



**HALLOWEEN PARTY – BLACK SABBATH**  
**Senior Men's Hall, 1963**  
**Organized and remembered here by Chela Varentzoff Kunasz**

The Black Sabbath that we had was a Halloween Party. I spent an entire semester preparing to throw that party for the Hiking Club. I even got into the stacks at the library to research about dark witches and things that would be appropriate for Halloween, and found some remarkable very old texts that you had to get special permission to see (and I got the permission). We did some fun traditional things like dunking for apples, etc., but the two high points that I remember were the Treasure Hunt, which we did in costume, and the chanting that we did at the end of the party near midnight. I remember sitting out in one of the campus's tree groves on the north side (can't remember the right names for these anymore), dressed in my black witch costume, holding a hog's head (which I had gotten from the butcher... you could do that in those days... I think it was probably about 1963, but not exactly sure of that date) which was dripping blood and did not smell too good (and neither did I after carrying that around for a while). While I was sitting there waiting for people to show up there as part of the treasure hunt, I remember worrying about scaring some poor unsuspecting person. I was also a bit scared of a police officer appearing and wondering about me. And a bit worried about someone even stranger than I appearing, but figured I could probably frighten him/her away. We had a lot of fun that night, I do remember.

Later on, we did chants, some of which I got from my books at the library and which were ancient. We were asking for catastrophes to happen to the people and the earth and all manner of not very sweet things to rain down. And all this culminated in some sort of spectacle which I no longer remember. It was very convincing. Afterwards, when I could relax, someone approached me and complimented me on how authentic it was. He then told me he was a member of a local coven and warned me not to do anything like that again, as it was too too accurate in its summoning of demonic forces and that we ought not to get ourselves THAT close to the dark side... that was a little frightening. I thought of the whole thing as a game... he didn't. He said he was a "white" witch, but knew a lot about the other side... Later, a lot of people were interested in various authentic things I had gotten from the books (especially one) that I had gotten in the stacks. I had actually kind of thought of the whole project as a semester's education on some things from the Middle Ages. So I went back to check on a few things in that book in the stacks, and it was no longer there. I had written down the title and everything but it

was not there, and there was no record of them every having had that book... a bit spooky for me. Maybe I just made some mistake in trying to find it, or?

I do remember that people like Mike Haseltine wore great outfits and that it was a very successful party and evening. Somehow we did (fortunately) fail to bring down any major disaster...

Most of the events other than the treasure hunt (which was all over campus) were held in the Senior Men's Hall. It is possible we even cancelled folk dancing for the party... and had it on a Friday near Halloween. Many Hiking Club people attended including folk dancers, it seemed to me that "everyone was there" but I was so busy managing the whole thing that I didn't have time to note more than that.

Carla Selby writes: I still remember Mike Haseltine robed from head to toe and carrying some kind of censer and trying mightily to suppress his giggles. So he slowly traipsed down the aisle shaking like a leaf.

