

## HELMINTH, SPEAKING FOR BOSKLONE?

This is a collection of notes and last-minute reminders for the benefit of the committee. Responsibility (including typos) is all your chairman's.

First, a reminder that every member of the committee has a responsibility to the convention and the club as a whole to discourage misconduct by attendees wherever possible. (If we're lucky, some of the most obnoxious types won't come back; directly discouraging them is a lot easier than trying to point Boskone in a direction they won't follow.) This doesn't mean that you stand around looking tough or searching people (in your copious free time from running your area); it does mean that you should be aware of what's happening around you and step in if you can to prevent any of the following:

- riotous behavior: running, screaming, playing catch, dropping things down stairwells (at least we don't have an atrium here), playing boom boxes above a whisper, etc.

- off limits: NOBODY but the GoH's and their guests should be using the Towers elevators; nobody except committee, staff, and gophers on business should be going through the kitchens.

- littering and vandalism: fast-food leavings, taping things to walls, spray cans (a particular complaint of the former Lastcon hotel was a can which spreads a strand of something the consistency and tackiness of bubblegum), etc.

- weapons: \anything/ more than a half-hour either side of the Meet-the-VIP's party, and anything illegal or dangerous during. The rules were amended in this year's PR to mention big sticks, so if somebody claims his six feet of timber is a wizard's staff, politely ask him to wiz in the privacy of his room.

IF the problem looks like more than you can handle quietly, call Services and let \them/ call hotel security (unless Services is closed (typically 2:30-9:00am), in which case call hotel security directly).

Overall, the hotel has done an impressive job of making its renovation work invisible in public areas. The corridor outside Independence and the Edible Express is almost clear, and other areas that are open are unaffected---except for access to the staircase between the Constitution Foyer and the hotel sales office, which is very tight. Unfortunately, we don't have any good congregating areas that aren't in the flow of traffic; please be aware of this as you walk around the hotel, and ask large knots of people to move along to more open areas if they're blocking tight spots in the main corridors.

There was no gigantic tour of the hotel this year because of (among other "features") scheduling difficulties and the undesire of the hotel to escort a party of forty; everyone who needed to look at a particular area was supposed to come in individually and look. Since the hotel is essentially ours Thursday evening, I will lead or delegate a couple of walkthroughs if people are interested.

Read the newsletter! Everyone on the committee has a mailbox in Services; newsletters will be put there and you should check there a couple of times a day for anything else (I'm \not/ planning another issue of Helminth). If you're running a large area, pick up a \few/ extra newsletters for your busiest staff.

Boxboro is in rooms 607-609 (north tower); as usual, they have invited

the committee to come in for a quiet time on Saturday between 7:30 and 9pm, before the big party begins. Come see "Ghodzilla vs. Boxboro Fandom!".


Kris Brown, as GoH Liaison, is handling signups for modest-sized groups for meals with the guests at the guests' convenience. The guests have been encouraged to drop in on our warmup and shutdown parties (Thursday and Monday nights in the Den) but this is otherwise your best time to have a quiet chat with any of them. If you go on one of these expeditions, please plan to pay cash and try to keep track of your meal cost as you order to minimize hassle at the end of the meal; Kris has been asked to make sure that someone in the group is responsible for picking up the guest's meal and reporting it on his expense form. Note that Barclay Shaw, who is \very/ busy now, will be leaving Sunday afternoon.

I'm planning (unless a better suggestion comes up) to have dinner Monday night with Cherryh, the Claresons, and as many of you as can make it, at Apley's (the Sheraton's fancy restaurant). This will not be cheap, but I doubt it will be more expensive than Cafe Budapest was last year, and everything I've heard says the food is superb. This probably won't happen if we can't get a room to ourselves where they could relax the dress code.

Remember that the Den is for all committee \and/ \staff/---please make sure your staff know this. And if you have a gopher who's been knocking himself out for the last day or two and looks half-dead, bring him up to the den as well---they can probably use a place quieter than the Gopher Hole. (In general, GH will be well-supplied, so this is only for major cases.) Remember also that the people running the Den are only human; don't expect miracles or hand-and-foot service and try to clean up after yourselves.

After the con, please try to get your financial reports in as soon as possible---by the debriefing if at all possible; please use the charge numbers Debbie has set up (sheets listing the numbers will be available in Services and at the clubhouse if you don't have one). And if you can summon up the energy to prepare a full written report for debriefing, that will be helpful for next year.

Finally, I'd like to thank you all for helping to make Boskone happen; it has been a very long and frequently chaotic haul and it couldn't have been done without every one of you.



PS: Please note that your chair is feeling a little peeved at the mundane universe, what with somebody misusing his credit card, a suddenly-misbehaving back, and being laid off last week. This peevishness is obviously unjustified, since it merely confirms that the universe is behaving as perversely as it's supposed to. Nonetheless, if he looks a bit pensive or out of it, just tap him on the shoulder; don't sneak up behind him and yell "Roogie, roogie!" or "Whoosh!", as it will then be your problem to find a ladder and scrape him off the ceiling. Thank you....