

issue 1

Friday afternoon: 2/16/96

Welcome to Boskone 33! This is the first issue of Helmuth (Speaking for Boskone) with all the news (we think) you need to know. Take a break from negative campaigning (and presidential politics in general), sit back, and enjoy yourself....after all, you made it through the snow to get here!

Helmuth will be published 5 or 6 times during the convention. If you have news, please get it to Services or Information. Party listings will appear in the late afternoon edition, and should reach us by 3 pm to ensure their getting into Helmuth.

We expect a fair amount of cancellations and program changes due to the weather. Helmuth will note when a program participant won't be coming (e.g., Barry Longyear cancelled at 9:45 this morning) - but please check room signs for up-to-the-minute program change information.

Colophons are provided by Jonathan Hunt. Incidental Art is cheerfully solicited.....

We Need Help! (But you knew that.....)

Anyone who would like to help run the convention should stop by the Information/People Mover table in the corridor outside the Grand Ballroom.

Hotel

Parking will be tight (especially if we have significant snowfall). The hotel requests that you don't park in the fire lanes (bordering the hotel) or handicapped-access parking (unless you have a legitimate reason). Additional parking is available in the back of the hotel.

Please remember to use your "Do Not Disturb" signs (unless you really *want* to be disturbed by housekeeping). Remember to remove the signs when you leave the room for the day!

Banquet

Pick up your pre-ordered banquet tickets in the registration area. Any banquet tickets not picked up by 1 p.m. on Saturday are subject to resale.

Banquet tickets are available in the registration area until noon Saturday: \$22.00 for chicken and \$27.00 for beef (tax and gratuity included).

Banquet seating is Saturday at 7:00 p.m.; serving is at 7:30.

More Food!

A restaurant guide is available at Information.

Additionally, the hotel is going all out to make sure we won't starve. In addition to its regular menu, "Witherspoon's" will be providing a breakfast (7:00-11:00), lunch (\$8.95, 11:30-2:00) and dinner (\$12.95, 4:00-8:30) buffet, along with its regular menu. Cash concessions in the lobby will provide quick breakfasts (7:00-10:00), lunches (2:00-4:00), and late night (8:30 p.m.- 12:30 a.m.) fare. "Molly Malone's" will offer a lunch buffet on Sunday (\$8.95, 11:30-2:00).

More Important Information

Unfortunately, Lucinda Brown of "Musical Chairs" (our Featured Filkers) will not be present (Get Well Soon, Lucinda!).

Special thanks to Mary Ellen Wessels, who will be standing in for her during the Concert, Saturday at 4:00 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom.

On Sunday (4:00, Grand), Boskone is having a charity auction - proceeds to Literacy Unlimited. This program is administered by the Framingham Library, and offers one-on-one training at no cost to the student. We're looking for your donations (to Information or Services) - *your* help will make this benefit a success!

On Magic

Boskone is running two "Magic: The Gathering" tournaments (see the pocket program for details). We also have two program items that might just help you win.....

Fri. night: *Deck Building* - You've just spent a fortune buying a starter deck and a few booster packs. Now, what do you do with all those cards? Come to this 2-hour workshop on building decks and pick up some ideas, hints and strategies. Both general deck building and "sealed deck" deck building will be discussed. If time permits, actual decks brought by participants can be analyzed.

Sat. morning: *Tournament Strategies* - You've built a few killer decks and have beaten all your friends over and over again. You wanted some new challenges, so you entered this Duelists' Convocation-sanctioned tournament that Mr. Suitcase told you about and brought your Red/Black Deck of Death that none of your friends has ever been able to beat....and you got eliminated from the tournament after the second round of play. What went wrong? How do you go from playing in friendly games to playing a bunch of strangers in a cut-throat win or get lost tournament?

In addition to our tournaments (and/or Magic, in general!), we will have rooms available for gaming through the weekend:

Friday night: Wexford

Saturday: Limerick (bottom level, near stairs)

Sunday: room 153

More Good Stuff

Ron Walotsky was omitted from the list of Gaughan Award judges in the Program Book. He was not appointed until after its deadline. (Ron Walotsky is also next year's Guest Artist).

Jeanne Cavelos, former senior editor at Dell Publishing and winner of the World Fantasy Award, tells us that (at 1 pm on Saturday) she will be do a presentation of Odyssey, the new six-week summer fantasy writing workshop to be held at New Hampshire College. Odyssey is an intensive writing experience for any author who wants to hone his or her skills. Guest lecturers include some of the top writers in the field.

