

The WSFA Journal



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May/June 2016

Editor's Return By Secretary Samuel Lubell

The WSFA Journal is now under new (old) editorship. As of this issue, former editor Samuel Lubell has again become editor. Long-time WSFAans will remember I first took the reins of *The WSFA Journal* in July 1996, about 20 years ago. I lasted 92 issues before stepping down in June 2004 (to become WSFA President). I took up *The WSFA Journal* again in April 2010 through May 2013. At this point, I now hold the club record for most years as secretary, beating out Elizabeth O. Cullen who was secretary from 1957 to 1965.

So, what can readers expect from my tenure as editor of the august *WSFA Journal* (not to mention the journals for the other 11 months of the year?) Bad jokes (obviously), more graphics, over-use of foNTs, and book reviews. Want more? *The WSFA Journal* is the club's publication so if there's anything you want in the *Journal*, write it and send it in! We need art, reviews, science fiction ideas, stories etc. Everything except current American politics and sports scores. Seen a movie this summer? Read a book? Write a review and send it to editor@wsfa.org. We'll even take fanfiction!



No Backsies on Dues

First Friday in May 5/6/16. Minutes were taken by Sam Lubell due to the secretary spending Mother's Day weekend with her mother.

Bill and Sarah admitted to being life members of BSFS. Ann Marie of BSFS is here but didn't join WSFA (yet). She bought her membership after the meeting in time to vote.

Prez Bob chaired and called the meeting to order at 9:15. Bill objected. No minutes were read. At the last meeting we passed a motion to spend \$1,500 to sponsor John Varley at Balticon 50. Ann Marie said, "And we thank you." A motion to waive the minutes passed. Sam S, said we have \$1,500 less. Gave the numbers to Sam L. There were no Capclave chairs here. Current attendees was 102, normally in April we pick up 5 or 6, only had 2 so falling behind. Ann said we have a table at Balticon and attendance there will be more than usual.



For Capclave present, Bill said at Ravencon we had dodo costume ribbons and they were well received, people were happy to get ribbons. Will give out more at Balticon. People in costume like to be noticed and appreciated it. Ann said Balticon is switching to horizontal ribbons this year. Mark said those are the good ones. Discussion of ribbons.

World Fantasy Con - Bill said nothing to report, after Balticon we will get busy. Ann said since Paul is not here can't talk about website. We'll be ~~stealing~~ borrowing content from WFC 2014. Accessibility, we have people working on that, said Ann. Bill and I discussed possibilities of GOH. We lost one to Texas, as we thought it more polite to wait for Texas to announce their guests first. Mike Walsh will be fan GoH. No secret, we would like to have some international guests. We're entertaining suggestions. People have given us great options said Bill. Bill suggested talking to Neal Clarke. Cheers for Paul and Gayle arriving. Will consider parts of the world not previously considered for WFC.

Capclave Present, Paul said is present. Is working with programming committee. Bob said, remember WSFA will need space for a meeting. Paul wants to check out the hotel's programming areas. Paul wants a Capclave meeting before first Friday in June around 7:30 with Judy's permission. Remind him if don't get an email. If can't make it, send him a status report. He also spoke of how a germ took down NOA.

Trustees will have an election for paid up members only. Madeleine asked for her \$20 back. Sam S. said no backsies.

WSFA Press, Gayle said plenty of books are still available, but nothing new this year. Sam S. said we made the Hugo ballot. Mark asked to buy a copy of *Slow Bullets*, his wife wants to send a *Slow Bullet* to her mom. Status quo on website, if want things on the website send it to Paul. Sam L asked about journals, Paul said has a few has to get up. Small Press Award, Sarah said stories up, will have a meeting on June 11th or 12th. Do not wait for the last day. Mostly shorter stories. Committee to discuss SF will do *Asimov's* this month. *F&SF* next month.

2020 committee has nothing to discuss, said Bill. Ann Marie paid her dues. Looking at hotels. Paul said Bethesda hotel. Sam L. said we looked at it in the past and it's been expensive.

