The Great Pumpkin.
Minutes of meeting #4602
October 23, 2025

Being the very model of a Modern LASFS president, our newly-returned Cathy Johnson only needed to see CL pointing at his wrist to know it was time to gavel the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m.

Hatchings, Matchings and Dispatchings
Nick
Hatchings:

- 1880, Una O'Conner, actress in the Bride of Frankenstein and the Adventures of Robin Hood
- 1942, Michael Crichton, author of the Andromeda Strain and Jurassic Park, among many others.
- 1943, Jackson Bostwick, star of the Saturday morning Shazam live-action show.
- 1959, Weird Al Yankovich, comedic songster extraordinaire, who according to Gizmo Powell is still performing in concert.
- 1970, Grant Imahara, model maker and animatronics expert, known for Mythbusters, and, Gizmo adds, contributed to the construction of the TARDIS at Geeky Teas.

Susan contributed additional birthdays:

- [1997],Zach Callison, actor in Steven Universe]
- [1986] Emilia Clarke, actress in Game of Thrones]
- [1959] Sam Raimi, filmmaker, of Evil Dead and Spider-Man]
- [1976] Ryan Reynolds, actor [Deadpool] ,

Media anniversaries:

- 1942, The Mummy's Tomb with Lon Cheney Jr.

Passings:
Nick reported that Keith “Doc” Raymond, fiction editor and co-founder of Savage Planets magazine has passed after a long illness. Matthew Tepper added that Grant Canfield, fan and artist had passed away a couple of days ago.

After Matt Mitchell read the minutes of meeting #4601 and accepted a couple of corrections, Dean Johnson bid $5 to name the minutes: Welcome Back, Kotter, I mean Cathy! Approval of minutes came at 8:28 p.m., with a note from Juan Epstein’s mother.

Patron Saints:
Lee Jacobs has an interesting entry in the Saints Archive: he coined the term “filk,” albeit inadvertently. Nick remembered that Lee was involved in fanzines back in the 1950s. Matt, reading from the archive, said Lee was a member of SAPA and SFPA. He was also a member of a group called The Cult, which Matthew added in the chat was composed of “the nastiest bastards in fandom,” while admitting he was a member himself. Lee was given 3 cheers and a filksong in his honor.

Committee Reports

Honor Guard: CL reported that the Spot of Honor was held this month, or at least this week, by Loscon 51.

Treasurer: Elayne reported everyone attending have all paid up, but we are still wanting donations. More on that later.

Board of Directors: As Michelle Pincus was not in tonight, Board Secretary Susan reminded us that the next Board of Directors meeting would be November 16th.

Susan then chimed in on behalf of the semi-absent Eylat, who was tying in to the meeting while driving back from a black-tie event, on Programming. She reminded us CL would be reading a secret composition to the members. Board nominations and elections would be going on next month, as well as a nice little convention on Thanksgiving weekend, which she subsequently gave us the important info. Nola Frame-Gray wanted to get a flyer for LosCon to distribute to an s-f club she belongs to; Dean and Eylat said they would arrange to get her a flyer or postcard. December 4th would be the grand opening at the clubhouse.

Fannish wellness: Chris Marble said George Mulligan is recovering from the cold/flu but is still weak.

Registrar: everyone is already a member.

Old Business, Appending her treasurer's report, Elayne reporting the construction of the Clubhouse is 99.9% done, except for some outside work waiting on coordination between the DWP and the contractor. She met with the carpet guy today, and after another 2 weeks, when we should have carpet., she will be able to arrange to get everything out of storage. After Elayne, Cathy and Dean have brought in the bookcases and laid out where they are to go, the contractor will put them together. So, we're about a month away from being done. Cathy praised Elayne for all her hard work on this.

CL reminded the members that in 2 weeks will be having nominations for the three open seats on the LASFS Board of Directors. This Board is what allows the club to operate as a non-profit organization, and its liaison to the mundane world, so it's about as serious an endeavor as this club gets. Fresh minds are welcome, as long as they can mesh with the old minds already in place. As CL said, "The utter punishment for knowing how to do stuff is you have to do it." Susan posted a link to the relevant section of the LASFS Bylaws regarding the qualifications for Board directorship. The nominations will close that night, with the vote taking place one week later.

With an indecent amount of joy, Cathy decreed we had no New Business.

Timebound announcements
Nick announced films at such venues as BrainDead Studios, Vidiots, the Frida in Santa Ana and the Old Town Music Hall. Octavia's Bookshelf is also having a couple of signings and presentations. CL let us know that Pepperidge Farms, which I'm sure you all remember, has Christmas-themed as well as Halloween cookies out on sale. The Emperor deplores this scandalous state of affairs. Nick attributed this to an overzealous Nightmare Before Christmas fan.

Lee Grixit kicked off the Moment of Science report by reporting on a retinal replacement to combat the loss of vision from macular degeneration. Unfortunately, one of the companies involved in the creation of these replacements went bankrupt and disabled the devices. I've heard of your prescription running out, but that's ridiculous.
Nick said the Earth has, not one extra moon, but as many as eight, at least temporarily. They are in an position in the Earth's orbit that is NOT in the LaGrange Points. They are also not in any trajectory that they might impact this planet, so Hollywood can keep its disaster-from-above movies in the vault.

Reviews
Eylat reviewed the gala she attended early in the evening, along with Wil Wheaton. at the Valley Relics Museums. It has lots of old iconic signs, like the one for Mel's Diner and the original Foster's Freeze. It even has a few vintage arcade games. Nick added later that it also houses a secret movie archive.
Lee has been watching a Youtube channel called Crecganford, discussing mythology from the Ice Age to the Information Age. The host is apparently a very good storyteller.
Nick reviewed a series of T Kingfisher books regarding mythical European countries that had women enlisting in the army, and then weirdness happens.
CL had a whole plethora of reviews, from Lugosi & Karloff movies to funny horror films from Universal, mad scientist movies with gorillas, spider-women and zombies, enough to put you off popcorn for life.
Cathy and Dean saw the Nightmare before Christmas in 3D in the theater. Maybe they're the ones who called Pepperidge Farms...
Eylat, having finally made it back home, reported that she saw a musical last Saturday: Pirates of the Penzance featuring our own Cathy Johnson! She and Mark loved it. Their kids didn't seem to get into it, but as Cathy said, "Gen Z – whaddaya gonna do?"

A quick Miscellaneous question: Dean is trying to make a new tablecloth for Loscon, to take to conventions to hype our little con, and he needs the Loscon logo in sufficient size and resolution so that enlarging it won't make it fuzzy. This generated a couple minutes of back-and-forth discussion about finding the original artwork or a reasonable facsimile thereof.

Eylat reminded everyone of the loading schedule for LosCon towards the end of next month, then moved to adjourn. Matt seconded, and the members favored the motion at 9:19 p.m.