Odyssey will be sponsoring a party in the Con Suite at 10:00 p.m. on Friday evening.

There will be an ASFA meeting Saturday at 5:00 p.m. in Camelot South.

Play ChronoCollisions!

Boskone this year sees the debut of a new trivia game for time travel fans. ChronoCollisions is not a role-playing game. Not a Dr. Who spin-off. Nothing commercial or complicated. Just a fun new fannish way to mark time.

Stop by the ChronoCollision game wall, downstairs in the lobby by Camelot North, sometime between now and 10:00 P.M. Saturday to jot down a few entries. Test your knowledge of time travel stories from page, screen and stage. Win big-time prizes (well, prizes), the awed esteem (or at least bemused acknowledgment) of your contemporaries -- and the eternal (by definition) blessings of the Time Lords.

(This is in addition to our Trivia Bowl, Friday night at 10:00 p.m. in Camelot North....all you get to win there is chocolate and the adoration of the multitudes.....)

Spectators Welcome

...at the Regency Dance! Join us on Friday night at 10:00 in the Grand Ballroom. Fancy dress (that you can dance in) is welcome and much appreciated, but is *not* required. You don't have to dance to attend -- and you don't even have to know how to dance to do the dances! All the dances will be taught. All the dances will be called. Come and have fun. (What do you have to lose?)

Top 33 Reasons Why Boskone 33 Welcomes the Snow

33. Scavenger hunt to find two identical snowflakes.
 32. It gets the idiot commuter traffic off the roads so those who *want* to get to Boskone can get here.
 31. Writers given opportunity to research new ice age.
 30. Polar bear cubs-in-tow get in free.
 29. Intimate interactive panels!
- (to be continued ... your gags welcome)



issue 2

Friday night: 2/16/96

Helmuth is *already* available on the Web. New issues will be posted about an hour after the paper version comes out. You can find them by starting at the Boskone Information Center: <http://www.panix.com/NESFA/Boskone/flyer.html>

(Wow.....high tech hits Helmuth!)

Deadline for tomorrow's evening edition (get those party announcements in!) is 6-ish.

Program Changes

Ian Randal Strock is stuck in New York. Cancel him off of his program items, and cancel his Sunday 11:00 a.m. "Artemis Project" (Camelot South).

Also not coming: *Steve Pagel*, and *Don Sakers*, whose Sunday 10:00 a.m. panel on "Lightyears" is canceled...

Also, *Cortney Skinner* may have to cancel.

There will be a get-together relating to the NESFA short story contest taking its place. Did you enter a story? Are you thinking of entering one in the future? Do you have any questions? Come and share your wisdom.

"Magic" playing tonight is in Kildare (as noted in the Pocket Program), not Wexford (as stated in the last Helmuth.....)

Add Jim Mann to "Great SF Films of the 1950's" (Saturday, 4:00 p.m.)

Early Party announcements

The Con Suite will be celebrating the fun and whimsy of fandom. Drop by: chat, draw on our mural, just relax....We will be sponsoring several food-related special events:

Friday: Odyssey party

Saturday: Alien Food Night (you'll need a passport to get in).

Sunday: Sweets for the Suite

Come by and enjoy!

The Donner Party is delayed, due to the weather.

Practice Safe Boskone: Yes - that *was* a real fire (a 4th floor wastebasket.). Please pay attention to alarms. (And don't attempt to cross route 9 on foot, either.....)

More Top 33 Reasons Why Boskone 33 Welcomes the Snow

28. It's cheaper to build an igloo than rent a room. (From someone who refuses to be credited....you can have that honor too!)

27. It might distract you from missing "Picket Fences" (or, "The X-Files?") tonight. (You *are* coming to tonight's program, aren't you?)

26. It keeps the politicians from coming here to campaign.

25. The authors can't get away!
(Keep 'em coming!)

Yet More Good Stuff

Interested in comics? Come meet and talk with like-minded individuals at the Live Comics Round Table Conference. Schmooze and enjoy yourself while bemoaning recent events in the comics world (Paramount and Marvel....I mean, really!)

Kaffeeklatsch sign-up is at Information. This is your chance to relax with your favorite author, and really get to know some interesting people.

Some Sad News

We lost two of our own this week: *Elsie Wollheim* and *Bob Shaw*. More information to follow.

