

HELMUTH, speaking for BOSKONE

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Friday Early Edition

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WELCOME to Boskone XXI. This newsletter will give you all the news about changes in the program schedule and other timely information. In particular, we want news from you: if you're throwing an open party, organizing a discussion group, have lost something (or someone), or have any other information you'd like the rest of the convention to know about, tell us about it. You'll find a box at Information where you can leave news items.

Helmuth will probably be produced twice on Friday and Saturday, and once on Sunday - but we may vary that schedule, depending on the amount of news. Distribution points will be at Information, in the Hucksters' Room, near the main program, and perhaps elsewhere.

REGISTRATION -- The official preregistration count is 1744. That breaks down to 1557 ordinary paid members, 118 Life Members (including 18 former Guests of Honor), 10 Special Guests, and 59 Program Participants. (To answer the obvious question, last year there were 1688 pre-registrants - even if the newsletter at the time said 1746. Total registration was about 2540, of whom about 2420 actually attended.) I'm told that the hotel is officially full for Saturday night.

PROGRAM CHANGES -- Please make the following changes in your Pocket Program:

- Friday, 10 PM (Stanbro), "Not for the Squeamish": Charles L. Grant will be replaced by Freff.
- Saturday, 3 PM (Stanbro), "Tom Swift and His Electronic Fanzine": Laurie Mann has been added.
- Sunday, 1 PM (Imperial), "Memorable Worlds": Donald Kingsbury has been added.
- Sunday, 2 PM (Imperial), "A Sense of History": Gordon R. Dickson will be replaced by John M. Ford.
- Sunday, 3:30 PM (Stanbro), "Rekon II": This will be a wrap-up session. Sorry, out of order:
- Sunday, 12 noon (Imperial), "Transmuting Thark's Ears into Silk Purses": George H. Scithers has been added.

BABYSITTING and GAMES have been moved from the locations listed in your program! Babysitting is now in Rooms 412 and 414 on the 4th floor. Computer Games is in Room 416. There is only one room for Board Games, Room 417.

DISCUSSION GROUPS -- Boskone will provide meeting space for anyone interested in organizing a discussion group. Please sign up at the Information Desk if you are interested. (And consult your Program Book if you aren't sure what a discussion group is.)

OPEN PARTIES -- If you want to find out about open parties, read the newsletter. This has a corollary: if you want to hold an open party and have people know about it, you should tell the newsletter. As with any other information, leave it in the "Newsletter Info" box at the Information Desk as soon as possible - that is, as soon as you know the time and location of the party.

Boskone will "seed" open parties with free party supplies (soft drinks and munchies). Come to Room 402 at least 6 hours before the party.

BOSKONE XXII will be held on February 15-17, 1985; Guests of Honor will be Damon Knight and Kate Wilhelm. (No, we don't know the location yet.) Boskone XXII memberships are available for \$15 at the NESFA table in the Hucksters' Room. The \$15 rate is available only at Boskone XXI: Sunday night the rate goes up to \$17, and it will be \$22 at the door.

Alternatively, Boskone Life Memberships (good for 300 years or the rest of your life, whichever ends first) are once again available. The cost is \$300 at the NESFA table here, but will go up to \$340 at the end of Boskone XXI.

NESFA SALES ITEMS available at Boskone for the first time, also at the NESFA table:

Plan(e)t Engineering by Gene Wolfe, this year's Boskone Book:
Regular Edition \$8.57 Slipcased Edition \$15.00
(Prices after the convention will be much higher.)

A New Settlement of Old Scores by John Brunner, the ConStellation (1983 Worldcon) Guest of Honor book, a songbook available in either book or spiral binding: \$8.00

Boskone XXI T-Shirt (with artwork by Vincent Di Fate): \$8.00

The 1983 NESFA Index to SF magazines and original anthologies is not yet available (we haven't been able to find some of the anthologies yet), but advance orders will be taken at \$5.00.

Also available, of course, are all the old NESFA sales items, which are too numerous to list here; drop by the NESFA table and have a look.

Would you believe TOURIST INFORMATION? Visitors to Boston might be interested in having a look at Copley Place, the shopping mall that opened just this week, full of expensive shops (Neiman-Marcus, Gucci, etc.: bring lots of money), and with a nine-screen cinema. Just go three blocks west from the hotel on Stuart Street.

And the first PARTY announcement has just come in: An "Austin's Here" party will be held tonight (Friday) at 10 PM in Room 433. Memberships in Lone Star Con/Chilicon will be sold. (Sorry, no chili.)

