

# Menace of the LASFS

June 2023

*Menace of the LASFS* is the Complete and Purgated Minutes of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, published by LASFS scribe Heath “Scribbles” Row, 4367 Globe Ave., Culver City, CA; kalel@well.com; 718-755-9840 mobile; 323-916-0367 fax. It is prepared for members of the LASFS and select others. The official Condensed Cream of Menace is approved by the membership and published in *De Profundis*. A recent copy of *Menace* can be requested for the Usual. Letters of comment are welcome. Clarifications and corrections are welcome as letters of comment. A member of the Fan Writers of America. This is a Karma Lapel publication.

## Meeting #4468, March 30, 2023

Discussion before the meeting started focused on the health of Cathy Johnson and the cancellation of the aftermeeting. Susan Fox remained worthy of her foam—not plastic!—Mjolnir. “Kerflap!” prompted some forearm clapping. Matthew B. Tepper assessed his job changes in 1984 and 1987.

## Call to Order

After a member encouraged the president to start the meeting, Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order four minutes into the video recording. The meeting is on agenda light.

## Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)

Kevin Segall stood in for Smith.

## Hatchings

- Actor Richard Dysart (b. March 30, 1929, d. April 5, 2015). He was Dr. Cooper in 1982’s *The Thing* and had voice roles in *Batman: The Animated Series*.
- Actor John Astin (b. March 30, 1930) played Gomez Addams on *The Addams Family*.
- Actor Warren Beatty (b. March 30, 1937) performed the title role in the comic book movie *Dick Tracy*.
- Actor Robbie Coltrane (b. March 30, 1950, d. Oct. 14, 2022) played Hagrid in the Harry Potter series of movies.
- Actor Paul Reiser (b. March 30, 1956) appeared as Carter Burke in *Aliens* and Dr. Sam Owens in *Stranger Things*.
- Voice actor Maurice LaMarche (b. March 30, 1958) worked on *Pinky and the Brain* and *Futurama*.
- Actor Ian Ziering (b. March 30, 1964) was in the Sharknado movie series.
- Juliet Landau (b. March 30, 1965) acted in

*Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *Angel*, as well as Tim Burton’s *Ed Wood*.

## Dispatchings

- Black animator Leo D. Sullivan (b. c. 1940, d. March 25, 2023) contributed the opening sequence for *Soul Train*. His career began with *Beany and Cecil* and *The Adventures of Fat Albert and the Cosby Kids*, and progressed to *Animaniacs* and Marvel animated series.
- Matthew B. Tepper noted the passing of fan and book dealer Monte Christiansen. Tepper spoke to his wife Simmie Noble Collins a few weeks ago at the book show. Christiansen succumbed to an illness March 29 at the age of 72. There’s a fundraiser available at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/monte-christiansen>.

## Media anniversary

*Orphan Black* premiered on this date in 2013. *Buck Rogers in the 25th Century* premiered on this date in 1979.

## Reading of the Minutes (Heath Row)

Scribbles is still away on holiday but will collect the minutes recordings and produce written minutes by the time he gets back next week. We do not have minutes to perform this week.

## Auction to Name the Minutes

Eylat Poliner bid \$10, won, and named them “Not Minutes.”

## Celebration of Patron Saints

Sue Haseltine was celebrated and recognized by Susan Fox and Krystal Rains. Haseltine received three cheers—and a glass of mead.

Susan Fox: I haven’t seen much of her in fandom lately. She joined the Society for Creative Anachronism, and I see her there occasionally. She’s a former librarian of the LASFS. That’s where I remember first seeing her, in the Studio City clubhouse. She was secreted in the back, the mistress of her domain. She’s very smart, and she’s very good.

Krystal Rains: She was the hostess for a pre-pandemic Regency dance that happened monthly in Culver City for many, many years. It was a lovely evening if you ever got the opportunity to join her. It’s where John Hertz would call, but she was the hostess who would always make sure there was plenty to eat and drink while you were there. I think I saw her at Loscon this past year. She’s a lovely lady.

## Committee Reports

Programming (Eylat Poliner):

- April 6: Charles Lee Jackson II
- April 20: David Brin
- May 11: Todd McCaffrey
- June 1: Nominations open for club president
- June 8: Nominations and election of all five procedural offices

Loscon 49: There will be a staff meeting April 29.

