

WSFA Journal June – July – August 2021

Minutes of First Friday June 2021 Meeting

Attendance: Kim Hargan, Perianne Lurie, Bill Lawhorn, Bill A., Rodger Burns, Sam Lubell, Ann Marie Rudolph, Madeleine Yeh, Cathy Green, Jim Thomas, David Keener, Aaron Pound, Judy Kindell, Frances Holland, Sarah Mitchell, Michael Ikeda, Walter Miles, Mark Roth, Carolyn frank, Fabrice Guerrier, Gayle Surrette, Greg Key, Paul Haggerty, Sophie Pound, George Shaner, Angela Pound, Kathi Overton, Sam Scheiner, Courtni Burlison, Bob MacIntosh, Sam Hogan/Zen Lizard, Michael Taylor, Alex Wallace, Elizabeth Twitchell

Meeting called to order by bob MacIntosh at 9:15pm

Reading of minutes of prior meeting waived.

Treasury reported on budget numbers

Capclave Present: Rodger had talked to Bjorn Hessler re: ROF/1632 minicon. Kim Hargan handling GOH travel. We added 13 new memberships from Balticon. We're ahead of last year in terms of memberships. Rodger Burns spoke to Syd Weinstein re: Capclave zambia and the need to coordinate with Paul Haggerty.

Motion for Paul H. to give Syd access to our systems and then take it away when done carried with 33 yes and 1 no.

Capclave Future had nothing to report

Capclave Far Future had nothing to report

Committee to Actually Discuss Science Fiction will be discussing the March/April of F&SF and 3rd Friday will be discussing Uncanny

Entertivities – the Smithsonian Museums are open.

Trustees had nothing to report.

Website – nothing to report.

WSFA Small Press Award – ongoing

Kathi Overton and Rodger Burns discussed the technology for setting up hybrid meetings and their relative costs and ease of use.

Old Business – bylaws committee discussed making a couple of small changes re:submitting documents to include electronically. And cleaning up language to no longer refer to Disclave. Sam's proposed changes were posted to the ewsfa list. Bill Lawhorn suggested maybe just referring to the convention generically rather than by a specific name. Elizabeth Twitchell noted that some changes needed to be made to the standing rules as well. Committee consists of Kim Hargan (VP and in charge), Elizabeth Twitchell, and Sam Scheiner.

New Business – Before we go to hybrid and in person meetings, hosts will set up their requirements. It is up to the hosts when we go back to in person meetings.

No people were there for their 1st, 2nd, or 3rd meetings.

Announcements – Usual Secretary announcement was made.

ZenLizard said that Chessiecon would be in person over Thanksgiving weekend with Danielle Ackley-McPhail as GOH at the Lord Baltimore Hotel.

Kim Hargan turned 65.

Michael Taylor might be at his last meeting as he is moving to Western Pennsylvania where his brother lives.

Mark Roth published a novel and discussed a possible reading at a WSFA meeting.

Kathi Overton announced several David M. Brown Planetarium events.

George Shaner asked several people to go to the Capclave breakout room after the meeting is over.

Meeting was adjourned unanimously at 10pm

Minutes of 3rd Friday June 2021 Meeting

Attendance: Rodger Burns, Cathy Green, Jim Thomas, Aaron Pound, Mark Roth, Paul Haggerty, Carolyn Frank, Judy Kindell, Michael Ikeda, Bob MacIntosh, Courtni Burleson, Gayle Surette, Angela Pound, Greg Key, Judy Newton, Michael Taylor, Perianne Lurie, Kathi Overton, Sam Lubell, George Shaner, Eva Whitley, Elizabeth Twitchell, Sarah Mitchell, Elspeth Kovar, Alex Wallace

Meeting called to order at 9:15pm.

Minutes of previous meeting read.

Capclave Present: still waiting to hear from most program participants who have been invited. George needs access to Capclave accounts, it won't let him in.

Capclave Future – nothing to report. But will notify GOH choice re: dates.

Capclave Far Future – nothing to report.

Trustees – nothing to report.

