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Won't Be Blocked  
by the Author  
Signing Line**

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**Hopefully, We Won't Be Blocked by the Author Signing Line**

The May First Friday (5-5-17) WSFA meeting began with an announcement of the election. Sam S., treasurer, said if you have not paid your dues, he is ready to take money. We have \$xx. There was talk about Sam S and Judy S being paid members but WSFA pays their dues because they host WSFA.

Bob chaired the meeting. Mike said he is ready to hold a meeting, but Bob said he is not enthusiastic. We have to get the RR running. People gave Trumpisms.

Capclave Present. Elizabeth said she's here. Her convention at work is over. Logan airport is the worst. She prefers Chicago. She is going to Tampa next year. She has spent five days throwing things out. We will have a convention, it will be awesome. Neil Clarke has a patron. Ravencon has lots of people who would be good for Capclave. People should register. Price goes up after Balticon. If you went to a convention and liked something they did, if replicable, suggest it to her.

Cap Future: Cathy said we will have a table at Balticon; everyone should put in a couple of hours. Hopefully we won't be blocked by author signing line this time. She is still working on hotels and programming. If people have programming ideas, email [Capclave@gmail.com](mailto:Capclave@gmail.com) or put it on website. Want suggestions for people to invite.



World Fantasy Convention: Bill said he spent hour and a half skyping with secret special guest. Sam S showed new WFC Award. Guest will be announced before Balticon. He is waiting on Walsh's liaison.

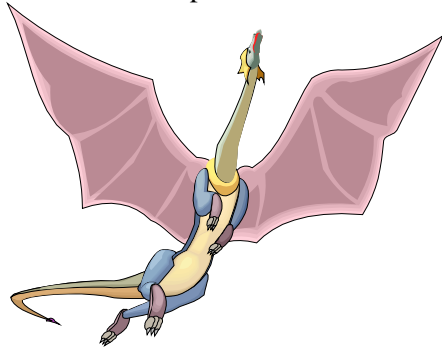
Cap 2020. Bill said if you are a member you should have received an email from [webmaster@wsfa.org](mailto:webmaster@wsfa.org) about a poll on guests on April 23. He poll will close on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

Talk SF: The committee to discuss SF will talk about the WSFA small press contest stories on the third Friday in July. Hugo novels first Friday in July. Hugo stories in June. This month, we will discuss F&SF.

Social – Sarah said dodos went to Ravencon. They are cute and adorable and people like them. WSFA Press is not here. Bill is looking for his cover design.

Small press award. Basically covered.

Intertivities: People saw Guardians of the Galaxy 2 and it was good. Neil Stephenson's new book is about dodos. Bill has picture of the cover of our Ken Liu book.



No constitution committee

No old business.

New business: There is a fifth Friday in June. Bill suggested holding it at the Fourth of July party.

Announcement: Sam S. said First Friday in August, our hosts will be in Iceland, emailed Candy about swapping, but have not yet heard, might swap. Bill said Ginny has car trouble. Friday night at

Balticon we will have a nice dinner at fancy restaurant, email him. Mike Walsh has a box of books.

People recommended people see the exhibit of sf art at Cantonsville UNC, go see. It is there through the 15<sup>th</sup>. Stunning stuff.

The meeting adjourned 9:36, unanimously.



Election meeting. The election meeting was called to order 9:48. Sam S asked if anyone else needs to give him money or even dues. Mike Walsh took charge and said the trustees have a slate. There are slips of paper if needed.

For president, Mr. McIntosh. No nominations from floor. Motion to close, passed. Motion to acclaim passed.

For vice president, George is willing to do it again. No nominations for floor. Motion to close, passed. Motion to acclaim passed.

For secretary, I believe Mr. Lubell has been unable to pay the blackmail, so will stay. Nomination of Crystal Pepsi denied, not a current member. Closed, acclaimed.

Treasurer, Sam #2. Judy said in this house he's Sam #1. No floor nominations. Closed Acclaimed.

Capclave Chair. Sam #3. Pierce. Someone said we need to revive the Sam I am shirts. He volunteered. No floor. Closed acclaimed.

