

HELMUTH

Over/Inking Speaking for Boskone

Friday Afternoon

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Come help make Boskone 29 you convention! Work 8 hours and get a special mocha-colored gopher T-shirt. Work 16 hours or more and get a \$5 gift certificate good at NESFA Sales! Two times a day, we will have a drawing for a mystery whimsical gift. Each hour you work gives you a chance to win.

ATTENTION GOPHERS

The first drawing of a mystery whimsical gift for gophers who worked Thursday will take place Noon Friday at the Information/People Mover table, Sheraton 3rd floor. If you worked Thursday, come get your chances in—one for each hour worked.

The first drawing for Friday gophers will be at 3PM Friday. Look for notices of future drawings in the next issues of Helmuth. If you have no idea what this is all about, come to information and find out!

NESFA SALES

New items for sale this year include:

Storyteller, a collection of fiction, non-fiction and poetry by Jane Yolen, Boskone 29 Guest of Honor. Special boxed edition is \$18.90, unboxed is \$9.45 (prices include tax).

Let's Hear It For The Deaf Man, a collection of articles by Dave Langford, Boskone 29 Special Guest. \$3.15 (inc. tax).

Boskone 29 T-shirts, with art work by Jody Lee, Boskone 29 Official Artist. S, M, L & XL—\$14. XXL—\$16.

Of course, there's all the usual great books, T-shirts and other great stuff. The sales desk is open Friday 4-10PM, Saturday 10AM-6PM and Sunday 10AM-4PM.

NESFans: Pick up your NESFAN ribbon at NESFA Sales.

BANQUET TICKETS

All banquet tickets not picked up by 3PM Saturday are subject to resale. Pick up your banquet tickets at Registration.

BENEFIT AUCTION

An auction for the benefit of the George Alec Effinger Medical Fund will be held at 4PM Saturday in Grand Room B in the Marriott. Items for sale will be displayed from 3:30PM in the prefunction area. Contributions are welcome and will be accepted until 3:30 in Services, 4th floor Sheraton.

OVERHEARD, THURSDAY NIGHT... plans for a hot new bestseller that tells male fans how to do group bonding, get in touch with their dark, prehistoric fannish roots, and release modern-day tensions in great cathartic outbursts of tears over ancient archetypes like dried-up mimeo ink or handwritten con registration databases. The book's proposed title is *Iron Ben*. Dave L.

PROGRAM CHANGES

R. Glaub will not be at Boskone, and will not be on the following panels:

Sat 1PM The Failure of SF to predict the Fall of...
Sat 4PM Desert Storm and Starship Troopers...
Sun 1PM Turning Points in History...

Hugh Gregory will not be at Boskone. Therefore we will not be able to present the following video items:

Fri 8PM Fourth Season of Red Dwarf
Sat 7PM Astronomy
Sun 10AM Astronomy Down Under

Larry Niven will not be attending Boskone.

Charles Ryan has been added to the following panel:
Sun 11AM Earth as Primitive Society...

Delia Sherman has been added to the following panel:
Sun 1PM Shakespearean Traditions of Fantasy

Jody Lee has dropped off the following panel:

Sun Noon Illustration: Art to Move the Story...
(Jody Lee will be on her other scheduled items, she just dropped this panel.)

PARTY ANNOUNCEMENTS!

LA in '96 Fri 9PM Marriott 707
San Antonio in '97 Fri PM Marriott 708

Atlanta in '95 Sat PM Marriott 707
Glasgow in '95 Sat PM Marriott 708

(See the next edition for party times not listed here.)
Don't forget the **WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE** party tonight at 8PM, in the King Edward room, Sheraton.

HELMUTH SCHEDULE

	Deadline	Distribution (you're reading it)
Issue 1		
Issue 2	Fri 5PM	Friday PM
Issue 3	Fri Midnight	Saturday AM
Issue 4	Sat 5PM	Saturday PM
Issue 5	Sat Midnight	Sunday AM

If you have any items you'd like included in *Helmuth* (especially party announcements), drop them off at the Information Desk, or give them to your roving reporters Fred Duarte, Ruth Sachter and John Lorentz.

THE CHAIR WHO SHOUTED WHIMSY IN THE CENTER OF THE WORLD

There will be a zucchini toss at 8PM tonight in the BosCave. (No kidding.)

