Boskone 37 Program

Friday

6:00 pm

Camelot C/N: Clear Ether and Hot Jets: E.E. Smith's Lensmen

E.E. Smith's Lensman series has been called the greatest of all space operas. The names of both Boskone and Arisia come from the series, as does the theme of the Boston in 2004 Worldcon Bid. Why does the Lensman series remain popular? What made it stand out above series by the other writers of the time?

Hal Clement (m), Jordin T. Kare, William Keith Jr., Ben Yalow

7:00 pm

Camelot C/N: The Best Trek Ever: A Look Back at *Deep Space 9*

Star Trek: Deep Space 9 started slow, but by the end of its run it was perhaps the best Star Trek show ever, producing many great episodes and exploring its characters in ways other Trek shows have not. The panel examines DS9.

Michael A. Burstein, Keith R. A. DeCandido, Mark Keller, Daniel Kimmel, Jim Mann (m)

Camelot South: The Secret Museum: A **Slide Show and Discussion**

Cortney Skinner

Pub: Literary Beer

A Kaffeeklatch with more of a hoppy bent to it... Michael Swanwick, Peter Weston

8:00 pm

Camelot C/N: SF in Popular American Cartoons

SF and fantasy have long been popular subjects for American cartoons. The Jetsons is probably the best known, but there have been many, many others. The panel looks at SF and fantasy cartoons, both TV shows and movies.

Pam Fremon, Larry Gelfand, Daniel Kimmel, Jim Mann

Camelot South: Long Live the Legion!

Our annual discussion of the Legion of Superheroes. Need we say more?

Brenda W. Clough, Daniel P. Dern, Priscilla Olson (m), Don Sakers

Tipperary: Dragonslair Reading: Jane Yolen

Grand: The SF Roadshow: Evaluating Collectibles

Bring your old or rare or just-plain-interesting SF artifacts, books and artwork to our experts who will evaluate them, tell you what they are and, perhaps, what they're worth and then at about 9 pm, give a presentation on some of the most interesting things that turned up. Talk with our experts and each other over a beer at the cash bar. Meet you fellow fans and many of the program participants.

Mark L. Olson (m), Joe Siclari, Jerry Weist, Art Henderson, Chris Logan Edwards, Bob knowledge of the trivial in SF and SF fandom. Kildare, XXXXX: Open Filking

10:30 pm

Grand: Whose Line Is It Anyway?

Another edition of one of our favorite games! Ginjer Buchanan, Nomi Burstein (m), Michael A. Burstein (m), Keith R. A. DeCandido, Esther Friesner, Josepha Sherman

Saturday

9:00 am

Baron Suite(243): Odyssey Workshop (closed)

Barnaby Rapoport

10:00 am

Camelot C/N: Into the Next Millennium: What's on the Schedule to Be Published

Ginjer Buchanan, Paul Giguere (m), Laura Anne Gilman, David G. Hartwell, Anthony R. Lewis

Camelot South: What You Can't Get Away with Any More in Hard SF (and how to anyway)

A Hal Clement slide show -- need we say more? Hal Clement (m)

Dragonslair: Storytelling: Josepha Sherman

Grand: The Trouble with Harry: Pros and Cons of the Harry Potter Phenomenon

Harry Potter seems to have taken over the world or at least the YA market. Why are the Harry Potter books so popular? Why Potter and not one of the scores of similar books out there?

Bruce Coville, Debra Doyle, Jane Yolen

Windsor Grill: Kaffeeklatch

Glen Cook, Michael F. Flynn, William Keith Jr.

Wexford: Flann O'Brien: Reading and Discussion

Sharon Lee, Steve Miller

10:30 am

Dragonslair: Mask Making

We'll be working with half- and full-faced masks and decorating them. If the creators so desire, the masks can be hung in the art show. Joyce Grace

Waterford: Reading: Lisa A. Barnett, Melissa Scott

11:00 am

Art Show: **Beading Demo**

of Cover Art: Why SF Illustration Remains Conservative

Rick Berry (m), Jerry Weist

Grand: The Many Ways of Workshops: Differing Styles of Writers' Groups

Writers' groups and writers' workshops help writers to develop their skills. But there is one approach. The panel looks at the various ways writers' groups and writers' workshops function.

