

Boston Goes West; Visits Chicon 2000 Throngs sign up to return the visit in '04

Boston in 2004 traveled to the Windy City and made a splash! With 34 committee members attending the Worldcon, there was a Bostonian in nearly every corner of the con.

There was no escaping the long reach of the Boston in 2004 bid table. The Worldcon bid tables were conveniently located in the Fan Exhibits hall near the tables for the 2003 Worldcon site selection, so we got to talk to many people about Boston as a Worldcon site. We were delighted by the enthusiasm we heard.

It's not a Worldcon if the bidders aren't busy throwing parties, of course. Boston in 2004 kicked off with a gala party on Thursday night. Operating out of two suites (five rooms) on the 28th floor, the party invited fans to enter, enjoy, and chow down. In the State suite, a large selection of Boston-area beers was a hit in one area; in another, we poured colorful blue drinks. Across the hall in the Avenue

suite shrimp was a hit. Both suites also offered cheese, fancy pastries, and homemade chocolate chip cookies (a Massachusetts invention). Hundreds of you came by for a little or a long time, and we didn't close down until the approach of 3. This party won the coveted "Party of the Night" designation from noted Worldcon party reviewers

Kurt Baty and Scott Bobo!

When you have that much fun, you just can't stop, except for necessary

Meet Cris – Zwilnik-fighter

Massachusetts resident CrIs Schuldiner is the newest member of MCFI, the group behind the Boston in 2004 Worldcon bid. Cris did yeoman work at Chicon, including driving our truck of all sorts of fannish stuff on the long (very long) (also very straight) (and lonely) road from Boston to Chicago.

Cris's fannish activities have included being one of the founders of Arisia (one of our three local SF conventions), working in nearly every position on that convention, and being a member of the Arisia Corporation.

Besides being an excellent truckdriver and hard-working con-runner, Cris has a wicked (sometimes atrocious) sense of humor and throws a humdinger of a party.



things like sleep and showers and the Chicago-style hot dog. So we were at it

again on Saturday night, running well past 4 in the morning! Thanks to everyone who came and ate, presupported, gave us feedback, or did all three. We welcome

our 256 new presupporters and 10 new friends...and also the 13 people who upgraded their pre-support-

ing membership to the friend level! With your support, we can bring the Worldcon to Boston!

There are at least 2004 Reasons to bring the Worldcon to Boston...

...and here are just a few of them...

- 124. Smoots on the Harvard Bridge (364.4 + an ear)
- 387. Classic rude waitstaff at Durgin Park (or Pahk)
- 34. Fenway Pahk (or Park)115. Real chowdah (fill in
- your own "r") 666. Boston drivers
- 52. The view from the John Hancock observatory
- 819. Fried dough
- 709. Bawstonics (talking Boston)
- 820. More fried dough (hey! it's our fave)
- 289. Walden Pond
- 1417. Did we mention wicked thick frappes?

Boston Committee Members Help at Chicon 2000

The Boston in 2004 committee is made up of people who just can't stop working on conventions. (It's a sickness, but a *nice* one.) Even when we're bidding, we can often be found helping out a convention, for without volunteers, conventions don't happen.

Chicon 2000's At-Con Registration received much praise for its efficiency and quick willingness to solve problems. The large area was headed by Boston in 2004's Sharon Sbarsky, and assisted by Seth Breidbart, Saul Jaffe, George Flynn, Jim Mann, and a host of others. Ruth Sachter worked in Program Ops, and several Boston committee members were on Program items.

In the Exhibit Hall, Joe Siclari and Edic Stern assembled the History of Worldcon Bidding and the FANAC Interactive Museum of Fan History exhibits with the help of Laurie Mann (who was also on the newsletter staff). Bruce Pelz had the History of Worldcons exhibit and the Fan Gallery. Mark Olson helped with a number of history exhibits. Site Selection was run by Tim Szczesuil, with the help of Ann Broomhead, Ted Atwood and Lisa Hertel, among others. Janice Gelb was a co-head of the Fan Lounge.

Those history guys, Joe Siclari and Bruce Pelz, wrote the history of Worldcons section of the Chicon 2000 program book. Famed party hostesses Gay Ellen Dennett and Naomi Fisher helped the Millennium Philcon crew put on a lavish spread for the post-Hugos Hugo Nominees party. Mark Olson helped Chicon Logistics. In the Dealers' Room, Rick Katze and Lisa Hertel were among the staff keeping order in the frenzy of money-forbooks. And speaking of money, your Chicon cash probably went through the hands of Judy Bemis, Dave Cantor, Debbie King, or Alexis Layton in the Finance division.

(Who said cons are vacations?)

Letters, We Get Letters Gentlebeings,

Unlike a number of the other distinguished sophonts who are likely to have received your recent flyer, I in fact DO understand why the giant gasoline sign is on the National Register, and I've consumed more than one "wicked thick frappe." For that matter, although I was never a student across the Charles, I CAN point out the smoots on the Massachusetts Avenue bridge, and I understand why the Other Club got that name.

