

WSFA JOURNAL MAY/JUNE 2013



David Brin Visits WSFA



There are no minutes for the 4/5/13 April First Friday meeting since it was short to allow time for David Brin's talk. Attendance: Sam Lubell, Jessica Camis, Ben Hirsch, Eugenia Martin, Charity Helton, Ernest Lilley, Ken Byrer, Madeleine Yeh, Steve Smith, Paul Haggerty, Drew Bittner, Gayle Surrence, Paul Haggerty, Jennifer and Brian O'Callasfioner, Brian Lewis, Jimmy Rogers, Bob MacIntosh, Michael Walsh, Karlo Yeager, Sarah Pinsker, Judy & Sam Scheiner, George Shaner, Szu-Chien Wang, Lenny Michael, John Zaherick, Alexander Harris, Phillip Myers, Barry & Judy Newton, Allen Batson, Candy & John Madigan, Mark Roth, Elspeth Kovar, and special guest David Brin as himself.

More Money Is Acceptable

The April 19, 2013 opened without a president. Instead Steve Smith presided. "Yo, let's have a meeting!" said the President Pro Temp. Someone yelled, "Why?" Madeleine moved to adjourn the meeting which at first was ruled as failed due to lack of a second. Motion failed 2 to everyone else. What time? A waste of time. Sam L. asked who took minutes at the last meeting. Bryan said it was Paul. Sam said it was never sent to him. Candy said that we had an abbreviated meeting because David Brin was coming. It was mainly the reading of the slate. Brian said that was as long as slated to be. Candy said President Barry is on his way. Treasurer's report was emailed. There was a call for a party. The secretary said there was a transfer of bank accounts from Citi to M&T. He cleared out a few issues. He filed forms with the Feds so we are legal. He has not yet filed the Maryland personal property tax because his computer died and he is waiting for lightning to revive it. <Obviously, our treasurer is Baron Frankenstein!> We may have to pay an extra 3% of 0. Virginia taxes are not due until September. Cathy asked about the transfer of WSFA to being a C3; <tax stuff omitted> Being a C3 will lead to some savings on our hotel bill. The Secretary admitted he did not do the Journal because he spent the whole weekend reading *Girl Genius* instead. The club understood about priorities.

For electronic media, Sarah said tweet tweet. John said Meetup is at 156 members. Colleen said we have more Meetup members than in the club. <That's not uncommon.> John said for reaching 150 members he is leaving the area. Candy said, "He is going to leave me!" The problem is a seven hour commute to his job. Maybe he can come every two or three weekends. Facebook is being more active. Cathy sad she is trying to control spam on our Facebook page.

Books: For 2014, Bill said neither Paolo nor Holly can do a book for us, but got a go ahead from



WSFA's executive board and Paul is in talks with Genevieve Valentine to do an original novella for us, as we did with Valente two years ago, and Capclave will make her a special guest. Cathy said, "After all Boskone has the NESFA Press guest." Sarah said this will draw attention to Capclave. Bill said, "Every time Valente talks about the book we sell a couple." Books are being sold from our backstock. Brian asked about *Future Washington*. We still have a few. Sam L. pointed out that DC library is compiling a list of books set in DC. Cathy asked how to get on that. Sam L. said he will investigate. Bill said he is pretty sure the book has already paid back its cost, even with the discounts. Elizabeth said, "Of course more money is acceptable."

Conventions: Capclave present. Bill said he has given up.

He has nothing to report for 2014. Bob said he has not heard from hotel. Cathy said she did not sell any memberships at Ravencon but did go through about 60 flyers and quite a few bookmarks. Bill said he also made good contacts. For 2014 he talked to Pamela Kinney who will be doing a youth workshop (tweens to teens). Colleen said, "Capclave guests of honors will be at the LoC book festival. Both are willing to get together for a meal. Sept 21-22." So we will try to start publicity by then. The SF and Graphic novel tent will be Sunday <check?>. Susan Cooper will be a major guest. We're still progressing. We are running ahead of prior Capclaves in memberships so far. We have 50 or 60 more than last year. Brian said we should expect a 50% increase in memberships at this time. Cathy said Balticon memberships fluctuate.

