



Galactic Patrol Gazette

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

Issue #6

Boston, Massachusetts, Tellus

Summer 2001

You can make a difference!

**We're asking you to vote.
And we're asking you to vote
for us.**

For several months we've told you why we think Boston should be your choice for the Worldcon in 2004. Now it's time to take action. It will take a majority of the votes cast in the site selection to bring the Worldcon to Boston. To coin a

phrase, *Every vote counts*. (For some of you this will be old hat. Feel free to skip the tutorial if you know how this goes.)

SITE SELECTION LOCATION: Finding the site selection tables at the Worldcon in Philadelphia won't be hard. Go to the Exhibits area; Hall A&B It will be directly opposite the door into the hall and facing you as you

come in. The table will be staffed by people who will take your ballot and payment, and who will be able to answer your questions about the site selection process.

To your left will be the tables for the already-selected Worldcons (Con Josè, 2002; Torcon, 2003) and the 2004 bids. Stop by our table and let us feed you chocolate and candy and say hi!

Every vote counts.

(Did we mention you might want to vote?)

Voting tutorial

The voting process is called *site selection*. If you've never voted for a Worldcon site before, here is what you must do:

- You must be a member of the Millennium Philcon in order to vote. You don't need to actually attend the convention, or even have an attending membership. But you must have at least a supporting membership. (For more information, see www.milphil.org).
- The site selection ballot is available online at the Millennium Philcon address above, and has also been widely printed and



distributed by various fan groups. Fill out a ballot completely, mark your choice, and mail your ballot with

your \$35 voting fee. It must be received by August 15, 2001.

- You may also vote at the Millennium Philcon instead of voting by mail. It's not necessary to bring a ballot — ballots will be available there for your use. Your ballot must be received at the site selection table *no later than 6 p.m. on Saturday*.
- Can't go to Philadelphia, but don't want to mail your ballot? You can send it along with a friend. Be sure to fill out & sign the ballot and enclose payment.

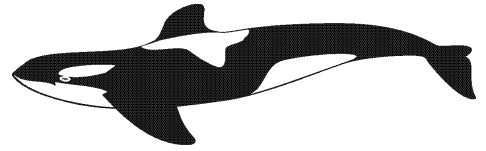
A bridge grows in Boston

This August, the new Leonard P. Zakim Bunker Hill Bridge over the Charles River will open. For many months area residents and travelers have watched this beautiful bridge take shape. At 1,457 feet, it's hardly one of the longest bridges — but it will be the widest cable-stayed bridge in the world.

Built of steel and concrete, the bridge will hold 8 lanes of traffic and two additional lanes on the east side. The bridge will be supported by two planes of steel cable attached two concrete pillars in an upside-down "Y" shape. The effect is light and airy; like a giant's musical instrument.

Vote ... Vote ... Vote ... Vote ... Vote ...Vote

Whale watching



Boston in 2004 committee members Naomi Fisher and Pat Malloy, who live in Alabama, recently spent five days in Boston. This is a portion of Naomi's trip report.

The last time we'd looked at taking such a trip, it was early in spring, foggy, cold, and the ocean was rough. This day was perfect. We departed from Gloucester on Cape Ann, where *The Perfect Storm* was filmed, and where the boat used in the movie now moors. Gloucester's life still revolves around the sea, with a somber memorial to lost fishermen reminding of the occasional price for that life. We passed wharves and packing plants for Gorton's and Legal Seafoods as we headed out to Stellwagen Bank, a favorite feeding ground of great whales.

The Stellwagen Bank is a 19 mile-long sandbank that extends across the floor of Massachusetts Bay, submerged 65-100 feet below the surface. The upwelling waters above it produce rich feeding for Minke, Fin, Humpback and Right whales. The humpbacks, especially, stay there, feeding from April to November, storing up for the winter. They then travel south to the Caribbean to calve, where the waters are warm and clear, but much less food is available. They go months without eating once migration starts, so nutrition is serious business to them. Their fondness for this section of coast combined with their unusually long pectoral fins earned them the lyrical scientific name of *Megaptera novaeangliae* – "great-winged New Englander".

