Minutes of meeting #4598
September 25, 2025
Better than Nothing

With president Cathy Johnson being absent for the second week in a row, vice-president Eylat Poliner assumed the mantle, grabbed the gavel and called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

We started the evening with our program guest: Anthony Eichenlaub of Minnesota (two time zones east of us), writer of short stories, self-published novelist and game writer. He read for us two of his short stories: "The Cemetery Merchant" and "The Hero of Your Own Story." Afterwards, Anthony accepted the applause, feedback and questions of the members. He apparently has a couple of novel series out, including an s-f take on detective noir that puts an emphasis on noir. He also briefly discussed his background in the biomedical tech field.

Moving back to the regular order of business, Susan Fox gave us the Hatchings, Matchings and Dispatchings:
Hatchings:

- 1919 Betty Ballentine, co-founder of the publishing house by that name
- 1930 Shel Silverstein, poet and performer
- Catherine Zeta Jones
- Michael Douglas
- Will Smith
- Mark Hamill
- Christopher Reeve

Media anniversaries:

- National Comic Book Day
- Math storytelling Day, a great opportunity to get children excited about math through stories and games.
- 1987, the premiere of The Princess Bride

Passings:

- Peter Jason, actor who appeared in several John Carpenter films

After Matt Mitchell's reading of the minutes of meeting 4597, Susan bid $5 to name the minutes: Hey Rocky! Amid several Rocky and Bullwinkle-based quips, the members approved the minutes at 8:31 p.m.

From there we proceeded to honor our Patron Saints. First, **Mike Donahue.** Chris Marble described him as a wonderful fellow and great supporter of the club. Larry Niven added that Mike is " intensely likable." Eylat read from the Warren Commission Report, or rather the Patron Saint biography, and related that Mike was chair of the first four La-La Cons and participated in the 1999 NASFiC, among others. Mike was given three cheers and a 16-millimeter film projector.
Ron Ellik, our next Patron Saint, Susan called him a contemporary of Everett Evans and Paul Freehafer. Ron co-edited *Shangri L'Affaires and* collaborated with Bruce Pelz on *Starsprinkle*. He co-wrote a *Man from UNCLE* novel and attended the 1962 Eastercon as a Trans Atlantic Fan Fund delegate. Ron was given three cheers.
Our final Saint of the evening, **Barry Workman,** Matthew Tepper referred to him as "Sarge" and called him a really capable carpenter, and said he performed in a college performance of Das Rheingold. Eylat said that in addition to participating in the 1976 Worldcon, Barry, along with Jerry

Pournelle and others, helped prepare the second LASFS clubhouse. Barry was given 3 cheers and a Kaboom.

Committee Reports

Honor Guard CLJ II informed us that tonight was the last that BADASS would hold the Spot of Honor. The usual auction to choose October's holder garnered $20 from Eylat. She decreed that 2 weeks would go to LosCon 51, while the other 2 weeks would go to whatever entity, at CL's discretion.

Chris Marble reported on behalf of the Fannish wellness committee that George Mulligan is doing better at physical therapy; apparently they found a therapist who actually gets George a little motivated. Eylat spoke to Joyce Sperling who seems in much better spirits and sends her appreciation back to the club.

Elayne Pelz made the Treasurer end-of-month call: Pay for the next month!

Registrar Matthew Tepper said that other than Anthony, our program guest, we are members-only tonight. Matthew also informed us that the next Board of Directors meeting will be on October 12th at 11:00 AM. Funky 70s trendy jackets are optional.

Eylat ran through the Programming upcoming for the month of October.

Susan ran through the Guests of Honor and membership rates for Loscon 51. Eylat added that LosCon 52 is at station-keeping, so no news is good news. Neither Old nor New Business managed to slip in through the back door wearing a hat and trenchcoat, and there was great rejoicing.

Timebound announcements
Susan reported that American Cinemateque is screening Big Trouble in Little China This Saturday, with a Q&A with John Carpenter. Matt, after confusing Lionel Barrymore for John, pasted some upcoming movies from De Profundis in the chat.

Science report:
Lee Grixit gave us the latest tricorder update, a non-medical one to boot. Apparently phone cameras might be used as spectrographs, and be able to analyze objects you photograph. (Finally, something to do besides selfies.) Lee also gave us a review of a Youtube channel called Alliterative which traces the origins of words...and also cocktails. Cheeky and geeky.

Miscellaneous
CL related that he had a biopsy in Tarzana. He then went to the Target in Topanga Canyon in search of holiday-themed foodstuffs. The staff at this store were very helpful in getting him an electric cart and in spelunking through the stock room in search of his desired goodies.

Seeing no other news, reviews, announcements, asides, or other rhyming or alliterative words, Eylat asked if anyone had a motion. Susan took the hint with alacrity and moved to adjourn. Dean Johnson seconded and the members sustained at 8:55 p.m.