Trustees have a slate; the election is first Friday in May. The trustee slate was named. You can nominate yourself. Bill said would nominate anyone for \$5. Steve said if someone else wants to run for treasurer, he would appreciate it. There is no meeting of the committee to talk SF today. Small Press Award committee said submissions are closed. We got the word out and had XX submissions. Committee will cull it to 5-10 stories. No old business. New business. Bill said Sarah said he had to make a bylaw change.

Jimmy was not here, but he deputized someone to ask for a podcast committee. Sam L. explained the reason for the change. Jimmy will be do the podcast on Mondays. Steve and Barry decided to create the committee without needing the vote. The first discussion is at Jason's Deli on Monday, contact Jimmy at magicscientist@scienceismagic.com. John asked about consolidating Meetups and will put a link to calendar.

First meeting: Vicki, was at Capclave. Is a sf fan and also writes it. Monica, reads and writes and registered for Capclave today, found out about us from Vicki.

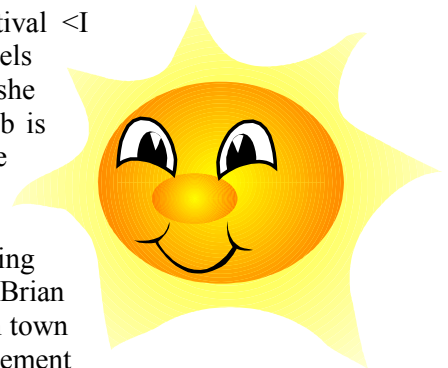
Second timers: Emmy, grew up on SF since he could read. She writes urban fantasy. She was at Capclave this year and will register later for this year. Holly read *Wrinkle in Time* when she was 8 and went downhill from there. She also writes sf and fantasy. Sidrip was out of the country and missed David Brin. He can't believe he missed it. He also writes.

Third: no one will admit.

Announcements: Candy is vending at the Sugar Loaf craft festival <I wasn't the only one who heard this as Lovecraft> She also have solar panels from a place called Vivid Solar. John is leaving Candy for West Virginia; she spent her life getting out of the Canal Valley, but he is going there. Job is temporary, but if it becomes permanent she might just end up where she started. Or she might leave John for real. Bill shared his dream, a work related nightmare, since he has been answering a lot of customer service calls. He dreamed about Michael J. Fox answering telephone calls and trying to avoid being deported. Tom asked about a room list for Balticon. Brian suggested posting it on the wsfa-forum. Elizabeth announced she is back in town for a month, looking for a job in association management or project management etc. Jack Henigan didn't stand up when we announced new people because he was an old long-time WSFAn. Bob said his dues are in arrears. Jack said he sent them to Bob. But someone said, yes Bob Oliver. He is the spitting image of Larry Niven. Is that a compliment or insult? No, it is a pickup line.

Motion to adjourn. Meeting unanimously adjourned 10:01.

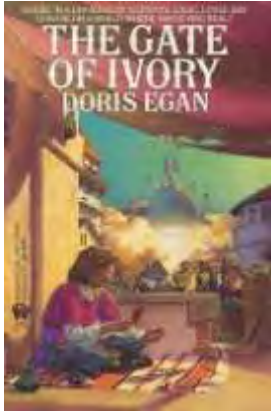
Attendance: Colleen Cahill, Erica & Lydia Ginter, Bill Lawhorn, Brian Lewis, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Candy Madigan, John Madigan, Sarah Mitchell, Barry Newton, Evan Phillips, Steve Smith,



Mike Taylor, Teresa Telesco, Elizabeth Twitchell, Thomas Woldering, Ivy Yap, Sandeep Nair, Jack Henighan, Monica Herald, Vicki DiSandto, Holli Mintzeir, Evan Meikleham and Emmie Powell (Mears).

