Minutes of meeting #4599
October 2, 2025
26 Years Later

As our esteemed president once again strutting the stage, it fell to one of our two vice-presidents to run the meeting. Eylat Poliner was having some technical difficulty, and for a few frantic moments it looked Susan Fox would have to step in. Providence finally stepped back in the room, enabling Eylat to call the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

As our program guest, author Andrew Plotkin resides on the East Coast, Eylat had him open the meeting with his presentation on interactive fiction and games. It started with the beginnings of the World Wide Web, the rise of text-based adventure games such as Zork and the original Hitchhiker's Guide computer game, and from there going into using the technology for collaborative storytelling. Andrew then answered a couple of questions about his methodology and his background in computers.

Hatchings, Matchings and Dispatchings
Nick
Hatchings:
- 1909, Alex Raymond, creator of Flash Gordon
- 1911 John Finney aka Walter Breannan Finney aka Jack Finney, writer of Invasion of the Body Snatchers
- 1948, Persis Khambatta and Avery Brooks, both Star Trek actors.
- 1954 Diane Carey, author of several Star Trek novels

Matching:
- Christine Lipscomb announced in the chat tonight was her and Greg's 26th wedding anniversary.

Media anniversaries:
- 1959 premiere of the Twilight Zone

Passings:
- Renato Cesaro, Movie poster artist
- Jane Goodall, naturalist

Matt Mitchell read the previous week's minutes. Chris Marble bid $4 to name the minutes: "Better than Nothing" Willard Stone moved to accept, Chris seconded, at 8:48 p.m. the membership decreed we had minutes.

Patron Saints: CLJ II gave the run-down of the LASFS Patron Saints. This week, **Steve Bilan** was honored. Chris reminded us he was Greg Bilan's brother, and thought he was as nice a guy as Greg. Eylat, consulting the Encyclopedia Galatica, said Steve accompanied Greg to the 60th World Science Fiction Convention in 2002, and was on the membership roll for L.A. Con IV. Greg donated to the club and conferred Sainthood on not only his brother Steve, but also his father Mark. Steve was given three cheers.

Committee Reports
We started with the Fannish wellness report this evening: Chris reported that George Mulligan's hip is hurting him. He also said Joanne Dow says hi. Eylat mentioned that Joyce Sperling is chipper.

Honor Guard: CL, after giving a brief explanation of the Spot of Honor, noted that this week this spot was held by his Halloween Haunts, Highlights and Hijinks page, the spookiest page on Facebook – and possibly the most alliterative.

Treasurer: Elayne Pelz reminded us it's a new month, and while most everyone had paid up for this evening, a couple of slackers needed to pay their dues.

Registrar : Matthew Tepper reported that our one guest has already presented himself. Switching hats, from fedora to deerstalker, he also said the next Board of Directors meeting will be October 12 at 11:00 a.m. on this Zoom channel.

Programming: Susan reminded us that next week, hubby Gene Turnbow will do a reading at the Denny's hybrid meeting. Seguing slightly into Old Business, Susan asked if the 2nd meeting in November would be hybrid'ing from the clubhouse. Elayne said the new clubhouse is almost done, but carpeting and the bookshelves still need to be installed, so Denny's is going to have to put up with us for one more month.

Timebound announcements: Nick and Matt gave a quick rundown of various genre movies, of which there was a plethora this month, in the various specialty houses around town.

Loscon 51: Susan gave a quick recital of the dates, Guests of Honor and attendance fees.

Eylat decided to throw all the remaining Regular announcements into the Dutch oven. Brad Goldberg had a question about selling his books at Loscon. Matthew reviewed the creepy bat behind CL on his microwave oven. Victor Frost reviewed a book by Rebecca Thorne. Nick reported on the 2nd season of Peacemaker. CL reported that Sounds of the Season is now playing Halloween music, mostly novelty turns and themes from Halloween movies. Susan said that Hollywood News Calendar is celebrating its 38th anniversary, and she has been there the whole time.

Larry Niven reported that Steve Barnes had hip replacement surgery about three weeks ago. Being the sort of guy he is, Steve had a hard time taking it easy and managed to overwork himself right into the hospital. The club decided to send him a card, although a small misnomer made it sound like Matt Smith, the Eleventh Doctor, would be sending the card out on the club's behalf.

Marc Silver and Susan had a brief discussion about generating the list of restaurants and other resources near the new clubhouse. CL had a brief aside regarding Christmas programming starting November 2nd.

Susan Fox moved to adjourn at 9:15 p.m, and Matt seconded while trying to see if his son still owns a fez.