Social media, Sarah said Dodos had a party and posted on social media. Bill said the dodos got an announcement on the party page that they won the Ravenconnie for best party. Might have been some fowl play, said Bill.



No old business. Twitchell not here so her business cannot be discussed.

New business. Sam S. said we paid for Varley's guest status on Balticon. This gives us some perks. Mike Walsh said we get up to five invitations to Patron autograph session. Two invitations to Sunday night dinner with GoHs and chair. Fairest thing to do is a drawing. Sam L was nominated to pull the names out of the hat. Judy Newton – Dinner, Mike Walsh – autographing, Frances Holland dinner.

Pulled but not here: Drew Bittner, Vickie DeSanto, Mike Taylor, Eugenia Martin, Meridel Newton (note: Barry said won't be there), and Mike Taylor

Science and Engineering Festival. Tom Doyle was there. Probably got a few people who will come to Capclave. We gave out flyers and bookmarks. Talked both up.

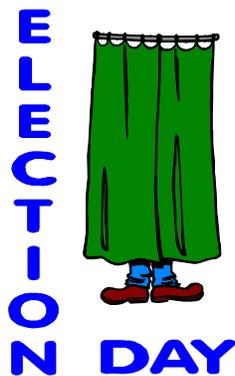
First meeting. John LeRue, found out about us from our website. Fascinating sociological discussion. Lived in DC proper since 2010. Paul tried to recruit him.

Ann Marie said the Hugo ballot came out. If you are members of the convention, she encourages you to read and vote. Voting mechanism is same as past. Steve Stiles is on the ballot for fan artist, only non-Puppy nominee in that category, he may actually get it this time said Mark.

Captain America CW is really good. Mike Walsh called Person of Interest one of the best SF shows. Gayle is cleaning out basement, buy WSFA press books. If member of WSFA, will give \$5 off any WSFA book. Kathi said Transit of Mercury on Monday, weather may cooperate. In the morning. Meeting adjourned at 10:00.

Attendance: Courtni Burleson, Rodger Burns, Paul Haggerty, Kimberly Hargan, David Keener, Bill Lawhorn, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Barry Newton, Kathi Overton, Mark Roth, Judy & Sam Scheiner, George Shaner, Gayle Surette, Mike Walsh, Ivy Yap, Madeleine Yeh, John LaRue, Ann Marie Rudolf, and Angela and Aaron Pound.

WSFA Election – No Trump, No Clinton



Before the election, Sam S. announced that the current number of members is 39. Trustee Mike Walsh ran the election meeting.

President Bob Macintosh proposed by trustees. Acclaimed.

Trustees proposed VP George Shaner. Acclaimed, Bill said Nay.

For Treasurer, trustees nominated Sam S. He demanded a brokered convention. Judy S voted no, Yeas passed.

For Secretary, trustees nominated Sam Lubell. Madeline nominated Cathy Green who wasn't here, so nomination rejected. Sam L. voted nay. Yeas have it. Sam L elected.

Trustees: Gavel turned over to Bob. The trustees nominated Mark Roth, Barry Newton, and Mike Walsh, Ayes have it. Sarah and Madeline abstained. Ann Marie

protested that was an all male slate.

WSFA small press award trustees nominated Cathy Green and Sarah Mitchell. Bill objected. Sarah opposed. Both were elected.

Capclave 2018, Cathy Green has agreed to chaired it. Ann Marie was offered, said hell no. Sam L said she's not here to defend herself. Acclaimed.

Vote for Capclave 2020, Bill Lawhorn volunteered. Sarah objected. Yeas passed. Election started at 10:11, finished 10:25.

Hugo Announcement

April 1, 2016 - Thanks to the wonders of computerized voting, this year's Hugo administrators have already compiled the novel results, just a day after the voting deadline. I'm scooping *PILE 770* by posting them here. I'm pretty sure at least one was pushed by the Sad Guppies but the Butcher novel might have been nominated anyway.

