The Cattle in the Pasture
Minutes of meeting #4613
January 8, 2026

The tension mounted in the Denny's as President Cathy Johnson counted down the last seconds, ensuring the Zoom was working and the energy in the room equaled at least that of your average watch battery. After recalling the technical term for "fear of the number 13" – triskedecaphobia – she called meeting #4613 to order at 8:01 p.m.

In the Hatchings, Matchings and Dispatchings, Nick actually started with a Media Anniversary, from the future: this week will be the premiere of the *Lost L.A.* online episode, featuring the LASFS.
As for the Hatchings, we continued our timey-wimey theme with the anniversary of the 1908 Hatching of William Hartnell, the First Doctor Who. Other Hatchings included:

- 1925, Steve Holland, star of the 1950s version of the television series Flash Gordon and model for the *Doc Savage* book covers.
- 1934, Roy Kinnear, British actor in Willy Wonka, the Avengers and Blake's 7
- 1942, Stephen Hawking, physicist with cameo appearances in Star Trek The Next Generation, The Big Bang Theory, and as reported by Lee Grixit, a Monty Python reunion sketch.
- 1944, Terry Brooks, author of the Shannara book series, among other
- 1965, Michelle Forbes, actress on Star Trek THE Next Generation, Battlestar Galactica and True Blood

Circling back to the Media anniversaries:

- 2006, Elektra, not the jewel in the MCU's crown
- 1958, Teenage Monster, probably not a jewel in anybody's crown

Dispatchings:

- Johnny Legend, Actor, producer, writer, musician and aficianado of Mexican wrestling movies.
- Gregory de Polnay, British actor with roles in Doctor Who and Space 1999
- Con Petterson, early LASFS member and fan writer & filmmaker, who worked with Rod Serling and Stanley Kubrick

Cathy had additional Dispatchings: Pat & Eric Larson, Bay Area fans who were friends to many in LASFS.

Reading of the minutes for meeting #4612
After the reading, Willard bid $5 to name the minutes: Santa Claus Versus The Martians. The members approved of the minutes at 8:25 p.m., thankfully without a rendition of the song from that movie.

Patron Saints:
Our first Saint this evening, **Christian McGuire,** had ditched the meeting for Anime Los Angeles, so he couldn't hear the nice things we had to say about him. Chris Marble recalled that he chaired a NASFiC at the turn of the century. Cathy mentioned she has known Christian for 30 years and joked that they are nearly twins, born within a month of one another. Matt recalled the time that he, Steve Smyth and Christian appeared on the Gallifrey One cabaret stage as the Three Tonners, a performance that Pavarotti is not losing any sleep over. Christian was given 3 cheers and an auction.

As for **Bruce Pelz,** who is no longer with us, Larry Niven called him the core of the LASFS, the dominating voice that held this group of overage children together. He also said Bruce was one of those who advanced the notion of LASFS getting a clubhouse back in the day. CL said that Bruce was

one of the 1st members he met, but Bruce grew to be one of his biggest sales boosters whenever CL had a new fanzine published. Bruce was also an avid collector and a librarian. Marc Shirmeister said Bruce encouraged his artistic expressions. Bruce was given three cheers and a discounted paperback.

Committee Reports
Honor Guard: CL, not having the Spot of Honor with him at the Denny's, pointed to Susan and Gene and announced Scifi.radio as the recipient of the spot for this month.

Registrar: Mark reported that we had no guests this night.

Treasurer: Debra said we have money, but don't spend any, please.

Board of Directors: As Michelle was not on the Zoom or parked in a booth, Susan reiterated that the next Board meeting will be on January 18th, possibly from a secret location in Northridge...sordid details following.

Old Business,
The clubhouse is coming along. Gavin, representing the Committee to Reshelve the LASFS Library, said that the clubhouse is getting close to habitable, with minor adjustments to some of the bookshelves Mark Silver asked if maybe next month we can actually inhabit this place? The Board might discuss it at the January 18th meeting. David Gerrold has made it known he wants to see the clubhouse.

Programming: Eylat reported that due to issues with getting the clubhouse ready and some personal medical business, Programming has been on hold. She is trying to get some live presenters for the meetings, starting in February.

Moving over to Loscon 52, Eylat said that is moving along. She does need help with tablers for Strategicon on President's Day weekend at the LAX Hilton. There was also discussion about tabling at Baycon and Worldcon in Anaheim.

Fandom Wellness: Chris said George is continuing, in his George way. Selina wants to do a mural at the clubhouse, but would need crash space for a night or three. The Board is also going to discuss that on the 18th. Dean had has skin cancer surgery on his face, and his bandages make him look like Locutus of LASFS, but he is doing well. Matt mentioned that this week was the one-year anniversary of his stroke, thankfully with no recurrence. Matthew demonstrated that the pain issues in his legs are getting resolved and he will soon be able to walk normally again. A rather bad Dr. Strangelove impression was heard and dutifully ignored.

From there, the Auction was conducted by Nick, who subbed in for jChristian but did not master the trademark swaying back-and-forth. The following items were auctioned off:
Pocket calendar 2026. $3 to Gavin
2nd one. Chris $2
Trilogy by Megan Crew $10 to Barbara

Timebound announcements:
James Ubersetzig announced the monthly meeting of the Robot Society of Southern California at CSU Long Beach this coming weekend. I seem to recall Futurama doing an "Animal House" parody with a robot frat.

Nick announced Anime L.A. is ongoing this weekend, as well as various genre and s-f-adjacent movies playing around town at the various revival houses.

Reviews
Hare Hobbs watch Plan Nine From Outer Space on Tubi and declared it not the worst movie ever made.

Miscellaneous
Susan asked any members with interior decorating or costuming persuasions to donate some quirky fabrics to make curtains and wall covers for the interior of the new clubhouse.

Cathy reminded everyone to give thanks to Andre, their friendly waiter, and to pay up! Hare added an informal motion to reward the Denny's staff, to which CL replied, "I think that's what tipping is for."

At 9:08 p.m., Eylat formally moved to adjourn, which needed no clarification.