## Honor Guard (Charles Lee Jackson II)

There are no more Thursdays this month. We need to deal with the pitiful fundraising attempt that I invented: The Spot of Honor. I'm opening bids to replace SCIFI.radio, "sci-fi for your wi-fi," which has held the spot this month. Are there any bids? Eylat Poliner bid \$20. Susan Fox bid \$25. Fox won and said, "Let it ride!" Jackson said "Okey-dokey"—and that he felt like James Holzhauser.

## Registrar (Eylat Poliner)

Poliner introduced a guest—and our speaker—Mark Richter. He attended Loscon in 2003 and 2013. Steven Barnes and J. Michael Straczynski encouraged him to write and publish his book.

## Treasurer (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

Elayne Pelz reminded members to pay their dues. Tonight's the last night to pay yearly dues.

## Board Report (Michelle Pincus)

Susan Fox stood in for Pincus. The next board meeting is April 23.

## Time-Bound Announcements

Eylat Poliner: Tomorrow, 1-800-GOT-JUNK? will come to Karl Lembke's storage unit to pick up whatever is left. I have two special thank-you's: Rob Powell, I couldn't have done it without you. Thank you, thank you, thank you. You came every single time to help sort. Susan Fox, you, too. I couldn't have done it without you. She helped with finding homes for all the various items that might not have been in the will. Without these two, oh my god; they just made it so seamlessly easy. It wasn't a fun task. Thank you.

## Regular Announcements

Chris Marble: George Mulligan continues to improve. He did a double session of physical therapy earlier in the week.

Richard Cross: There is a Maker Faire happening in Los Angeles this weekend, the City of STEM (<https://losangeles.makerfaire.com>)

Krystal Rains: AnaCon occurs on April 15; the LASFS will table, and we'll create a conzine. (<https://www.anaheim.net/4743/AnaCon>)

Tananarive Due, author of *The Wishing Pool and Other Stories*, will appear at Vroman's in Pasadena on April 18 (<https://www.vromansbookstore.com/event/tananarive-due-conversation-lynell-george-discusses-wishing-pool-other-stories>) and Book Soup in West Hollywood on April 20 (<https://www.booksoup.com/event/Tananarive-Due>).

## Special Guest: Mark Richter

Heide Nichols introduced fan turned author Mark Richter. She admitted that she wasn't always a fan of his writing. When he first started and she read the first of his endeavors, he was really good at putting down what needed to happen—but didn't have the fullness of characters that his book does now have. She has now become a fan of his writing.

Richter was originally a fan. Nichols met him first at Loscon and registered his whole family. He's been through a lot of ups and downs since then: a change in marital status, two grown kids, a new gorgeous wife, and a move from Orange County to Oceanside. During that time, he has been writing.

Nichols interviewed Richter about how he became a writer, his formative reading (C.S. Lewis's *The Chronicles of Narnia* and J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*), and the background to his novel—as M.A. Richter—*Mystic Prince*. With the assistance of his editors, he cut about 50,000 words from the book and improved his characters as people.

Richter read a portion of the book. His discussion also touched on the use of language, the magic system, the importance of names, and whether there will be future titles. A second book is forthcoming.

Eylat Poliner asked if he'd be willing to read another section—and he agreed to do so. LASFSans also asked him about where he lives, why he wrote as M.A. Richter rather than Mark Richter, his writing process, improving one's grammar and writing (He recommended *The Elements of Style*.), and worldbuilding. He read another section of the book.

## Reviews

Lee Grixit commented on a television program called *Hello Tomorrow!* It's a retro-futuristic show with an atomic age aesthetic. In the midst of it all is a salesman. What he's selling is dreams, self-assurance, confidence, and the belief that the American dream is still there. What he's signing you up for is a suburban plot on the moon.

Damon Brown, now back home in Arkansas, reported on Filmopalooza 2023. The winner of the 48

Hour Film Project? *The Death Rattle* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQ1NJGak-R8>).

### Miscellaneous

Charles Lee Jackson II will read a work next week that is a prose adaptation of a scenario that was originally requested by Roger Corman. None of his producers were interested in filming it. Jackson rewrote it as prose, and it was published as a book. It'll be about an hour long in duration.

Cathy Johnson will not host an aftermeeting tonight because she isn't feeling well.

Nola Frame-Gray told Johnson that her hair looked splendid.

### Call to Adjourn

Susan Fox so moved. That was seconded. The eyes had it.

