

The WSFA Journal Sept-Oct 2016



Capclave 2016 Guests of Honor Tim Powers and Sarah Beth Durst

Photo by Kathi Overton

WSFA Makes Cathy Make Us
Fudge

Brian Lewis: Rest in Peace

Living in the Future

Recipe for Biscotti

WSFA Meets at Capcalve

Review of CrossTalk

Capclave Chairs Request
Electroshock

WSFA Makes Cathy Make Us Fudge

The 9-2-16 September First Friday meeting began with George Shaner presiding. There was a discussion of DC metro system. "Let's get this show on the road," said George at 9:14 on his phone. First Friday of September. Robert is his middle name. George Bob, the 10th Walton said Cathy.

Sam L. read minutes. Treasurer's report was \$\$\$\$ with a year to year of \$\$\$.



Paul said, Capclave Present is present. Reservations for travel for GoH made. He needs to talk to Bob about hotel space. There is a new hotel person at the hotel. The reservation system has been fixed. Elizabeth booked a room, said only Kings left. Paul is still in need of a games master. Zenlizard raised his hand; he will talk to people at games con this week. Crosses fingers, "I believe Capclave is on track." Colleen said programming going on to panelists shortly. She stole from only the best of cons. Have workshops. Plotting on Friday, Writing on Sat. MicroFiction workshop. Reading aloud workshop, Short fiction contracts, Book design 101, Internet tools for readers on Sunday. Do need to finalize details. Bill asked about online signups, Colleen said when we get all the details it will go online.

Sam S for registration said we made up ground in August 156 at moment. We should send out email blast to past people. Sam S will send list to Paul and Colleen will send text. Paul said, "We're behind the curve. We need to go out and kidnap people and get them to buy membership." Talked about hitting bookstores and colleges. Capclave meeting here, next Saturday at noon. Please come with plans and questions. Pizza will be provided for committee. Small Press Awards have been ordered and are on the way. (One for author and one for publisher). Thank you for voting. We made Cathy make us fudge. We've been trying for eight years. Judy said con suite stuff is in garage. Need someone to take stuff to the con.

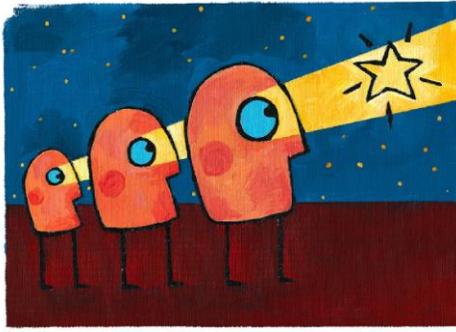
Elizabeth for Cap Future said it will be in same hotel. Is meeting with programming people and promo content. Seven or eight label makers so will donate what works. Cap Far Future: Cathy is here. Got board permission to do a two-year contract with hotels. Hotel talk.

WFC, Bill spoke of trials and tribulations of WFC, but not for 2018. We need to revise our harassment policy. Website coming together so will be ready to launch at end of WFC in Columbus. Only have one guest so far Mike Walsh. Want balance in guests/toastmaster. He is looking. Starting sales after the banquet, so Oct 30th. There will be a committee rate of \$50. Testing website with committee members. We've been proactive in bringing in people. We will have code of conduct, accessibility, and major staff people. Avoid the secrecy problem. Cathy offered to break some computer code. Useful idiot. Judy said we need to make sure 2016 and 2017 go well so we'll have a 2018. Colleen said people tell us our WFC was really good. We have a good reputation.



Bill for Capclave 2020 said he is working on hotel stuff. Waiting for Cathy and Collette to do their hotel search. Looking at facilities. Stuff on hold. Diversity of past guests discussed.

Constitution Committee – Sam L needs to talk to Steve Smith (treasury and tax stuff) Small press: Cathy said press release out. We made Locus. Sarah said dodos gave out ribbons at Worldcon and gave out bookmarks to locals. Bill for Facebook said people been joining the Capclave page and asking questions. Need to keep things active there. Traffic related to Fran's reading. Elizabeth said needs to set up Meetup so other people cannot post on our Meetups. Send her stuff to put up. Local conventions etc.



Intertivities: Kim said Channel 15 – Heroes and Icons doing all Star Treks in order. Xena/Hercules etc. Adding the animated series. Smithsonian Channel on Sunday will be doing a series “Building Star Trek” 8th of Sept BBC will be running Star Trek seasons one and two. Planet in Proxima B. Nearest planet in another system. Star Trek’s anniversary. Star Trek is everywhere. Black Cat on Fridays is doing Star Trek happy hour and Saturdays is Dr. Who. Sunday at 1: Star Trek 50 Iconic Years. Yale study found those who read 3.5 hours a week live 2 years longer.