Small Press award – This took some sorting out. Sam Lubell is willing to keep reading the good stuff. No floor. Close. Acclaimed.

Charity Hilton is stepping down. Trustees' slate has Courtni. She's looking unsure of herself. But she says at least she's present. None from the floor. Close. Acclaimed!

Rodger willing to continue. Acclaimed.

Trustees. Mike Walsh said he's been an officer every decade since the 80s, but stepping down. Slate-Mark, Barry, and Rodger Burns. Bill nominated Mike Walsh. Seconded. Mike said if nominated I will not run, if elected I will not serve. No other nominations. So slate acclaimed.

Motion to adjourn. Closed at 9:56.

Attendance: Courtni Y Burlson, Rodger Burns, Cathy Green, Kimberly Hargan, Bill Lawhorn, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Sarah Mitchell, Michael Nelson, Sam Pierce, Aaron & Angela Pound, Mark Roth, Judy & Sam Scheiner, George Shaner, Elizabeth Twitchell, Michael Walsh, Ivy Yap, and Madeleine Yeh

### Where SF Characters Go For Their Summer Vacation

Paul Muad'Dib (Dune) -- A rain forest, actually, anywhere that's not a desert.

Lessa and F'lar of Pern (Dragonriders) – Anywhere without clothes shopping. We don't need more threads.

Valentine Michael Smith (Stranger in a Strange Land) – The Bible Belt. Thou Art God.

R. Daneel Olivaw (Asimov's Robot series) – By the second law, wherever a human orders him to go.

Captain James T. Kirk – Second star to the right and straight on till morning.

A Square (Flatland) – The third dimension.

Luke Skywalker – Some place where this last Jedi won't be woken by



the Force.

Superman – Under a red sun.

Honor Harrington – Arlington Cemetery on Memorial Day.

Miles Naismith Vorkosigan (Vorkosigan Saga)– Any place his mercenary fleet hasn’t destroyed yet.

Harry Dresden (Dresden Files) – Chicago bars.

Frodo Baggins (Lord of the Rings)– Into the west.

William Mandella (The Forever War) – Neutral territory.

Teela Brown (Ringworld) – Atlantic City’s casinos.

Will Stanton (The Dark is Rising) – Northern Norway and Iceland where the sun never sets.

Angel (Buffy the Vampire Slayer)—Anywhere but Norway and Iceland.



**Paul and Gayle Are Raising Chickens**

The WSFA 5/19/17 third Friday in May started with “Alright folks,” said President Bob, calling the meeting to order at 9:14. Secretary Sam read minutes. There was a complaint that all the officers were men. Cathy said, no, not when you include the Capclave chairs and the small press committee. Bob pointed out that people have to be willing to run.

Capclave Present. Chair Elizabeth brought rack cards and bookmarks. The price goes up after Balticon. Elizabeth promised Ken Liu avocado toast because we can’t pay his mortgage. Please sign up for Capclave table at Balticon. We have a free membership available for someone who is willing to spend some time at the table. Elizabeth has bookmarks.



Capclave Future – Cathy said she will be spreadsheeting and talking to Colleen. She is working on databases. She is trying to make arrangements with other chairs for site visits. There was a discussion of room organization. Send her program ideas at Capclave@gmail or using the page on the website.

Bill for WFC 2018 said we have three guests, two have been announced. Balticon is delaying stuff. Working on other guests.

Capclave 2020, Bill said we have the poll for GoH. 21 people voted so far. Voting lasts until May 31<sup>st</sup>. See Paul if you are paid

WSFA member but didn’t get an email. Close race between one and two, so one vote can make a difference. If there is a close race at the end, there will be a runoff vote. Hotel stuff will have to wait until after Balticon.

Paul for website and WSFA press. We now have one preorder for the new book, from Japan. There was a discussion about preordering for the book if you are already registered for Capclave. Paul has not yet received a copy of the cover to put online at WSFA Press.

WSFA Small Press Award is chugging along. The committee will meet on the June 11<sup>th</sup>. The vote deadline for club will be August 6<sup>th</sup>. Hugo deadline is earlier.



Social media – tweet tweet.