Mini-Book Reviews
By Samuel Lubell

The Gate Of Ivory by Doris Egan



It has spaceships and machines, so it must be science fiction. It has magic and sorcerers, so it must be fantasy. But it's both. Unlike the Darkover books or the Warlock series where there is a scientific explanation for the magic, this book just says magic works on the planet Ivory and leaves it at that. I guessed (or maybe vaguely remembered) the villain too easily but thought the character of Theodora, an anthropology student marooned on a somewhat primitive planet who gets over her head with local politics to be a great character study (until the point where she should have accepted the villain's offer to pay for her return to her home planet but refuses). I was less fond of Ran Cormallon who alternates being charming with being exasperating. While there are more than hints of romance, it does not dominate the book as in more modern sf/romance hybrids.

Boneshaker by Cherie Priest

I didn't dislike the book, but I'm glad I took it out of the library instead of buying it. There are some good points, such as the mother being a major viewpoint character and not a damsel in distress. I liked the steampunk elements and the airships and the frontier feel. But I find it hard to believe that a place as dangerous as the zombie infested city would be so easy for a 15-year-old to access. And a world in which there are mad scientists (Seattle has two) and an extended Civil War on, someone would have tried to turn them into weapons. I also think the zombies were there just because zombies are hot and could have easily been clockwork autonomons, earthmonster from the deep or any other monster threat (except for the scene in which one of the people Briar is with breathes the gas and turns into a zombie and attacks her). And the alternate history is not well thought out but reads like she created the world first and only then invented a few details on what might have changed to produce it.



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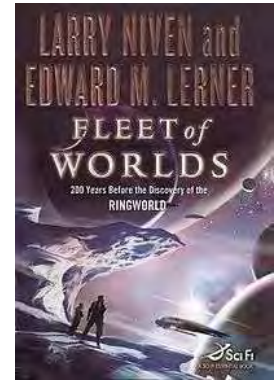
Living in Threes by Judy Tarr



Meredith is a horse-crazy 16-year old girl in modern America. She just wants to spend summer with her friends and her horses. But her mother, recovering from treatment that put her cancer in remission, wants to send Meredith to Egypt to visit her aunt, an archaeologist. Meredith starts having dreams of Meru, a girl living in the future, studying to be a starpilot, and of Meritre a girl living in ancient Egypt who knows some small magics to keep her family safe. The three are able to communicate with each other, in part through magic of the scarab and ultimately this connection must be used to save Meru's Earth from plague connected back to the other two's lives. This story combines Tarr's strong knowledge of both horses and of Egypt. It is YA but adults can enjoy it too. This book was funded through kickstarter, which more and more seems to be the wave of the future.

Fleet of Worlds by Larry Niven and Edward M. Lerner

This is a very good *Ringworld* prequel that sets up a lot about the Puppeteers. Centuries before the main story, the Puppeteers discover a human ship, and enslave the descendants of the crew. Now the humans on the Puppeteer worlds are called Colonists and the Puppeteers lie about their origins and claim no knowledge of their homeworld (even though some Puppeteers visit Earth and know full well the truth.) The main story is about a crew of Colonists trained as scouts since the Puppeteers are cowards and only a few are willing to travel in space (which is why they are taking their planets with them as they flee the Core explosion). The book describes how the Colonists find out much of the truth and led a rebellion against the Puppeteers.



Lord of Light by Roger Zelazny

Although a classic, this book still feels fresh, not dated at all. It's a wonderful blend of science fiction with a fantasy feel since none of the advanced science is explained. I believe this is Zelazny's best novel and one of the best SF books ever. Basically, in the far future, the first colonists on a planet settled from Earth have turned themselves into the Hindu gods, complete with control of the reincarnation machines. They prevent the rise of any technology. To oppose them, one of the first generation, named Sam, reintroduces Buddhism.

The book has lots of great imagery, a surprising sense of humor (including an awful pun), action, and great characters. Every science fiction fan should read this

Cold Days (The Dresden Files #14) by Jim Butcher

At this point (book 14) the Dresden Files has become the best fantasy series currently being written. In this book, Harry must save the world and Faerie while struggling not to let the predator aspects of being the Winter Knight take him over. Obviously, this is not the best place to start reading as so much of it depends on the setup in previous problems. And, even though Dresden is no longer functioning as a wizard detective, there's still a bit of a mystery as Dresden needs to figure out who is being controlled by the Outsiders.



