



Galactic Patrol Gazette

An entropic publication of the Lensmen
of Boston in 2004,
protectors of fandom, fun, and
ravening beams of coruscating energy

Issue #4

Boston, Massachusetts, Tellus

Winter 2001

We've Filed!

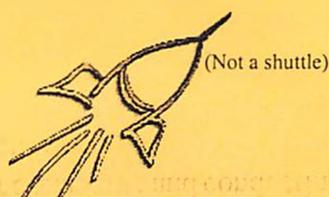
Boston in 2004 reached a milestone at SMOFcon on December 2, 2000. At the Saturday evening Caribbean banquet, MCFI Chairman Deb Geisler handed an envelope to upcoming Worldcon chairman Todd Dashoff and announced to applause that these were the filing papers. (Another copy had been given to Site Selection Administrator Jordan Brown at Loscon the week be-

fore by MCFI members Bruce Pelz and Rick Katze.)

We filed letters of agreement from the Sheraton Boston, the Boston Marriott Copley Place, and the John B. Hynes Convention Center for the traditional Labor Day weekend, September 2-6, 2004. Deb Geisler, who is also our bid chairman, will chair the convention if we win.

B'zah Bahston

On September 3, 1988, a produce merchant set a world record at the John Hancock Tower. While standing at the base of the building, he caught in his mouth a black grape that was tossed down by his son-in-law from the top of the building. After being asked how a 110-mile-per-hour grape felt, he responded, "It hurts."



Florida SMOFcon: Sun, sea, space shuttles...and how to run better cons

The Boston in 2004 bidders had a blast at the recent SMOFcon in Cocoa Beach, Florida. Many lucky SMOFcon attendees got to witness the night launch of Space Shuttle Mission STS-97 on November 30th, the day before SMOFcon. The convention was held at a hotel near the NASA launch site of the Kennedy Space Center.

SMOFcon is an annual convention for convention runners to discuss ideas and techniques for better organizing and conducting conventions.

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I Wake Up Singing

There's nothing so happy, sad, or pun-filled that it can't be (or hasn't already been) sung about. Our friends and neighbors in MASSFILC, Inc., a Massachusetts-based group of filkers, have proved that by putting together a songbook for the Boston in 2004 bid!

Titled *Primary Beams*, it contains 16 great filk songs, some decades old, some very new, concerning Lensmen, Boston, New England or fandom. Songs in-

clude "Lensman Academy Fight Song," "I Don't Understand the Arisians," "Boskone Recruiting Song," and "The Great Molasses Flood."



Copies are for sale from MASSFILC at conventions for \$4, or contact them at MASSFILC, Inc., 18 Cottage Avenue, Arlington, MA 02474. You may also send them email to info@massfilc.org.

**The Galactic Patrol is 1,000+ members strong.
But you don't have to be strong to join.**

Pre-supporting memberships.....\$12
Intergalactic Friends.....\$75

Contact us at:
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P.O. Box 1010
Framingham, MA 01701
www.boston2004.org
info@mcfi.org

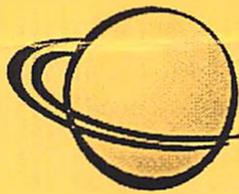
Thinking through con-running: Smofcon, cont'd.

The venue changes every year.

A key concept of SMOFcon is that during panel discussions, the attendees may have more to contribute than the panelists. Some of the notable panel discussions at this SMOFcon were: "You've got to have a Buffy Panel," "Rightsizing the Convention," and "Art Show Management." A unique series of panels were the "Thinking It Through" panels, which focused on specific areas of a convention, such as Hotel, Finance, and Organization. Some of the workshops held were: "Naomi's Cooking Workshop" (or Cooking for Fans)" featuring Boston in 2004's own Naomi Fisher, "Publishing Workshop" with Friend of Boston Geri Sullivan, and "Web Workshop" with Anne Gay and

Boston's own Sharon Sbarsky.

The highlight of the convention proper was the "BBQ the Bidders" banquet and bidder presentation/inquisition on Saturday night. Without doubt, the best-received presentation was by Boston's own Deb Geisler, who



"launched" the news about our sweet hotel contracts to thunderous applause by the audience. Many suggestions were made as to how Ben Yalow (Boston in 2004's hotel negotiator) secured

such favorable conditions, to the amusement of all present, except perhaps Ben.

Next year's SMOFcon will be held in York, England. This will be only the second SMOFcon to be held outside of North America. Contact KIM Campbell by email at: kcampbell@cix.compulink.co.uk

SMOFcon concluded on Sunday, December 3, 2000, and over the course of the weekend much smoffing took place. Everyone appeared to have a good time.

—Tim Szczesuil

Moah B'zah Bahston

The Boston University Bridge may be the only place in the world where a boat can sail under a train moving under a car driving under an airplane.

More of our intergalactic crime-fighting personnel

DEBBIE KING's first working convention was Boskone 14 or 15. At cons she can usually be found working in Treasury or the Den. She has served as NESFA and Boskone Treasurer several times each.

Her secret ambition is to run a perfect At-Con Worldcon Treasury; the Millennium Philcon will be her next testing ground! When in Boston Debbie likes to visit the Museum of Science and local historic houses such as Gore House in Waltham.

Outside fandom, Debbie loves to travel (cons are a great excuse to travel) and to collect blown glass.

She is also known as an enthusiastic photographer. Some of her photos can be seen on the FANAC Fan History Project site at www.fanac.org.



ED DOOLEY has been working on conventions since 1992. His favorite areas to work in are program and anime.

He is a past clerk/corporate secretary of Arisia. Outside fandom, he enjoys good food,

writing, walking, swimming and all kinds of outdoorsy stuff.

Ed's philosophy of conventions is: "Nothing matters after two heart attacks."

His secret ambition is to get Tim Roberge's anime collection out of his bedroom.

There are a number of things Ed enjoys about Boston: the free Boston Pops concerts on the Esplanade in the summer, the two good amusement parks within 90 minutes of the city, the Museum of Fine Arts, and MIT anime.



GAY ELLEN DENNETT has been working on conventions since 1982. Her favorite areas to work in are the art show and food functions. She is a past president and vice president of NESFA, and has been president of MCFI twice. She chaired Boskone 32.

Her hobbies include collecting dolls, particularly foreign dolls in native dress, and Annalee dolls. She is also one of the local jewelry makers. When in Boston, her two favorite activities are getting lost in the Museum of Fine

Arts and attending a Red Sox game.

Gay Ellen's philosophy of conventions is: "Everybody has a part to play, and everybody should play a part."



This year marks **TIM ROBERGE's** tenth year of convention work. He claims that the convention area he most likes to work in is "everything else."

Tim is a past convention treasurer of Arisia. Outside fandom he enjoys anime, computers and gaming. His secret ambition is "to subject Deb Geisler to another flamingo."

His favorite Boston activity is the 128 Two-Step (refer to *Christie's Route 128 Survival Guide* from the mid 1980s). Failing that, Tim says, "Ask me about my Big Dig."

On conventions: "If it's over and you still have a heartbeat, you're doing pretty good."

"World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldcon", "NASFiC", and "Hugo Award" are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.