Most companies doing whale watching cruises guarantee sightings, and give a voucher for a future trip should none appear. It's a pretty good bet for them, as whales stake out general ranges and stay

within them. This habit is wonderful, now that the reasons for locating them are so benign, but it once led to near-extinction for all the large species. They were too easy to find, too easy to kill, and close enough to shore to be easily processed for oil. Times have changed, thankfully, and whaling towns have become whale watching towns. After lobbying by environmental groups and local residents (many of whose livelihood now depends on keeping the whales alive, healthy and present!), over 800 square miles of the waters surrounding Stellwagen were made a National Marine Sanctuary in 1993.

We could see Boston's skyline on the horizon throughout our trip, and many outfits operate from the Harbor itself. This is one of the world's most accessible and popular places for whale watching, and with so many companies in the business, competition is keen. Naturalists are aboard most boats, combining guide duties with their own research observations, and they make the trips educational as well as entertaining. They chat with familiarity and fondness for their enormous subjects, identifying specific whales by the markings, individual as fingerprints, on the underside of their tail flukes. There's much recounting of stories about their favorites and cheerful gossip over new calves and what social groupings are forming. Each year, the researchers hold a "naming party" to christen newcomers after their markings or behavior. Many whales return to the area, year after year, and are greeted by name as old and welcome friends.

The ocean was pond-like, with hardly any swell, and you could see every ripple for miles. Though it was bright and clear,

we were glad to have brought jackets. It was soon obvious we wouldn't get any "no show" vouchers as we passed another boat slowly following two humpbacks at a respectful distance. There was much excitement and photo taking, but we went onwards, rather than risk crowding or disturbing the whales. Ten minutes later, another two humpbacks were seen nearby, and we oohed and aaahed unabashedly as they surfaced next to us to breathe and dive. They moved with sedate and fluid grace, gliding effortlessly beside us, then sounding again to feed. I'd seen gray whales before, off the Oregon coast, but it's spectacular to see living creatures, fully the size of your boat, that close! We followed those two for some time, then watched two more pairs of humpbacks and a fin whale (the latter far off, moving swiftly away) before heading back to shore. It was an unforgettable day, even if I hadn't used 6 rolls of film!

See more of Naomi's write-up at www.boston2004.org.

Party! Party!

And not just our Thursday night party – but our Friday, Sunday, and our welcome-to-the-con-blastoff Wednesday night parties, too!

Boston in 2004 is hosting four (count 'em, IV) nights of fabulous, frolicsome, fervid, festal, fanciful, friendly, frabjous, fantastic folksy fun. The Wednesday, Thursday and Friday parties will showcase our glamorous city, from lower glam to upper glam. On Sunday we'll have a thank-you party – win or lose. (With your support, we'll make it a "win"!)

Look for us on the 6th floor of the Marriott. The parties start at 9:30 p.m. See you there!

Vote ... Vote ... Vote ... Vote ... Vote ...Vote

Still more life stories of Galactic Patrol recruiting officers

JOE SICLARI has been enjoying fandom for over 35 years. He has published fanzines and worked on too many conventions. He chaired *Magicon*, the Orlando Worldcon, in 1992. He is much better now.

In 1982 Joe founded *Tropiccon* (and has chaired nearly half of them), and was one of the founders of both *SMOFcon* and *FanHistoricon*. Joe also founded the South Florida Science Fiction Society (SFSFS).

He has published *A Wealth of Fable*, *The Compete Quandry*, other fanhistorical publications, and fanzines of his own. Joe's current obsession is

preserving fannish history. He is creating a museum of fannish memorabilia and a library of fan publications. He is a founder of *Timebinders*, a group dedicated to preserving fannish history. He is also leading a team of fans who are putting large amounts of fan historical material on the Internet (see the *FANAC Fan History Project* at www.fanac.org).