The *Flatworld* series by Sir Terry Pratchett – In an attempt to outnumber the 2014 nomination of the 14-book *Wheel of Time* series as a single novel, this year's nominators have chosen to regard the 41 book series as a single novel, even though no character appears in every book. In this single novel the inept magic of Rancidbreath the wizzard causes Death to pick an apprentice whose granddaughter Susie watches Granny Weathervane and her witches reenact Shakespeare with vampires which is investigated by Sam Crimes of the City Watchers aided and thwarted by the wizards of Nosee University while Young Adult heroine Painful Jewelry grows up with the help of Dune's Wee Fremmen and everyone is tricked into going postal by conman Wet von Tonguewag who escapes via steam locomotive.



The Lack of Light in the Place with Many Trees by Ken Liu Cixout – The sequel to last year's *Three Bodies No Problem* has a different translator. After the defeat of the human fans of My Three Suns, Earthlings come up with a plan to defeat the aliens through graffiti. Four Wall Defacers are given ultimate power over everything on Earth with no accountability. Surprisingly, only one goes corrupt and uses his power to get a girlfriend, rare wines, and free trips to art museums. That's the book's hero.

Someweather by John C Writes – Professor Dreadful warns Uncle Illya Kuryakin that an enemy from the Moebius Strip will destroy all the Many Worlds. Armed with his trusty squirrel gun, Illya must save the mad scientist's beautiful daughter, the Soviet Union, and, incidentally the multiverse.

The Cinderella Spies: The Aeronut's Windy Lass by Jim The Butcher—Predator Captain Ben Grimm fights in Spire Albion's war against Kim Stanley Robinson's Aurora. He is joined by Growl, who makes catty remarks; Bridget, the flying nun; Folly, a mad magic user who talks through a crystal radio; the meek and mild Gwen; and the half-beastly Eggs Benedict Arnold.

Ancillary Ming the Merciless by Ann Luckie – This is the third book in the series whose first book, *Ancillary Justice League*, was the only novel to win the Hugo, Nebula, Arthur C. Clarke, and WSFA Small Press Award. In this book Ming, the Lord of the Radch, continues to be at war among her comic strip, cartoon, and film selves (the latter has the best soundtrack). Brak, warship turned captain of her own ship must fight the conquering Presgeneric who have arrived via a long-thought closed Stargate.

Just a City by Jo-Girl Walton—This is the alternate nominee in case the Flatworld series is disqualified. In this book the Goddess Athene brings creates a city of Republicans from all of history on a Mediterranean island that will be destroyed by a volcano. The Republicans buy children to indoctrinate in their ways while work is performed by minimum wage robots. But philosophical debates between the likes of Ronald Reagan, Newt Gingrich, George Will, and Senator McCarthy are disrupted by the arrival of the gadfly Trump.

Of course, April Fools!

WSFA to Migrate; Joins the Google Generation

WSFA Third Friday Meeting May 5/20/2016 was called to order by President Bob at 9:15pm. Secretary Cathy Green took notes. Minutes were read.

Capclave Present – meeting to look at the hotel space is tomorrow. Programming letters have all gone out. Travel arrangements are underway. Secretary passed around sign up sheet for people to sign up for shifts at the Balticon fan table.

Capclave Future – Elizabeth Twitchell repeated that Ken Liu was her GOH, that people are saying nice things about him and that things will go into overdrive after Balticon in terms of planning.

Capclave Far Future – looking for hotel. Cathy is talking to Colette Fozard about being hotel rep because she knows people.

Capclave 2020 – Bill will set up voting for the GOH chosen by the club.

Social media – twitter feed is still going strong, as are the Capclave and WSFA facebook pages. Things are status quo for the Capclave and WSFA websites. Gayle and Paul don't generate content. If we want stuff to go up on the site (e.g. the calendar) we need to send it to them.

Sam Lubell, as the official address of WSFA received a book. Kim Hargan agreed to review it.