Entertivities. Bill is organizing a dinner at Balticon at Fogo de Choa Friday night, starting around 6. If interested in joining contact Bill. This is a Brazilian restaurant, so lots of meat.

People discussed email list and if we should end the yahoogroups list.

StarTrek Discovery will be on CBS All Access for \$7.99 a month.

The Talk SF schedule – June 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Asimov's SF, 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Hugo nominated stories. July 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Hugo novels. 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday WSFA small press nominations.

Old business: There is a fifth Friday in June. If people want to do one.

New business: no new business.

First meeting: Lemur. Found out about Facebook.

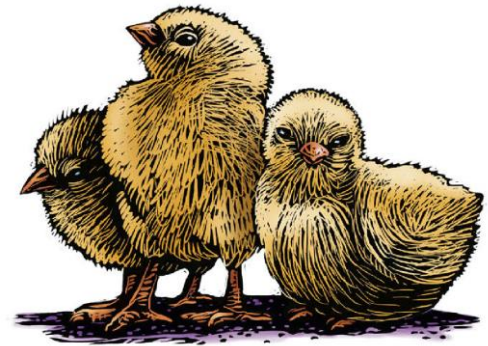
Third meeting: Kevin Foster came back. He is interested in helping on programming. He is also interested in historical archeology and maritime.

Drake Allen is back after long time away.

Announcements: Shirl and Robert are getting married. Gayle and Paul are raising chickens. Four weeks old. Three are escape artists. One is queen of the roost who hen-picks the others. There's a reason for the cliché. Right now they are living in a shower stall in the basement until the chicken coop comes. Elizabeth is buying dodo masks. Sam the kid might be working at Google but Eva's cat died.

The 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WSFA is around Capclave time this year.

The meeting adjourned unanimously at 9:45



Attendance: Courtni Y Burlison, Rodger Burns, Cathy Green, Paul Haggerty, Kimberly Hargan, Frances Holland, Michael Ikeda, Bill Lawhorn, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Steve Smith, Mike Taylor, Elizabeth Twitchell, Michael Walsh, Eva Whitley, Ivy Yap, Madeleine Yeh, Drake Allen, Kevin Foster, and DW "Lemur" Rowlands

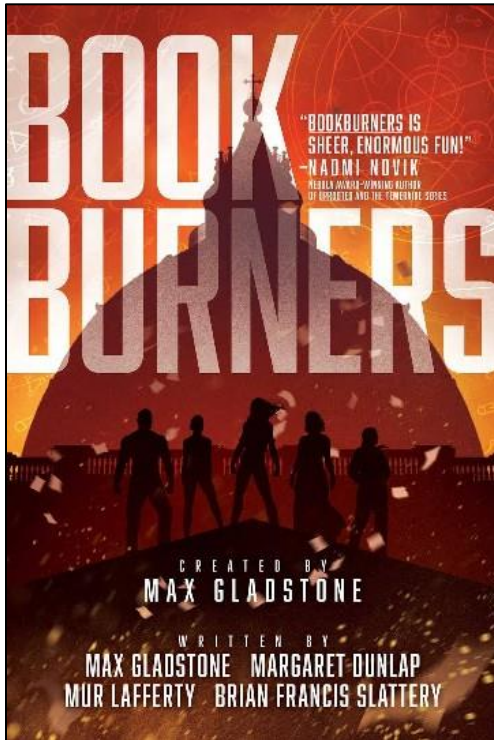
### **Review of Bookburners by Max Gladstone, Margaret Dunlap, Mur Lafferty, and Brian Francis Slattery**

Reviewed by Sam Lubell

What if books were written like television series? Instead of having one or two authors write a novel, get a group of authors, put together a series bible with the long-range plot and character arcs, and have the authors write a series of adventures involving these characters. That's what [serialbox.com](http://serialbox.com) does with five series released one episode at a time.

**Bookburners** (available in hardcover, paperback, and ebook) is a collection of the first season of the same-named serial. These fifteen episodes follow the adventures of a Vatican black-ops magic hunting team, Team Three of the Societas Librorum Occultorum. Their job is to hunt down and neutralize books of black magic, containing demons who can take control of human bodies.

