



Boskone 47, Saturday, February 13, 2010

Volume 47, Number 3

Copies of all issues of *Helmuth* (they'll be reprinted as needed) will be available at Information in the Galleria, at Boskone Registration on the second floor, in the Freebie rack, 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.

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, get on where you got off. Show your badge when boarding.

Program Changes

The Discussion Group on "Fannish Brain Neurology" originally scheduled for 5pm Saturday is rescheduled to 2pm Sunday.

Literary Beer Location

On Sunday, all Literary Beers will be held in Saucyety.

Saturday Night Highlights

In Harbor 2

8 pm – *Featured Filker Concert* by Mary Crowell, a teacher and performer of classical jazz music who first encountered filking in 2001. She soon was performing and composing at the Pegasus Award level. In 2007, Mary was awarded the Pegasus for Best Performer.

9 pm – Saturday Night Awards Presentation, The Guests will be introduced. A new Fellow of NESFA and the winners of the Gaughan and Skylark Awards will be announced.

9:30 pm – *Godson* – A previously unpublished 3-act play by Roger Zelazny has its world premiere tonight. Roger wrote the short story "Godson" in 1994 based on the Brothers Grimm tale "Godfather Death." He rewrote it as a musical comedy and performed it for friends at a party just before he died in 1995. Tonight's event was originally planned as a simple reading of the text, but with the enthusiasm of the participants has grown into a nearly-fully-staged musical.

There is a special rate of \$20 for Saturday evening only; registration will have a station just inside Harbor 2 after the main setup closes at 6pm.

Reimbursement Checks

If you should have received a reimbursement check but did not, please come back to Registration. We apologize for not having them with your badges.

Gaming

The winner of the Super Smash Brothers Brawl tournament is Joseph Averett.

In Memory of Philip Klass (William Tenn)

John-Pierre Normand and Michael Whelan have donated the art from their demos; it will be sold by a written auction and the money raised will be sent to the College of Liberal Arts at Pennsylvania State University in the name of Philip Klass (a Noreascon 4 Guest of Honor and long-time professor at Penn State). The art is located in the Art Show by the Resale area; bidding closes at noon Sunday, an unlimited number of written bids are allowed, and each piece will be sold to the highest written bid. Bid early and often; it's in a good cause.

From the Con Suite

You will have doubtless noticed the abundance of wonderful breads and pastries in our con suite.

Those were donated by:

When Pigs Fly Bakery
Danish Pastry House
Clear Flour Bakery
Bova's Bakery
Lyndells Bakery
Whole Foods Supermarket
Zume's Coffee Shop

All via the Brookline Food Co-op; 90 Longwood Avenue; Brookline, Mass. We thank them. They need volunteers and donations.

Some other consumable statistics:

75 dozen hard-boiled eggs
70 pounds of cubed cheese
2 pallets of soda and juice
and lots of coffee.

Panel Report: The Suck Fairy...

Darcy Devney, who attended the morning panel "The Suck Fairy, and Other Horrors of Rereading" kindly provided *Helmuth* with a list of those dispiriting sprites the panelists encountered that turned their favorite books into unpalatable re-reads:

Message Fairy (ex. *Narnia*)
Relationship Fairy
Bad Writing Fairy (ex. *Wizard of Oz*)
Racism, Sexism, Classism Fairies
Father Knows Best Fairy (ex. *Berenstein Bears*)
Too Much Info About the Author Fairy
Paternalism Fairy (ex. *Little Women*)
Umm... technology doesn't work quite that way
fairy

We haven't invented that yet fairy

The I Can't Stop Turning the Pages Fairy (aka the Guilty Pleasure Fairy)

Quotes Provided by Bob Devney and Fred Lerner

"SF is not about predicting the future. It's about minimizing surprise."

– Karl Schroeder, panel on The Singularity

"You have to remain professional when your editor hasn't read your book for 6 months – and he's already *bought* your book."

– S. C. Butler, panel on More on the Business of Writing

"An editor told me once that he liked to meet new writers face-to-face, at conventions. Because that way he knows they're not crazy."

– Elaine Isaak, panel on More on the Business of Writing

"People say 'I have to tell you, I didn't like your book.' You did *not* have to tell me."

– Jo Walton, panel on The Suck Fairy

"His last five novels were nominated for Hugos, and his last three won."

– Edie Stern, panel on A Greatness in the Con: Exploring the works of Vernor Vinge

"I often try to imitate different authors when I write these short stories. Nobody ever notices, because my imitations are so bad."

– Vernor Vinge, panel on A Greatness in the Con: Exploring the works of Vernor Vinge

"I'm working on a sort of conventional sequel to *A Fire Upon the Deep*. It's set on the Tines' World, about 10 years later. If I could finish it by the middle of this year, maybe Tor could bring it out by the end of next year."

– Vernor Vinge

Volunteers [Always] Needed

Volunteer to help us run Boskone at the Information table in the Galleria.

We specifically need:
someone to close down the Anime / Video room at 2 am Saturday night
people to help in the Con Suite on Saturday night

Registration Numbers (6:00 pm preliminary)

956 badges issued (including one-days)

Saturday Night Parties

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

Chicago in 2012, 9pm, room 433

Nanopress, 9pm, room 403

Texas in 2013, 9pm, room 407