WSFA Small Press Award – read and vote.

Website & WSFA Press – Paul H. is working on getting Syd Weinstein the access he needs. Has put up the issues Sam L. has sent him. Sam L. will be sending his backlog for upload.

Committee to Actually Discuss SF will be discussing Uncanny. First Friday July will be discussing May/June Asimov's. Third Friday July will be discussing WSFA Small Press Award finalists. First Friday August will be discussing F&SF.

Bylaws Committee has two sets of recommendations to review. Kim, Elizabeth, and Sam will discuss.

Rodger and Kathi went to the Aaron and Angela's condo and did tech testing. Will initially provide loaner equipment and then ask club to buy equipment. Will then repeat the process at Mark Roth's place when he is ready

Minutes of First Friday July 2021 Meeting

Entertivities: Michael Ikeda said San Diego Comicon was online. Sam Scheiner said Confluence would be a free online filk convention this summer.

Old Business: none

New Business: Sam Lubell asked for someone to host 5th Friday. George reminded people of the next Capclave meeting.

No one was there for their 1st, 2nd, or 3rd meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:41pm.

Kim Hargan's poetry submission to the WSFA Journal:
[Intro to the poem that follows]

27. March 2014

Dear Stinging Fly Press,

Please excuse me for having rushed to send you a submission by email (address taken from your book) before checking on your Web site for submission guidelines.

Herewith my submission:

Author's name: Kimberly Glen Hargan

Date of submission: 27. March 2014

Brief biographical note: (See text of my original email submission note below.)

Email address: hargankg@netscape.net

Postal address: Kimberly G. Hargan

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Vienna, Virginia 22181

USA

Name of the poem: All Golden Our Dreams

Sincerely,
Kimberly G. Hargan

[Text of email message begins below]

Please forgive my presumption at submitting the attached document to you, but I thought it only fitting seeing as it is your fault that I wrote it at all.

And how is it your fault? I came up out of the Foggy Bottom Metro station in Washington, D.C., and there was a young lady from Solas Nua distributing copies of your book "What's the Story?" I read it over the next couple of days, and was struck by the common themes of sin, regret, death - and the United States of America (often only in an oblique reference) in modern Irish literature, as evidenced by the examples printed in your book. Now, in all the languages and all the literatures with which I have become acquainted over the course of my career as a diplomat, I had never seen such a recurring use of the USA as a literary device expressing the far away yet somehow familiar or connected. And that set me to thinking about my ancestor Michael Hargan, who came to the Colonies in the later mid-1700s, and what his coming meant to me.

The history and geography in the attached document are all correct. (Thanks to my aunt, "their little sister [who] served over the wide waves" in the U.S. Navy, and who is currently the family's main genealogist.) The choice of words and imagery, on the other hand, is nobody's fault but my own.

Now, as to myself, I do not think of myself as Irish, or even Irish-American. Michael's story was that of a pioneer and frontiersman, so his stock became mixed with the stock of all the other pioneers and frontiersmen, and so my ancestry is Irish, English, French, Prussian (corrected from the original email), and Cherokee (through my mother). How I think of myself, and what I am, is American. Nevertheless, Hargan is not one of the more common names here in the United States, and even though the connection is long, it still runs back to the Inishowen peninsula in Donegal.

As mentioned above, I am a U.S. diplomat, having served now 27 years in Denmark, Tanzania, Taiwan, China (Beijing), Kazakhstan, Russia (Yekaterinburg, in Siberia), Armenia, Finland, and a couple of stints, as now, here in Washington, D.C. at the Department of State. I write short fiction and

poetry, but have only recently begun submitting my fiction in the attempt to have it published. (Heretofore I have mostly shown it to family and friends for their entertainment.) My poetry includes a number of sonnets, mostly in English but also in German and Russian, as well as a haiku I wrote in Chinese (which absolutely flabbergasted my Chinese teachers - they found the very idea incomprehensible, as not conforming to Chinese traditions of poetry and literature).

Begging your pardon once again,

Sincerely,

Kimberly Glen Hargan

All Golden Our Dreams

Was it salt or frost, that rime upon the stones?