### Meeting #4469, April 6, 2023

Before the meeting, LASFSans talked about the health and wellbeing of Don Fitch, whether he's still receiving APA-L, the health and wellbeing of Marty Cantor, and whether there are apartments available in his building. His recovery from the last health issue he experienced was more annoying than life threatening, but his energy is still very low, and he's getting his strength back up. The manager of a nearby property is helping Marty with his paperwork, but he's still at home, and was watching TV this evening. Members also discussed caulking failures and vertical plumbing issues.

### Call to Order

Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

### Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)

#### Hatchings

- Comic book artist Gil Kane (b. April 6, 1926, d. Jan. 31, 2000) was known for superhero work, his *Blackmark* graphic novel, and the *Star Wars* newspaper comic strip. He also did comic work in Europe.
- Actor Billy Dee Williams (b. April 6, 1937) is mostly known for his role as Lando Calrissian. He now provides voicework for animation and games.
- Actor Paul Rudd (b. April 6, 1969) recently appeared in the *Ant-Man* series and has also acted in slasher movies.
- Courtesy of Susan Fox: Philip Balsam (b. Dec. 23, 1943, d. March 31, 2023) worked with Dennis Lee as the songwriter and composer of the nearly 200 memorable and

beloved songs for *Fraggle Rock*, including its iconic theme song.

- Courtesy Susan Fox: Also born today were John Ratzenberger (b. April 6, 1947), Michael Rooker (b. April 6, 1955), and Roy Thinnes (b. April 6, 1938).

### Dispatchings

- Production designer and art director Norman Reynolds (b. March 26, 1934, d. April 6, 2023) influenced how science fiction and adventure movies looked from the 1970s to the 1990s. He died today at the age of 89. Reynolds won Oscars for his work on *Star Wars: A New Hope* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.
- Cinematographer Bill Butler (b. April 7, 1921, d. April 5, 2023) died at the age of 101 this week. He worked on *Jaws* but also liked working on low-budget science fiction and horror movies. His first film was an early Jon Voight movie; his last work as a cinematographer was at the age of 88.
- Courtesy Matthew B. Tepper: Game designer Klaus Teuber (b. June 25, 1952, d. April 1, 2023) invented *Settlers of Catan*. He died at the age of 70.

### Media anniversary

The first part of the 13-part serial *Flash Gordon* with Buster Crabbe was screened April 6, 1936. The serial incorporated footage from old silent newsreels, and big-name actors such as Crash Corrigan and Glenn Strange appeared in monster suits.

### Reading of the Minutes (Heath Row)

Scribbles read the minutes for March 30, 2023.

### Additions and Corrections

Michelle Pincus clarified the pronunciation of Tananarive Due.

### Auction to Name the Minutes

Dean Johnson bid \$5, won, and named them "The Misnamed Minutes."

### Call for Approval

Moved to accept as written, but not read, and approved.

### Celebration of Patron Saints

Charles "Chuck" Donahue II was celebrated and recognized by Chris Marble. Donahue received three cheers—and a dead Science Fiction Showcase. (That was an annual one-day convention that Donahue was

accused of ending. It was replaced by La-La Con.)

Chris Marble: Chuck was former president of the LASFS and the best man at his wedding. He had lunch with him last month, and all is going well.

Tom Stern was celebrated and recognized by Matthew B. Tepper and Cathy Johnson. Stern received three cheers.

Matthew B. Tepper: Tom Stern and his wife Marina are both really nice people. They might be in the area this weekend.

Cathy Johnson: Stern moved up to Oregon.

### **Committee Reports**

Loscon 49 (Michelle Pincus): There is a planning meeting April 29.

### **Honor Guard** (Charles Lee Jackson II)

The Spot of Honor is held by SCIFI.radio, "Sci-Fi for Your Wi-Fi."

### **Registrar** (Eylat Poliner)

Guest Alex Garganigo is about to join the LASFS.

Ed Buchman and Roger Hill are also attending to support Charles Lee Jackson II.

### **Treasurer** (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)

Elayne Pelz reminded members to pay their dues.

### **Board Report** (Michelle Pincus)

The next board of directors meeting is April 23.

### **Time-Bound Announcements**

Lee Grixit's birthday is tomorrow. He and his girlfriend usually eat cheesecake for such celebrations, but she cannot do so this year. He asks that everybody else celebrate for him. Eat some cheesecake.