The main character and reader surrogate is Sal Brooks, a NYC cop in her early thirties. She does not believe in God or magic. When her younger brother Perry visits with a magical book and talks of being under surveillance by a group he calls the Bookburners, strange things start to happen. Her partner claims she's made the whole thing up and the building videotapes do not back up her story. Naturally, she investigates and discovers the Bookburners, who identify themselves as special consultants to the police department with the backing of the police chief.



It turns out that Perry is possessed by a demon called The Hand. To break the possession, someone has to close the book in which the demon lives. After the inevitable confrontation, Sal joins the team, telling them that they need a cop.

In the early episodes, the team confronts magic and demonic possession, helped by a magical orb that alerts them to new magical problems. At first the episodes seem independent, but gradually an arc emerges and the reader discovers connections across the episodes. There's corruption in the Vatican, one of the teams enjoys the violence too much, and there may be a traitor on Sal's team.

Each member of the team has their own secrets and their own reasons for becoming involved in this hidden world. Liam, their tech guru, lost two years to his own demon possession. Grace has super-strength and speed, but a lifespan tied to the burning of a candle. And Asanti, an archivist, is too willing to turn to magic as a solution.

This series can be considered the Vatican's supernatural version of the *X-Files*. The writers' styles blend seamlessly (or at least are edited well). Characterization is several notches above any television series and print does not have to worry about the cost of special effects or actors leaving the show.

Fans of *X-Files*-type adventures or a grown-up version of *Buffy* will find themselves right at home here. Readers who wonder what would happen if first-rate fantasy writers suddenly found themselves running a TV series with an unlimited budget will find *Bookburners* fits the bill. It's also suitable for fans of urban fantasy. While serialbox.com has already started a second season of *Bookburners*, this volume has a very satisfactory ending, not a cliffhanger.

### Capclave (Dinner) in Uzbekistan?

First Friday in June (6/2/2017) Elizabeth Twitchell took notes in the absence of the secretary (Thanks Elizabeth!):

Meeting called to order at 9:15

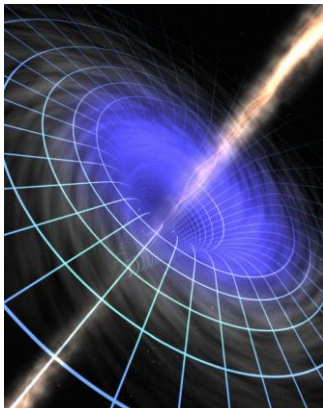
- Old Business: June has a 5<sup>th</sup> Friday. No one offered to host, consensus is that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July will be the 5<sup>th</sup> Friday.
- Minutes accepted as read
- Treasurer's Report: WSFA currently has \$xx in the bank. Individuals who want to vote for the WSFA Small Press Award need to pay the \$20 for their membership.
- Trustee's Report: Trustees are looking forward to Capclave.
- Capclave Present: The convention will be happening. Elizabeth is looking for a restaurant for dinner with the GOHs. Silk Road Choyhana with Uzbek food is the current top runner.



- Capclave Future: Cathy is doing a walk through at a potential hotel with better metro access. Cannot set dates/guest until hotel issue resolved.
- Capclave Far Future: No report
- World Fantasy 2018 Bill & Ann are lining up the guests. Balticon was a great way to see the use of the new space, especially the tables with the chargers. Staff meeting at the BSFS Clubhouse in the coming months.
- Capclave 2020: Guest Voting is closed, no results available.
- Committee to Actually Discuss Science Fiction: Fantasy & SF or Asimovs. Third Friday will be the Hugo nominated short stories.
- WSFA Small Press Award: Meeting at Cathy Green's on June 11, to narrow things to the short list.
- WSFA Press: Not Present, the cover of Ken Liu's book is very cool.
- Entertivities: *Wonder Woman* is out, very good, no reason to see in 3D. Awesome Con is in DC June 16<sup>th</sup>. Last year they had some logistics issues.
- Social Media: The Dodo's went to Balticon, there are lots of pictures. Also one of the Folkmanis puppet dodo's is available for \$125 on ebay.
- Old Business: None
- New Business: crickets crickets crickets
- New Attendees: Rick Ellrod, here for his second meeting
- Announcements:
  - o Host Announcements re: bathroom, recycling, drinks
  - o Kim just celebrated his 61<sup>st</sup> birthday
  - o Mark Roth will be having a house party/song circle the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in July
  - o Dave Keener has brought free books
  - o 4<sup>th</sup> of July at the Bungalow. Picnic, liquid nitrogen ice cream, etc.
  - o Mike Walsh has books for sale
- Meeting adjourned at 9:38.