When he has time free from SF activities, Joe likes to read. Other interests include travel, growing tropical fruit trees, old time radio, old films, and manned space programs.

On convention running, Joe says: "When it stops being fun, stop doing it."

PAULA LIEBERMAN was an unsuspecting proto-neofan Labor Day weekend, 1971, when she walked over the Harvard Bridge, departing freshman orientation to go to Noreascon I. The following weekend, she walked into the MITSFS Library (parodied in Ben Bova's *The Starcrossed*) and there were these people, talking as if they had *run* that Boston Worldcon, Noreascon. They swept her up and hauled her off to House of Roy in Boston for Chinese food and guess what? They *were* the people who had run Noreascon!

Thirty years later, she's worked on dozens of conventions, in positions from gophering and holding onto tottering art show supports to committee; written dozens of apazines, been on a few panels, done proofreading for NESFA Press, and is looking forward to working on the '04 Boston Worldcon.



SAUL JAFFE's entry into fandom started in 1979 when he was introduced to a b-board on the ARPAnet called "sflovers" (which later became *SF-Lovers Digest*). In December 1983, Saul took over the job of Moderator and has been handling the mailing list ever since. At Noreascon 3 in 1989, he accepted a special committee award for *SF-Lovers*.

Not long after, he discovered convention fandom. He's been involved with *Boskone*, and running conventions, ever since. He has only regretted it occasionally late at night in the privacy of his hotel room, especially during the *Boskone* from Hell where he spent 27-hour days in the 24-hour con suite running the popcorn machine and cutting vegetables. He still has occasional nightmares about drowning in hot buttered popcorn.

Let's do dim sum!

Earlier this summer, about a dozen members of the Boston in '04 committee met in Boston for a shopping expedition. (For some of us, "Shopping" is our middle name...making for a lot of strange birth certificates.) Before we split up to hunt for party decorations in the city's varied neighborhoods, Chairman Deb suggested we have dim sum. We came, we saw, we pigged out.

Our venue was *Chau Chow City*, one of the many delectable restaurants in Boston's Chinatown. *Chau Chow City* is the third *Chau Chow* restaurant opened here by the Luu family. It's impressively large — three floors of restaurant and hundreds of tables. Mostly serving Cantonese dishes, its seafood menu has already won it acclaim.

But it's also become a popular spot for dim sum. *Dim sum* is a morning or early afternoon meal served at some large Chinese restaurants. Best enjoyed with a group, dim sum requires no menus; just an appetite and (sometimes) a

sense of adventure. Workers circle the restaurant with carts of food. Many are in dumpling form: a pastry shell may surround something sweet, hot, or savory; others are not. One chooses from the dishes (which might be enough for one to four people) and enjoys them while waiting for the next cart to come by..

Favorites among the committee members were: shu mai (steamed dumplings), crystal shrimp steamed dumplings, lobster steamed dumplings, roast pork buns (bao), sweet bean paste buns, shrimp-stuffed eggplant, and fried sesame balls with sweet bean paste. All that, and the adventurous dishes, too. The bill came out to only \$13 per person!

This restaurant, and all of Chinatown, is just a nice walk from the Boston in '04 hotels, or an easy hop up the subway line. We're already planning to go back as soon as we can.

Chau Chow City is located at 83 Essex St. Dim sum is served daily from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. We'll try not to cut in line if you get there before us.

Vote ... Vote ... Vote ... Vote ... Vote ...Vote

Remember: Saving the galaxy is just their hobby!

TIM SZCZESUIL (pronounced *sez-U-il*) has been involved in fandom for about 20 years. Over that time he's achieved the traditional fannish physique.

With his wife, Ann Broomhead, Tim co-chaired Boskone 33. He's run or helped run various other areas at Boston-area conventions including treasury, art show, people mover, con suite, information, logistics, progress reports, and souvenir book. Tim has helped at or run many areas at past Worldcons, and was the site selection administrator at Chicon 2000. He's edited four NESFA Press books, two together with Ann.