Elizabeth said the Air and Space Museum is doing a bunch of Star Trek stuff. Baltimore Book Festival and National Book Festival on September 24th. September 8th, Smithsonian will air a 50 years to the minute rebroadcast of first episode on big screen. Intervention in two weeks. Maryland public broadcast is doing Dr. Who eps Sundays at Midnight.

Old business: Fifth Friday, on the 30th. No one said anything.

New business. None.

We have a person who brought a bottle of Crystal Pepsi.

Cynthia Mareno’s husband Lawrence Timson is here for second meeting.

Bill said 2024 bid for a Worldcon.

Michael brought a kid’s book *Watch Out Jar-Jar*.

Chessiecon in November. Sarah Pinsker will be GoH.

Meeting shutdown at 10:05, unanimously

Attendance: Rodger Burns, Cathy Green, Paul Haggerty, Sam Hogan, Frances Holland, Judy Kindell, Bill Lawhorn, Sam Lubell, Sarah Mitchell, Cynthia Morenso (by proxy?), Kathi Overton, Aaron & Angela Pound, Judy & Sam Scheiner, George Shaner, Gayle Surette, Ivy Yap, Madeleine Yeh, Colleen Cahill, Crystal Pepsi, and Lawrence Timson.

Brian Lewis - Rest in Peace 9/7/2016

Longtime WSFAn Brian Lewis died on September 7, 2016.

Brian Lewis grew up in the D.C. area. Cathy wrote that he grew up in Chevy Chase and went to the Edmund Burke School. “In addition to having some computing related jobs as a contractor, Brian sometimes worked for his father who was a general contractor. He also worked retail for a number of years. He was an assistant floor manager at Crown Books and for a number of years was a floor manager at the Tandy/Radio Shack at Fair Oaks Mall. His retail electronics experience meant he was pretty helpful when it came to issues with tvs/vcrs/dvd players.”

He is first mentioned in the July 1980 *WSFA Journal* as sending a letter commenting on problems he found at that year’s Disclave. He joined WSFA in 1983 and was a frequent attendee of meetings. He served as trustee 2011-2014, put together a flyer about WSFA, and did a restaurant guide for Capclave.

Cathy went on to write. “While not a costumer, Brian really loved the costume parade at Dragoncon and would take huge numbers of pictures every year he attended.

While he favored Dragoncon over Worldcon, Brian did attend a number of Worldcons, especially when they were in states he had not yet visited or had museums he was particularly interested in visiting. When we had fan tables at world cons, he could be counted on to put in a few hours every day.



Brian went to a couple Balticons, but mostly he went to MediaWest over Memorial Day weekend. He had a huge collection of media-related fanzines and I believe had written some fan fiction. Sometimes Brian would drive to MediaWest, then after the con would cross into Canada at Windsor, and drive to the Montreal area to visit Jigsaw Jungle. Brian collected 3D wooden jigsaw puzzles and Jigsaw Jungle was one of the few places that regularly had new ones of the sort he liked.”

Brian apparently stopped going to WSFA and to SF conventions in October of 2015, although his sister told WSFA she did eventually hear from him.

Living in the Future

The WSFA September Third Friday 9/16/26 meeting was called to order at 9:15. Elizabeth left her bottle of Crystal Pepsi in her car. Bad Crystal Pepsi owner.

The treasurer was not here. Capclave present was not here. The convention is in three weeks. There will be a meeting with hotel next Thursday to go over resume. We had a meeting last Saturday. Stuff is coming. Convention is on its way. Hotel is booked said Bob. Information on the overflow hotel is on the web page. We fill about half the hotel. Cathy suggested making the room block bigger next year.

For Capclave Future, Elizabeth said she has had meetings. She is working on types of programming and participants we want. Let us know who you want as program participants. Send email. On Friday, there will be a con running workshop with stuff on contracts, codes of conduct, taxes etc. This will be an actual workshop, not a panel. There is a large pool of nonprofits in areas with meeting planners. Like a professional development training session. Practical.



For Far Future, Cathy was sitting at the Capclave table at Intervention, looking at hotels. Talking to Collette.

For World Fantasy, Ann and Bill sent list of potential guests to Board. They are editing website material. For Capclave 2020 Bill is reviewing hotels. He is considering potential guests for WSFA to vote on top five.