We'll Be Comfortably Packed

The May 2nd First Friday began at 9:18 with Sam's laptop going bad and trying to update everything <the result was I had to reload all the main software and hope I could find everything.> Steve said he doesn't trust that electronic banking. Steve also said \$ is in the process of moving out of Paypal and will magically appear in checking. So about \$\$.

Capclave: Elspeth asked about money coming in and out. Steve wrote a check for \$ to GRRM's agent. Elizabeth came into the meeting. Bryan asked if Capclave funds count in total. Yes. Mike said artist is gung ho about doing illustrations. We have 203 paid members and 270 total. We are getting about one a day. We're at the number we usually are in October. The hotel limit is 600-700. Sam S said unlikely to hit that. We'll be comfortably packed. Mike said we should keep our name out there but no billboards are needed. A club member said Game of Thrones fans who don't normally attend conventions are talking about it. Bill said programming has lots of ideas. Cathy said we have one free membership to Balticon for people who are willing to sit at our table. Bill said 2014 will be in 2014.

Talk SF will do F&SF. No old business. No new business.

Announcements: Chuck said his car died and he needs a ride. Arlington Planetarium 17 – 19 of May. Friends of the Planetarium. Fast Forward ramping up in HD. Meeting unanimously adjourned at 9:39 for election.

Election: For President, Barry Newton was the trustees' slate. Bill nominated Elizabeth. She is not a member. Barry elected. For VP, the trustees' slate was Sam Scheiner. He declined and nominated Steve Smith who accepted. Sarah nominated Bill who said his wife (i.e. Sarah) wouldn't let him. Steve was elected. For treasurer, the trustee's slate was Steve Smith who was no longer eligible because he was just elected VP. Sam L nominated Sam S. Judy called for a veto. Judy and Bill voted opposed but everyone else voted yea. Trustees: The trustees' slate was Bob Macintosh, Brian Lewis, and Charity Helton. Steve nominated Bill who declined. The slate was elected. For Capclave 2015, the trustee's slate was Sam Lubell. Bill nominated Sarah who did a spit take and then laughed hysterically. "I have to decline, my husband won't let me." Bill abstained, Sam L. elected. Small Press, Sam L. nominated Bill who said he wouldn't do it unless he was paid, Sam L. offered a dollar, declined. Ken B. abstained. Charity, Gayle and Paul elected. Ken B. abstained.



Attendance: Ken Byrer, Cathy Green, Elsepth Kovar, Bill Lawhorn, Brian Lewis, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Barry Newton, Kathi Overton, Judy & Sam Scheiner, George Shaner, Steve Smith, Elizabeth Twitchell, Michael Walsh, Ivy Yap, Eugenic Martin, Charles Divine, and H.P. Lovecraft

WSFA Officers

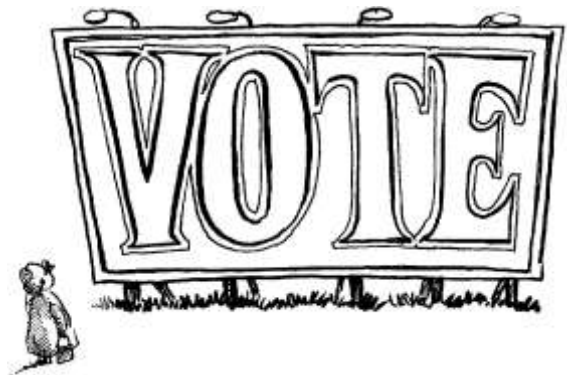
Below are the people who will be holding elective office in WSFA, as of the First Friday in June and when their term of office expires. CapClave Chairs' terms expire when the books of their con are closed (usually, but not always, before the calendar year of their con does. Small Press Awards Committee Members are elected for two years, and select a chairman from among themselves. Membership in this committee, though done by clubwide election, does not convey Club Officership.