Nick Smith mentioned an Aero Theatre double feature Monday, an advance screening of *Renfield* and *Horror of Dracula*. It's free, and you can register with American Cinematheque.

Damon Brown will attend Heroes and Angels ComiCon in Arkansas this weekend with USS Blackstone (<https://www.facebook.com/ussblackstone>) of Starfleet Region 12 to raise money for cancer research.

Brandie June initiated a Kickstarter for Hollywood Fringe Fest, *Truly Outrageous: A Jem And The Holograms Musical Parody* (<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/trulyoutrageous/truly-outrageous-a-jem-and-the-holograms-musical-parody>).

Cathy Johnson commented on the Westercon staff meeting Saturday in Anaheim. (<https://westercon75.org>)

Scribbles remarked that Mark Dery will lecture on

J.G. Ballard at the University of California San Diego on April 12. (<https://qi.ucsd.edu/events/earth-is-the-alien-planet-lecture-by-mark-dery>) He also mentioned an April 8 screening of *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?* at Old Town Music Hall in El Segundo.

### **Special Guest:** Charles Lee Jackson II

What Jackson had originally selected to read was about 70 minutes long, not 50, so he instead read from a 270-page nonfiction work, *Your Best Entertainment*, expected to publish later this month. In 12 chapters, each including 25-30 examples, the book covers movies in 10 genres and two formats. Jackson read the introduction and a few select listings. He also read a short story about the Crimson Comet, "A Fallen Hero."

### **Miscellaneous**

Damon Brown: Little Rock was hit by massive tornadoes.

Dean and Cathy Johnson reminded members about the aftermeeting.

Eylat Poliner: The final work session at Karl Lembke's storage unit occurred last weekend. It is now empty. She thanked Rob "Gizmo" Powell, Susan Fox, and Gene Turnbow for their support.

Charles Lee Jackson II encouraged Ed Buchman and Roger Hill to join the aftermeeting.

Chris Marble shared greetings from George Mulligan.

### **Call to Adjourn**

Eylat Poliner so moved. That was seconded. The ayes had it.

### **Meeting #4470, April 13, 2023**

Before the meeting, LASFSans talked about retirement homes and similar facilities, new member Alex Garganigo, *Tom Slick*, Super Chicken, falls caused by sleeping feet, the song "Breaking Up Is Hard to Do," *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, ChatGPT, plagiarism, communication with Scratch (Michael J. Galloway), and other topics.

### **Call to Order**

Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

### **Hatchings and Dispatchings** (Nick Smith)

Hatchings

- 1921 saw the birth of an actor with a 30-year acting career. Peter Dyneley (b. April 13, 1921; d. Aug. 19, 1977) played the role of Jeff Tracy in Gerry Anderson's *Thunderbirds* and two roles in *The Day of the Triffids*. He's also

been on *Alcoa Presents: One Step Beyond* and *The Goodies*.

- Screenwriter Beverley Cross (b. April 13, 1931; d. March 20, 1998) wrote *Jason and the Argonauts*, *Sinbad and the Eye of the Tiger*, and *Clash of the Titans*.
- Ron Perlman (b. April 13, 1950) is notorious for *Hellboy*, as well as other fannish roles, including that of Vincent in the 1980s *Beauty and the Beast*.
- *Doctor Who* actor Peter Davison (b. April 13, 1951) didn't thrill as many people in that role as he did in *All Creatures Great and Small*.
- Michael Cassutt (b. April 13, 1954) is known for his TV and sf screenwriting, including *Max Headroom* and the animated *Dungeons & Dragons*.

#### Dispatchings

- Rachel Pollack (b. Aug. 17, 1945; d. April 7, 2023), writer of comic books, and sf and fantasy novels.
- Klaus Teuber (b. June 25, 1952; d. April 1, 2023) was recognized the previous week, as well. He invented *Settlers of Catan*.
- Artist Al Jaffee (b. March 13, 1921; d. April 10, 2023) retired at the age of 99 and died at 102. He was a cartoonist for 78 years. Before *Mad* magazine, he worked for Stan Lee at Timely Comics. His work appeared in every issue of *Mad* between 1964 and 2013 except for one.

#### Media anniversary

There are three different things with the same title. The first episode of the *Painkiller Jane* television show first aired on this date in 2007. The TV show followed the 2005 movie. A comic book with the same title has been coming out since the 1990s but keeps changing publishers. It's good enough to keep coming out, but it keeps moving around.