Many years ago I used to be a NESFAn, and my first experience of organized fandom was at a Boskone in the mid 1970's. How could I not respond to your heartfelt appeal? Please sign up both my wife and myself as pre-supporting members for the Boston in 2004 bid. We attended Noreascon 3, and thought it a wonderful convention. And we both love visiting Boston. (Living there is another kettle of fish entirely...)

I have enclosed a check for \$24. I presume that we will be hearing from you later on as things develop with the bid campaign.

Until then I will be refurbishing the old space armor, changing my De Lameters, sharpening up the old space axe, and polishing the inherently undetectable speedster. And if I have any free time left after that I can always pull preventive maintenance on the Bergenholm.

Sincerely,

Blake Kirk Woodlawn TN

More of the Galactic Patrols' Recruiting Officers

Who We Are

These are some more of the fannishlyfearless folks, members of MCFI, who are working to bring the Worldcon to Boston in 2004:

Laurie Mann's first working convention was in 1975. Since then she's cochaired a Boskone, a Lexicon and a Chocon, and is a past Secretary of MCFI. She is currently a member of the board overseeing FANAC. She is happy to work in just about any convention area or simply just attend a convention.

Laurie's hobby is putting together useful web sites, like AwardWeb and the Dead People Server. Her secret ambition is to be curator of the World Wide Web!

A former Massachusetts resident now living in Pennsylvania, Laurie likes Sam Adams beer, lobsters, and Boston cream pie. When in Boston she loves to walk around the city.

Her philosophy of conventions: "Smaller cons have an obligation to distinguish themselves by serving a particular audience, but Worldcons must be as inclusive and diverse as possible."

Jim Mann started working on conventions in 1975. He is a past Secretary of MCF1 and held that job through Noreascon Three. He was co-chairman of Boskone 25 with his wife, Laurie. Jim has also been a Worldcon division head three times (running Services at Noreascon 3 and LoneStarCon II, and Program at the Millennium Philcon). Program and Services (called 'operations' in some locations) have been areas in which he particularly likes to work at any convention.

He likes to read and to watch movies. His secret ambition is to retire and catch up on his to-be-read list.

Jim lives in Pennsylvania. When in Boston, his favorite activity is attending NESFA meetings! Failing that, Jim likes to wander from bookstore to bookstore, get ice cream at Herrel's or Toscanini's, or look for the best of the local microbrewed beers.

Jim's philosophy of conventions: "The convention should be well run and the attendees and committee should enjoy themselves."

Priscilla Olson is a past secretary of MCFI and a past vice-president of NESFA. She chaired Boskone 29 and is chair of the upcoming Boskone 38. She was one of the co-chairs of a Ditto and has co-chaired a Lexicon with her husband, Mark.

She's helped put together the program for five Worldcons, a World Fantasy Con, and a whole lot of Boskones. She also likes working on the newsletter, in the office, at registration, or other "whole-con" areas. The first convention she worked at was Noreascon 2 (1980).

In Boston, she favors dessert but recommends the whole meal at the Cafe Budapest!

Outside of fandom, she enjoys gardening, crossword puzzle competitions, cooking, and collecting stuff, and is one of the local jewelry-making enthusiasts.

Priscilla's take on conventions: "Have fun, but don't scare the horses!"

Recruting officers, continued from p. 2

Janice Gelb tells of the first convention she worked on: "1978, Iguanacon. Khen Moore saw me in a short clingy dress and asked me to run art for the art show auction the next day."

Since then she's worked in nearly every convention area, but likes program operations the best. "We make the trains run on time!"

Janice got into fandom while living in Atlanta. She is in SFPA (the Southern Fandom Press Alliance) and, although now a California resident, she still considers herself a southern fan. In 1999 Janice was the DUFF (Down-Under Fan Fund) delegate. Outside fandom, her hobbies include Israeli folk dancing, ballroom dancing, and watching baseball and football on TV.

Janice's favorite Boston items are the fish chowder at Legal Seafood and the pastrami-and-chopped-liver sandwich at Rubin's.

Her convention philosophy: "Make it an enjoyable convention for the attendees without sacrificing the committee's lifeblood to attain that goal."

Bonnie Atwood, a Massachusetts resident, has been working on conventions since Confederation (the 1986 Worldcon, in Atlanta). "After my husband, Ted, got shanghaied to work, he managed to 'convince' our daughter, Dcb, and me that we'd love to work on the con — Art Show security, specifically, door guard." Although she has since worked in the Dealers room, Registration, and other areas, the Art Show remains her favorite. With Ted, she co-chaired Boskone 35.

Bonnie's hobbies include reading and making jewelry (which she has displayed and sold in a number of convention Art Shows).

Her secret ambition is to take up belly dancing, which she says looks like fun and great exercise!