In addition, we've just received word that actor *MacLean Stevenson* died today of a heart attack.

Recruitment?

If you want to learn more about NESFA (the group that puts Boskone on) swing by information....we'd love to meet you.

Attention Lost Banqueteers*

The following prepaid banquet tickets had not been picked up as of 7 p.m. Friday:

- Fred Duarte
- Linda Fofee
- Daniel Franklin
- Mary Ann McDonald
- Stephen McDonald
- Mary-Beth Santarelli
- Linda Snodgrass
- Will Stewart

Tickets not picked up by 1 p.m. Saturday are subject to resale. Tickets cannot be sold after noon on Saturday.

(*We're not sure if that's a real word, but we like the sound of it.)

The Well-Dressed Fan

...is wearing a Boskone 33 t-shirt, a mock turtleneck, and/or (probably "and", in this weather) an embroidered polo shirt. All have artwork by guest artist Gary Ruddell and are available for sale through Saturday across from the Boskone Registration tables.

The Snowstorm is Not Here Yet!

So says at least one of the local meteorologists on the 6 p.m. news. The "real" storm, due in later tonight, will stall off the coast of New England bringing snow through most of Saturday. (Oh Joy!)

ChronoCollisions: Time for the Stars

There's still plenty of time today to enter this new time travel trivia game, make a strong showing, and become a star. (Play ends tonight at 10:00 p.m.) So drop downstairs to the lobby by Camelot North. Show how your knowledge of time travel stories shines.

Remember, ChronoCollisions is not role-playing or Dr. Who, just a fun fannish pastime.

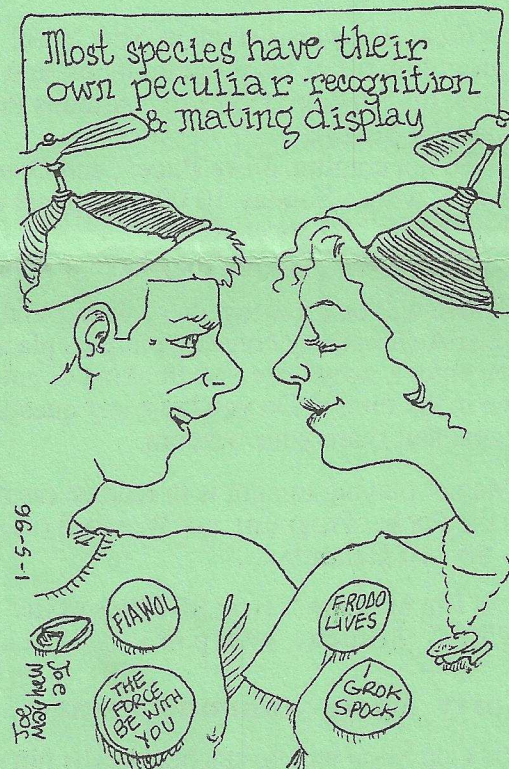
So far, players' entries show the Pearl Harbor nexus as the most popular with time

travel authors. And despite expectations that there'd be so many time travelers meeting on the Titanic that they'd sink it, the ship is still surprisingly high in the water. Can you come up with other occasions where chrononauts collide?

Let it Snow....

....let it snow, let it snow....?

Can you think of *more* songs about the snow? We have a batch (but then we're getting a bit punchy): Winter Wonderland; Little Jack Frost, Get Lost; There's Frost on the Moon; Frosty the Snowman; There's No Business Like Snow Business (right?), I'm Dreaming of a White February?.....tell us more!!!!



Who We Are

Helmuth (speaking for Boskone) is the work of Priscilla Olson and Pam Fremon. We hope you like it.

HELMUTH



issue 3

Saturday afternoon: 2/17/96

Now is the winter of our discontent.....
(Actually, it's not that bad: Logan Airport is reopened, and the snow has already ended in the Boston area (9:30 a.m.) - it should end here by the early afternoon.....)

Early Program Changes

Don D'Ammassa went to Florida and got a cold - he won't be able to make it here.

Virginia Taylor will be replacing *Geoff Avalon* in "Songwriting" (Saturday, 3:00 p.m.).

Tom Galloway is substituting for *Don Sakers* on the "Long Live the Legion panel" at noon on Sunday.

At the 8:30 p.m. filk concert, *Gary Ehrlich* will be performing in lieu of *Geoff Avalon*..