FOR YOUR AMUSEMENT, WE PRESENT THE FOLLOWING PUZZLEMENT:

#1 In what book did Boskone first appear?
(Check your answers with Information.)

GUEST REVIEW

John Clute of Interzone magazine explains the NESFA publications Storyteller and Let's Hear It For The Deaf Man... "We are complicit, all of us, in the haecceity owned by Langford's chiaroscuro of disjuncted topoi: yet Yolen's cunning obnubilations and reverberant coulisses compel another Weltanschauung of intricate monody. The critic is dumb. Read them!" (DL)

DID WE FORGET YOUR FAVORITE PROGRAM ITEM?

Does your club have a place to meet?
WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU!

Come by Information in the Sheraton. We provide: the room and water setup, and will post your activity for others to find. You provide the drive and interest.

FOOD ALERT

The Sheraton is providing us with special buffets in their Market restaurant:

Friday	Little Italy Buffet @ \$9.95/person
Saturday	Prime Rib Buffet @ \$13.95/person
Sunday	Two-for-One Jazz Brunch @ \$14.95/person

First of a series of items from Dave Langford, Boskone 29's Special Guest...

THE FIRST HORROR NOVEL I DON'T EVEN DARE TO READ!

This was the blurb quotation good old Ramsey Campbell supplied for Guts! A successor to the fabulously obscure Earthdoom!, Guts! is my and Paul "John Grant" Barnett's assault on the soft decaying underbelly of the horror exploitation genre. Of course we spared Ramsey the agony of actually having to read this tale of rogue digestive systems rising up (as it were) in protest against decades of fast food and Coke, tearing themselves loose from their exploitative owners, and ravaging the country. Indeed, nobody has read Guts! except for Nick Austin at Grafton Books, and even he fortunately stopped and authorized the payment of our advance before coming to the bladder-imploding, syntax-rending scenes involving the gory fates of editorial staff at an outfit called Gastron Books.

Nobody has read Guts!, but one man wants to. It had to be a hoax, though, this letter on "Amicus Productions Limited" notepaper, reading in full: "Dear Dave, If you think there is a possible film in your and John Grant's forthcoming novel GUTS, please send me an advance copy to read. Cordially, Milton Subotsky."

I knew it was a hoax because I recognized the typewriter from countless Chuck Harris letters. I knew it was a hoax because the famous producer/screenwriter of Dr Who and the Daleks and At the Earth's Core (works universally hailed by obscure critics like Dave Wingrove and Clive James as "mediocre") couldn't possibly be writing to self-effacing me. "Ha ha," I remarked a week later, "I wasn't going to be fooled by a gag like this."

Chris Priest looked at the letter. "Oh yes, that's him. I know the signature. He nearly filmed a story of mine once, but it all fell through."

My innards lurched this way and that like a particularly bad scene from Guts! itself, and I made plans to tear up the derisive letter I hadn't yet posted to Chuck Harris. It would appear that Milton Subotsky uses the same brand of typewriter, the cunning fiend.

"Don't get too excited," said laid-back Mr Priest. "I got £500 for an option on 'The Head and the Hand' and wasted six months of my life while they cocked the whole thing up. Anyway, what's Amicus actually produced in the last ten years?"

But I was already gibbering down the phone to Paul Barnett, who took the bull between his teeth and rang Amicus. "Bloody hell," he reported shortly afterwards. "This is incredible. He actually managed to get hold of a copy of Earthdoom!"

(Grafton's eldritch marketing department had enormous success in stifling any possible sales of this novel. Their 1987 Worldcon publicity campaign was a masterful Conspiracy of silence, with no mention of the book, no delivery of copies to Worldcon dealers who'd ordered it, and refusal to admit its existence when Lisa Tuttle rang on behalf of The Bookseller to ask what novels by Worldcon guests of honour Grafton had recently published. "It's on the humour list," whined the marketing manager after hours of pitiless questioning, "we can't promote it at science fiction events." No reply ever came to our next query, "Who put it on the bleeding humour list?")

"He liked it," Paul continued in awe. "He'd have wanted to film it if it hadn't required the violent destruction of about two hundred and fifty highly expensive special-effects sets. So when he heard about Guts!...."

