

# WSFA JOURNAL

March-April 2025

## First Friday March Meeting

**Attendance:** Cathy Green, Elizabeth Twitchell, Courtni Burleson, Michael Taylor, Jim Thomas, Madeleine Yeh, Perrienne Lurie, Aaron Pound, Judy Kindell, Bob MacIntosh, Carolyn Frank, Sam Lubell, Mark Roth, Kim Hargan, Ellen Montgomery, Sam Scheiner, Bill Lawhorn, Paul Haggerty, Michael Ikeda, Rodger Burns, Sarah Mitchell, Judy Newton, Gary Newton, Frances Holland, Greg Key

Meeting called to order by President Bob MacIntosh at 8:15pm

Waived reading of minutes of previous meeting.

Treasurer reported that we have around \$90k, which is up 3K from last year. We're doing fine moneywise. Reminded people to pay their dues.

Capclave Present: Sherin Nicole quoted him a price of \$260 for artwork. Cathy asked if it was possible to get the artwork before the end of the month, so we could have bookmarks and rack cards at Awesomecon April 4-6. Sam said he would ask Sherin. There was discussion of GOHs and appreciations.

Capclave Future: Nothing to report.

WSFA Small Press Award: Carolyn said 165 stories have been processed so far, and increase of 10% from last year.

Membership/outreach committee: Kim Hargan had nothing to report.

Courtnei – committee on engagement met on Sunday. Asked if anyone had a particular skillset in surveys, as this would be helpful.

Websites/WSFA Press, etc: Paul Haggerty reported that the Capclave page was very bare and needed more content. Also people should use the webmaster@ address because that way it goes to both him and Gayle.

Committee to Actually Discuss SF/book club: Sam L. noted that Analog, Asimov's and F&SF have a new owner. Discussing Lightspeed Feb. issue after business meeting. Asimov's March/April issue at 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday March meeting. Clarkesworld April issue at first Friday April meeting. This month book club is reading Service Model by Adrian Tschaicovsky. April will read Pavan by Keith Roberts, May will read Empire of Shadows by Jacqueline Benson. Sam has also emailed past Capclave GOH Carrie Vaughn about potentially being a guest at a meeting to do a reading. She had other commitments in April but is definitely interested.

Entertivities – Bill Lawhorn is organizing a dinner before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday meeting at My La Cai (decent parking and has gluten free options). Perrienne reminded people that GCOM's Game Days was the last weekend of March at the Crown Plaza in Annapolis. There will be open gaming and demos. She also recommended Paradise, a new show streaming on Hulu.

Old business: none

New business : Aaron Pound said that because of his work schedule they won't be able to keep hosting 1<sup>st</sup> Fridays and therefore the club will need a VA replacement.

Announcements – Sam L. reminded people to talk up Capclave on social media. BSFS book club meeting March 22 6:30pm hybrid to discuss Daughter of Dr. Moreau by Balticon GOH Silvia Moreno Garcia. Bill L. said he reports to

the office for the first time in 2 ½ years on March 10 and has been consumed by seating assignments because their space in Suitland isn't fully built yet.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm

## **WSFA Third Friday Meeting, March 21, 2025**

Attendance: Mark Roth, Ellen Montgomery, Bob Macintosh, Sam Lubell, Bill Lawhorn, Sarah, Mitchell, Carolyn Frank, Judy Newton, Roger Burns, Jim Thomas, Kim Hargan, Elizabeth Twitchell, Perriane Lurie, Madeleine, Michael I, Sam Scheiner, Judith Kindall, Zenlizard, Greg Key, Frances, Aaron Pound, Angela Pound, Wayne F, Michael Taylor, Gary Blog

Meeting called to order: By Bob 8:14

Minutes read

Treasurer: WSFA has money. Most people have paid their dues. Reminded those who have not to pay their dues.

Capclave Present: Has the art from Shirin Nicole - cat in space suit. Has bios and pictures of guests of honor. Ravencon is coming up. Have a table at Awesomecon and have free badges - April 4,5, and 6. Have a table at Gaithersburg Book Festival on May 17. Have a table at Balticon with two free badges. Bill Lawhorn says has been in contact with Mr. Villafranca and he has a new design.

Capclave Future: Nothing to report.

WSFA Small Press Award: 185 stories have come in, in the usual subsets. Good range of stories. 20% horror, 30% science fiction, rest fantasy. Deadline for submissions is March 31.

Membership Committee: Nothing to report.

Committee to Discuss SF: Today discussion Feb issue of Lightspeed. First Friday April March/April issue of Asimov's. Third Friday April doing the April issue of Clarkesworld. First Friday May will discuss F&SF if it has been published, if not, then will be doing the March/April issue of Analog. Baltimore Book Club discussing Pavane on 2nd Thursday of April.

Entertivities: Perianne points to Game Days and recommends the show Severance. Sam Scheiner recommends AMC new season of Dark Winds. Zenlizard says Congress of Gamers on 3-4 May in Rockville. Roger Burns says Princess Mononoke has had a restoration and is going to run in theaters. Mark Roth - 1st Saturday in May for a barbecue.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Announcements: Secretary announcement, host announcement. Bill says may have had discussions about language about whether they need to release administration adjusted data. BSFS book club meeting April 26 at BSFS building at 6:30 and on Zoom. Judith Kindall - 1st weekend in April is book sale at Arlington Library. Twitchell - Alexandria Library having book next week.