Trustees had nothing to report.



Old Business - Elizabeth Twitchell gave a report on migrating the WSFA list from yahoo to gmail. The club voted yes with one abstention and one vote in opposition.

There was no new business.

No one was there for their first meeting or 2d meeting. Deirdre was there for her third meeting. Lives in Laurel in PG County (the real Laurel as another Laurel resident put it).

Announcements - The secretary and the host both made the usual announcements.

Sam Lubell had flyers for Escape Velocity. Also, the Committee to Actually Discuss SF will be discussing Lightspeed Magazine. Next meeting it will be Fantasy & Science Fiction.

Zen Lizard noted that that Gaithersburg Book Festival was that weekend and that in a good year when it isn't raining it gets around 20,000.

Mark Roth noted that Charlie Stross will be at Balticon and at the Beer Barn in Dupont on Monday night.

Paul H. will have a Capclave meeting at 7:30 before 1st Friday.

Mike W is selling books as usual. He noted that Balticon's pre-reg was 1800 and they were expecting around 3000 people.

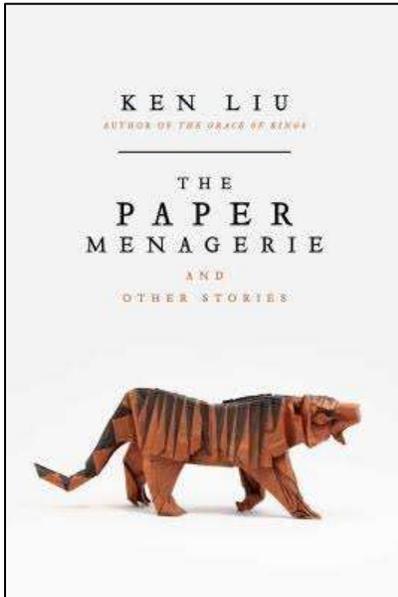
Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm

Attendance: Cathy Green, Courtni Burlison, Kim Hargan, Paul Haggerty, Sam Hogan/Zen Lizard, Frances Holland, Michael Ikeda, Bill Lawhorn, Sam Lubell, Bob MacIntosh, Sarah Mitchell, Barry Newton, Judy Newton, Evan Phillips, Mark Roth, Deirdre Tracy, Brielle Bittner, Mike Taylor, Elizabeth Twitchell, Michael Walsh, Ivy Yap, and Madeleine Yeh

Review of *The Paper Menagerie and Other Stories* by Ken Liu

Reviewed by Sam Lubell

The Paper Menagerie is a substantial (450 pages) collection of some of Ken Liu's best stories. This makes it a collection of some of the best short stories of the current decade. The title story won both the Hugo and Nebula awards, and Liu has seven other Nebula nominations and two other Hugos (counting his translation of [The Three-Body Problem](#)) plus another Hugo nomination, all since 2010.



The stories are hard to categorize as some have no real genre content (or very little) while others have no plot. Generally, what makes a Liu story is the vivid imagery--the soul locked in an ice cube, the chrome fox, the child simulacrum of an estranged daughter, the tunnel connecting Asia and America, and of course the living origami animals. I did notice that many stories deal with a conflict between children and parents.

Many of his stories are set in Asia. "Good Hunting" is an intriguing mix of science fiction and fantasy set in China where the railroad and machines are replacing the traditional magic and is about the different ways a demon hunter and fox shapechanging demon cope with this change. On one level, "The Literomancer" is the story of an American girl in the strange land of Taiwan who meets an old man who shows her the magic of letters. On the other level it is a cold war story of betrayal. "A Brief History of the Trans-Pacific Tunnel"

describes an ambitious effort to connect Shanghai, Tokyo, and Seattle that also serves as commentary on the differences between the Japanese and Americans. "The Litigation Master and the Monkey King" is another story where the fantasy element is minimal or even imaginary. Tian Haoli helps defend the poor in legal matters, while the Chinese hero the Monkey King comments inside Tian's head.