"I suppose that would be cheaper. All you need is a lot of plastic tubing plus a few thousand gallons of synthetic Props Department blood, slime and vomit. And other fluids."

"Yes, Dave...."

"And runny cheese."

"Yes, Dave. How quick can you print out another copy?"

As I write this, long coils of Guts! are oozing repulsively from a tortured printer. I hope Milton S. likes the result, especially my favourite chapter titles "The Chyme of Midnight" and "The Lights Are Going Out".

Only Hazel is still dubious, and keeps saying darkly: "I don't really trust him. He sounds too much like a pseudonym of Maxim Jakubowski."

[Later ... the great Milton Subotsky returned Guts! with a tight-lipped remark that he couldn't possibly get backing for a film like that. Later still, he died. The Curse of Guts! had struck again.]

HELMUTH

Overthinking Speaking for Boskone

Friday Evening

Issue Two

BANQUET TICKETS

All banquet tickets not picked up by 3PM Saturday are subject to resale. Pick up your banquet tickets at Registration.

ATTENTION GOPHERS

The next drawing for Friday gophers will be at 9PM Friday at Information. Look for notices of future drawings in the next issues of *Helmuth*. If you have no idea what this is all about, come to Information and find out!

Gophers who worked on Art Show setup Thursday evening should find Chip Hitchcock, or talk to the Art Show staff, to get their sheets signed.

PROGRAM CHANGES

Filking in Marriott Grand Ballroom D will begin at 11PM, not 10PM.

The following item has been added (in Longford):

Sun 10AM Martial Arts: Comparative Styles

The following item has been cancelled:

Sat 4PM Desert Storm and Starship Troopers

Mary Frey has been added to the following items:

Sat 5PM GENie

Sun Noon Fairy Tales and Folklore

Dave Langford has dropped off the following panel:

Sun 9PM Storytelling

Autographing sessions will take place in the BosCave. Check Information (and future issues of *Helmuth*) for schedule updates.

Sat 1PM Michael Flynn

Sat 2PM Esther Friesner/Roger MacBride Allen

KAFFEKLATCHES

Have coffee and a chat with your favorite authors! Sign up at Information for a KaffeKlatche.

Sat 11AM Tom Easton, L. E. Modesitt

Sat 1PM Melissa Scott, Lisa Barnett, Joe Haldeman

Sat 3:30PM Michael Flynn, Donald Kingsbury

Sun 11AM Gene Wolfe, Susan Shwartz, Hal Clement

PARTY ANNOUNCEMENTS!

LA in '96 Fri 9PM Marriott 707

San Antonio in '97 Fri 9PM Marriott 708

Atlanta in '95 Sat PM Marriott 707

Glasgow in '95 Sat PM Marriott 708

Pizza Pizza Party Party, for Philcon/Phrolicon 1992.

Come get your piece of the pie!

Sat 9PM Marriott 1231

(See the next edition for party times not listed here.)

Don't forget the **WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE** party

tonight at 8PM, in the King Edward room, Sheraton.

FOR YOUR AMUSEMENT, WE PRESENT THE FOLLOWING PUZZLEMENT:

#2 What series has a map including the names of two Boskone Chairmen? And what are their names? (Check your answers with Information.)

Second of a series of items from Dave Langford, Boskone 29's Special Guest...

THE TITLE IS THE HARDEST PART

Chris Priest stared at me ashen-faced. He is good at this. "Oh my God," he said, "it sounds like the name of a strip-o-gram delivery firm."

Our little software outfit had had trouble with one of the biggies. (It is not fun when pompous lawyers threaten you with completely misguided fraud actions funded by the profits of the world's best-selling word processor... but that, Best Beloved, is another story.) In nervous haste, Chris and I became a limited company to prevent future litigious bastards distraining on our houses and fanzine collections: Ansible Information Ltd, no less. Except that for a few fatal weeks, during which our accountant held numerous convincing directors' meetings without requiring the presence of either director, we were stuck with the previous name of the second-hand company we'd been flogged.

"The trouble is," said Chris, "it's exactly the sort of naff name these grubby little companies have. Look at Whatsisname."

Whatsisname had just incorporated himself as Whizzdom Ltd.