Adjourned: 8:44

## **WSFA First Friday Meeting, April 4, 2025**

Called to order by Bob at 8:15

Attendance: JimThomas, Bob MacIntosh, Greg Key, Judith Kindell, Madeleine, Gary Blog, Roger Burns, Sam Lubell, Sam Lubell, Aaron Pound, Perianne Lurie, Sam Scheiner, Zenlizard, Carolyn, Paul Haggerty, Michael I, Courtni, Frances, Mark Roth

Treasurer: ~\$90.5, up about \$3K. Have no money in stock market. Elections are next month - to vote must pay dues. Reminds people to pay dues.

Trustees: Produced slate

President: Bob MacIntosh

Vice-President: Kim Hargan

Secretary: Sam Lubell

Treasurer: Zenlizard

Trustees: Aaron, Courtney, Cathy Green

Small Press: Roger, need replacement person

Capclave 2027: No one nominated

Capclave Present: Need text for webpages and bookmarks. Will do this weekend. Will talk to Perianne about programming. Need to talk to liaison about opening room block.

Capclave Future: Nothing to report.

WSFA Small Press Award: 210 stories. All sent to Paul for posting. Last year we got 228 stories. Fewer stories from authors. Only 4 WSFAns nominated stories. The rest from publishers. About 15% horror, about half fantasy, the rest science fiction. Only had 14 that were more than 7,500 words. 50/50 split between publication in online magazines and published in books. About 1/3 are from publications that are new to the competition.

Webmaster: All stories for Small Press Award are up.

Membership Committee: Will e-mail out notes and recommendations this weekend.

Committee to Discuss SF: Discussing Asimov's tonight. Book Club will meet next week to discuss Pavane by Keith Roberts.

Entertivities: Perianne - new season of Last of Us and new season of Dr Who. Zen - 3-4 May is Congress of Gamers in Rockville.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Announcements: Secretary announcement. Angela is a college professor. BSFS will meet April 26 at 6:30 via Zoom and in BSFS building. Carolyn - now has two bionic eyes. Judy - Arlington Library having its semiannual sale this weekend. Perianne - tomorrow there is a big protest of the administration.

Adjourned: 8:38

## WSFA THIRD FRIDAY APRIL 2025

Attendance: Cathy Green, Judy Newton, Sarah Mitchell, Carolyn Frank, Ellen Montgomery, Mark Roth, Bob MacIntosh, Jim Thomas, ZenLizard, Judy Kindell, Sam Lubell, Michael Ikeda, Rodger Burns, Perriane Lurie, Frances Holland, Madeleine Yeh, Greg Key, Ginny Schneider, Kim Hargan, Sam Scheiner, Elizabeth Twitchell, Courtni Burleson, Gary blog, Bill Lawhorn, Michael Taylor, Aaron Pound, Kim Schlereth

Meeting called to order at 8:15pm

Minutes from the previous meeting read.

Treasurer reminded everyone to pay dues.

Trustees: no one has yet volunteered to be chair of 2027 Capclave

Capclave Present: Sam wrote to Colette re: hotel; working with Sherin Nicole on the art for bookmarks and rack cards; need someone to work on the program book, programming May 4 at 3pm on zoom.

Sam S. said there'd been a minor flurry in memberships

Capclave Future: will be getting in touch with Colette re: hotel

Membership committee: will wait until new business

Committee to Actually discuss SF: discuss Clarkesworld today. First Friday May – March/April Analog; 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday May will read April issue of Lightspeed; May 8<sup>th</sup> book club will read Empire of Shadows by Jacqueline Benson; Book club in June will discuss A Sorceress Comes to Call by T. Kingfisher 2d Thursday at 7:30pm

No report from the WSFA Small Press Award Committee, who were busy reading

Webmaster wasn't present so no report on websites and WSFA Press.

Entertivities: Loudon County Public Library May is science fiction month; Perriane said new season of Black Mirror is available on Netflix and Andor season 2 will be dropping soon.

Old Business: Elizabeth can't do May meeting at her place, but can do 1<sup>st</sup> Friday in June

New Business: Courtni gave the report from the membership committee with suggestions for more engagement and increasing membership, Added some additional recommendations based on feedback. Discussion of meeting structure and general vibe, retention, growth, welcoming environment. Discussion of doing one full meeting and one truncated meeting with more socializing and special events. Use facilitators to welcome new people; maybe rethink how we use breakout rooms, e.g. maybe a game room. Rethink social media outreach. Big remaining item is to get membership survey done. Elizabeth Twitchell said we needed to do succession planning. Ginny suggested maybe using greeters or facilitators at Capclave to give people a better understand that WSFA does Capclave.

Announcements: Secretary made usual announcement. Sam Scheiner said he and Judy are moving to Charlottesville and as of 1 ½ weeks ago the frame, etc was up. Looking at June 27 date to move.

They still have large plastic tubs for the con suite in their garage and someone needs to pick them up if WSFA still wants them. Kim Hargan said he would pick them up.

Sam Lubell said BSFS book club meets April 22 at 6:30pm on zoom and at the BSFS building to read the Jinnbot of Shanti Port by Samit Bisu. Also, he got RIFed on April 1<sup>st</sup> and is looking for a job.

Kim Hargan: Nathan Toronto puts out a MilSF online publication called Bullet Points and then puts together an anthology of the short fiction. Kim's story will be released on April 22.

Mark: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday on May will do BBQ at his place. May 3<sup>rd</sup> noon til whenever.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm