



Galactic Patrol Gazette

An entropic publication of the
Lensmen of Boston in 2004,
protectors of fandom, fun, and
ravaging beams of coruscating energy

Issue #1

Boston, Massachusetts, Tellus

Spring 2000

Boston Announces Worldcon Bid for 2004

Astounded by a changing hotel market in their home city, MCFI has launched a bid to host the 64th World Science Fiction Convention in Boston, Massachusetts. The bid, announced during January's Arisia and Chattacon conventions, offers a compact, Worldcon-tested site, traditional dates over Labor Day weekend in 2004, and an experienced committee.

Hotels & Facilities

We've been offered an attractive, affordable package for the Sheraton Boston and Copley Marriott hotels, and the Hynes Convention Center. This is a better, more compact site than the one that was so successful for Noreascon 3 in 1989.

The *Sheraton Boston* wants fans. The Sheraton's offer is for a large block of rooms and all of its function space, with excellent terms.

The *Copley Marriott* wants fans. The Marriott, with its very attractive offer of convenient rooms, function space, and special corkage provisions, **actively sought** our business.

The *Hynes Convention Center* wants fans. This beautiful convention center, home to Noreascon 3 programming, exhibits, the ConCourse, and special functions,

has offered us an option on the full convention center as our five-day gathering ground.

We'll give you connectivity!

The Sheraton is directly connected to the Hynes; the Marriott is connected by internal, air-conditioned walkways through the all-new Prudential Center Mall. A food court is just steps away, and nearly one hundred of Boston's many restaurants are within a two-to three-block walk. You won't have to be a Boston Marathon runner to get from your hotel room to the convention.

About Our City

Founded in the 1600s, Boston is an ocean city with old-world charm and new-world science. From the historic grounds of the Old North Church to the laboratories of Harvard University and M.I.T., the city is boiling with fascinating juxtapositions.

Attractions include: the Freedom Trail, which wends its way past dozens of important historic landmarks; the New England Aquarium, boasting the largest indoor salt water cylinder tank in the nation; the U.S.S. *Constitution* ("Old Ironsides"), which is the oldest ship in the nation still in

battle commission; the Museum of Fine Arts, the Gardner Museum, the Arnold Arboretum, and other splendid museums.

And then there are the things we don't tell *just any* tourist. It's hard to explain why a giant illuminated sign for a gasoline company is on the national registry of historic sites. And you just can't tell most people about the Great Molasses Flood with a straight face. Or the duck (well, DUKW) tours, where you can get a land-sea tour of the city, but you have to quack.

(Please note: before coming to Boston, all visitors are encouraged to learn to speak and understand BosEnglish. Or you won't know what a "wicked thick frappe" is.)

About Our Traditions

The first Boston Worldcon was Noreascon, held in 1971. Two other MCFI-run Noreascons followed: in 1980 and 1989. All three conventions used facilities which make up part of this bid's total package.

But more than continuity of facilities, Boston in 2004 offers continuity of talent and skill. The Chairmen of all three Noreascons are still members of our bid, because they are dedicated to hosting outstanding conventions for all of fandom.

Members of MCFI/Boston in 2004 have worked on every Worldcon in the last three decades at every level: from chairman to gopher. We believe in helping to make things work.

We also believe that any Worldcon committee holds the Worldcon in trust for all of fandom.

If you vote for Boston in 2004, the Worldcon won't be ours. It will be yours.

On page 2

Boston hotel industry reverses course

Help keep the galaxy safe from zwilniks

Tri-planetary communication channels

The Galactic Patrol Wants YOU!

Pre-Support Boston in 2004

Help Us Protect the Galaxy from Zwilniks

Only through the tireless efforts of the Galactic Patrol and its dauntless supporters can the galaxy continue to be free from the dangerous influences of zwilniks.

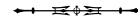
Your contributions will help

ensure the continued survival and development of the many sentient species who struggle to preserve the valiant traditions of a glorious fandom. They may have tentacles, but they still read the stuff or watch *Buffy*.