#### Reading of the Minutes (Heath Row)

Scribbles read the minutes for March 30 and April 6, 2023.

#### Additions and Corrections

There were no corrections for March 30.

Marty Cantor wasn't here last week, but his 88th birthday was last Thursday.

#### Auction to Name the Minutes

Dean Johnson and Lynn Maners bid \$5, won, and named the March 30 minutes "Dean and Lynn Named

These Minutes."

Eylat Poliner bid \$10, won, and named the April 6 minutes "Happy Birthday, Marty!"

#### Call for Approval

The March 30 minutes were moved to accept as read, and approved.

The April 6 minutes were moved to accept as amended, and approved.

#### Celebration of Patron Saints

Elliott "Elst" Weinstein was celebrated and recognized by Marty Cantor, Nola Frame-Gray, Lee Grixit, Charles Lee Jackson II, Chris Marble, Scribbles, and Matthew B. Tepper. Weinstein received three cheers.

Chris Marble: Elst Weinstein is an excellent pediatrician and has excellent taste in art—often bidding on the same auctions—and hosting wine and cheese events at Loscons.

Charles Lee Jackson II: Elliott is a "stine" rather than a "steen," though he's never been too firm about it. I once accompanied him on a trip to Mexico. He was one of the biggest known fans of Herbie Popnecker, a young man who can do anything. It turns out that he's also a very good doctor for children, mostly because he never grew up himself. His contributions to the party at Loscon every year are a selection of good wines.

Marty Cantor: Even though Larry Niven is the person who wrote about what you can say about chocolate-covered manhole covers, Elliott is the one who made one. It ended up in my refrigerator for at least five years. And he came up with the Hogu Awards, which are given out at McDonalds.

Scribbles: We met at Loscon, he contributed to APA-L #3000 even though his submission appeared in #3001, and his two-volume *The Filled Fan Dictionary* is absolutely indispensable.

Matthew B. Tepper: It can be hard to get cinnamon-flavored lollipops. Before I left town for my 13-year exile, college and such, we used to hang out a bit. And we had a lot of fun doing things that had to do with Herbangelism. When I was in San Francisco, I found a candymaker who made up a batch of cinnamon lollipops. Elst and I used to hang out, drive around, say outrageous things, work on something that he called the *Holy Babble*, and for one brief moment, I was a high priest of Herbangelism—and I guess still am.

Nola Frame-Gray: I knew Elst through the mail through APA-H, which was an apa about hoaxes. The hoax I remember most was that L.A.con II was a hoax. Even though it was a Worldcon, it was not held in Los Angeles.

Lee Grixit: When I was walking around UCLA, someone called out to me, and it was him. Because of the last *Dungeons & Dragons* game I'd been in, which he'd DM'd, he gave me an extra 100 experience points.

### Committee Reports

- Programming (Eylat Poliner):
  - April 20: David Brin, author
  - May 11: Todd McCaffrey, author
  - June 1: Nominations open for club president
  - June 8: Nominations and election of all five procedural offices. To hold a procedural office, you need to be a standard, regular member, but not for a year. To hold a board position, you need to be a member for a year. To vote, you need to be a standard, regular member—i.e., have attended one of the last 13 meetings
- Loscon 49: There's a staff meeting April 29.

**Honor Guard** (Charles Lee Jackson II)  
The Spot of Honor is held by SCIFI.radio.

**Registrar** (Eylat Poliner)  
Poliner welcomed Alex Garganigo as a new member. Chants of "One of us!" ensued, and Garganigo was reminded that death does not release you.

**Treasurer** (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)  
Debra Levin reminded members to pay their dues.

**Board Report** (Michelle Pincus)  
The next board meeting is April 23.

**Old Business**  
Not at all

**New Business**  
By no means any

**Time-Bound Announcements**  
Nick Smith mentioned multiple events, including an American Cinematheque anime screening Friday of *Weathering with You* and Saturday of *Your Name.*; a New Beverly Cinema screening of Hayao Miyazaki's 1992 *Porco Rosso*; a CalTech theater group—TACIT—debuting a play called *The Sunrise from the Moon*; Tananarive Due appearing at Vroman's in Pasadena on Tuesday, talking about a new anthology; and a Tuesday CalTech screening of a documentary movie connecting music and environmental science: *Small Island Big Song*.

