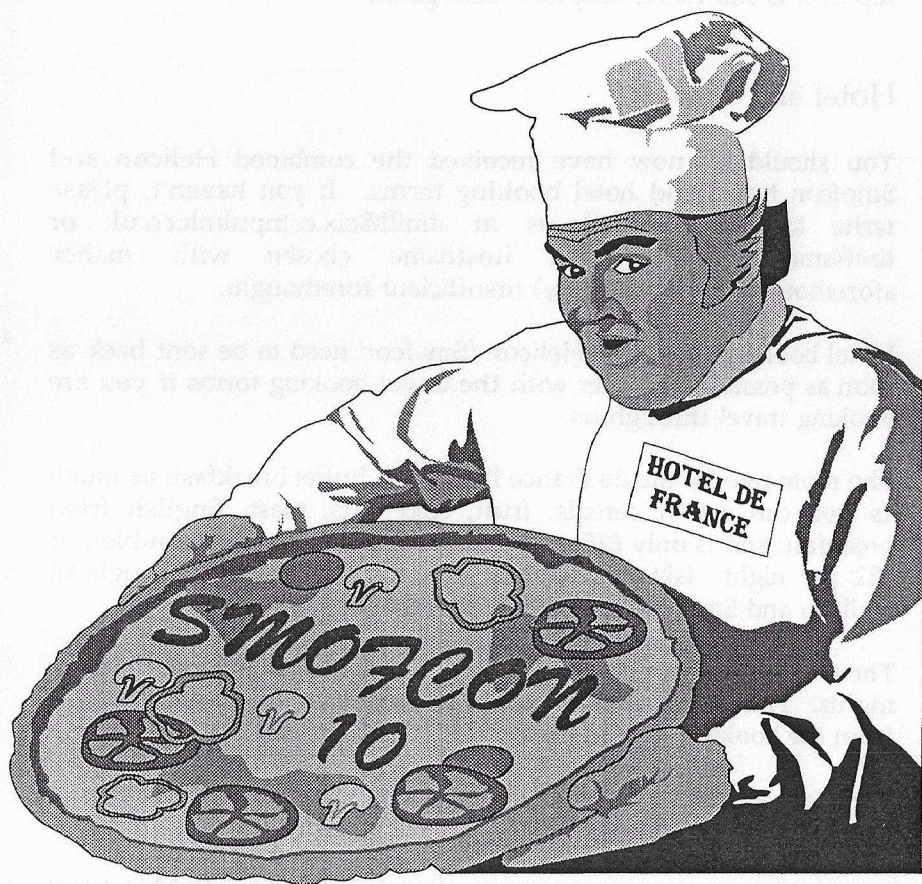


SMOFCON 10



Progress Report 2

Introduction

Welcome to the second Progress Report for SMOFCON 10. Members of the Committee recently visited the Hotel de France again (any excuse will do for a weekend of sybaritic luxury) and can report it is still there, despite recent gales.

Hotel and Travel

You should by now have received the combined Helicon and Smofcon travel and hotel booking forms. If you haven't, please write to us or email us at timill@cix.compulink.co.uk or tim@smof.demon.co.uk (a hostname chosen with malice aforethought or (more likely) insufficient forethought).

Hotel booking forms for Helicon/Smofcon need to be sent back as soon as possible, together with the travel booking forms if you are booking travel through us.

The room rate for the de France includes a buffet breakfast: as much as you can eat of cereals, fruit, cold cuts, toast, English fried breakfast: and is only £25 per night per person (twin or double), or £32 per night (single rooms). This rate will apply throughout Helicon and Smofcon and the time between.

There is also a 5 per cent discount for those staying seven or more nights. This information seems accidentally to have been omitted from the booking instructions.

There are a number of other hotels in the vicinity, together with a camp site on the island.

Travel services comprise an airport, ferry services from England and France (including a foot-passenger ferry from St Malo), and the catamaran from Weymouth. We have arranged cheap travel on these services, so the sooner you return your travel forms the better.

Programme Book

As is usual for Smofcons, we are preparing a Programme Book, consisting of a ringbinder with inserted documentation, to stimulate discussion points.

Much of this will probably be supplied from the internal Helicon, Glasgow in '95 and Intersection documents which we have easy access to, but in order to lighten the mix we would like people to send us their documents which they think should go into it. Such things as sample contracts, convention structuring items and ~~securious stories~~ conrunning anecdotes from around the world are of particular interest, but please supply us with whatever you think is interesting.

We would also like to know what you want to see published if you don't have any experience but want to know what committees have done in the past or what people would now advocate based on their previous experience and mistakes.