We (it can no longer be concealed) were Jetbuff Ltd. The shame still lingers on.

HELMUTH SCHEDULE

	Deadline	Distribution
Issue 1		(Already out)
Issue 2		(You're reading it)
Issue 3	Fri Midnight	Saturday AM
Issue 4	Sat 5PM	Saturday PM
Issue 5	Sat Midnight	Sunday AM

If you have any items you'd like included in *Helmuth* (especially party announcements), drop them off at the Information Desk, or give them to your roving reporters Fred Duarte, Ruth Sachter and John Lorentz.

HELMUTH

Over/inking Speaking for Boskone

Saturday Morning

Issue Three

REGISTRATION FIGURES

A midnight update from weary registration head Sue Kahn--current attendance is 598 including 77 at-the-door.

BANQUET TICKETS

The Banquet is sold out. Pick up your banquet tickets at Registration. There are presently 12 tickets that have not yet been picked up. All banquet tickets not picked up by 3PM Saturday are subject to resale, and a waiting list for these has been started at Registration.

GOPHERS

Jean Bolton and Frank Turmo--Please come to the Information Table to claim your Friday evening mystery whimsical gift.

FILKERS!

There will be a Boskone contest for filksongs written at this year's Boskone. Submitters are encouraged to perform their entries (or find a volunteer) at the one-shot concert, Sunday afternoon.

PROGRAM CHANGES

Autographing sessions will take place in the BosCave. Check Information (and future issues of *Helmuth*) for schedule updates.

Sat	1PM	Michael Flynn
Sat	2PM	Esther Friesner/Roger MacBride Allen
Sat	3PM	S. N. Lewitt/Melissa Scott
Sat	4PM	L. G. Modesitt, Jr./Hugo Gernsback
Sat	5PM	P. M. Griffin
Sat	6PM	Ellen Kushner/Greer Gilman
Sun	11AM	Joe Haldeman
Sun	1PM	Steven Brust/Jody Lee

A. J. Austin has dropped off the following panel:

Sun 11AM Earth as Primitive Society...

Geary Gravel's reading (Saturday, 12:30PM) has been cancelled.

BENEFIT AUCTION CORRECTION

The Effinger Medical Fund benefit auction will be in Grand Ballroom D in the Marriott. (A previous edition said "B".)

SCAVENGER HUNT

Get the hunt list at Information, 3rd floor Sheraton. Judging will start at Noon, Sunday, in the BosCave. (This subversive announcement is courtesy of the Lithuanian Conspiracy.)

MEETING NOTICE

The U.S. branch of UNIT will be meeting in the Longford room in the Sheraton at 3PM Saturday. All Dr. Who fans are welcome.

PARTY ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Atlanta in '95	Sat 9PM	Marriott 707
Glasgow in '95	Sat PM (after the Banquet)	Marriott 708
Niagara Falls in '98	Sat 10PM	Marriott 729
Pizza Pizza Party Party, for Philcon/Phrolicon 1992.		
Come get your piece of the pie!		
	Sat 9PM	Marriott 1231

FOR YOUR AMUSEMENT, WE PRESENT THE FOLLOWING PUZZLEMENT:

#3 What novel has a scene which takes place at a 1995 Boskone? Can you name its location? (Check your answers with Information.)

BOSKONE 30 MEMBERSHIPS

Next year's Boskone will return to the Boston metro area! Boskone 30 will be Feb. 19-21, 1993 (a weekend later than usual) at the Sheraton Tara, Framingham, MA. Guests are: GOH--Joe Haldeman, Official Artist--Tom Kidd and Special Guest--Beth Meacham.

Get your memberships now while you still have the money! They're available at NESFA Sales, 3rd floor Sheraton, for only \$26 until the end of this year's convention. The rate then goes to \$29 until June 15, 1992.

WHIMSY ETIQUETTE

Please fill out a questionnaire--it's your chance to have input into this or next year's Boskone. We'll respond to some issues in *Helmuth*. Questionnaires are available at Registration and Services (4th floor Sheraton) and can also be returned there.

JAPANAMATION PROGRAM

Find out how the Japanese do SF and fantasy. These films are among the best Japan has to offer. Now playing in Kilkenny (Sheraton) are:

Wings of Oneamis (1987) at 10AM Saturday. This movie is about the world's first astronaut--on another planet! Superb animation and design make this one of the best films ever on space flight.