Michael A. Burstein, Alexander Jablokov, Jennifer Jackson, Rosemary Kirstein (m), David A. Smith

Kildare: The Science Fiction of H.G. Wells

Ellen Asher, Thomas Kidd, Sharon Lee (m), Mark R. Leeper, Steve Miller

Windsor Grill: Kaffeeklatch

Nancy C. Hanger, Tamora Pierce, Josepha Sherman

Waterford: **Reading: Esther Friesner**

Wexford: The Year in Physics and Astronomy

1999 ended a century in which incredible progress was made in physics and astronomy. 1999's advances can hold as one of the better years of the century. Join us to hear about some of them

Jeff Hecht, Jordin T. Kare, Mark L. Olson (m)

11:30 am

Waterford: Reading: Susan Shwartz

Camelot C/N: What's In a Name: Brand-Name Writers

Authors seem to be pushed into writing the same type of story time and again. They seem to be less likely than they used to to stray away from series. Standalone novels are rare, and authors who write very different books each time out (this year's GoH Michael Swanwick is one example; Michael Bishop is another) do not sell as well as authors who write similar books time after time. Why is this happening, and will this trend change?

Ginjer Buchanan (m), Geary Gravel, Alexander Jablokov, Michael Swanwick

Camelot South: Slide Show: Bob Eggleton

Dragonslair: Magic Tricks

Daniel P. Dern

Grand: Hard Science Fiction: The Classics and the Newcomers

Hard SF continues to be at the center of the SF field. In the sixties and seventies, many predicted its death, but it's still going strong. Why is it so popular? What are the best examples from the past? Who are the best practitioners today? And are there certain kinds of science mistakes you can get away with (or not get away with)?

Catherine Asaro, Hal Clement, Kathryn Cramer, Paul Levinson, Allen Steele

Kildare: Rewriting and Polishing Songs

Lee Gold, Barry Gold, Jordin T. Kare (m), A. Joseph Ross

Windsor Grill: Kaffeeklatch

Bruce Coville, Esther Friesner, Jane Yolen

Waterford: Reading: Darrell Schweitzer Wexford: What Makes a Good Award? A Look

at Hugos, Nebulas, and Others

Weiner

9:00 pm

Camelot C/N: How I Survived the Fall of Civilization and Made It to Boskone: **Y2K Overreaction**

Well, we're all here, we have electricity, the starving mobs haven't ransacked the hotel. The panel looks at Y2K over-reaction (or was it really overreaction?)

Andrew Adams, Daniel P. Dern, Laurie Mann, Don Sakers Camelot South: Reading: Paul Levinson Kildare: NESFA Hymnal Singing

Lois H. Mangan (m)

10:00 pm

Camelot C/N: The Boskone Trivia Challenge

Win chocolates and glory and show off your

Deborah M. Geisler

Con Suite: Autographing

Barbara Chepaitis, Keith R. A. DeCandido, Allen Steele

Camelot C/N: J.R.R. Tolkien -Modernist

Radical in literary form, mystical in sensibility, nostalgic for an era of philosophical unity, he labored all his life on immense projects that combined narrative, verse, and mythology into coherent, all-abosorbing "secondary creations." To many literary critics this spells T.S. Eliot, Ezra Pound, or James Joyce — the High Modernists. Inside the fantasy field, this means J.R.R. Tolkien. Can Tolkien usefully be considered part of the same cultural currents as the Cantos, The Waste Land, or Ulysses? Some of our panelists think so. James D. Macdonald, Patrick Nielsen Hayden (m), Michael Swanwick, Jo Walton Camelot South: The McDonaldization

If it is granted that some art is better than other art, then what criteria might plausibly be employed to decide what's good? Is it reasonable that different awards with different electorates, while all allegedly for The Best, may in fact be looking for different things? How do the existing awards work? Are there clear trends in what they select? Are there clear failure modes they tend to fall into? Take a look at the various awards' track records.

John R. Douglas, Jim Mann, Mark L. Olson (m)

12:30 pm

Waterford: Reading: Brenda W. Clough

1:00 pm

Art Show: Origami Demo Mark R. Leeper

Con Suite: Autographing

Hal Clement, William Keith Jr.