Other stories are about the immigrant experience. "The Regular" reads like the pilot for a television show about a future P.I. as the half-Chinese Ruth Law tries to catch a killer preying on Chinatown prostitutes while abusing her regulator, which suppresses emotions, to cope with her guilt over her daughter's death. The title story, the Hugo and Nebula winning "The Paper Menagerie" is about a half-Chinese boy's determination to become fully American at the cost of rejecting his Chinese mother. The story won the Hugo and Nebula even though the story would have worked just as well without the fantasy element. "Mono No Aware" is about a Japanese man who is able to escape a doomed Earth on an American spaceship and his effort to save the ship when the solar sail is punctured. "All the Flavors" is about a group of Chinese miners who move to Idaho City and the American girl who befriends them and listens to their stories. While there is no genre content in the main story, Logan tells the girl tales of the Chinese God of War that have a similar feel to the narrative in Liu's novel **The Grace of Kings**. "The Man Who Ended History: A Documentary" uses the idea of time viewing to investigate WWII war crimes committed by the Japanese in China. Because Japan is a cold war ally while China is communist, the American government tries to suppress this technique.

Liu also plays with the traditional story structure. "The Bookmaking Habits of Select Species" has no plot but describes how several different alien species make books. This is fiction in

nonfiction form and could easily be an article from some future encyclopedia. "An Advanced Readers' Picture Book of Comparative Cognition" alternates descriptions of different types of aliens with a family's choice of whether to journey in space to try to communicate with aliens.

Even in his more traditional stories, his focus is on the characters. In "State Change" everyone's soul is stored in a physical object, like a pack of cigarettes or, in Rina's case, an ice cube. Her need to protect the cube shapes her personality, in contrast to her roommate who had used up over half her cigarettes by college, until she decides to risk everything for a chance to love. "The Perfect Match" is a more traditional science fiction story about a computer program that manages everyone's life for them. In "Simulacrum", a daughter discovers her father cheating on her mother with lifelike 3D images of other women. In "The Waves" people on a generation starship have to choose between immortality and letting their children grow up.

One drawback to *The Paper Menagerie* is the lack of author notes on the story. There's a brief preface but nothing more, not even a brief note on what awards and nominations a story received. This book does not include any of Liu's many translations of Chinese science fiction. A separate collection of his translations, *Invisible Planets*, will come out from Tor this November.

Ken Liu's stories combine vivid imagery and great characterization with his own unique style. A Ken Liu story does not read like a story from most other authors even apart from his Chinese settings. Anyone who enjoys great stories, regardless of genre, or has an interest in Chinese culture, will want to read this collection. Highly recommended.

Vote to Cancel Capclave Failed

There was a Capclave meeting first, then President Bob called the First Friday meeting in June (6-3-16) to order at 9:16. Since new officers took office, Secretary Sam took minutes. Madeleine called for a Constitutional Conventions. Sam L. read the minutes from the last meeting. Change to Clarkesworld reading for June's Third Friday. Will also discuss the Hugo nominated novellas. Total funds = \$36,734.35 Decrease due to Capclave.

Capclave Present: Vote to cancel Capclave failed. Just had meeting, went well. There were lots of programming ideas. No major problems. Fingers etc. crossed. Everything is on schedule, looking good.

Cap Future: Elizabeth spent quality time at the Balticon table going over budgets and timetables for past Capclaves. At the next meeting, she hopes to announce second GoH.

Far Future not here.