My Neighbor Totoro at 4:30PM Saturday. Directed by Japan's premiere animator, Hayao Miyazani, *Totoro* is a touching homage to Lewis Carroll as only the Japanese can do.

Labyrinth Tales (1987) at 7PM Saturday. This trilogy of shorts was shown at the 1987 Tokyo Fantastic Film Festival. Don't miss "The Order to Cease Construction", a brutally black-humored robot story.

BOSKONE XXIX WORDSEARCH

P D A H P A N E L S B X D T S H I R T M O O R N E E R G A B
 O E S F U E I R E O M A R T S H O W H L Z P P G J R K Q F A
 L X R I W C L P S O V T F W H I M S I C A L H D J Q A P R M D
 S I O L R K K K G I D N E D M R H V H N E D J X T V F Z M G
 R O P K K E O S D J B D V U X D H U T G N Z O R F B F E B E
 E N E U O N G L T Q F R A F Q L P V H P O Z D Q C Y E P U S
 H O R E E Y A I G E P V M E Q N E I E K I B I Z T D E R L L
 P B A A V N T D S E R J X R D J A L S J T C L U N H K E C O
 O V T E G E W R P T J S I V U H Z B H Z N Y E C E Z L S T L
 G V I F U R E B O E R N U R L W F L A E E G E C A B A I H P
 J Q O W O G H S Q J R A A M Q H U F M F V H L H B J T D G N
 L R N B E J G N I L L E T Y R O T S E D N Q C I O Y C E I M
 D F S N F Y P G C W F S A I T J M A O C O P Q N A U H N M
 U D C G W I L T P F I U U Q O E M U F W C T J I V C T P R K
 A Y V Q O Y T L B V K K N B C N L A M S P A C E A L I E N S
 Z O I O E O K H M A H G N I M A R F A S H Q W Y N R C C A J
 P U U R I Z W D L E I F G N I R P S U Q S H U O E R N U P P
 O L V R L I X E I U R J Q K X I K L D C S A I G C A O R A O
 D P R I F F V D M A G R U G W L S G I L Q S A G R C T E A C
 X A I A S A V W F W I L F A E S E E E J R Y S Q F Z A X G K
 M P L X K M G F T A R A S Z P N N P J C A Y G C S D R C U E T
 A G D S R V L W L K Q H M L I C K Z O H Z F L C G Z E E F T
 X J O B F E A S S W I E Z E E L A W N Z U N S X I L H L T P
 X B T A T G N W F N R H A F X T R Q E E D V X E Y M S L B R
 S D I G G O L U G F T Y I Z V G P H S H D X H O N P S E J O
 X I K P G B E T F U H C U U N R K O O B M A R G O R P N L G
 D P L A W I O F M L T Y E N I Z N A F X X I X X F Q J T G R
 M P R Y Z N F L Y I E N I R S C N X J D R W C Y E K D Z Z A
 N D C E U C E Q O K C D Z A Q G N I M M A R G O R P J I M M
 E E Z P B H S N C O Z K G D J A N E Y O L E N X R I Y B H Q

ARTSHOW
 BADGES
 BANQUET
 BOSKAVE
 BOSKONE
 CONVENTION
 DAVIDLANGFORD
 DEADDOE
 DEN
 DEXION
 DRAGONSLAIR
 EXCELLENT
 FANZINE
 FILK
 FRAMINGHAM
 GENIE
 GOPHERS

GREENROOM
 HELMUTH
 HUCKSTERS
 JANEYOLEN
 JODILEE
 KAFFEEKLATCH
 KLEZMER
 MARRIOTT
 NESFA
 NIGHTCLUB
 OPERATIONS
 PANELS
 POCKETPROGRAM
 PRESIDENT
 PROGRAMBOOK
 PROGRAMMING
 THESHAMEOFMAUDIEJONES

RAFFLE
 REGENCY
 REGISTRATION
 SCIENCEFICTION
 SHERATON
 SPACEALIENS
 SPRINGFIELD
 STORYTELLING
 TARA
 TSHIRT
 WASHINGTON
 WHIMSICAL
 XXIX
 XXX
 ZUCCHINI

HELMUTH

Over/Inking Speaking for Boskone

Saturday Evening

Issue Four

Mary Robison—Please come to Registration.