Scribbles reminded members about AnaCon in Anaheim (<https://www.anaheim.net/4743/AnaCon>).

Eylat Poliner remarked that Karl Lembke's storage unit is now completely closed down. His car and home remain but are accounted for. She's now working on the other part of the estate.

Willard Stone announced that the anime fantasy *Suzume* opens tomorrow. It'll most likely only screen through next week. (<https://www.suzume-movie.com/home>)

Chris Marble indicated that George Mulligan will move to a new rehabilitation center instead of being sent home.

Heide Nichols reported that at Collage, a place for art and culture in San Pedro, will host a talk by Martin Young about truth, consciousness, language, and coffee on Sunday. (<https://www.collageartculture.org>)

### Moments of Science

Lynn Maners: There's a species of giant fern called Dicksonia. People in India found one inside a cave. Paleobotanists determined that it was actually a beehive in the shape of the fern.

Nick Smith: The ancestry of French cuisine goes back earlier than we thought. Food archeologists found that large land snails were used for food about 160,000-170,000 years ago. (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0277379123000781>)

Tom Safer: Alfred Mosher Butts invented *Scrabble*, Bruno Benedetto Rossi focused on cosmic radiation, and Thomas Jefferson contributed time and money to scientific research and collected fossils. ([https://www.todayinsci.com/4/4\\_13.htm](https://www.todayinsci.com/4/4_13.htm))

Lee Grixit read two articles about rock flakes and tool making this week. Attention eventually turned to the rock flakes themselves, and it was determined that the presence of flakes don't necessarily indicate tool-making sites. Macaques also bang rocks and make rock flakes. (<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2023/03/10/1161652099/monkey-stone-flakes-early-humans-tools>) Also, a workshop in a cave seems to indicate interactions between a novice and an expert.

Nola Frame-Gray: My husband was a big fan of *Scientific American* magazine. The cover of the October 2022 issue featured "The Power of Viking Women." (<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/viking-textiles-show-women-had-tremendous-power>)

### Regular Announcements

Charles Lee Jackson II attended an Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., centennial event last week. (<https://www.edgarriceburroughs.com/edgar-rice-burroughs-in>)

c-centennial) Burroughs was the first author to incorporate himself.

Tom Safer mentioned the Burbank Chorale's concert in Glendale on April 29 (<https://www.facebook.com/events/769151971231222>).

### Reviews

Matthew B. Tepper commented on Harry Turtledove's *Three Miles Down*. Tepper bought it when it came out, saw a lot of recommendations, and is glad he prioritized reading it. There are lots of in-jokes, including fannish jokes, as well as enjoyable cameos.

Lee Grixit reviewed a TV comedy called *Schmigadoon* last year. Now there's a second season. This time it's darker, featuring a less happy setting, and is more reminiscent of *Cabaret* or *Sweeney Todd*.

Tom Safer received but hasn't yet seen the DC animated film *Batman: The Doom That Came to Gotham*.

Charles Lee Jackson II mentioned the 1996-1997 series *Tarzan: The Epic Adventures*, a period piece that takes him to Pellucidar.

Scribbles has been enjoying the 2016 TV show *Travelers*, which he's been watching with other members of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, discussing episodes in an email round robin.

Eylat Poliner says that if you are not watching *Star Trek: Picard*, you should watch it. It is really good Trek. She is sad that it is only going to be three seasons; this is the last season.

Nola Frame-Gray: In a conversation with former LASFS member Jim Tannenbaum, he remarked that actors will soon be replaced by artificial intelligence constructs. Some shows cast voice actors for presidents, and they don't sound like them.

Jackson commented on the movie *Looker*. They scan an actor so they never need to hire them again.

### Miscellaneous

Cathy Johnson reminded people about the aftermeeting.

### Call to Adjourn

Eylat Poliner so moved. That was seconded. The ayes had it.

### Meeting #4471, April 20, 2023

Before the meeting, LASFS members discussed the novellas of Erin Hunt Rado, the books of George R.R. Martin, baked goods, and Nick at Nite.

### Call to Order

Cathy Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m. We're on agenda light tonight because of a special guest, David Brin.