The fields stared out at the bitter gray waters of the Lough Foyle,
vaulted by a bitter northern sky.

What chance, what hope for a young man
when allowed no part of the land under a bitter reign,
no field of his own facing the salty cold?

Michael Hargan's dreams were tinged with gold,
brighter far than the gray sky,
brighter even than the rich green of the fields.

But those were not dreams for a young man under such a bitter sky.

In certain ages, to dream is to move,
and Michael went with his two sisters and moved from Carn Brae above Carrowkeel
departed Inishowen
left Donegal
passed through Dublin
sailed away into the red gold of the sunset
in Brendan's wake
perhaps to reach a true Magh Meall.

A subject of the empire,
he moved to the far reaches of the empire
moved to the west
to a land over the sea.

And the day came, earlier than in the Four Green Fields
of his fathers' island home
that he with his new countrymen rebelled against the empire.

Michael, the new patriot,
enrolled himself as a new recruit
in a new regiment
of a new army
of a new nation aborning
becoming Magh Meall?

The regiment was assigned to the central theater of the rebellion
under the overall command of a certain gentleman farmer
turned general
George Washington.

Michael served his new land
served to defend new rights and new freedoms that were also his now
and a new way of government.

After his service
came peace.

He married Mary Elizabeth
took his veteran's reward
in land beyond the eastern mountain range
moving to the west
following the red gold of the sunset.

On the land now his
he plowed his own new fields
and begat sons and daughters.
a new family.

Here he lived his life
a new life under a sweeter sky.

Michael Hargan passed
encompassed by his family
laid to rest in his own land
allotted for his service to the new nation
or bought, as was now his right, by his own labor
his own plain of delight.

(Now that he sleeps his final sleep
are his dreams more golden than before?
His resting place is now incorporated
in the wider grounds of Fort Knox.)

Some of Michael's sons and heirs stayed to farm the rich Kentucky soil.
Others had dreams tinged with gold
and they could not stay still.

Year by year, generation by generation, territory by territory
some of Michael's sons and heirs moved beyond
where their own fathers had settled
following the red gold of sunset
to the west.

Year by year, generation by generation, conflict by conflict
Michael Hargan's heirs served the nation that was now theirs
as much as any man's
defending their land
defending their rights and freedoms.

And an heir of Michael Hargan followed his dream as far to the west
as he could.

A territory of boreal cold
winters with a bite much sharper than merely bitter
and gold
America's Last Frontier.

That was my grandfather
who took his family there.

And my father and his younger brother served to defend the only land they knew as home
and their little sister served over the wide waves
and their baby brother served below the waves
in the realm of Manannán Mac Lir.

My father had his dreams tinged with gold

and moved.
The veteran took his family
and left Fairbanks
departed from Alaska
and moved south
to another land of gold
where a century before, the expanding empires of Russia and Spain
briefly touched
before the brash young nation claimed
that sunset coast as its own.
A childhood in the golden states of Alaska and California
is it any wonder that my dreams should be tinged with gold?
And I am one of those heirs of Michael Hargan
who can not stay still
always in motion.
Embassy and consulate
I have served this nation
from Arctic realms
to the torrid equator
on sunrise coasts
and in the heart of continents far from any coast
for a good quarter of a century.
I have promoted
freedom
rights
democracy
in lands where these are yet but dreams.
Of my own sons
one there is who enlisted to serve this nation
learned to leap from the angry sky in its defense.
A veteran of Kandahar
now he lives at peace
at home not so far from Michael Hargan's Magh Meall.
My grandchildren are but small
yet among them I expect there will be
those who can not stay still
who will defend rights and freedoms however they serve
whose dreams will be tinged with gold.

