

President's Message at 2016 Annual ICG Members and Board Meetings

Focus

- Continuing to provide value to individual members and to affiliated chapters and SIGs
- Providing chapters and SIGs with tools and resources for running their groups and recruiting members
- New chapter and SIG formation
- Increasing the visibility of the ICG in the costuming community

Accomplishments

- We welcomed two new ICG chapters:
 - Costumers Anonymous of North Texas (CANT), in March 2016, serving the Dallas / Ft. Worth area. CANT is an example of an existing costuming organization, formed in 2010, who appreciated the various benefits of affiliation.
 - NoVA Costumers Guild or Northern Virginia in July 2016, serving the Northern Virginia and surrounding areas. Thanks to Jacalyn Stanley for starting this chapter.
- We also welcomed a new SIG: Masquerade Runners (a.k.a. "Hey Kids, Let's Put on a Show" (HeLPS)). Thanks to Byron Connell for this successful "production"!
- Launched an ad-hoc committee to review and propose revisions to the ICG Guidelines to Ensure Fair Competition. Thanks to Tonya Adolfson (Gem State Costumers), Maral Agnerian - (Fibre Fantasy Artists of Canada), Rae Bradbury-Enslin (New Jersey - New York Costumers Guild) and Vicki Warren (Greater Delaware Valley Costumers Guild) for serving on the committee.
- The ICG received a generous donation of \$5000 from donation from Sasquan 2015. The donation is to the General Funds which means we will be able to allocate it where it will be able to support all of our programs and the costuming. Special thanks to Pierre Pettinger in helping to secure this grant.
- Achieved "Gold" status with GuideStar, the leading site for rating non-profit organizations. Funders and others rely on GuideStar for authoritative information when considering grants and extending other benefits to non-profits.
- Participation in the AmazonSmile program where Amazon donates a 0.5% of purchases made through 'smile.amazon.com' to the ICG. Thanks to Jeanine Swick for setting this up.
- Received over \$3000 in benefits this year through our membership in TechSoup, a non-profit that manages donations of computer software and hardware to other non-profits.
- The ICG Archives continues its work in preserving and presenting the history of costuming through several projects, such as preserving rare masquerade videos, and producing new videos.
- The Technology and Web committee has begun work to re-architect the ICG website and implement a new system for the ICG Gallery