



Boskone 47, Friday, February 12, 2010

Volume 47, Number 1

Welcome to *Helmuth*, the official newsletter of Boskone 47. Our goal – to keep you up-to-date on convention issues: program changes, parties, award winners, further threats of Snowmageddon and any other important information that turns up.

Four issues are planned: this one, morning and evening Saturday editions, and a concluding Sunday morning edition. Copies will be available at Information in the Galleria, at Boskone Registration on the second floor, and on our website at <www.boskone.org/helmuth.html>.

Helmuth depends on **you** (attendees and committee) for news. Please drop off contributions for the newsletter in the *Helmuth* box at Information in the Galleria. The deadline is 9am for morning issues and 5pm for the evening edition.

Program Changes

Several people will not be attending due to Snowmageddon; all of their appearances are cancelled:

Rose Fox
 Christopher Golden
 Andrew Zimmerman Jones
 Paul Levinson (he *may* arrive Saturday)
 Margaret Organ-Kean.

Sat 7:30pm Hymnal Singing will start at 7pm.
 Remove Theodora Goss from *Bad Books I Love* (Fri 10pm).

Add Charles Stross to *Revamping Asimov's 3 Laws* (Sat 1pm)

The location for the Literary Beers has changed.

Restaurant Guide Updates

Pressed Sandwiches has closed, just after the guide was printed.

Sauciety is now open only for breakfast and lunch, not dinner; breakfast features a buffet, both have menu items.

The hotel is testing a walk-up hot dog station in the lobby at the far end from our space. It will be open from 5-8pm tonight, and will be back Saturday if they get enough business today.

Friday Night Highlights in the Galleria

The Zombie Casino – 8 pm

Zombiemeister Gary McGath invites you to an evening of zombies and games starting at 8pm in the Galleria. Be very afraid – Geri Sullivan, who masterminded the unforgettable “Death to Peeps” two Boskones ago, is doing the decorating. She promised us that there would be song, brains (edible and otherwise) and zombie face-painting. And if you worry you won’t be appropriately attired for this eldritch event – not to fear – get your zombie costume from the box of donations to the Damnation Army Clothing Drive. At 9pm fearless authors will give an open reading of zombie-oriented material. Come to the Zombie Casino – it won’t cost you an arm and a leg... maybe a brain.

Art Show Reception – 10 pm

The Reception is open to all with elegant refreshments plus live music provided by Sonic Explorers. Must-see exhibits: From Official Artist John Picacio and NESFA Press Guest Michael Whelan (a spectacular career retrospective).

Kaffeeklatches, Literary Beers, Discussion Groups

Sign up for Kaffeeklatches, which are held in the back of the Galleria, at the Program table in the Galleria. (If you haven’t signed up and the table is full, you’re out of luck.)

No sign-up is needed for Literary Beers. For Saturday, those before 3pm will be held in Saucy off the hotel lobby, those at 3pm will be held in M. J. O'Connor's Pub on the Lobby level, and those after 3pm will be held in the Birch Bar in the hotel lobby. The Sunday locations are not yet known.

Discussion Groups are held in the Con Suite; ask at the Program table to set one up and announce it in *Helmuth*.

Volunteers [Always] Needed

Volunteer to help us run Boskone at the Information table in the Galleria. Get two free books (from a large selection of NESFA Library duplicates) for signing up & more later. After 8 hours you get a T-Shirt, after 16 hours you get a free membership in Boskone 48. (Time spent on Sunday or Monday during tear-down or truck loading / unloading counts double.)

We specifically need someone to close down the Anime / Video room at 2 am Friday and Saturday nights.

Friday Night Parties

For parties announced too late to make this list, check the party board just inside the main entrance to the Galleria.

Philcon 2010: Cheesecake... 9 pm, room 439.
Renovation (the 2011 Worldcon): Cider tasting and more... 9 pm, room 466.

Hotel Information

Please do not tape signs to the walls! Talk to the Office about what the hotel will allow.

Parking Information

There are several varieties of on-street parking near the hotel. Some meters run until 6pm, others until 8pm. Summer Street is posted for street cleaning *every* night starting at midnight. Check carefully what the rules are for your chosen spot if you park on-street.

Saturday Evening Shuttle

Boskone will run a 29-passenger shuttle Saturday evening about every 30 minutes from 5pm to 10pm, stopping at the hotel main entrance, South Station (only outbound from the hotel), and Quincy Market (near the North End). When returning to the hotel, get on where you got off. Show your badge when boarding.

There is a hotel shuttle which runs to Faneuil Hall on demand every 30 minutes from 5-7:30pm weekdays and 4-7:30pm weekends. Conditions permitting, it will drop people off enroute. Call the hotel to ensure pickup at Faneuil Hall.

Weather Update

Cold but calm here in Boston, with no storm activity until late Monday at the earliest. Elsewhere, Snowmageddon III has dumped over a foot of snow in the Dallas / Fort Worth area and is currently moving into northwest Florida.

Boskone 48

(February 18-20, 2011)

Guest of Honor: Charles Stross

Special Guest: Charlaine Harris

Official Artist: Gregory Manchess

Featured Filker: Erica Neely

To get the lowest rate, join before the end of Boskone 47. Memberships are available for \$40 at Registration and the NESFA Sales table.

What You Already Missed

Wednesday night truck loading at the NESFA clubhouse was a relatively efficient, trauma-free event as the predicted snowstorm gave the Boston area a miss. We feared snow to the extent that we were advised to bring snow shovels with us to the clubhouse.

On Thursday, unloading the truck at the hotel concluded with the SBOF (Secret Banquet of Fandom) in the Galleria. A surprising amount of people were there to work and enjoy the sumptuous repast. The youngest SBOF attendee was JoAnn Cox's seven-week-old son Ethan. If you weren't there, you might consider dropping by next year – it's a good way to meet the guests and help set up the convention.

Ch-ch-changes

This year the coat racks are in the raised area at the far right of the Galleria.

If you need a supermarket...

To reach the nearest one, turn right on Summer Street, proceed to the first gas station, then turn right onto East Broadway.

Registration Numbers (preliminary at 5pm)

Pre-registered attendees: 224

At-door members (all types): 52