Kimberly Glen Hargan
21. March 2014
Vienna, Virginia, USA

I wrote this in response to a book of modern Irish short stories and poetry being handed out for "Irish Book Day" (St. Patrick's Day) by Solas Nua (New Light), an organization that promotes Irish culture in the U.S. Some notes on terms: Brendan is Ireland's St. Brendan, who sailed off into the Atlantic with an intrepid band of monks looking for other islands where they could preach. Some interpretations of his tale claim that he reached America a thousand years before Columbus. Magh Meall is "plain of

joy” or “plain of delight” in Irish Gaelic; it is the name of a mythical golden island to the far west from Ireland. Manannán Mac Lir is the Gaelic sea god, something of a pre-Christian Irish Neptune.

Minutes of 3rd Friday July 2021 WSFA Meeting

Attendance: Madeleine Yeh, Cathy Green, Paul Haggerty, Gayle Surette, Michael Taylor, Alex Wallace, Bob MacIntosh, Sam Scheiner, Rodger Burns, Sam Lubell, Perianne Lurie, ZenLizard/Sam Hogan, Elizabeth Twitchell, Jim Thomas, Mark Roth, Courtni Burleson, Carolyn Frank, George Shaner, Frances Holland, Semkirk/Apurna, Kim Hargan, Judy Kindell, Judy Newton, Greg Key, Kathi Overton, Aaron Pound, Michael Ikeda

Secretary read minutes of previous meeting.

Treasurer - email Sam Scheiner regarding membership. It is not too late to join.

Capclave Present – Next meeting 8pm August 6. Peter Beagle, Eric Flint, Catherynne Valente and Michael Dirda as GOHs.

Capclave Future – nothing to report

Capclave Far Future – reached out to Colette regarding hotel contract.

Committee to Actually Discuss SF will be discussing the WSFA Small Press Award finalists. First Friday August will discuss May/June F&SF.

Bylaws Committee: worked proposed amendments into the document and will circulate to the committee to review. Bylaws say 15 members must sign on to the proposed amendments.

Webmaster had nothing to report.

WSFA Press sold some more books.

Hybrid meeting – Aaron Pound asked that all potentially attending officers that have not sent the email with proof of vaccination please do so. Only officers will be at the house other than tech staff.

Trustees discussed the proposed bylaw changes

WSFA Small Press Award – August 8 deadline to read and vote.

Entertivities – Perianne Lurie recommended Schmigadoon. Kim Hargan noted it was SF/F week on Goodreads. Michael Ikeda noted that all the Smithsonianians were now open and no longer requiring timed passes as of next Tuesday.

No old or new business.

Announcements: Secretary made usual announcement. Sam Lubell noted the Arbees in his neighborhood closed and will become a Shake Shack (add to Capclave Restaurant Guide). George said there would be a Capclave meeting in the Capclave breakout room. Kathi Overton discussed upcoming David M Brown Planetarium events relating to the Webb Telescope.

Meeting was adjourned unanimously at 9:44pm

First Friday August 2021 Meeting

Attendance: Cathy Green, Rodger Burns, Rick Ellrod, Mark Roth, Sam Lubell, Judy Kindell, Michael Taylor, Perianne Lurie, Bob MacIntosh, Greg Key, Courtni Burleson, Kathi Overton, Michael Ikeda, Elizabeth Twitchell, Paul Haggerty, Kim Hargan, Sam Hogan/ZenLizard, Fabrice Guerrier, Sam Scheiner, Gayle Surette, Judy Newton, George Shaner, Frances Holland, Sarah Mitchell, Carolyn Frank, Jim Thomas, Aaron Pound, Angela Pound, Madeleine Yeh, Alex Wallace

Meeting called to order at 9:15pm. Decided to be cautious, meetings still virtual, maybe next month will attempt hybrid meeting.

Treasurer: good financial numbers. Higher than normal Capclave pre-registration.

Capclave Present: Had a Capclave planning meeting. Need volunteers, someone to run green room/ops and someone to write the restaurant guide.

Capclave Future: Dates will be Sept. 30 to Oct 2.

Capclave Far Future: waiting to hear from Colette.

Committee to Actually Discuss SF (and split infinitives): will discuss May/June F&SF. 3rd Friday will discuss Uncanny July/August issue and Mark Roth will do a reading. 1st Friday September discuss July/August Asimov's. 3rd Friday September Clarkesworld, October Hugo stuff.