We hope also to present a series of items from the various divisions of Intersection. Although most of them will still be in embryonic form, we feel that this provides an ideal time to take a snapshot of large convention planning, and some of the feedback Intersection will undoubtedly get may save it from some nasty problems later.

Programming and Other Events

Our programme will be run in the same part of the Hotel de France that Soupçon used. This gives us two programme rooms and a bar. Hospitality will be based around the bar area, in true British style. This bar will be private to members of Smofcon, as the other bar in the middle of the hotel will be the main public bar where the fans still remaining from Helicon will be congregating.

As we expect to have a number of attendees from different countries, we will be running a workshop stream based on the Seven Stages Of Conrunning, wherein we intend to compare and contrast how each of the national fandoms approaches the basic problems of the "nuts and bolts" of conrunning.

The 'Seven Stages' that we have identified are:

1. Setting up the committee
2. Running the committee meetings
3. Talking to facilities, such as hotels, convention centres etc.
4. Designing a programme
5. Publicising the convention
6. Running the convention on the day
7. Surviving afterwards

We also intend to run the traditional "Fannish Inquisition", where fans can put Worldcons, European Cons, and Eastercons to the question. This is currently scheduled for Saturday evening after the banquet, but we may have to split it into a number of items in order to allow each convention enough time to defend itself.

We would like people to volunteer to take part in these sorts of items. We would also like people to make suggestions as to what they personally want to see on the programme. If your idea is sufficiently inspiring, or if a number of people request the same items, we will do our best to accommodate you.

The Questionnaire

This is to help us fulfil your requirements. We hope you will return it as soon as possible with your comments.

Banquet

Due to the generous size of the breakfast buffet, we are considering running a banquet instead of the usual Brunch - we don't expect people to be capable of eating seriously before the evening! This would probably be on the Saturday evening, to allow people with Sunday travel plans to take part.

If you are interested in participating in the banquet, please let us know as soon as possible, so we can make a booking. And tell us if you are vegetarian or omnivorous - as an omnivore I can tell you I was severely tempted by the veggie menu at the de France.

We are looking at a cost of about £20 per person, which would give us a menu roughly as follows:

Galatine de Canard d'Aylesbury, Sauce Cumberland

Soupe de Moules au Noilly

Selle D'Agneau Farcie aux Herbes, Jus au Romarin

Gratin de Pommes de Terre a L'Oignon

Panache de Legumes Frais

Pain-Perdu a L'Anglaise

Plateau de Fromages

Café et Menthe au Chocolat

This is a sample menu, actually costing £20.50. In practice we will offer a vegetarian soup course as well as vegetarian options for all the non-vegetarian courses.

The Committee

The Smofcon 10 Committee consists of the following guilty parties:

Hugh Mascetti	Chairman
Tim Illingworth	Treasurer
Chris Cooper	Overseer
Steve Davies	
Fiona Anderson	
Martin Easterbrook	

and Sharon Sbarsky has the dubious privilege of looking after our interests in the United States.

We have not pursued our idea of appointing Don Cook our agent in Tblisi.

Correspondence

All correspondence should be sent to one of our contact addresses:

Smofcon 10	Smofcon 10
63 Drake Road	PO Box 453
Chessington	Needham
Surrey	MA 02194-0004
KT9 1LQ	USA
ENGLAND	

Membership Rates

Membership rates are still £20 or \$35 attending, £10 or \$20 supporting. Deduct £2 or \$5 if you are already a member of Helicon or are joining it at the same time. Cheques should be payable to 'Smofcon'. If you are joining both conventions at the same time, one cheque for the whole sum payable to either convention is acceptable.

Membership List

Attending Members

Achim Sturm
Arthur Cruttenden
Ben Yalow
Brian Ameringen
Caroline Mullan
Chris Cooper
Donald E. Eastlake III
Edie Stern
Fiona Anderson
Gunther Derra
Hugh Mascetti
Ian Sorenson
Jill Eastlake
Jim Mann
Joe Siclari
John Dallman
John T. Sapienza Jr.
Judy Bemis
Jurgen Marzi
Kathy Westhead
Kevin Standlee

Larry van der Putte
Laurie Mann
Leslie Mann
Margaret Austin
Mark Olson
Martin Easterbrook
Mike Cheater
Mike Figg
Mike Westhead
Peggy Rae Pavlat
Priscilla Olson
Robert Maughan
Roger Robinson
Seth Breidbart
Sharon Sbarsky
Thomas Recktenwald
Tim Illingworth
Tom Hanlon
Tony E. Parker
Vince Docherty

Supporting Members

Andy Croft
Clint Bigglestone
Richard Wright
Sarah Goodman

SMOFCON 10

16-18 April 1993, Hotel de France, Jersey

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