Club Officers

President	Barry Newton	06/06/2014
Vice President	Steve Smith	06/06/2014
Secretary	Cathy Green	06/06/2014
Treasurer	Sam Scheiner	06/06/2014
Trustee	Charity Helton	06/06/2014
Trustee	Brian Lewis	06/06/2014
Trustee	Bob Macintosh	06/06/2014
CapClave Chair 2013	Michael Walsh	±12/31/2013
CapClave Chair 2014	Bill Lawhorn	±12/31/2014
CapClave Chair 2015	Sam Lubell	±12/31/2015

Small Press Awards Committee

Member	Charity Helton	06/05/2015
Member	Gayle Surette	06/05/2015
Member	Paul Haggerty	06/05/2015
Member	Jimmy Rogers	06/03/2014
Member	Sarah Mitchell	06/03/2014



Every age gets the art it deserves'- Science Fiction: History, Background and Definitions Part II
 By Victor Grech, Consultant Pediatrician (Cardiology) and Associate Professor of Paediatrics, University of Malta, Clare Thake-Vassallo, Senior Lecturer, Translation and Interpreting Studies, University of Malta, and Ivan Callus, Associate Professor and Head, English Language Dept, University of Malta.

Magazine editors change, and John W. Campbell's paradigmatic editorship of *Astounding Science Fiction* can be said to represent a golden age of SF, an era which 'valorises a particular sort of writing: 'Hard SF', linear narratives, heroes solving problems or countering



threats in a space-opera or technological-adventure idiom.¹ Campbell reigned supreme from the banner year 1938 until his death in 1960, with the majority of the best-known writers in the genre debuting here. This, and later other pulp magazines emphasised heroic action, romance, exotic worlds and creatures, and fantastic adventures, with almost invariably buoyant and optimistic endings, the modern successors of fairytales.² While the magazine's SF content changed, Campbell retained Gernsback's popular magazine format, including chatty editorials, advertisements for radio kits, razors and body-building regimens, scientific publications, correspondence courses, and fan mail. The latter was the second most important magazine component, the genesis of critical theory devoted specifically to the genre and incidentally providing useful feedback to the magazine editors. For example, in 1926, G. Peyton Wertenbaker (who later went

on to write SF) wrote pointing out that the value of 'scientifiction' lay not only in the imparting of technical information and scientific knowledge sugar coated by a story, but in its ability to rouse emotion by gothically portraying 'things vast, things cataclysmic, and things unfathomably strange'.³

It was thus under Campbell's tenure that *Astounding* rose to the level of the premier SF magazine worldwide, arguably through his insistence on stories based on plausible and reasonable science. His 'ideal reader was an engineer, who would bat around ideas in stories with other engineers [...] in their search for real solutions'.⁴ And it was here that Robert Heinlein, Campbell's greatest discovery, was unleashed. Heinlein was arguably the author who invented modern SF, who introduced the *modus operandi* of



[d]escription by indirection — the art of describing his future worlds not through lumps of exposition but by presenting it through the eyes of his characters, subtly leading the reader to fill in by deduction large swathes of background that a lesser author would have drawn in detail.⁵

Heinlein and others who debuted through *Astounding*, such as Isaac Asimov, Arthur C. Clarke, Poul Anderson, Hal Clement, included many scientists and engineers, and it was these

¹ Adam Roberts, *The History of Science Fiction* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006), p. 195.

² Campbell's autobiographical narrative extols the virtues of SF's golden years in John W. Campbell, *Wonder's Child: My Life in Science Fiction* (New York: Bluejay Books, 1984).

³ G. Peyton Wertenbaker, *Amazing Stories*, July 1926, p. 297. Even earlier and more illustrious SF criticism is available, including, for example, Walter Scott, 'Remarks on Frankenstein, or the Modern Prometheus: A Novel', *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, March 1818.

⁴ Edward James, 'Before the Novum: The Prehistory of Science Fiction Criticism', in Parrinder, *Learning From Other Worlds*, pp. 19-36 (p. 23).

⁵ Heinlein regarded Kipling highly and it was Kipling who was responsible for the technique of exposition by indirection, as in his 1912 story *With The Night Mail*. See Eric S. Raymond, 'A Political History of SF', Libertarian Futurist Society (newsletter), 2007 <<http://www.catb.org/esr/writings/sf-history.html>> [accessed 30 June 2011].