Capclave 2020 is now official. Bill said he spoke with past GoHs. Harry is amendable. Stan Robinson had already expressed interest. After the scotch party, he became more excited than before. Connie Willis is happy to come back; she offered to do am panels. Bill is considering, instead of Thursday GoH dinner with staff, to do a Friday morning breakfast for staff and guests. That way he will have staff at 10am so can do dealer movein. For logistics, he wants more opportunity to mingle with guests. He might distribute gifts then, more time than doing for 20+ in awards ceremony (can display for people to see). Also some guests will come in Thursday night. They can still come out to the morning breakfast. Will schedule tea events, Connie loves tea parties. Has agreement with secret GoH, "neeaner neener". Can't do full agreement since don't have hotel. We will have World Fantasy money to help bring in people. Will have meeting with Ron Gardner about financing. He does stuff for Silence in Library. People sponsoring GoH will be able to come to staff

breakfast. Also, breakfast will be cheaper than dinner. Looking at 100 person thing. Set price will be lower than taking people out for full meal. Also a lot of our guests are friends so will want to have dinner with each other. Sarah said, as long as don't get arrested. Mike suggested finding where the nearest bail bondsman is. Bill continue, there is a Deep South bid moving forward, will be a hotel search, so I'll piggy back on that. Depends on which guests come back (500 person diff if George Martin comes back). We are covering 90% of SF and Fantasy with our guest list (unless someone brings in Chuck Tingle.)

World Fantasy – Won't have 3000 people (unlike Balticon). We will be working mostly on the fifth floor. They are flooring over where the escalators are, adding space to the atrium/forum, so we may be able to do whole mass signing there. Bob said, do it at night so no one gets sunburned. Bill said, set up with conversation squares and spots to sit down and talk, that's what people want to do at WFC. All soft seating to hang out. Learned about logistics of hotel. Walsh said, shoes. Bill said, at WFC shoes are not an issue. We will need to work on blocking so noise issues are lesser. And understanding about open gatherings. Won't have 3000 people. Bob said, Martin told me 2,600 at Balticon. Rodger said above 2,700. Walsh said if count all warm bodies at any time, close to 2,800. Next year, will be smaller, unless Flint gets a tv series.



Trustees had nothing to say. Membership didn't have a safeword said Walsh.

Small press: Sarah said meeting next weekend to do the finalists. Their stories should be up soon after that. Elizabeth offered to bring deviled eggs if everyone reads the stories.

WSFA Press has thousands of books in his cellar, buy them.

Social media: Nothing exciting Sarah said. Dodos congratulated Fran Wilde for winning the Compton Cook award.

Constitution committee: Sam said can get stuff from Cathy next weekend after small press meeting.

Intertivities: Fran Wilde will do a reading for us this summer, maybe on the First Friday in August, said Bill. Will share info in social media.

Sam L. shared schedule for talk SF.

Old business: Elizabeth said she set up new lists on Googlegroups. E-WSFA at Googlegroups. Will email to club members and WSFA forums and facebook. Basically for emergencies if WSFA cancelled.

Bill asked if people took advantage of the perks for funding John Varley. Signings were passed on, but Rodger said there were problems with the rooms so might not have gotten in. Rodger said was separate special signing, but had been placed in children's programming area, but was moved to 11th floor, and not communicated to the sponsors. Bob said, not acceptable. Prez asked Secretary to write a letter expressing upset. Discussion of Balticon problems. Check with Cathy. She made it to signing, not all authors there. Letter should say, we were promised something and you dropped the ball. Frustration vented. Bill said: Lessons of what can go wrong when you go big, we'll need to pay attention to these as potential problems. We will need everyone's help on 2020. Little things can develop into big ones. Don't let things slide. WFC is opportunity to shine. If want a future WFC in DC, we want the board to remember this well and that these groups can work



together. Need to play nice. Walsh said BSFS officers have issued a statement acknowledging problems. Recommended it be sent to File 770.

New Buz: nothing.

Announcements: Rodger is closing on new Condo on Monday, moving half a block. Paul has rack cards and bookmarks. Mark will pay off his mortgage next month. Barry, two strawberry festivals this weekend. Bill gave out Dodo approved costume ribbons at Balticon. Folk festival, reason rally, and awesome con all this weekend. Walsh has books for sale. Bill said, fourth of July annual picnic despite injuries.

Meeting adjourned 9:58 unanimously.