PROGRAM CHANGES

Autographing sessions will take place in the BosCave. Check Information (and future issues of *Helmuth*) for schedule updates.

- Sun 11AM Joe Haldeman
- Sun 1PM Steven Brust/Jody Lee
- Sun 2PM Josepha Sherman

Filk Concert

The Sunday Filk Concert will start at 1PM in S:King George South. The following participants are scheduled:

Critical Mass (Paula Lieberman, Spencer Love, Lois Mangan, Gary McGath & Virginia Taylor)

- Jane Sibley
- Helva Peters
- Joe Ross

(And maybe Kathy Mar)

These will be followed by filk one-shots.

SATURDAY REGISTRATION UPDATE

As of 3:30PM, there were 92 at-the-door memberships including 49 one-days for a total current attendance of 816.

PARTY ANNOUNCEMENTS!

- Atlanta in '95 Sat 9PM Marriott 707
- Glasgow in '95 Sat PM (after the Banquet) Marriott 708

Niagara Falls in '98 Sat 10PM Marriott 729
Pizza Pizza Party Party, for Philcon/Phrolicon 1992.
Come get your piece of the pie!

- Readercon Sat 9PM Marriott 1231
- Sat 9PM Marriott 727

GRAND RAFFLE

Amazing prizes—tickets \$1 or 6 for \$5. Drawing at 00:30AM at the Glasgow in '95 party (M708). Be there or be disappointed.

BABYSITTING

Babysitting is in 820/822 Marriott, not 804/808 as listed in the Pocket Program.

GOPHER WHIMSY RAFFLE WINNERS:

Jan Wiegand and V. Patton.

The next raffle is at 11PM Saturday night. Also, Frank Turmo—come get your free whimsy gift!

For your amusement, we present the following puzzlement:

- #4 What novel has a scene a NESFA clubhouse meeting at MIT? What type of room housed the clubhouse?
(Check your answers with Information.)

LOST AND FOUND

A bracelet was found in the Hucksters Room (that's "Dealer's Room", for those of you not from the East Coast) this morning. A scarf was found in the Marriott. Check at Information (3rd Floor Sheraton) or Services (4th Floor Sheraton) if Information is closed.

Lost—black watch, if found please contact Walter Kahn (Marriott 1403).

NOREASCON THREE MEMORY BOOKS

Members of Noreascon Three can pick up their Memory Books at the NESFA Sales Table.

AN INTERVIEW (AND PROGRAM CORRECTION):

HELMUTH: Dave Langford, we were surprised to learn from the Program Book that Storytelling is among your remarkably few talents.

LANGFORD: What? Oh, that. Yes, I told Boskone I'd bring a couple of stories in case they wanted me to do a reading...

HELMUTH: But surely you are aware that Sunday night's Storytelling will consist of brilliant improvisations from performers who have elevated their telling into a high art? Not, if you'll pardon the expression, just another load of crummy authors droning on and looking all the time at their soiled typescripts.

LANGFORD: Jesus Christ!

HELMUTH: So, how do you see your participation in Sundays's extravaganza of narrative performance?

LANGFORD: Er. I'll be hiding under the bed. In a different hotel. (Exit, pursued by a beer.)

HELMUTH SCHEDULE

	Deadline	Distribution
Issue 1	(Already out)	
Issue 2	(Already out)	
Issue 3	(Already out)	
Issue 4	(You're reading it)	
Issue 5	Sat Midnight	Sunday AM

If you have any items you'd like included in *Helmuth* (especially party announcements), drop them off at the Information Desk, or give them to your roving reporters Fred Duarte, Ruth Sachter and John Lorentz. To cut down on duplicate submissions, please date and sign anything you contribute.

PARTY REVIEWS:

When Worlds Collide: "Galaxies coalesced."