On Sunday from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m., the Gaming room (153) will be used for the "Challenger Concert" rehearsal. Gaming will resume after that.

Geary Gravel may not appear at his kaffeeklatsch. He is driving *Ann Tonsor Zeddies* from the airport, and is not expected until 2:00 p.m. this afternoon.

Jean Krevor is added to "Return of Mindless Mush."

Paul Shuch is added to "Do We Know How to Predict the Future?" (Saturday, 4:00 p.m.).

Sharon Lee is added to "The Uses of Storytelling."

(OK - pay close attention to this one...) *Debra Doyle* replaces *Jim Macdonald* on "Why Do SF Fans Love Jane Austen" (Saturday, 4:00 p.m.) and *Jim Macdonald* replaces *Debra Doyle* on "The Appeal of the Past" (Sunday, noon).

Edie Stern is off Jane Austen as well.

Early Party announcements?

Boston in 2001 - 10:00 p.m., room 273
Albacon party - room 360
Philadelphia in 2001, Australia in 1999

More Sad Stuff

It's been reported that *Brian Daley* died.

More Top 33 Reasons Why Boskone 33 Welcomes the Snow

24. Good filler for Helmuth.
23. Program is thinking of having a snow-alien competition (talk about making lemonade!).
22. Shovelling is good preparation for helping load the logistics truck after the con.
21. Makes for interesting travel stories on the elevator and in the corridors.
20. Gives hucksters the opportunity to add warm woolen mittens to their stock.
19. You folks in the sunbelt will have something to tell your grandchildren about.
18. Obsessing can be fun!
17. It gives common mortals a chance to strut their stuff by contributing to Helmuth (c'mon!)

Stuff

Many thanks for "Enchantments" bookstore in Lexington, MA for its support and sponsorship of the Boskone "Magic" tournaments.

Denice Thornhill - please see NESFA Sales.

Last night's well-attended Trivia Bowl lasted 1.5 hours. Mark Mandel (whose program item is, he notes, on "The Klingon Language", not "Klingonese") gave us some creative question presentations to spice the competition. The contest was won (sort of) by Tom Galloway (with 51 chocolates, and nearly one water pitcher). Bob Devney (48) and Tony Lewis (47) also placed high: all *will* be expected to help with next year's contest!

The Play

Join us after the Banquet tonight for Esther Friesner's play, *The Blessed Life and Gory Death of St. Steffano De Bordello*. This lavish, high-budget production (the props budget alone was over \$12!) is certain to be a contender for the 1996 Dramatic Presentation Hugo!

After the banquet (about 9:00 pm) the Grand Ballroom will be opened for additional seating for the awards and then Esther's play. Join us!

Recommendations

"Teaching with SF" (Saturday, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. is a program item of particular interest to the teachers among us. Come and share ideas about using science fiction and fantasy to teach science, writing, philosophy....whatever... (One of these days we'd like to turn this into an in-service workshop: Suggestions on how?)

"Musical Chairs" is performing in concert at 4:00 p.m. in the Grand Jeanne Stevenson finally made it up here (via plane and train through New York....congratulations on surviving the trip, and we're looking forward to hearing you!)

Make Time for ChronoCollisions

Contrary to some reports, you can play this time travel trivia game until 10:00 p.m. Saturday, downstairs in the lobby by Camelot North. The Big Bang, Beethoven, and the

swinging 60's are hot sites. See you then/there...

Late stuff (too late for the first page!)

Geary Gravel will not be on the Saturday 2:00 p.m. "Dueling Easels" item (is he still on the road from the airport? Arrgh!)

Readercon will be having a party at 10:00 p.m. in room 358. Chicago in 2000 is having a party starting at 9:00 tonight in room 342.

(complete party listings in our evening edition. Deadline is 6:00. Out before the banquet. OK?)

110 banquet tickets have been sold. Four havenot been picked up yet: (Daniel Franklin, Mary-Beth Santarelli, Linda Snodgrass, Will Stewart). They are subject to re-sale if they are not picked up by 1:00. Check at Registration.

More Thanks and Things to Come

Joe Mayhew is providing us with wonderful cartoon fillos. Tonight's edition will feature a Double Crostic puzzle honoring our GoH - many many thanks to the talented Carol Downing for that!



(Another production by our pulse-pounding, perfectionistic, positively perfect pair of primarily and prudently pixilated people (per) Pam and Priscilla.....whew...)