Camelot C/N: From the Ashes: Rebuilding **Society Afterwards**

Bruce Coville, Laura Anne Gilman, Rosemary Kirstein, Priscilla Olson (m), Melissa Scott

Camelot South: The Art of Cover Illustraton

The March 2000 Analog features Michael Burstein's first cover story, a painting by Bob Eggleton. Find out how the writer and artist collaborated to create a great cover.

Michael A. Burstein (m), Bob Eggleton Grand: Return of How to Lie with Statistics

Did you alweays think that statistics is boring? Michael Flynn put the lie to that with the latest installment of his long-running talk on statistics and the world.

Michael F. Flynn

Kildare: Concert Set: Gary Ehrlich

Windsor Grill: Kaffeeklatch

Jennifer Jackson, Madeleine E. Robins, Susan Shwartz

Waterford: **Reading: Jo Walton**

Wexford: Before Tolkien: The Fantasy of Dunsany, Smith, and Eddison

The publication of The Lord of the Rings may have created the fantasy genre, but before Tolkien their were a number of significant fantasy authors, including Lord Dunsany, E. R. Eddison, and Clark Ashton Smith. The panel explores early fantasy.

Greer Gilman, Mark Keller, James D. Macdonald, Teresa Nielsen Hayden (m), Darrell Schweitzer

1:30 pm

Kildare: Concert Set: Lee & Barry Gold Waterford: Reading: Patrick Nielsen Hayden

2:00 pm

Con Suite: Autographing

Michael F. Flynn, Sharon Lee, Steve Miller Camelot C/N: Everything You Know Is

Wrong: SF That Questions Reality

Over the years, a number of SF works have played with reality. Phil Dick wrote many novels asking what is real. The trend has accelerated recently, to the point where even wildly popular movies like The Truman Show, Pleasantville, and The Matrix are looking at similar issues. The panel discusses SF that plays with reality. What are the seminal works in this subgenre? Is it really getting more popular now? If so, why?

John R. Douglas, David G. Hartwell, Daniel Kimmel, Evelyn C. Leeper (m)

Camelot South: Short SF — Still the **Cutting Edge**

Every year, we hear dire predictions about the death of short SF. Yet short SF remains the cutting edge of the field, and there are a number of prominent sources, ranging from the magazines to original anthologies like Starlight. Why does short SF act as such a cutting edge, and will it continue to do so?

Boskone 37 Program Book

Tipperary: Let's Sculpt an Alien Dragonslair attendees will sculpt clay aliens under the tutelage of Charles and Wendy. These will be hardened and can then be painted at noon on Sunday.

Charles Lang, Wendy Snow-Lang

Waterford: Reading: Michael Swanwick

Wexford: Writing Scams and Pitfalls Brenda W. Clough (m), Paul Levinson, James D. Macdonald, Teresa Nielsen Hayden

3:00 pm

Con Suite: Autographing

Lisa A. Barnett, Esther Friesner, Melissa Scott

Baron Suite(243): Web Page Dos and Don'ts for Writers and Artists

Nancy C. Hanger, Timothy E. Liebe (m)

Camelot C/N: Masters of Fantasy: Ray

Harryhausen and Willis O'Brien

Bob Eggleton, Daniel Kimmel, Mark R. Leeper, Jim Mann (m)

Camelot South: Between the Classics and Now: Horror in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s

Who were the great horror writers in the period between the time of the classic horror writers like John Collier and H.P. Lovecraft and the rise of the contemporaries like Stephen King and Clive Barker? How did the field change and develop in that time period?

Don D'Ammassa (m), Steven Sawicki, Darrell Schweitzer

Kildare: Concert Set

Mark Mandel

Windsor Grill: Kaffeeklatch Hal Clement, Sharon Lee, Steve Miller, Don Sakers

Waterford: **Reading**

Keith R. A. DeCandido

Wexford: **Ingathering: The Panel of the** People

Geary Gravel, Priscilla Olson (m), Tamora Pierce, Jo Walton, Ann Tonsor Zeddies

3:30 pm

Kildare: Concert Set: Denise Gendron Waterford: Reading: Debra Doyle, James **D.** Macdonald

4:00 pm

Con Suite: Autographing Debra Doyle, James D. Macdonald, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Josepha Sherman