Boston's compact size, making it easy for walking, is one of the things about the city that appeals to her. Bonnie likes walking along the Charles River, as well as in the North End.

Bonnie's philosophy of conventions: "Fandom is like a big family with all the attendant problems that brings. We fight, make up, plot and scheme and eventually put on a good show. Some of us work harder than others, but it's the same in any family lots of personalities. We're all in this together and we should do our best to put on a great convention for everyone."

Our gallant officers will be coming to a recruiting location near you (see next column)!

Bahston English Explained

bzah: (adj.) Strange, weahd. Chahlz: (prop.n.) The rivah. chowdah: (n.) Clams, milk, buttah connah: (n.) Where streets intersect. fok: (n.) What you eat pahster with in the Noahth End. hahbah: (n.) What they dumped tea into in 1773. Hahvid: (prop. n.) Country day school across the rivah. hahf-ahst: (adj.) Done without regard to detail. heah: (v.) Done with the eahs. "Listen my children and you shall heah of the midnight ride of Paul Reveah." khakis: (n.) What you staht the cah with. nowtheastah: (n.) Stowm that blows in from the wottah. Noo Yok: (prop. n.) Small town about 200 miles southwest of Tremont Street. pahk: (v.) Cahn't do it in Hahvid Yahd. Not downtown eithah. pichahs: (n.) They throw fastballs at Fenway. Reveah: (person) He rode through Ahlington on a hoss shouting "To Ahms!" shuah: Of course. sketchy: (adj.) Used to describe a weahd place/person/food shot: (adj.) Not tall. wicked: (adj.) Like "that was one wicked thick frappe." viz: (pron.) You, plural. As in: "Ah yiz goin' down the Cape tomorrah?"



Where to find us until February 2001

Look for the Boston in 2004 recruiting officers at these upcoming conventions:

11/10-12 **Tropicon**, Hollywood Beach, FL; **Windycon**, Schaumberg, IL

11/17-19 **Philcon**, Philadelphia, PA; **OryCon**, Portland, OR

11/24-26, Loscon, (Beautiful Downtown) Burbank, CA

1/12-14, 2001 Arisia, Boston, MA; Chattacon, Chattanooga, TN 1/19-21, 2001 ConFusion, Warren, MI

2/16-18, 2001 Boskone, Framingham, MA



Join us for fun, food, friends, and, of course, the ubiquitous flaming laser death. Maybe some flaming desserts. And a gargle blaster or three. Or just a blaster. (Gargling optional.)



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¹Figures from Travelocity.com (Hotels); ²Figures from National Weather Service; ³Figures from Switchboard.com; ⁴Figures based on published information by Boston in 2004, Charlotte in 2004, Worldcon archival data, 10/15/2000.

Boston in 2004: It won't be our Worldcon. It will be yours!

of first liquid fuel rocket flight: 42 mi. (Shrewsbury, Massachusetts)

Distance from convention center to location

Members who have worked on Worldcons at Division Head level or higher: 184

from their proposed site: 244

vice \$8-10, cab \$12-20, bus/subway \$1. Committee members living 25 or fewer miles

vehicles. Nearest airport: Boston Logan (1200 flights per day). Cost of airport transportation: Shuttle ser-

water & land shuttles, amphibious

subway system, buses, taxis, trolleys,

In-city transportation: comprehensive

Grocery stores within 1 mile: 25³ Restaurants within 1/3 mile: 94³

Ave, high temperature on proposed dates: 75² Average relative humidity: 77%² Museums within 1 mile: 7³ Drug stores within 1 mile: 17³

Hotel rooms connected to Center: 1,2141

Additional rooms connected via air condi-

Total hotel rooms: 2,361 (in two hotels)1

tioned walkways: 1,1471

Boston, Massachusetts Venue: Hynes Convention Center, Sheraion Boston, Copley Marriott

Charlotte, North Carolina Venue: Charlotte Convention Center, six area hotels, one unbuilt hotel Hotel rooms connected to Center: 0 Additional rooms connected via air condi-

tioned walkways: 0 Total hotel rooms (built): 2,314 (in 6 hotels)1

Ave. high temperature on proposed dates:

86² Average relative humidity: 89%²

In-city transportation: one trolley (cap. 40)

Nearest airport: Charlotte-Douglas (500

Cost of airport transportation: Shuttle ser-

Committee members living 25 or fewer miles

Members who have worked on Worldcons at

Distance from convention center to location

Division Head level or higher: 14

of first airplane flight: 377 mi. (Kitty Hawk, North Carolina)

& city buses (expansion planned for

Museums within 1 mile: 3³

Drug stores within 1 mile: 6³

Crocery stores within 1 mile: 5³

both), taxis, shuttles.

flights per day).

staurants within 1/3 mile: 5³

vice \$10, cab \$16, bus \$1.

from their proposed site: 04