Modern Communications

The wonders of the 21st century are at your fingertips. You can write us "postal letters" (small rectangular-shaped pieces of pulped rag and wood containing messages written in various inks or with graphite, folded, placed in a rag-and-wood-pulp pouch, and then affixed with a gummed notification of shipment), electronic mail (thousands of digital signals rocketing through the clear ether), or visit our web pages (believed to be the 21st century's precursor to the interactive video technologies later used on Rigel 7).

Be sure to tell us how you think the Worldcon (and the Galactic Patrol) can best serve the interests of fankind!



**Presupporting
Memberships
\$12**

**Intergalactic
Friends
\$75**

Email: info@mcfi.org

Web: www.mcfi.org

Boston in 2004

Massachusetts Convention Fandom, Inc.

P.O. Box 1010

Framingham, MA 01701 USA

Changing Local Hotel and Facilities Scene Means Boston's Now Affordable

Boston's hotel industry has begun to re-assess itself sharply in the last two years. With an increasingly competitive environment for trade business and the departure of several prominent conventions, our hotel and convention services groups have begun to actively solicit business and work to make Boston attractive to the cost-conscious convention attendee.

The city's dearth of hotel rooms is now turning around, forcing competition where none really existed several years ago. Since then, our new convention center project has begun, and the new center is due to open in 2004. Permits have been issued for at least one **large** new hotel to be built next to it (it's also scheduled for 2004). And the Boston convention business suffered because of industry over-pricing when conventions like Macworld and the Boston in 2001 Worldcon bid had to leave town.

The existing Boston hotels understand that by 2004 they'll face a new, competitive environment with **two** modern convention centers and at least one major new hotel (with a second one in the works). While the new properties won't be ready in time for us to

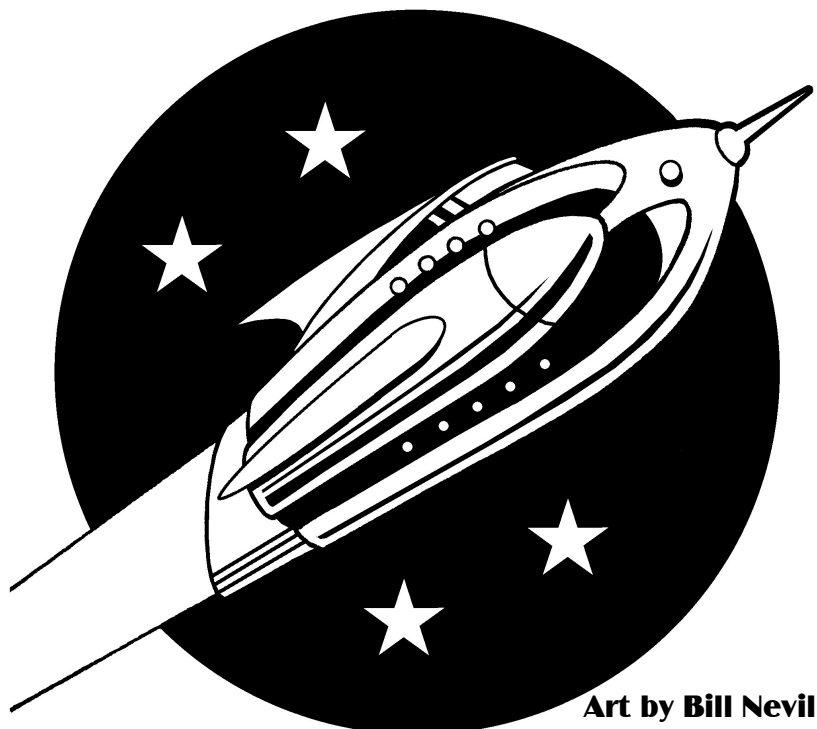
plan to use them, their construction has broken the market wide open.

In this market, a Worldcon on Labor Day looks like good business to have. And so some of the Boston hotels approached us.

With these two major hotels, we'd have almost half of our rooms in the same building as the convention center, and most of the rest of them on the other side of the new Prudential Center Mall – a com-

pletely indoors and air-conditioned walk. Everything is close, convenient, and the only walk people will have to take in the warmth of the New England summer is to dinner (but given the hotels, the food courts, and the restaurants in two connected shopping malls, even **that** walk isn't required).

We're really excited to be bidding for Boston: one of the world's best Worldcon facilities.



Art by Bill Neville