WSFA Press was not here. For Small Press, Sarah said she has the actual award waiting to show up at Capclave. Nominees have been invited to Capclave. Will have some of the publishers there. Authors are asked if they cannot attend to send someone with acceptance speech just in case.



WSFA Webmaster not here. Elizabeth said Capclave is up in Meetup. One of the settings on Meetups will post on your page if a certain number of people in your group are going. Elizabeth is working on changing the setting to turn it off. Twitter- It is there, picked up some followers. New info on workshops.

Bylaws. Nothing yet. Need to go over Steve's stuff.

SF discuss: Clarkesworld online will be discussed today. F&SF postponed to Nov. They are selling \$5 subscriptions for the Kindle.

Intertivities – Intervention, Small Press Expo. LoC bookfest, Fall for the Book.

Old Business – Fifth Friday this month. No one volunteered.

New business – Sam L. proposed paying no more than \$60 for plastic tubs for WSFA Archives. Someone suggest Dollar General. Passed with one opposed one abstention. Sam thanked the club. No more new business.

First meeting. Neighbor across the street. Patrick and Cassandra. Found out through Candy. She was here a long time ago. Third meeting person. Elizabeth Jones who turned in here paperwork to join.

Announcements: Elizabeth loves living in the future and just subscribed to F&SF online right now. Carolyn got a holograph of the sun. When in England last year she toured the theater and had picture taken with two real Daleks.

Meeting unanimously adjourned at 9:54

Attendance: Courtni Y. Burlson, Carolyn Frank, Cathy Green, Kimberly Hargan, Frances Holland, Michael Ikeda, Bill Lawhorn, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Sarah Mitchell, Barry & Judy Newton, Miridel Newton, Deidre Tracy, Michael Walsh, Eva Whitley, Ivy Yap, Madeleine Yeh, Beth Jones, Cassandra Hetzel, and Patrick Eates.



**Recipe for Biscotti -- American Chocolate Espresso Almond
By Madeleine Yeh**

Adapted from King Arthur Flour Cookie Companion
The Countryman Press, P.O. Box 748
Woodstock, Vermont 05091
2004
Page 136 American Biscotti



Here are the recipes that I used at the last meeting for Judy's birthday biscotti.

Lots of Butter Chocolate Espresso Almond Biscotti
This recipe has been enlarged to be as much biscotti as can be conveniently cooked in a single batch in my oven with my equipment

1/2 cup or 1 stick butter
1 cup sugar or a little less
1 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
3 large eggs
2 2/3 cups whole wheat flour -- sift before measuring

6 tablespoons cocoa powder -- sift before measuring
2 teaspoons espresso powder
2 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
2-3 tablespoons of water (might not be needed)
1 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease (or line with parchment) a large (about 18 x 13 inch) baking sheet.



1. Mix the flour, cocoa, espresso powder and baking powder together and set aside
2. In a medium sized bowl, beat the butter and sugar until the mixture is smooth and creamy. Keep on beating until the mixture is fluffy. Blend in the vanilla extract. Beat in the eggs one at a time; the batter may look slightly curdled. This can be done by hand or with a mixer.
3. Mix in the flour mixture gently by hand. If you are using a mixer beat a short time at low speed. If the dough is too dry add water a tablespoon at a time. The butter will probably add enough liquid that water is not needed.
4. Mix in the walnuts by hand. If you are using a mixer beat for a short time at low speed. The dough will be quite soft and sticky, but should hold its shape when you drop it from a spoon.



5. Form three logs on the baking sheet from the dough. I normally drop the dough by spoonfuls into the correct spot and use a spatula dipped in water to smooth the dough into a log. Smooth the top of the log and the sides. Flatten the log slightly as it won't spread too much on its own. The logs should be about 3/4 inch high. Three logs make small to medium size biscotti; if you want longer biscotti make only two logs. The log will be about 3/4 inches thick and a couple of inches shorter than the pan.

6. Heat the oven to 350 degrees. While the oven is heating up, the whole wheat flour in the cookie dough is absorbing the moisture. If the oven is already heated for some reason, let the dough rest in the cookie sheet for at least 15 minutes

7. Bake the dough for 20-25 minutes. The log should be firm to the touch and not too sticky when tested with a knife. Remove from the oven and let cool on the pan for 10 to 15 minutes.

8. Move each log onto a cutting board carefully. Cut each log before it's completely cool and hard into 1/2 - 3/4 inch slices. This works best with a good bread knife or with a good long serrated knife. Slice on the diagonal for longer biscotti; slice straight across for smaller biscotti.