Attendance: Rodger Burns, Ken Byrer, Vicki DiSanto, Cathy Green, Kimberly Hargan, Frances Holland, Bill Lawhorn, Bob Macintosh, Eugenia Martin, Sarah Mitchell, Michael Nelson, Sam Pierce, Aaron & Angela Pound, Ann Marie Rudolph, Judy & Sam Scheiner, George Shaner, Elizabeth Twitchell, Michael Walsh, Ivy Yap, Ginny Schnieds, Rick Ellrod, and David Holden



### Dumped Stories by Big Name Authors

The WSFA June Third Friday meeting (6-16-17) called to order at 9:15 by President Bob. Sam L read minutes.

Capclave Present, Cathy asked people to take flyers and bookmarks. If people are interested in volunteering, contact Elizabeth. Send panel ideas to [Capclave@gmail.com](mailto:Capclave@gmail.com)

Cap Future hasn't done a hotel walkthrough. She talked to Collette about space allocation.

Far Future not here.

Cap 2020/WFC – Bill has guests for WFC. He has not yet officially announced one, but will soon. We are in a holding pattern. Capclave 2020 is not inviting guests until we have a hotel.

Trustees have nothing to report.



Small Press Award – Committee had a meeting. Bob said that hopefully all members have an invite from webmaster to vote. Cathy said that the list of nominated stories is still secret. If you haven't received invite and password to vote, check with treasurer and contact [webmaster@wsfa.org](mailto:webmaster@wsfa.org). Voting closes August 6<sup>th</sup>. So, even if you leave the stories until after the Hugos, you still have time to read the nine stories and vote. Cathy said, "One of the things that makes the WSFA small press award special is the blind voting. The name of the author is stripped off the story before people vote so the story is judged on own qualities. We have dumped stories by big name authors. We end up with a fairly diverse list of authors. Don't be a dick and look up the names of the writers." The announcement will be made on the WSFA lists and Facebook. Paul will tally the votes, Cathy will let the publishers know and if she has author contact, tell them. Give them 24-48 notice before

the press release goes out. The award was started because online magazines weren't being nominated for awards and they now are. But we still get a lot of lesser known publications.

Bob asked about bribes for people to vote. Cathy thought and said yes. She asked Sam about the numbers for the last time. Last time we did achieve the fudge. A new person asked about the award and Cathy gave an explanation. Kim said award was mentioned in *Analog*.

Social media – Nothing.

Talk SF gave schedule.

Entertivities – Awsome con is this weekend. John Williams tribute will play at the Kennedy Center.

Old Business – Fifth Friday will be held at the fourth of July at John Pomeranz and Kathi Overton's Fabulous Bungalow.

New Business – Bill Lawhorn has new business. "I move that in the future the WSFA small press nominees be limited to seven stories." Cathy said she wasn't sure if we can do it. There was a second. Bill said Hugo shortlist is five to six stories. We're at nine stories, two years in a row. We have enough trouble to get people to vote when six. It's kind of respondent burden. The more you ask, the less likely they are to do it. So not getting the cross section. This is overkill. If Hugos can get by with six, we can with seven.

Cathy said, if you can't read the stories, don't vote for the award. The committee has to slog through 80-140 stories so members doesn't always agree and want to put in their first choice stories.

Bill made an amendment to his motion that future voting tallies will include a no







award option. If you read the stories but don't think any is worth honoring, you can vote no award. Adjustments.

Bob tabled it, asking the secretary to see if the number of nominees is in the club bylaws. Bill asked that it be tabled for Third Friday in July since the first Friday will be the NASFIC.