## Hatchings and Dispatchings (Nick Smith)

### Hatchings

- It's the 84th birthday of Peter S. Beagle (b. April 20, 1939). In addition to his novels, he co-wrote Ralph Bakshi's *The Lord of the Rings*.
- George Takei (b. April 20, 1937), 86, is perhaps best known for his *Star Trek* role as Hikaru Sulu, but that was not his first fannish work. He also appeared in a controversial *The Twilight Zone* episode and provided voice work for the 1956 *Rodan* movie and the 1955 *Godzilla Raids Again*.
  - Charles Lee Jackson II mentioned that *Gigantis, the Fire Monster* is now available in four different versions, one of which is *Godzilla Raids Again*. Takei is not in two of the versions named *Godzilla Raids Again*.
- Today marks the birth of Bruce Cabot (b. April 20, 1904, d. May 3, 1972), who played Fay Wray's love interest in *King Kong*. He also acted in westerns; his final role was in a James Bond movie.
- Louise Jamison (b. April 20, 1951) appeared on *Doctor Who* for 40 episodes with Tom Baker. She also did 100 episodes of *Emmerdale Farm* and 200 of *EastEnders*. She also starred in *The Omega Factor*.

Susan Fox also contributed a handful of notable hatchings:

- Clint Howard (b. April 20, 1959) starred as Balok in the *Star Trek* episode "The Corbomite Maneuver" and performed parts in *Star Trek: Enterprise*, *Deep Space Nine*, and *Discovery*, as well as *Andor*, which puts him in that exclusive club of people who were in *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*. He's also appeared in movies made by his brother such as *Apollo 13* and *How The Grinch Stole Christmas*.
- Ian Alexander (b. April 20, 2001) appeared as Gray Tal in *Star Trek: Discovery* and provided voice talent for *Moon Girl and Devil Dinosaur*.
- Andy Serkis (b. April 20, 1964) has performed in motion-capture roles for The Lord of the Rings movies and *King Kong*, in *Black Panther* as the bad guy Klaw, in *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* as Supreme Leader Snoke, and in *Andor* as Kino Loy.
- Crispin Glover (b. April 20, 1964), played George McFly in *Back To The Future* and Mr.

World in *American Gods*.

#### Dispatchings

- Australian fan, author, editor, and photographer Lee Harding (b. Feb. 19, 1937, d/ April 19, 2023) died at the age of 86. By the age of 15, he was involved in a Melbourne sf club. By 16, he published a fanzine. He became an author and radio broadcaster and contributed a book to the Laser series.

Matthew B. Tepper also mentioned two additional recent deaths. Canadian fan John Mansfield (d. April 19, 2023), who led the 1994 Worldcon bid and chaired Winnipeg, died recently. And Denny Kieth Lien (b. Sept. 26, 1945, d. April 15, 2023) in Minneapolis died a couple of days ago. He was one of the funniest people Tepper knew and reportedly coined “Ha ha, only kidding,” in fandom. HHOK, as the kids say on the Interwebs.

Cathy Johnson called for a moment of silence in honor of Harding, Mansfield, and Lien.

#### Media anniversary

Today marks the 1955 release of *Conquest of Space*, the result of George Pal adapting a nonfiction book with a strange plot worked in. The film could be said to exist in the *Star Trek* universe because a model of the ship is in *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*.

#### Reading of the Minutes (Heath Row)

Scribbles read the minutes for April 13, 2023.

#### Additions and Corrections

In no way

#### Auction to Name the Minutes

Eylat Polinter bid \$5, won, and named them “No Spoilers for *Picard*, Please.”

#### Call for Approval

Moved to accept as read, and approved.

#### Celebration of Patron Saints

Stan Burns was celebrated and recognized by Charles Lee Jackson II. Burns received three cheers.

Charles Lee Jackson II: Stan was a long-time member of the club. He was a photographer who went through thousands of rolls of film taking pictures at conventions, parties, and such. He was a good guy to have around, and we miss him very much.

June and Len Moffatt were celebrated and recognized by Tad Daley, Nola Frame-Gray, Charles Lee Jackson II, Heide Nichols, and J.P. Van Gordon. The Moffatti

received three cheers.

Heide Nichols: Today would have been June Moffatt’s birthday.