9. Set the biscotti upright on the prepared baking sheet. I like to bake on a cooling rack set on a half sheet pan. Bake for 10-20 minutes. Baking for the shorter time results in moister and softer biscotti. Remove from the oven and transfer to a rack to cool.

Store the biscotti in an airtight container to preserve their texture. If the biscotti gets soft from absorbing moisture from the air, bake it at 350 degrees for 5 minutes or so.

Biscotti can be stored at room temperature for 2 weeks, for longer storage, wrap airtight and freeze. Biscotti might in theory last a long time at room temperature, but that only works with people with an abundance of will power and self-control. I am lucky if a whole batch of biscotti lasts two days.



WSFA Meets at Capclave



1 Photo by Kathi Overton

The October First Friday 10/7/16 WSFA meeting was very abbreviated due to the fact that this was held during Capclave and most members had lots to do.

President Bob called the meeting to order at 8:05 at Capclave. "An hour early," complained Evan. Bob said, "We have this thing called Capclave that we're running." There was no Old Business. For Capclave present, it was announced that we are at Capclave Present. Future and Far Future were not here.

No new business. Zenlizard asked about storage. He suggested storing stuff with Chessiecon which is nearby. Sam L said we'll talk with the Scheiners to see what we have. Bob said we don't have much, just a couple of bins. It was put on the agenda for Third Friday.

For Talk SF, Sam L said we were doing Clarkesworld next month.

Meeting adjourned unanimously at 8:10

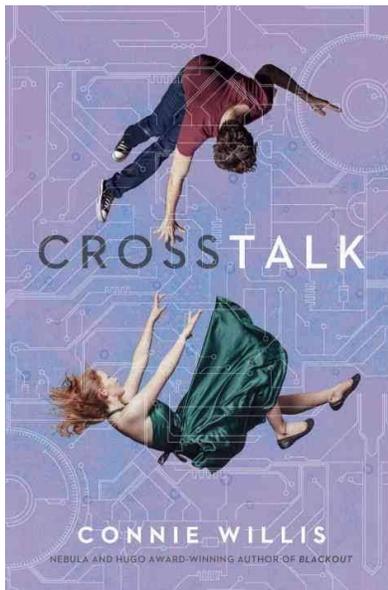
Attendance: Courtni Y. Burlison, Rodger Burns, Sam Hogan, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Barry & Judy Newton, Miridel Newton, Evan Phillips, Mark Roth, George Shaner, Steve Smith, Mike Taylor, Ivy Yap, Greg Key, and Adrienne Ertman.

Review of *Crosstalk* by Connie Willis

Reviewed by Sam Lubell

Fans of Connie Willis know of her fondness for Hollywood screwball comedies of the 1930s and 40s. And that's what **Crosstalk** is--a romantic comedy about telepaths that has some serious commentary on communications issues. This is a book that will make you cringe, laugh, and think, sometimes all at once.

Briddey Flannigan works at Commspan, which is developing a new phone to compete with Apple. When the book opens, the company's gossip network has discovered that rising executive Trent Worth took her to a fancy restaurant, where he popped the question. Not the "Will you marry me?" question, but the question of getting an EED--a recently invented medical procedure that allows two connected people to feel each other's emotions. Everyone at the company is thrilled except for C.B. Schwartz, the company's semi-reclusive genius (Briddey compares him to the Phantom of the Opera) who points out the dangers of a brain operation and of being too connected.



Briddey's family is also opposed to the EED. They normally call or text message her dozens of times each day. Her sister Kathleen is always making bad romantic choices. Her other sister Mary Clare is obsessed with the idea that something is wrong with her daughter, Maeve, so is always spying on her or trying to get Briddey to do it for her. And Aunt Oona wants Briddey to attend activities of the Daughters of Ireland group (despite never visiting Ireland herself) to catch a nice Irish lad.

But after many complications in the best romantic comedy tradition, largely to avoid letting anyone at Commspan know when they are having the operation, Briddey and Trent do have the EED. Briddey finds herself connected, but to C.B., not Trent. This is not just emotional feelings but full two-way telepathy, which is not supposed to happen. Briddey needs to hide this from everyone, especially Trent, while getting training from C.B. in how to control her telepathy. After a while, she begins to hear everyone, not just C.B., and the voices become overwhelming.