Camelot C/N: The Dark Night of the

Soul: The Works of Michael Swanwick Daniel P. Dern, Chris Logan Edwards, James Patrick Kelly, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Jerry Weist

Camelot South: Rick Berry: A Look at His Art

Rick Berry

Dragonslair: Reading: Bruce Coville Grand: Filk Concert: Jordin T. Kare Kildare: SF Criticism: A Look Back

Over the years, science fiction has produced a number of perceptive critics in the field. Damon Knight and James Blish were two important critics who established a standard for criticism. More recent critics include Alexei Panshin, Norman Spinrad, and Algis Budrys. The field has also had its share of good book reviewers, such as P. Schuyler Miller. The panel discusses the history of writing about science fiction and fantasy. Don D'Ammassa, Thomas A. Easton, Gregory Feeley, David G. Hartwell (m), Frederick Andrew Lerner

4:30 pm

Waterford: Reading: Greer Gilman

5:00 pm

Con Suite: Autographing

Jeffrey A. Carver, Alexander Jablokov, Darrell Schweitzer

Baron Suite(243): **Releasing Your Inner** Music

Denise Gendron

Camelot C/N: A Really Good Year: 1999 Year in Review

Claire Anderson, Kathryn Cramer, Daniel Kimmel, Evelyn C. Leeper (m), Mark L. Olson

Camelot South: Mastermind

GoH Peter Weston brings his fiendish SF trivia game to Boskone. Contestants: Tony Lewis, Fred Lerner, Chris Logan Edwards and YYYY.

Tipperary: Optical Illusions

A presentation in Dragonslair Hal Clement

Kildare: Genetics and Bioengineering: The Monsters and the Critics

Emmet O'Brien

Windsor Grill: Kaffeeklatch Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Teresa Nielsen Hayden,

Jo Walton

Waterford: Reading: Jane Yolen

Wexford: Murder in Other Places: Historical Mysteries, Fantasy Mysteries

The mystery field has expanded, and there are now many subgenres. It's not just hard-boiled vs. cozy anymore. We have cat mysteries and food mysteries and art mysteries and travel mysteries. Two subgenres that seem particularly popular with SF fans are historical mysteries and fantasy mysteries. Why is this so? Which ones would you recommend?

Ellen Asher, Lisa A. Barnett, Barbara Chepaitis, Glen Cook, Peter J. Heck, Paul Levinson (m)

5:30 pm

Waterford: Reading: Tamora Pierce

6:00 pm

Pub: Patrick O'Brian: A Wake

Join us in the Pub as we raise a glass in memory of Patrick O'Brian.

7:00 pm

Grand: The Boskone Banquet

8:30 pm

Grand: Awards

9:00 pm

Grand: Guest of Honor Speech: Michael Swanwick

Kildare, XXXXX: Open Filking

10:00 pm

Camelot C/N: The *Buffy* Panel

The title of Buffy the Vampire Slayer often leads the uninitiated to believe that it is either a spoof or that it is a teenager show. The WB's commercials can reinforce the latter. However, Buffy is actually a serious fantasy/horror show, with a well-developed universe and good characters. The panel discusses why Buffy isn't just for kids. Keith R. A. DeCandido, Laura Anne Gilman, Madeleine E. Robins, Josepha Sherman, Ben Yalow (m)

Keith R. A. DeCandido, Nancy C. Hanger, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Charles Ryan, Steven Sawicki (m), Jane Yolen

Grand: The Next Hundred Years: What's Next in Space Travel

Over the years, SF spaceships have been powered by all sorts of novel technology aimed at getting them around the solar system and to the stars. Now, NASA is really looking at such technology. What does the future of spaceflight look like? What kind of technology will we use? What's our next big step — a moon base, an orbiting colony, a trip to Mars?

Catherine Asaro, Jordin T. Kare, William Keith Jr. (m), Ian Randal Strock

Kildare: Three British Giants: Banks, Baxter. and Hamilton

Peter Weston (m) Windsor Grill: Kaffeeklatch Lisa A. Barnett, Melissa Scott

Windsor Grill: Kaffeeklatch

Geary Gravel, Rosemary Kirstein, Ann Tonsor Zeddies

Waterford: Reading: Allen Steele Wexford: Conventions on Three Continents: The Challenges of Running Cons in Different Locations

How do conventions — Worldcons and local cons *differ around the world? What differences will fans* attending the cons see? How about those running the cons?