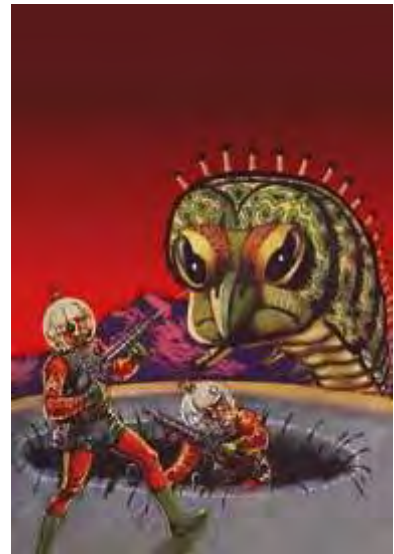
men of science who would dominate SF for the next fifty years, shaping it and directing it. **Campbell preached his type of SF through his magazine's editorials, wrote stories and taught others to write in his manner, and other magazines copied.** Campbell paid more as his publisher (Street and Smith) was very successful, and **under Campbell's influence, writing styles improved, stories were toned down, the science became more plausible and reasonable, such that it could be logically and reasonably extrapolated from contemporary scientific advances.**⁶ Thus, ironically, SF was made **to face its own 'reality test' since stories were forced to be convincingly credible.** This approach is not new, and was prefigured by Aristotle who stated that **'we ought to postulate any ideal conditions, but nothing impossible'**.⁷

Hence, Campbell influenced the career and thinking of virtually every major SF writer of the time, **'not back-pedaling on Gernsback's grandiose vision for science fiction: he was extending it'**.⁸ SF readers and writers continued to interact strongly in the magazines, developing ideas, conventions and images. They were sheltered from the rest of the field of literature and from this hothouse, **under 'conditions of marginality and insularity that produced an extraordinary cohesion'**,⁹ SF matured and entered its golden age. Truly, Campbell changed the direction of science fiction writing. **He refused [...] the tired old BEM space operas [...] he wanted hard, logical science, presented in the context of real, believable characters. He encouraged [...] social and political themes; he urged [writers] to dream clearly [...] to examine the world that was and to extrapolate what it might be.**¹⁰

Astounding held sway for decades and it was not until 1950 that additional pulps appeared, such as *Galaxy* and *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction* (F&SF), along with paperback novels and short story collections. *Astounding*, now known as *Analog Science Fiction and Fact* remains the longest-running SF magazine of all time, and although it is still the leader in the field, its circulation has fallen drastically, from a high of 115,000 monthly sales in 1983, to 28,319 in 2006, a phenomenon experienced by all other SF and fantasy magazines.¹¹ Interestingly, virtually all pulps have disappeared bar the SF magazine, perhaps due to a rise in the popularity of books, with readers eschewing cheaper magazines.¹²

It was evident by the middle of the 1950s, even if not widely acknowledged, that a significant proportion of SF was becoming fact, and

[t]he writers of pulp-magazine science fiction, [...] after the explosion over Hiroshima of the first atomic bomb [...] were acknowledged as prophets proven right by the course of events [...] On the other hand, having in their fiction developed and controlled nuclear energy long before the



⁶ Isaac Asimov, *I Asimov: A Memoir* (New York: Doubleday, 1994), p. 73.

⁷ Aristotle, *Politics* Books I and II, 32 [1265a17 18].

⁸ James, 'Before the Novum: The Prehistory of Science Fiction Criticism', in in Patrick Parrinder, *Learning From Other Worlds* (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2000), p. 23.

⁹ Roger Luckhurst, *Science Fiction* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2005), p. 46.

¹⁰ See R. Scott Latham, 'Foreword', in *A Treasury of Science Fiction*, ed. by Groff Conklin (New York: Bonanza Books, 1980), p. vii.

¹¹ John Barnes, '2006: The Year in Review', *Locus*, February 2007.

