asked if we should play "Sweet Georgia Brown" and dribble basketballs back and forth. Matt Mitchell theorized it was the little warning you hear before you die, as put forth by George Carlin. After wondering if that was related to the 7th inning stretch, Cathy called the meeting to order.

Hatchings, Matchings and Dispatchings:
A brief discussion ensued, wherein it was decided that Nick Smith will continue, along with Susan Fox, as a committee of two to bring us this news. Programming, Honor Guard and Fannish Wellness will also continue under their present regimes.
Hatchings:

- The Dean of Science Fiction, Robert A. Heinlein (mentioned by Dean Johnson, appropriately enough)
- Ringo Starr, actor in the movie *Caveman*, and was involved in some rock band back in the sixties
- Actors Chiwetel Ejiofor and Ron Glass, both of whom were in *Serenity*
- Joe Schuster, co-creater of Superman
- Nikola Tesla, engineer and inventor
- Maribeth Mitchell, science fiction and horror fan, writer, LASFS member and Matt's late wife.

We appeared to have no media anniversaries or passings this week.

Reading of the minutes for meeting #4586
Matthew Tepper bid $5 to name the minutes "Excellent job, Matt." Eylat Poliner moved to approve, and the members sustained at 8:28 p.m.

Patron Saints:
Marc Schermeister: Charles Lee Jackson II described him as the world's wackiest cartoonist. He worked on many LASFS projects, APA-L covers, convention badges and even a Rose Parade float. Nick said when he did some work for him on an anthology, and said he was the only artist we ever had illustrate stories where the authors of the stories would thank us for assigning Mark to do the artwork. Eylat remembered that Marc drew cartoons on the whiteboard behind the president's desk at the clubhouse, and hopes somebody has photos of them somewhere.
Christian McGuire said Marc showed up to the 1st meeting at the Tyrone clubhouse with coolers with full of rare and unique sodas that he'd gotten at Galco's. Maybe he'll show up in December… Lee Grixit added "somebody donate a big freezer!" Craig Miller said Marc is a good guy, and a good friend. And he's been a member of LASFS going back to the Ventura Boulevard clubhouse back in the 70's. There was a bathroom with a window that you could see into from the backyard. Marc painted the outside gray, And on the inside it was completely covered with faces looking at you. Marc was given three cheers and an APA-L cover.

Committee Reports
Honor Guard: CL reported that the spot of honor is held this month by Scifi.Radio.

Registrar: Matthew was thrilled to be able to do his job live for the first time. He pointed out member Chris Wilson attending the meeting, who held the same job 52 years ago.
Our guest Emet Hirsch was inspired to come to the meeting by ChatGPT. He reads a lot of genre fiction, and in general said it's great to be here at his first meeting.

Treasurer [Elayne Pelz]: not everybody is paid their dues yet. Other than that, please donate to the club so we can pay our bills.

Programming: Eylat ran down the upcoming club programming. No major changes from last week, but a reminder about the potluck for the December 4th opening. Please coordinate with Eylat so we have don't have sixteen kinds of cups and no soda (unless Mark Schirmeister shows up…)

Loscon 51 was at BayCon. We had a couple parties, it's on track for this year. **52,** they're waiting to hear back from a guest of honor.

Fannish wellness: Chris said Don Fitch was doing well, active and engaged. Geri Sullivan will be visiting him. She's publishing a special one-issue, one-shot fanzine with well wishes for him. Also there is a card the club is sending to him, which Susan facilitated the passing around for signatures. George Mulligan is still not vertical, but his foot is getting closer to being able to take weight, and he has lost more weight.

Old Business:
Susan Fox chimed in with a comment about the new clubhouse building: driving by the location this past week, they saw the bicycle shop appeared to be closed. The business' sign is apparently gone. However, as pointed out in the discussion, there is still several months of renovation to be done. We do have money for the contractor, but donations would be oh-so-welcome because then we won't have to spend money. "Does Home Depot have a bridal registry?" was asked, and then the members discussed bringing random gallons of paint to make the new clubhouse look like Jackson Pollack did a drive-by.

New Business:
None

Program:
Auction: Christian McGuire once more played the auctioneer. Many items were donated and bid upon. Most of the stuff bought by Krystal Rains and Stephanie DeVoy, except for a Silk Scarf once owned by Fuzzy Pink Niven, won by Dean Johnson and given to our Madam President.

Timebound announcements
Tom Safer announced this Saturday at the Francis Goldman Howard Hollywood Regional Library he will be screening Walt Disney's *Fantasia*.

Gene Turnbow announced that his new novel *Juniper Fairchild and the Alterwhere* is available for pre-order on Amazon.

Scott Beckstead brought up a Tiktok channel dedicated for STEM. A nice change from teenagers dancing. Maybe someday teenagers will dance and then talk about STEM.

Moments of Science
Lee informed us about the latest iteration of the avian flu, H5N1, which has evolved faster evolutionary strategies to pirate extra genes out of other viruses. So it may exterminate us before AI has a chance to do so.

Speaking of which, CL has renamed artificial intelligence. It is now the Learning And Misinformation Engine. Or L-A-M-E.

Tom mentioned that on this date in 1925, the Scopes Monkey Trial began in Dayton, Tennessee, and ran for 12 days.

Reviews
Lee reviewed an audio show, *Wittenberg to Westphalia:The Wars to the Reformation,* about the history of Western Christianity and all its funky iterations.

Chris reviewed the latest *Jurassic Park* movie, to be as good as he expected. "There's only so many ways that people can get chased by dinosaurs."

Scott has been following a channel on YouTube called *7 Days of Science*, a weekly broadcast with a slant towards paleontology and anthropology.

Eylat related an adventure she and Deb had: an excursion to the Skirball Museum, to see the Noah's Ark exhibit, and the Jack Kirby Exhibit The lights went out while they were in the Jack Kirby exhibit; it is being extending through September, and it's worth going to, with lots of history on Marvel and DC comics. The museum had to kick people out because it was dark and you're not supposed to use your flashlight on the exhibit.
Christian used this opportunity to get in a stealth motion to adjourn, which was seconded and approved at 9:15 p.m.