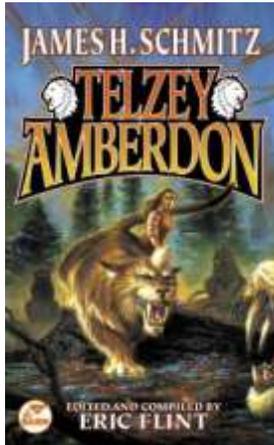
Attendance: Rodger Burns, Vicki DiSanto, Paul Haggerty, Kimberly Hargan, Sam Hogan, Judy Kindell, Bill Lawhorn, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Sarah Mitchell, Barry Newton, Aaron & Angela Pound, Mark Roth, Judy Scheiner, George Shaner, Elizabeth Twitchell, Michael Walsh, Ivy Yap, and Cynthia Moreno.

The Current Golden Age (Part I)

By Samuel Lubell

We are living in the real golden age of science fiction and fantasy. Yes, I hear the objections from those who think the genre hasn't been good since whenever you were 13. I agree that there are a lot more bad books published these days, but that's because there's a lot more science fiction and fantasy published now and the bad books of the past have been conveniently forgotten. After all, the Gor books made it to 25 volumes.

First, far more science fiction from the past is available now than at any point in history. Back when most science fiction was published in magazines, if you missed an issue those stories were lost to you forever. Now, of course, much of science fiction is published online and can be accessed years later.



Many collections of stories by classic writers are available in five ways.

1. The cheapest is to check Project Gutenberg. This is a collection of public domain works. Even some living writers have had a few stories slip into public domain so you can sometimes find a sample.
2. Ebooks: Wildside Press has a series of Megapacks with 10-20 stories for a dollar by many of the classic authors. There are even packs for mostly forgotten authors like Lafferty and Davidson. This is probably the best use for a buck ever. Robert Silverberg's collected stories are \$2.99 a volume from Subterranean. Other writers may have similar cheap ebooks.
3. Baen Books: Many readers dismiss Baen as the publisher of only a certain type of space and sword adventure novels. But Baen has also published collections of short stories and novels by past greats such as James Schmitz, Keith Laumer, and A. E. Van Vogt. Some of the Schmitz volumes had stories not reprinted since their original magazine appearance.
4. Used books: Once, readers looking for used books had to seek them out at conventions and browsing in used book stores. Now, multiple online sources list the contents of thousands of used bookstores, making it easy to find things (although now it is harder to find bargains from bookstores who didn't know the worth of their SF stock).
5. NESFA Press: NESFA Press puts out hardcover editions collecting works by some of the classics. They did the short fiction of Roger Zelazny and are currently releasing Poul

Anderson. They did collections of William Tenn, Eric Frank Russell, C. M. Kornbluth, etc. If you don't have *Ingathering: The Complete People Stories* by Zenna Henderson or *The Rediscovery of Man: The Complete Short Science Fiction of Cordwainer Smith*, buy them now.

Hugo Nominees Destroyed My Critical Facilities

The June 17, third Friday meeting began when Prez Bob asked for a call upstairs to get more people. The meeting called to order at 9:16. Sam L. read the minutes from the last meeting. Minutes were accepted. Treasurer was not here.

Cap Present: No major change. Things are happening behind the scenes but nothing to report.

Cap Future: Elizabeth was not here, but has announced Neil Clarke is her second guest. Bill said he is excited. Sam L. warned that Neil has been known to end conventions at hospitals. Walsh said no, started.

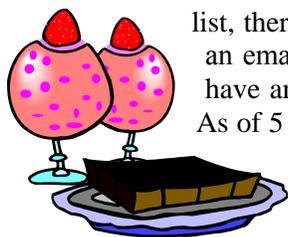
Far Future: Cathy said she has asked Collette to work on finding a hotel with her. Until she finds a hotel can't announce dates or guests. Columbus Day is our preferred weekend, and obviously we don't want to run up too close to WFC. Although there are certain advantages if people would be willing to stay over. She has some guests in mind but can't announce yet until we have a hotel. "I'm leaning to doing two authors. Depends on who I can get and if I think the pairing will work."