LA in '96: Bruce Pelz teased the fans by using a large ice bucket as the container for the midnight raffle. He first said the ice bucket would be raffled as one of the LA gifts. Well, it wasn't. Carrie Richerson, a book dealer from Texas, won the 5 LA stickers. It was the usual crowded house, tastefully decorated with lime green bid T-shirts, and all the stickers to date. The party was attended by a who's who of con-runners, waiting for the raffle drawing. But, as of Midnight minus five minutes, there was significant floor space available. (But it was a large room). Other raffle winners were Jim Reynolds, Kent Bloom and Karen Meschke.

Speaking of Texas, the **San Antonio in '97** bid party was also held last night. Fred Duarte, Karen Meschke and Lisa Greene threw their first bid party at Boskone. The bid had, as a "Valentine's Day" treat, both chocolate hearts and chocolate Texas shapes. They also brought their mouth-watering "Texas Chili", which perfumed the room and made everyone welcome. A great time was had at both parties.

PROGRAM REVIEW

David Langford Interview: Dave explained to the audience why his history of blowing things up in college led him to a career (albeit short) with UK's Nuclear Establishment. A career which was ended when he won the TAFF election, and couldn't get three weeks (without pay) to attend Noreascon Two. Instead, he quit the job and went to the convention. He went into further detail on his warm working relationship with Fred Harris and Author Services, touched briefly on his career as a locksmith and modestly explained his important contribution to the science of UFO's.

Third of a series of items from Dave Langford, Boskone 29's Special Guest...

EVANGEMENTAL FUNDALISM

"A video tape is being sent by Evangelists to schools nationwide warning children not to celebrate Hallowe'en because they would be 'dabbling with the Devil'," reported The Independent on Sunday last October.

I soon heard the inside story from my own mole within Pandaemonium, the Great Parliament of Hell. It seems that Beelzebub started it all with a diabolically awkward enquiry at Question Time: "What steps does His Infernal Highness propose to take about the shameful levity with which the Great Sabbat of Hallowe'en is now regarded by the general public?"

In his ensuing speech he pointed out with deep sarcasm that the dignity of Hell was seriously harmed by snotty-nosed kids running round in plastic masks trying to cadge sweeties. Recruitment to Satanic worship had fallen off badly thanks to this unfortunate association with giggling cries of "Trick or treat." Not to mention bleeding fantasy games, he added.

The massed daemonic ranks -- who just like British politicians hate being laughed at -- hissed their approval.

Replying on behalf of Ultimate Evil and the Foreign Office, Lord Moloch said that he had been working closely with his opposite number in the Evangelical Alliance to arrange a videotape campaign which would either restore the proper reverent regard for Hallowe'en or at least succeed in making a lot of Evangelists look very, very silly.

There was a standing ovation in Hell.

ALL KNOWLEDGE IS IN FANZINES

Nowadays we keep being told, usually by Algis Budrys, how L. Ron Hubbard was staggeringly universally popular as a pulp SF writer until his reputation was tainted by the malice of bourgeois revisionist Scientology-haters. But here is a back cover quote from Hyphen 5, dated November 1953, when my own critical faculties had only had seven months to develop:

MY CHIEF GRIPE AGAINST DIANETICS IS THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO NEW VAN VOGT STORIES FOR THREE YEARS. ITS CHIEF BLESSING IS THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO NEW HUBBARD STORIES FOR THREE YEARS.

Then, after nearly thirty years of delightful SF silence, L.Ron spoilt it all.

BOSKONE QUESTIONNAIRE UPDATE

Eighteen questionnaires have been returned and read as of 3PM Saturday. If you have picked up a questionnaire, please fill it out and return it.

One fan suggested that there be a NESFA panel at other conventions to serve as a clearinghouse for changes in the con that people would like to see. This has been tried recently but unfortunately has not often been constructive. Another fan wanted Boxboro fandom parties. Boxboro has officially retired...but if you'd like to help maybe another group can carry on the tradition. More answers to come in the next *Helmuth* so stay tuned.

DEAD DOE

Would-be participants should gather at the Student Prince Restaurant between 7 and 7:30PM (or later) Sunday night. Good food, lots of schmoozing. Be there!

GAMING NOTICE

An Advanced Dungeons & Dragons game, run by Stanley Meskys, is scheduled for Saturday at 8PM in S:Dublin room.

EFFINGER FUND UPDATE

Late word is that the benefit auction for the George Alec Effinger Medical Fund brought in \$520. More information in next *Helmuth*.