Then, just when the book seems to be growing predictable, as Briddey finds herself falling for the reclusive C.B., she suddenly hears Trent and Trent can hear her back. He's become a telepath too. And he's not the

only one. Gradually Briddey learns that nearly everyone in her life has been keeping secrets and nothing is as it seems, no, not even the Daughters of Ireland.

This is a fun and funny book. But it also has a serious message about the dangers of constantly being in contact with others and the need for a refuge from communications overload.

This is not a book for people looking for action and adventure. This is a romantic comedy and relationship drama. It would be a good book for people who claim that science fiction books have lousy characterization or for readers of mainstream literature who want to try science fiction.

Highly recommended. I suspect it will be on the Hugo ballot (and if not, it should be.)

Capclave Chairs Request Electroshock

The 10/21/16 WSFA Third Friday meeting began with President Bob presiding. Let's get this show on the road. 9:17. Don't have minutes from last meeting since it was Capclave. Treasurer not here.

Capclave Past – Paul, with a big grin said, “Request that if I hint about running a Capclave, please conduct me to an electroshock therapy.” “Me too” said Bill.



Madeleine suggested water therapy. If you have receipts get them to Sam. Mention of funds and members. So need to do some form of new advertising to get more bodies in the door. Cathy said everyone should get one friend to join. Take flyers around, hit up program participants. Paul said, Prices have gone up, inflation. We're increasing prices next year \$5 a shot. Need more people. 2017 Capclave page is live, but need info. Same ad rates. Can't force people on panels. Everything else positive. Thanked the committee. Wallet issues. Very successful Capclave. Mike Walsh said, in past years, we've put on quotes from GoH about how much they liked their convention; we should contact them about a quote.

Bill for Elizabeth did Capclave Future –Thanked us for getting this year successfully. Committee list going up soon. Open spots, please volunteer. Buy memberships, great gifts. Cathy said, if people have suggestions for people and panels, please email Capclave@gmail.com. Paul will have programming link up soon, when he checks that won't overwrite last year's. Will invite program participants in stages so can see how many we need. Discussion of potential new policies on program participants

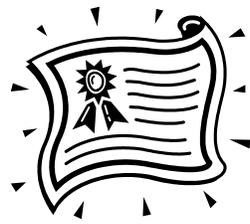
Bill asked that Bob have Cathy set a committee. Bob said it should be up to Liz and then Cathy as the Capclave chairs.

2018. Future. Cathy said looking at hotels. Will work with Colette.

2020: Bill talked to a hotel. RFP being developed. Could also work for 2019. Tim and Sarah said would be willing to come back if we invite past GoHs.

World Fantasy 2018. Registration should be open October 25th. Members of staff will beta test. World Fantasy 2016 starts this Thursday. Sam L. asked if need people for 2019, Bill said no, will have regulars.

Website, WSFA Press, Paul said will be offering new Ken Liu book on website so can preorder with book. Only doing 500 signed limited. Trade hasn't sold as well. 2017 Capclave website is now live and default but limited information. Needs pricing info to get registration up. Complaint by winner of small press award that now has to get new business cards. Regrets going to local con instead of Capclave. Madeleine got rat delivered.



Small press award was given away. Certificates awarded.

Committee to discuss SF. Clarkesworld today. F&SF Sept/Oct at Dec 1st Friday.

Dec 16th here, Irette Patterson will read short story for us. Possibly arrange dinner in Md.

Jan 6th at First Friday. Lawrence Schoen will do reading for us. Event at LoC. Dinner before.

What IF at LoC, people of color in comics.

No old business. Sam L. bought containers for WSFA materials.

New business: Paul said, at BWAWA discussed how they and WSFA have lots of stuff in various houses and basements, BWAWA asked Paul to do a search of storage facilities in area. Paul made WSFA committee chair to look for spot. Determine how much material we have and BWAWA and will work out

a split. Determine how much space we need. Probably about \$30 a month. Won't bankrupt the club. Will begin after World Fantasy. Access issues will need to be factored in.

Barry suggested that anyone who has WSFA stuff they've been holding, email Paul on what it is and how much space it will take up, length width etc.

Announcements: Sam L. has a job.

Adjourned 10:19

Attendance: Rodger Burns, Carolyn Frank, Cathy Green, Kindra Gresham, Paul Haggerty, Kimberly Hargan, Frances Holland, Michael Ikeda, Bill Lawhorn, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Candy Madigan, Walter Miles, Barry & Judy Newton, Shirl Phelps, Evan Phillips, Mark Roth, Steve Smith, Mike Taylor, Michael Walsh, Ivy Yap, Madeleine Yeh, and Robert Thomas.

Halloween