Capclave 2020: Bill said that he Sarah are having dinner with Ron to discuss fundraising options and other things. Beyond that, nothing yet.

WFC: Bill said I'm getting... moving forward on getting the website up. He is working on getting art. Progressing. Then there will be a discussion of guests. People will be asked to visit Mike Walsh at his usual location. With improvements to the hotel to open up space, we'll have to see what the table layout will look like, want all the signings in the atrium so we won't have tear-down and can run programming up till the signing.

Trustees: Nothing.

Small Press Award: Prez said everyone should have their notification. Sarah said, it's up, read the stories, and vote. The deadline is August 7, a week after the Hugos. There are nine. Bill said check the attendance list, there is an M for the members. Paul said if you are a member you should have gotten an email. All 44 WSFA members on the official list. If you did not get it, either I don't have an email for you, you are not a paid up member, or your spam filter ate it. See me.



As of 5 minutes ago 6 people had voted. If we reach 60% Madeleine does fudge brownies, 70% Cathy does fudge, 80% cheesecake, 90% fudge and cheesecake. 100% individual packets of fudge. 68% is the highest we've gotten. Mike Walsh forgot. Mike said, I read the Hugo nominees and that destroyed my critical facilities.

Cathy said only three are long. Sarah said dodos said everyone should do their duty and vote. I want fudge. Discussion of the Small Press Award rejecting big name authors in the past.

WSFA Press: Basement of books, buy them. You need multiple copies. Many titles still available.

Webpage: WSFA Facebook page has 355 members, Capclave 169 members.

Talk SF: Sam L. gave the reading list. For first Friday we will discuss F & SF in the second month of the publication date, with Asimov's on the other months. For Third Friday we will do Clarkesworld. Except in July we will discuss the Hugo nominees on First Friday and the WSFA Small Press contenders on Third Friday.

Intertivities – Escape Velocity. July 1-3, Museum of SF. Sam L. said it seems like a SF convention by someone who has never been to a SF convention.

Bill said Fran Wilde will probably come First Friday in August.



Old Business – Bob said, he asked Sam L. to write a letter and Sam did so. It's a good letter. It's a very nice letter to BSFS. He will send it. They promised us as a patron certain things and failed. One person said the dinner went well, Varley said thank you for sponsoring it.

Bill asked about becoming 501c3. Cathy said you would have to be a c3 and then apply to the state. Discussion of tax matters and our tax status broke out.

New business: Fifth Friday in July. Rodger offered to do a Fifth Friday/Housewarming at his new apartment July 29th. Bob said, we thank Rodger.

First Meetings: Scott said works for DC libraries. Is doing Summer Reading for everyone. On their website you add to log and say the title. Prizes. Dclibrary.org/summerreading. People can get a DC library card if live in a nearby jurisdiction.

Matthew Shogren: Run programming at Balticon. First time getting to WSFA.

Darren Zieger: May have gone to a meeting 20 years ago. Involved with filk

Sonya Bleakley: longtime sf fan from Baltimore area.

Scott Harkless

Second meeting: Robert Thomas. He came back.

Announcements: Paul explained the small press award to the new people.

Erica has a new cat. He licks us a lot. The scamperbeast.

WSFA invited to the Pomeranz 4th of July. WSFA invited to BSFS picnic.

Meeting adjourned unanimously 10:04.

Attendance: Courtni Y. Burlison, Carolyn Frank, Erica & Lydia Ginter, Cathy Green, Paul Haggerty, Kimberly Hargan, Frances Holland, Michael Ikeda, Bill Lawhorn, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Candy Madigan, Sarah Mitchell, Shirl Phelps, Steve Smith, Mike Taylor, Michael Walsh, Eva Whitley, Ivy Yap, Madeleine Yeh, Robert Thomas, Matthew Shogren, Scott Harkless, Keith Marshall, Diara M Senegi, Sonya Bleakley, and Darren Zieger.

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