New business: Sam L made a motion that WSFA endorse the BWAWA bid to do a Worldcon in DC in 2021. Bill Lawhorn will be chairing the bid.

Someone asked about BSFS. Their last meeting was before the official announcement.

Ayes have it. Bill voted no. Sarah abstained. ~~Bill asked to censor Sam for jumping the gun on his announcement.~~ <But as Sam is the secretary, he can censor this part of the minutes>

Here for their first meeting were Michelle and Bill. Bill wrote a SF book but have no publisher so keeps track of things.

Announcements: Kim brought copies of his novel for consideration to the Compton Crook Award. Bill announced he has been elected to chair the DC in 2021 bid. We were asked by Boston when they dropped out so there would be an East Coast bid. We had been looking at 2024 so are gearing up quickly and working to develop materials. Will do conventions starting this Fall, kicking off at Capclave. BWAWA also is bidding to host the 2019 Deep Southcon in Northern Virginia. Things are progressing. The vote is held at this year's Deepsouthcon at Congregate at the Southern Fandom Confederation business meeting, Sunday morning. We have guests who are willing to do it. Barry suggested giving Bill \$20s for the bid. Bill said to wait.

Mike Walsh has books. Past GoH Cat Valente won the Theodore Sturgeon award. Steve Stiles may have lung cancer. Baltimore SF Society is holding a picnic. WSFA members are invited. Meeting weakly adjourned at 9:58.

Attendance: Courtni Y Burlson, Rodger Burns, Eric Ginter, Frances Holland, Michael Ikeda, Beth Jones, Bill Lawhorn, Sam Lubell, Bob Macintosh, Candy Madigan, Barry Newton, Steve Smith, Mike Taylor, Deidre Tracy, Michel Walsh, Ivy Yap, Madeleine Yeh, Kevin Foster, and Bill & Rochelle Banta.

### WSFA Small Press Award Finalists

The Washington Science Fiction Association (WSFA) is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2017 WSFA Small Press Award for Short Fiction:

- "Foxfire, Foxfire," by Yoon Ha Lee, published in Beneath Ceaseless Skies, ed. by Scott H. Andrews, (March 2016);
- "Jupiter or Bust," by Brad R. Torgersen, published in Orson Scott Card's Intergalactic Medicine Show, ed. by Edmund Schubert, (March/ April 2016);

- “The Mytilenian Delay,” by Neil James Hudson, in *Hyperpowers*, ed. by Bascombe James, published by Third Flatiron Publishing (May 2016);
- “Only Their Shining Beauty Was Left,” by Fran Wilde, published in *Shimmer Magazine*, ed. by E. Catherine Tobler, (September 2016);
- “Radio Silence,” by Walter H. Hunt in *Alien Artifacts*, ed. by Joshua Palmatier and Patricia Bray, published by *Zombies Need Brains*, (2016);
- “A Salvaging of Ghosts,” by Aliette de Bodard, published in *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*, ed. by Scott H. Andrews, (March 2016);
- “The Tomato Thief,” by Ursula Vernon, published in *Apex Magazine*, ed. by Jason Sizemore, (January 2016);
- “Vengeance Sewn With A Fey Cord,” by Christine Lucas, published in *The Future Fire*, ed. by Djibril al-Ayad, (April 2016);
- “The Witch’s Knives,” by Margaret Ronald, published in *Strange Horizons*, ed. by Niall Harrison, Jane Crowley, Kate Dollarhyde, Lila Garrott, Catherine Krahe, An Owomoyela, and Vajra Chandrasekera, (October 2016).



**Which of these stories will win the award? Find out by attending the award ceremony at Capclave!**

### **Why is This Space Blank?**

Although the club secretary and *WSFA Journal* editor begged for content at every meeting, no one sent anything. No one sent in fiction, articles, book/movie reviews, art, essays or anything else. Please don't let this become the Sam Lubell personalzine. Send material to [editor@wsfa.org](mailto:editor@wsfa.org). Thank you!

Special thanks to Perrienne Lurie for guest copy editing (she was sitting next to me at the BSFS meeting while I was editing this.)