Tim says: "I was born and raised in Boston. It is simply the best city in the world. Anything you can find in the finest cities in the world, Boston has—fine dining, theatres, shopping, first-rate transportation. All this in a walkable, intimate, ethnic, historic, and folkloric setting. I love my home town, and I think you will, too!"

SHARON SBARSKY'S interest in SF began at an early age, when her extraterrestrial origins were made clear: she's a Mets fan.

Her first convention was Boskone XVI, where she not only joined Noreascon Two, but signed up as a volunteer. Since then she has chaired Smofcon 15 (Boston, 1997) and has attended over 200 conventions, 18 Worldcons, and two

NASFiCs, working in or running one or more areas at most of them.

She is a past president and a past treasurer of MCFI, and in 2000 she was Fan Guest of Honor at Arisia. In 1996 Sharon decided to try web building and started with the website for the Boston in 2001 bid page. That one page has grown to over 100 with our current website www.boston2004.org, and she is webmistress for several other convention sites, including this year's Millennium Philcon.

Asked about her hobbies, Sharon said, "FIAWOL!" (An old fannish saying: "Fandom is a way of life.")

She quotes a saying from OryCon: "Conventions are run on blood, sweat and volunteers!"

PAM FREMON is a born-again Swede, with a fondness for Swedish Fish ("pretty close to *lutfisk*, after all"), Swedish language, Swedish vacations ("It just doesn't get cold enough in Boston," she notes), and Swedish history ("Someday, I will take a longboat across the Charles River and pillage Cambridge.") Currently in training for the classical Viking triathlon (sail, sack and burn), Pam enjoys SF in comic books, television (her favorite character is Sven of Nine), and literature. Pam is Boston in 2004's newsletter guru, and she will chair Boskone 39 in 2002.

In 1976 **RICK KATZE** attended his first convention, a Boskone. He learned there that NESFA members get a discount on NESFA books, and so joined NESFA, not realizing what the real cost would be to get this discount.

Since then he has chaired two Boskones, served as a SCIFI director, edited several NESFA Press books, and written some short stories. He is running the WSFS division at

the Millennium Philcon.

Outside fandom, Rick's interests include Buffy, poker, casino gambling and books.

We believe that **JUDY BEMIS** has attended roughly 4,322 conventions this year. She has worn out 14 pairs of sneakers, 8 sets of luggage (we're told one of them had legs), 2 travel irons, and her frequent flyer mileage now allows her to go to Alpha Centauri and back for free, 6 times, in first class. Judy is a geneology buff (studying dead relatives), a nationally-prized asset for any convention's treasury (counting dead presidents), and a lover of good bheer and sweet wines (sipping dead hops and grapes). Judy claims to have a permanent address in North Carolina, but many people who know her agree that she goes to so many conventions because she has forgotten her street address.

BRUCE PELZ was co-chair of the 1972 Worldcon, co-chair 1969 Westercon and chair 1976 and 2002 Westercons. (Also chair of a Loscon and an Eastercon-In-New-York, and co-chair of a local convention that is better forgotten than itemized.)

Fan GoH 1979 Westercon, 1980 Worldcon and other cons. Co-Founder of Bouchercon.

Member of eight or nine APAs at one time or another - and publisher of over a thousand fanzines.

Retired from UCLA Library in '93 after 31 years, and presently, when not travelling overseas, selling SF books to the University of California at Riverside (lots), the University of California at Los Angeles (a few), and the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (more than you'd expect).

Older than anyone else on the Committee, and snarkier than most.

More of the 2004 reasons to vote for Boston in '04

1181. Haymarket

1158. Boston Common

1320. Mr. Doolley's Boston Tavern

1876. The curse of the Bambino

1485. The Theatre District

1688. Lobstah

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