Stephen Boucher, Joe Siclari (m), Peter Weston

11:00 pm

Camelot C/N: Vampires, Ghosts, and **Other Things: A Late Night Look at** Horror

Ginjer Buchanan, Craig Shaw Gardner, Emmet O'Brien, Steven Sawicki

Sunday

8:30 am

Baron Suite(243): Writer's Workshop (private) David A. Smith

10:00 am

Camelot C/N: Beyond Harry Potter: The Scope of YA Fiction

Harry Potter gets all the attention these days, but there's a lot more to YA fiction than Harry Potter. The panel looks at the best of recent YA fiction as well as what makes good YA fiction. To be a really good work, does it also need to be something adults can appreciate?

Bruce Coville, Esther Friesner, Katherine

Macdonald, Tamora Pierce, Jane Yolen (m) Camelot South: **Is Science Fiction Sublime?**

David Nye, in his essay "American Technological Sublime," said "The sublime underlies [the] enthusiasm for technology. One of the most powerful human emotions, when experienced by large groups the sublime can weld society together. ... The sublime taps into fundamental hopes and fears. ... it is an essentially religious feeling, aroused by the confrontation with impressive objects, such as Niagara Falls ... or the earth-shaking launch of a space shuttle. The technological sublime is an integral part of contemporary consciousness, and its emergence and exfoliation into several distinct forms during the past two centuries is inscribed within public life. ... the sublime represents a way to reinvest ... the works of men with transcendent significance." As a European literary notion, it represented the terror and awe aroused by thunderstorms and Grand Canyons that liberated the mind from mundanity. For Kant, "the feeling of the sublime is really the feeling of our own inner powers." Nye uses the concept to follow the history of technology in America from the dawn of the railroads (early 1800s) on and to illuminate our responses to grand technological achievements. It is possible to describe Verne and Wells and Gernsback and their heirs as expressing the sublime emotion response to technology.

Hal Clement, Thomas A. Easton (m), Michael F. Flynn, Alexander Jablokov

Waterford: **Storytelling for Adults** Barbara Chepaitis, Josepha Sherman

Wexford: **Kaffeeklatch** Debra Doyle, Steven Sawicki

10:30 am

Art Show: **The Art Show: Tour and Commentary**

Bob Eggleton, Nicholas Jainschigg

11:00 am

Art Show: Scribble Demo Rick Berry

Camelot C/N: SF and the Mainstream: A Dialog

Many people talk about which SF and fantasy authors have been influenced by which other SF and fantasy authors. But many have also been influenced by mainstream writers. This dialog explores the influence mainstream books have had on SF.

Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Michael Swanwick Camelot South: We've Got Extra-Solar

Planets: Real Science Discoveries

After a hundred years of imagining and hoping, and after twenty years of false starts, the last few years has seen a flood of discoveries of extra-solar planets. 1999 was the best year yet -- hear what was discovered and a bit about what may be coming.

Jordin T. Kare, Mark L. Ólson

Dragonslair (542): Dragonslair Reading

Boskone 37 Program Book

12:00 noon

Con Suite: **Autographing** Catherine Asaro, Paul Levinson, Michael Swanwick, Jane Yolen

Camelot C/N: Myths and Legends of Olde British Fandom

Special Guest Peter Weston will explain such mysteries as the Hum-&-Sway, knurdling, the Astral Leauge, and what Ted Tubb was doing on that hotel roof anyway. Peter Weston

Camelot South: After the Dinosaurs: Pleistocene Megafauna

Everyone knows about the dinosaurs, but the Pleistocene Era produced a number of mammals that were as strange and fascinating as the dinosaurs. This talk describes them.

Priscilla Olson (m)

Grand: From the Regency to Space: Jane Austen to Lois McMaster Bujold

Jane Austen continues to be popular. Moreover, we are seeing a number of modern novels that can be considered descendants of Austen, Heyer, and others. In the mainstream, we have, among others, Patrick O'Brian. In SF, Lois McMaster Bujold has written some fine Regencies. The panel examines the continuing popularity of Regencies.