PHONE NUMBERS you might find handy:

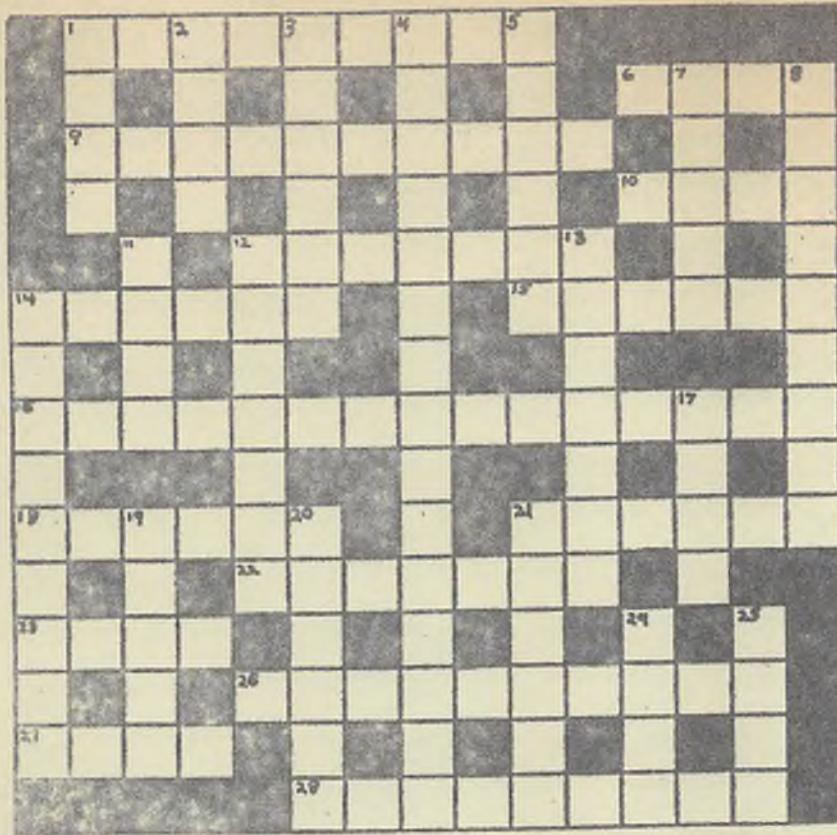
Information	460
People Mover	464
Rekon-2 call-in	470
Babysitting	7414

REGISTRATION will be open in Berkeley and Clarendon until 10 tonight. After that, it will move to the smoking con suite (Room 442).

IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING: Yes, the statement in the Progress Report that the Boskone program will have "a strong ST Art component" was a typo; make that "SF Art".

THE CRUCIVERBALIST STRIKES -- On the next page you will find the first of two crossword puzzles on science-fictional themes prepared by Priscilla Pollner, the Boskone XXI Cruciverbalist. This one is what's called a "cryptic" puzzle; if you don't have the faintest idea what that is, go looking for Priscilla (she's working in Registration) and she will endeavor to explain. The answers will appear in Sunday's newsletter, and another puzzle will be published later.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



Across

1. Sounded like Larry spun hoop, or vice versa? (9)
6. Ruins Barsoom (4)
9. Throw music out of the airlock, for old sf tale (5, 5)
10. Croat returned, lacking a collar in May (4)
12. Monster might rend leg in epic (7)
14. Sand you mix without love at this time (6)
15. Purpose concerning offspring (6)
16. If a wine-lover, I'll mix something novel for Heinlein (1,4,4,2,4)
18. Strong claim could madden (6)
21. Sees stools where wights dwell? (6)
22. Breaks away for short time travel, and locks around (7)
23. Travel? Easy, or Anderson will take T (4)
26. Peake's hero could be staring out (5, 5)
27. Unicorn time disturbs a Spanish king (4)
28. Perilous collected dreams (9)

DOWN

1. Part Soviet writer? (4)
2. Excited, ran east to get close (4)
3. Twisted around her draconic beast (6)
4. Rogue queen, their plan - right? declared time-keeper (6, 9)
5. German article written about the lost relic is more mysterious (6)
7. A most explosive source of energy (5)
8. A parliamentary rule, whereby obedient robots help nominate (6, 3)
11. Can time indicate this matter, C.T? (4)
12. Change all song measures (7)
13. The French go with the Spanish elf (7)
14. Heard illiterates rotated little Haiblun on flying cities (9)
17. Alter very direction to American capital (4)
19. Confused, I roam the mines (5)
20. Upset? Indeed, opposed! (6)
21. Van Vogt's ship is really Peter's (6)
24. Falcon pilot will do it alone (4)
25. Wellsian empire has them too (4)