WSFA Small Press Award: Voting closes 8/8. The usual “go ahead make me bake” challenge.

Entertivities: Sam Scheiner recommended Schmigadoon. Michael Ikeda said the new Ursula LeGuin stamp is out.

Bylaws Committee: Kim Hargan said final version would be sent to Bob, they need 15 people to “sign” and then have a vote.

No old or new business.

Announcements: secretary made usual announcement. Judy Kindell said Arlington County Public Library accepting book donations again. Sam Lubell announced his work promotion. Mark Roth will be hosting a BBQ Saturday of Labor Day weekend. Elizabeth Twitchell sent the WSFA list a dodo logo wearing a mask and wants to know what color we think the mask should be. Also shared screen on the zoom meeting to show people. Kathi Overton noted the Arlington County Fair was in 2 weeks and the Friends of the Planetarium will have a booth. It will take place at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center

Motion to adjourn carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:44pm

Minutes of Third Friday August 2021 WSFA Meeting

Attendance: Cathy Green, Michael Taylor, Perianne Lurie, Rodger Burns, Nate Hoffelder, Madeleine Yeh, Jim Thomas, Mark Roth, Michael Ikeda, Bob MacIntosh, Sam Lubell, Sam Hogan/ZenLizard, Aaron Pound, Judy Kindell, Carolyn Frank, Judy Newton, George Shaner, Ann Marie Rudolph, Kim Hargan, Elizabeth Twitchell, Alex Wallace

Meeting called to order at 9:15pm by Bob MacIntosh

Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting.

No Treasurer report.

Capclave Present: meeting next weekend

Capclave Future: sent out a meeting request and plans to have online meeting next week

Capclave Far Future: work proceeding on hotel contract for 2023.

Trustees: Covid policy went out to everyone.

Committee to Actually Discuss SF: will discuss Uncanny. First Friday Sept. will discuss July/August Asimov's; 3rd Friday Sept. will discuss Clarkesworld.

1st Friday October. Meeting will be live at Capclave

WSFA Small Press Award Finalists were announced. Press release sent out.

"Foster-Child of Silence and Slow Time" by Brian Hugenbruch, My Battery Is Low And It Is Getting Dark, ed. by Crystal Sarakas and Joshua Palmatier, Zombies Need Brains LLC (July 2020)

"Guest Athletes" by Jennifer R. Povey, The Phantom Games: Dimensions Unknown Vol. III ed. by John Paul Catton, Excalibur Books (October 10, 2020)

"Heritage Hill" by Matthew R. Davis, Outback Horrors Down Under: An Anthology of Antipodean Terrors, ed. By Steve Dillon, Things in the Well, (October 2020)

"The Longest Season in the Garden of the Tea Fish" by Jo Miles, Strange Horizons (April 2020) ed. by Gautam Bhatia, Rasha Abdulhadi, et al.

"Memories Taste Best When Marinated With Sadness" by Feng Gooi, Hexagon Magazine, Issue 2 (Fall 2020) ed. by J.W. Stebner

"Metal Like Blood in the Dark" by T. Kingfisher, published in *Uncanny Magazine*, (September/October 2020) ed. by Lynne M. Thomas and Michael Damian Thomas

"Myself" by Rebecca Enzor, DreamForge, Issue 7 (December 2020) ed. by Scot Noel

"Open House on Haunted Hill" by John Wiswell, Diabolical Plots(June 15, 2020) ed. by David Steffen

"Reformed" by Caias Ward, Mysterion, (March 23, 2020), ed. by Donald S. Crankshaw and Kristin Janz

Entertivities: Awesomecon and Maryland RenFest were mentioned.

No old or new business.

Announcements: Secretary made usual announcement. Sam Lubell said BSFS Zoom Club on zoom next Saturday to discuss 3 Body Problem. Zoom link on bsfs.org. Judy Newton said Meridel sold a story to Giganotosaurus. Alex Wallace said the anthology he edited should hopefully be getting published soon.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38pm