Brenda W. Clough (m), Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Tamora Pierce, Madeleine E. Robins

Kildare: Twilight of the Millennium (Theme Concert)

Dragonslair: Coloring the Aliens

Participants can color the clay aliens they sculpted yesterday at 2 pm.

Waterford: **Reading: Barbara Chepaitis**, **Steven Sawicki**

Wexford: The Thing That Wouldn't Die: Fanzines in the E-Age

Much fannish activity is now electronic, and some fanzines are now electronic. Is this the future of fanzines, or will mimeo continue into the next millennium? What are the major fanzines? And, in this new age, are fanzines still important to the SF field? Robert Devney, Edmund R. Meskys, Joe Siclari

(m), Geri Sullivan

1:00 pm

Con Suite: Autographing

Camelot C/N: The Ultimate Worldbuilder: J. R. R. Tolkien and His World

J. R. R. Tolkien created perhaps the most complete and detailed universe in imaginative literature. Why does Tolkien's world seem so real? How did he accomplish this?

Hal Clement (m), Bruce Coville, Josepha Sherman

Camelot South: From Manuscript to Published Book: How a Book Is Made

What happens after the manuscript is complete and the book goes to the publisher? What's the agent's role? The editor's? The art director's? How does the cover artist produce the cover? What's the marketing department's role?

Rick Berry, John R. Douglas (m), Leigh

Grossman, Nancy C. Hanger, Jennifer Jackson

Kildare: The Evolution of Societies: Society and History in the Works of Kim Stanley Robinson Kim Stanley Robinson is nerly unique among SF writers in really understanding how history works and imbuing -- saturating in some cases -- his writing with a deep sense of history. Robinson's societies grow and change in ways that the people living int hem don't expect, and evens eek to prevent. His sense of history ranks with Tolkein's sense of place and language as one a wonderfully exceptional contribution to SF. Andrew Adams, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Mark L. Olson (m) Waterford: Reading: Michael Flynn Wexford: Languages and SF Many science fiction and fantasy works have dealt with language. Some have invented their own elaborate languages and alphabets. Computers can produce Tolkien's Elvish and Dwarvish scripts, and it's been reported that there are more people in the U.S. who can speak Klingon than can speak Esperanto. The panel looks at how SF treats languages. Debra Doyle, Mark Keller, Mark Mandel, Laurie

Mann

1:30 pm Grand: Art Show Auction Waterford: Reading: Geary Gravel

2:00 pm

Camelot C/N: The American Civil War: Reality and Counterfactuals

The American Civil War is a topic of much discussion and the basis of many alternate histories. Why is this such a popular topic? Why is it such a popular basis for counterfactuals? (And why the hoity-toity term "Counterfactuals," anyway?)

Michael F. Flynn, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Peter Weston (m), Ben Yalow

Camelot South: Video Killed the Radio Star?

Andrew Adams

Waterford: Reading: Michael A. Burstein

Waterford: SFWA Charity Auction Peter J. Heck, Paul Levinson

Wexford: Avram Davidson Gregory Feeley, Darrell Schweitzer, Michael Swanwick (m)

3:00 pm

Camelot South: Welcome to Darwin's Universe: Histories That Earth (Fortu-

nately) Missed

Alternate natural history -- a slide show. Mark Keller

Grand: Regency Dance

Kildare: MASSFILC Meeting and Open Filking

Lois Mangin

James D. Macdonald

Grand: It Was Raining on the Planet Mongo: Dos and Don'ts of Worldbuilding

Some science fiction writers construct great worlds. Sometimes, though, we have cases in which the writer doesn't even seem to understand what's wrong with the title of this panel. The panel looks at putting together a planet (including its ecosystem and inhabitants).

Hal Clement (m), Thomas A. Easton, William Keith Jr., Ann Tonsor Zeddies

Kildare: The Enchanted Apple: New York in SF and Fantasy

Esther Friesner, Madeleine E. Robins (m), Don Sakers, Josepha Sherman, Susan Shwartz Waterford: **Reading: Catherine Asaro** Wexford: **Kaffeeklatch**

Brenda W. Clough, Paul Levinson, Allen Steele

11:30 am

Waterford: Reading: Rosemary Kirstein