Charles Lee Jackson II: That’s why their saints day is now. They moved them so it’d be close to June’s birthday. Len and June Moffatt were three institutions because each of them were an institution, and together, they were also an institution. Len was a writer, though he didn’t have much published professionally. And June was an avid fanwriter, with her APA-L fanzine *De Jueves* being second only to Fred Patten’s. They were of the same generation as I was, and often got my jokes. They were both very active in convention fandom. Len was active in the Captain Bligh Society because he’d been thrown over by his first mate. Len passed away first, and we celebrated his life. June seemed hale and hearty but was injured one night outside the LASFS clubhouse because of that rotten sidewalk we had, and succumbed to the injury. She was always chipper and pleasant even when bedridden.

Nichols: I didn’t know Len very well, though he was very encouraging. When I first joined the club, it felt like June adopted me. She showed me what was what. She’d whisper to me background information about people I didn’t know. I always felt like she was a fannish mom to me, and I miss her so much.

Tad Daley: It’s 2023, so I’m at right about 25 years. Even in the late 1990s, I saw Len and June at the clubhouse, and they were really old even then. When I meet people that old, I try to get it through my thick skull that they weren’t always really old, and I got that impression from them. Once or twice, I interrogated them about the origins of our genre, and it was really cool to be able to talk to some living representatives from the invention of our genre.

J.P. Van Gordon: They were active not just in science fiction fandom but in our local Sherlock Holmes club, as well. They’d come to our dinner meetings at the now-defunct restaurant. When Len died, it was quite a blow to June. We’d visit and hold meetings at her house many times. They had an amazing library. Unfortunately, I don’t know where that stuff went. They were so important to our various groups.

Nola Frame-Gray: They were easy to spot because June had taken the time travel and fannish love to buy the bedsheets made for the original *Star Wars* movie. They had his and hers matching dress shirts made of the material.

#### Committee Reports

Loscon 49 (Eylat Poliner for Michelle Pincus): There’s a staff meeting April 29.



**Honor Guard** (Charles Lee Jackson II)  
The Spot of Honor is held by SCIFI.radio.

**Registrar** (Eylat Poliner)  
We are joined by special guest David Brin. There are no other guests.

**Treasurer** (Debra Levin and Elayne Pelz)  
Elayne Pelz reminded members to pay their dues.

**Board Report** (Michelle Pincus)  
Eylat Poliner stood in for Michelle Pincus. The next board meeting is Sunday, April 23, at 11 a.m.

**Time-Bound Announcements**  
Eylat Poliner indicated that the Greater Angeleno Gourmet Society (GAGS) will meet at 4 p.m. April 22 at Papa Cristo's (<https://papacristos.com>)  
Heide Nichols mentioned CostumeCon this weekend in the Bay Area.

**Special Guest:** David Brin  
Brin wore a SpaceX shirt in honor of the recent launch. He discussed the success of that launch, the death of Greg Bear, the health challenges of Gregory Benford, greetings from Vernor Vinge, Kim Stanley Robinson's *Ministry of the Future* and consulting with the United Nations, NASA's Innovative & Advanced Concepts program (<https://www.nasa.gov/content/niac-overview>), Afrofuturism, Indian and Chinese science fiction, how journalistic hit pieces against science fiction have practically disappeared, how modern sf might not always be old-timers' cup of tea, the value of exploring the edges of what it means to be human, the acceleration of inclusion, *Vivid Tomorrows: On Science Fiction and Hollywood* (<http://www.davidbrin.com/vividtomorrows.html>), self-preventing prophecies, the next Uplift novel, the CalTech and JPL anthology *Inner Space and Outer Thoughts*, YA writing and mentoring young writers, his wife's first novel *The Melody of Memory*, the need to proselytize science fiction as a literature through adopt-a-teacher, book distribution (e.g. the Science Fiction Outreach Project, <https://sfop.wordpress.com>), and other programs—and how sf has conquered the world.

**Reviews**  
Matthew B. Tepper remarked that the finale to *Star Trek: Picard* is satisfying.

**Miscellaneous**  
Charles Lee Jackson II reported that the TCM Classic Film Festival held in Hollywood wasn't a super-spreader event but was darn close. 40 people got

COVID-19.

Inspired by David Brin's remarks, J.P. Van Gordon commented that fandom has become incestuous and self-centered. He encouraged conventions held in libraries and schools.

Nola Frame-Gray also suggested that fannish events be held in accessible areas. She experimented with the Libby app recently but found it challenging to use.

Cathy Johnson reminded LASFS members about the aftermeeting.

**Call to Adjourn**

Susan Fox so moved. That was seconded. The eyes had it.