Be sure to get next month's newsletter by getting on the mail list at douglasgclarke.com/lists

A Busy Month

Wow. Were did March go? Now Lets see:

I received the edits for my novel this month. Not as detailed as I had hoped for, but lots of good information and a direction to head. I've started going through it again from the beginning. Biggest change will be changing the feel from being the result of the scribes research to a story the scribe is telling.

The third volume in the Giant Tales, 3-Minute Stories series came out, with three more of my short stories. Check it out at Amazon.com or Barnsandnoble.com. Look for "Giant Tales World of Pirates"

I contacted Barns and Noble about being part of their local authors event on May 3rd. Not sure if I can participate since the books are still print on demand (POD), which means they would have to spend money up front in order to have books at the event for me to sign. I'll let you know soon if you'll be able to come and see me.

The first volume of the Giant Tales, 10-minute stories is getting ready to be released – "Lava Storm in the Neighborhood". My story, "Living in the Shadow", will be include and I'm very excited since it will be the longest story that I've had published. You can look for it on April 25th.

For any of my four books, you can order them directly from me and I'll make sure to sign them.

I'm almost done editing the stories for the 5th volume of the Giant Tales, 3-Minute Stories series. I agreed to be the editor and publisher for the 5th volume. It's been a lot of work,

but also a great experience and I've learned a bunch. I haven't selected a title yet. There are three "chapters" in the book which represent the May, August, and December 2013 short story contests.

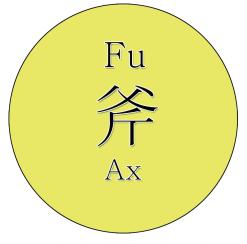
I've had more fun this moth making buttons. The thing I decided to do was get some artists to design international steampunk characters. I went on a web site called fiverr.com. On the site people offer services for \$5. I contacted them and offered those who would do drawings the opportunity to do a black and white and a color version of ten different characters. In case your not familiar with steampunk, it is Victorian age science fiction. Think Jules Verne. I now have 24 buttons and I get to figure out how to sell them — let me know if you want to buy a few.



In non-artists related work – sort of – I organized a boy scout camp out for the last week in March, which is why it is Tuesday and I'm writing the March newsletter. I planed the activities and taught two of the eight courses, which included the hardest one – teaching 20 fifth graders how to use knives, saws, hatches, and axes.

I also planned the meals for the 50 scouts and dinner for the 20 adults. For dinner we broke up into groups of 10 and each group prepared beef stew in dutch ovens and then cake for desert. It was a lot of work, but everyone had a good time.

For the scout weekend I made buttons for the scouts to assign them to groups and badges for the leaders so everyone would know what they were in charge of. I did a Japanese theme. It was fun trying to figure out all the buttons.



I worked on the jig-saw puzzles a little this month. Mostly frustration as I continue to figure out the process. I'm hoping that April will be the month I get things cutting.

I skipped the short story contest this month, but I'm hoping I'll be able to pick it back up for April.

If March was any indication, I'm betting that April will fly by, too. If you have any questions you'd like answered in a future newsletter, feel free to ask.

Doug