¹² Edward James and Farah Mendlesohn eds., 'Foreword', *The Cambridge Companion to Science Fiction* (Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2003), xvii.

Army got around to it, [...] writers were both disappointed in and fearful of the ways in which the government proposed to handle its “ultimate weapon,” ways very different from those the writers would have chosen, or even expected.¹³

Almost as if in response, SF gave birth to a ‘New Wave’ in the 1960s. This consisted for the most part of narratives that were stylistically more sophisticated, and in a schism with the Campbellian aesthetic, an outright ‘refusal of the shiny promise of technological modernity’,¹⁴ dealing with ordinary people living ordinary lives. There was a greater emphasis on sex and violence than with science, as evinced by novels such as Ballard’s *Crash* (1973) which deals explicitly with symphorophilia (car-crash sexual fetishism), with protagonists becoming sexually aroused by deliberately staging and personally participating in real car-crashes.¹⁵

SF continued to develop and boom in the 20th and 21st centuries, as the deep penetration of science and inventions into society created an interest in a literature that deliberately explored technology’s influence on people and society. Critics have argued that this fiction epitomised and encouraged Edisonian American ingenuity, with the elevation of the inventor to the ‘level of cultural hero’,¹⁶ ‘atomjocks’¹⁷ paving the way to an Americanised utopian vision of an ideal future. Other critics have lauded this approach as SF is seen as ‘a positive response to the post-industrial world, not always in its content (there is plenty of nostalgia for the past and dislike of change in science fiction) but in its very assumptions, its very form.’¹⁸

In review, briefly, in terms of medium or format, since the 1930s, SF has undergone three successive iterations when the success of Gernsback’s *Amazing Stories* was followed by other pulp-magazine publishers and SF remained magazine based, with novels initially serialised including early after the Second World War, a period of ‘pulp regressions’.¹⁹ After the 1950s, the paperback format expanded very rapidly and the magazine faded away. Luckhurst has argued that this period was profitable for SF, in that it ‘gained advantage from being a genre, a minor literature that could prosper precisely because it was considered marginal.’²⁰ The transition from magazines to books was accompanied by the replacement of the short story and novella with the full-length novel, which was in turn supplanted by television and cinema media.²¹

The tropes and aspirations of SF, have also mutated over the decades. ‘The history of science fiction can be divided into four eras: 1. 1815-1926, 2. 1926-1938, 3. 1938-1945, and 4. 1945- present’, and these eras were respectively the ‘primitive’, adventure-dominant (e.g. Wells and Burroughs), 1938-50 science-dominant (e.g. Campbell and *Astounding*), 1950-65 sociology-dominant (e.g. Wyndham and Bradbury) and 1966-present being style-dominant, narratives with deliberately enhanced literariness along with the development of sub-genres within SF itself.²²

SF now provides a popular narrative with which readers and audiences can identify, exploring ‘the outer limits of the current Western paradigm, science; its playground is all that we

¹³ Albert I. Berger, ‘The Triumph of Prophecy: Science Fiction and Nuclear Power in the Post-Hiroshima’, *Science Fiction Studies*, 3 (1976), 143-150 (p. 143).

¹⁴ Luckhurst, *Science Fiction*, p. 143.

¹⁵ J. G. Ballard, *Crash* (New York: Farrar, Straus Giroux, 1973).

¹⁶ Berger, ‘The Triumph of Prophecy’, p. 51.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 94.

¹⁸ Joanna Russ, ‘Towards an Aesthetic of Science Fiction’, *Science Fiction Studies*, 2 (1975), 112-9 (p. 117).

¹⁹ Luckhurst, *Science Fiction*, p. 122.

²⁰ Luckhurst, *Science Fiction*, pp. 114-115.

²¹ Brian Stableford, ‘The Third Generation of Genre Science Fiction’, *Science Fiction Studies*, 23 (1996), 321-330.

²² Isaac Asimov, ‘Social Science Fiction,’ in Reginald Bretnor, *Modern Science Fiction: Its Meaning and Its Future* (New York: Coward- McCann, Inc., 1953), pp. 157-196 (p. 168).

know about the universe, and what we imagine we might eventually know.²³ Thus, from its inception three generations ago, SF has metamorphosed from pulp magazine to respected genre.

Today's SF is fortunate in that burgeoning popularity and heavy sales have translated into the realisation of the potential for all types of SF to be marketed, and the expectations for the genre are those of 'continued growth and proliferation of mass media technology'.²⁴ Where popularity is low or unsupported by publishing houses, authors are now free to publish their stories online, with no costs. 'Nowadays, everyone knows of SF and thinks he or she knows what it is. Not everyone reads, not everyone approves. But every age gets the art it deserves',²⁵ thanks to modern technology, particularly the Internet.

In Which Michael Wash Does Not Pull Out His Hair

The May 17, 2013 Third Friday meeting started with no quorum. President Barry called the meeting to order at 21:23. Sam L. read the minutes and election results from the last meeting. The treasurers report was not here and the treasurer was not here. The trustees held an election. Next meeting the new officers take office. For Intertivities people mentioned Balticon, New Star Trek, Good reviews, and Angry Birds Fruit Gummies. "Angry Birds might be the Diet Crystal Pepsi of the new Millennium" said Elizabeth. Barry described his epic journey. Dell had a new movie as a customer appreciation event, some WSFAns attended thanks to Carolyn. Brian said bumped into Lee Strong and got a copy of *Worlds of Honor* 6. Charles Gannon had tuckerized him and Brian.

For WSFA Press, Mike Walsh announced that both the author and artist had been sent their checks. Rick Berry is happy and eager to illustrate. The novella, *The Skin Game*, a werewolf story originally in *Night Vision*, will be printed in 1000 copies with 500 signed and numbered and 500 regular. Since many will be signed at con, the unsigned will be in smaller quantity. We have yet to determine price. Once George mentions it on his blog, orders will come in. We will make the book available at Capclave and give members first shot. Copies should sell quickly.

For Capclave, Bill said he cancelled all programing. Capclave will be a relaxacon. He then assured us this was a joke. There was no emails from Sam S on membership, but at current rate should be 600 warm bodies. Bill said there is a retainer for a psychiatrist for when Mike pulls his hair out. Mike said he doesn't do that. <As one can tell by looking at him.> Carolyn said Rich Lynch wants to know if we want the restaurant guide updated. Mike asked him to update, in between world trips. Carolyn asked for more copies at the registration table. Capclave 2013 had nothing more to say. There will be lots of people and programming. Bill said he may have contacted people too early, people are forgetting.



For Capclave 2014, Bill said his wife has not killed me yet <but there's still time>. Bill said, "I offered you a chance to run the convention and you said no." Holly and Paolo will be at the National Book festival and are amenable to doing a dinner. For Capclave 2015. Sam L. said wants the same hotel but will look for other options. Brian suggested new Hyatt in Tysons.

Meetup is still meeting; people are joining. The committee to talk SF will do the latest issue of Asimovs. For the small press award, Carolyn said the panel is reading 104 stories. On June 2nd they will have discussion to narrow down to 6-7.

New business: Fifth Friday. May 31st. No takers.

Here for his first WSFA meeting was Randy, friend of John's from the unemployed mailing group.

²³ Greg Bear, 'Introduction: On Losing the Taint of Being a Cannibal', in *Bear's Fantasies* (Newark, New Jersey: The Wildside Press, 1992), p. 1.

²⁴ Brian Aldiss, *Trillion Year Spree* (New York: Paladin Grafton Books, 1988), p. 568.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 14.

Announcements: Eva Whitley said she has a eight week old kitten. There is a Gaithersburg book festival. Judy has five books to be signed at festival. Elizabeth is working on a Dr. Who sewing project, needs help getting the light. Meeting pathetically adjourned 21:54

Attendance: Carolyn Frank, Kindra Gresham, Michael Ikeda, Bill Lawhorn, Brian Lewis, Sam Lubell, Candy Madigan, Sarah Mitchell, Barry & Judy Newton, Karen North, Elizabeth Twitchell, Michael Walsh, Eva Whitley, Ivy Yap, Randy Zicht, and Sandeep Nair

