Menace of the LASFS #4592
August 14, 2025
I Wasn't There.

Cathy Johnson, President
Matthew Mitchell, Scribe

After the members re-arranged the deck chairs on the Titanic, well, actually re-arranged the dining chairs of the Denny's, president Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

Hatchings, Matchings and Dispatchings [Nick Smith, flying solo this week]
Hatchings:

- George Sawaya, actor, stuntman and stand-in
- Alice Ghostly, actress (Bewitched)
- Alexei Panchin, author of fiction and nonfiction
- Jim Wynorski, director (Return of Swamp Thing)
- James Horner, composer (Star Trek II-III)
- Brannon Braga, writer and producer (Trek, BSG)

Media anniversaries:

- 50th anniversary of the Rocky Horror Picture Show. No throwing toast at Cathy.

Passings:

- Ray Brooks, actor, several roles in Doctor Who

Reading of the minutes
Christian Bid $5 to name the minutes"Wish You Were Here." Eylat moved to accept, Christian seconded and the minutes were approved at 8:16 p.m.

Patron Saints:
Mark Bilan, brother of longtime LASFS member Greg Bilan. Christian said he was Greg's caretaker after Greg moved in with him in the Bay Area.. Cathy met him some years ago. Three cheers for giving money to a club his brother enjoyed.
Bjo Trimble: Cathy read On the Good Ship Enterprise, which amongst other things talked about LASFS and fandom. Barbara Harmon knew her after Bjo returned from military service, and how she thought of incorporating LASFS and selling shares to get a Gestetner. CL says she called him the conscience of the LASFS. Lee Grixit's girlfriend met her at convention and they discussed Doctor Who. Nick recalled her skill as a cartoonist, including contributing covers for the Filk-Harmonic Songbooks. He also related that Bjo talked his college roommate into going on the Star Trek march to NBC. Tom Safer came to her house, met her daughters Lora and Katwen and found Bjo a wonderful conversationalist. Matthew Tepper added that in addition to her and John's own daughters, she also fostered Jennifer Jumper. Three cheers for Bjo!

Committee Reports

Honor Guard: CL mentioned that the spot of Honor was currently several miles away, but affirmed it was still being held by Loscon 51, "Tell Me a Story." He then took the time to reiterate the tradition of the Spot in the context of the club.

Registrar : Matthew reported we are members only tonight. Insert the usual cool-jackets joke.

Treasurer (Debra): Elayne is at Worldcon, promoting next year's Worldcon and Loscon. Everybody is paid! Donate, don't spend.

Board of Directors: Michelle Pincus was actually in the house, well, the Denny's anyway. September 14th is the next Board meeting, on the usual Zoom.

Loscon 51: Susan stashed it in the chat. Loscon 51 is well represented at Worldon this weekend. Eylat also mentioned Strategicon. Loscon 52 is struggling to find a Writer Guest of Honor, but the struggle continues.

Programming: Eylat reminded us that next week, members discuss their first intro to fandom. She then read the remaining program items through December. Susan also posted it in the chat.

Fannish wellness: Chris Marble is at Worldcon this week, so no report from him . Eylat reported that Joyce Sperling is doing better, but still wants phone calls. Heidi Nichols, however, is not doing well, as she is in tremendous amounts of pain. Matt will send get-well cards from the LASFS membership to Heidi and Joyce; Eylat will send him their addresses.

Old Business, none

New Business, none

Hare Hobbs addressed the club: he is moving soon and needs help getting rid of books. He has stacks of books that he cannot take with him to his new home. Several members are going to try to get his cell number from his sister Mae. Lee Grixit suggested renting a storage locker as a temporary sorting area.

As the LASFS is also going to be moving into new digs and needs all the money it can get its hands on for renovations, it was time once again for an auction. Christian McGuire, representing the Money-Gouging Committee, auctioned off the following:

Dick Tracy Mug: $5 to Matthew B. Tepper
Dragon pendant. $5 to Eylat
The Twilight Zone: The Original Stories. Book.
$11 to Jim
Poster, "Literary Insults" $1 to Richard Costas [and the unassociated Raccoon Society box]
Asterix and The Chieftain's Daughter, in English. $5 to Susan Fox
Tee shirt, XL, Witch cartoon "There's Room on my Broom for you!" $10 to Hare Hobbs
True Wireless Earbuds with Power Bank. Unused, brand new. They do work. Comes with a charger. $5 to Marc Silver
The Dictionary of Imaginary Places, book. $5 to Michelle Pincus
Tee shirt, 2XL, LAcon V logo shirt. Rarity, they went with another design for the shirts. $10 to Eylat.

And special thanks to Susan Fox for assistance in listing the items.

Timebound announcements:
Matt reported that the Edmonton in 2030 Worldcon bid was putting its Bid Party on Zoom. At least the snacks won't tempt you into breaking your diet. He put the link in the chat; at Cathy's suggestion, he will also put on the LASFS Facebook page.

Nick mentioned several movie screenings coming up this weekend, the most fun-sounding being Braindead Studio's double feature of Plan 9 From Outer Space and Ed Wood. Also, Vroman's Bookstore in Pasadena is having a signing on Tuesday of the graphic novel This Place Kills Me.

Science report:
Lee reported on a cure for carbon monoxide poisoning, at least in white mice. About time those guys caught a break. Also, a man has apparently been cured of type 1 diabetes from injections of modified islets of Langerhans, which are pancreatic cells that generate insulin.
Tom Safer noted that today was the anniversary of the 1st wireless transmission, predating Marconi's by a couple of years. Also, on this day was born Baron Richard von Krafft-Ebing was one of the great modern sexologists, and is remembered for his exhaustive catalogue of modern sexual desires and practices, the landmark Psychopathia Sexualis, first published in German in 1886.

Regular announcements
CL announced that supermarkets and Target are stocking Halloween-type foods. I suspect they want us to buy some. Matt related an email he received about a Presentation with screenwriter Greg Elliot at the local California Writers Club on September 6. He again pasted the info in the chat, and was again directed to stick it up on the Facebook page.

Reviews:
Mark Poliner reviewed The Last Wizards Ball by Charlene Harris and Murder Your Employer by Rupert Holmes. Matthew debuted his new ratings system, giving both Superman and Fantastic Four: First Steps "5 mallard drake heads out of 5" and then quacked appropriately. Eylat also enjoyed FF, as well as the latest episode of Strange New Worlds. Lee reviewed a book about the voyage of the Argo that seemed to forgo the Harryhousen skeletons with swords. Nick reviewed the new Red Sonja movie that had a blink-and-you-miss-it run in theaters, but it's better than the 80's film. Tom Safer screened Comedy of Terrors at the library last weekend.

Miscellaneous
CL announced that ME-TV started showing Honey West with Anne Francis and Burke's Law, at least one episode of which was written by Harlan Ellison.
Cathy reminded the membership that the fellow passing out slips of paper was not a process server, but a very patient waiter. Eylat moved to adjourn at 9:17 p.m, and the members sustained it, to the tune of "Time Warp.