



THE ICG NEWSLETTER

May-June 2007



President's Message

So now that *that's* over, back to business as usual.

What's new with the ICG? Three new chapters in the last six months – first Atlanta, then Milwaukee and now Middle Tennessee. And all in brand new areas where we haven't had much of a presence before.

With the addition of these new chapters it seems like a good idea to hear from all our chapters and see what they're up to. How about writing a paragraph or two for the newsletter? I'm sure Denisen would be happy to find room for chapter updates, especially if you sent them in regularly. What activities do you have planned, cons have you been to/are planning to go to, or maybe just an individual profile of one of your favorite members?

So get those updates in! We want to know what the rest of you are doing.

Other goings on:

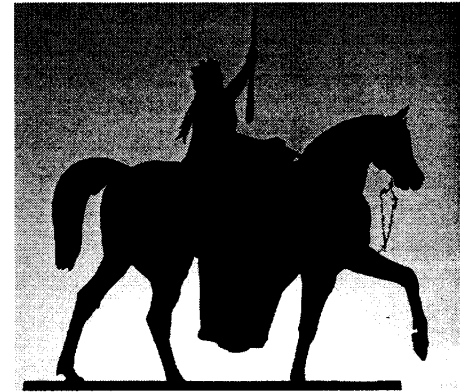
The Board is still working on the tax exempt status being made available to chapters. Ask your Board member for details and how it will impact your chapter.

We're also still working on making parts of the Archives available to the general membership. Hopefully in the next few months the Galleries will begin becoming available online at the ICG website.

Equally as exciting is that ICG members and other costuming aficionados will be able to upload their own photos, providing one central location for general costuming photography that has never been available before.

We're still moving and grooving – want to be part of it all?

You know we're always looking for volunteers, so what's your specialty? Finances, promotion, web design? Speak up, step forward and help out.



Editor's Report

Ahhh . . . it's mid-spring, the weather's warm, and our GIGANTIC new dog Maui and I are training hard for winning a competition for . . . sloth. Nothing like a big dog snoozing beside you to get you all ... yawny ... and ... too slow ..., to do anything really ... Oh well – reclining gracefully in silks and finery while a servant brings iced drinks makes for sort of a nice, pre-Raphaelite look. Of course, with children and a dog running around the house, silks and finery are sort of outré right now, and well, servants seem to be scarce (go figure ...), but it's still a pretty thought, isn't it? So happy spring and summer, all!

Meanwhile, back to the issue at hand. Welcome to the May-June issue of the ICG Newsletter! Inside you'll find **Kevin Roche**, the Chair of CC26, writing on the Masquerades at CC25, and some lovely photographs of the costumes seen around St. Louis, Missouri just a few weeks ago. Thanks especially in that regard go to **Don McClane** and **Maethoriel**, for their gracious permission for our reprinting of their photographs, and also to **Kevin Roche** who so kindly wrote these reviews for our reading enjoyment. Also inside are **Bruce MacDermott's** typically thorough treasurer reports, and minutes of both the Annual Meeting and the Board of Directors' activities since then. Most exciting, we have news from a few chapters of the ICG, and word of not just one, but TWO!!! BRAND!!! NEW!!! CHAPTERS!!! (Check out that photo of **Henry Osier** as Teddy!)

Last, but certainly by no means least, word has come in from the Newsletter Editorial Board that one of its beloved members, **Betsy Delaney**, must leave the Board to to follow her dreams. So if you enjoy writing and publishing, and have a gimlet eye for the occasional errant semi-colon, this is your golden opportunity: the ICG Newsletter Editorial Board wants you! Interested parties should contact the newsletter at icg-newsletter@costume.org, and we'll be happy to welcome you to our group! *And Betsy, let me publicly extend my greatest wishes for your success in everything you set your heart to doing in the future, and my sincerest thanks for your hard work in getting me off the ground in my constant striving to fill your ruby red slippers!*

So enjoy this issue, everyone, and remember - we can't put together this newsletter in a vacuum. Nothing makes us at the ICG newsletter happier than receiving submissions and letters from members around the world.

Say it with me:

Submit Early, Submit Often!!!

Next ICG Newsletter Deadline:

July 1

REVIEW OF COSTUME-CON 25 MASQUERADES

by Kevin Roche, Chair, Costume-Con 26

I fear that my reviews this year will not be as comprehensive as those I wrote last year; I was very busy wearing my Costume-Con 26 Chair hat and was somewhat distracted as a result. This is also the first year I've been able to simply be an audience member for both shows. Consider these notes more highlights than an in depth review, if you will.



All the shows at Costume-Con 25 used the same stage arrangement, and it was a pretty good use of the available space. An apron extended backwards between two main pipe-and-drape rear curtains, and a partition of pipe and drape centered in front of that opening allowed for entrances to either side of that center section. That also meant that a ramp could be brought up to the apron backstage. One of the best features of this arrangement was that entries with mobility issues had an easy incline to get on- and off-stage out of site of the audience. One drawback to the arrangement (and this was mostly dictated by the 11' ceiling height in the room) was that the stage risers were only one foot high. This meant that presentation activity on the floor of the stage was invisible to anyone further back than the first few rows.

Perhaps in part because the ceiling restrictions were publicized well in advance, there were no MegaProps or casts-of-thousands production numbers in the Science Fiction Masquerade. This did not keep it from being an engaging and entertaining show. Things got off to a darling start with the Delaney girls as Flower Faeries; I suspect you could hear the "aaaahhhh" from the front lobby of the hotel.

Dan Havens won Most Fearsome for There Goes The Neighborhood, a Mongol-Horde-esque (or perhaps samurai-esque) set of armor that on closer examination proved to be ingeniously constructed of auto floormats and assorted other interesting bits of adapted hardware.

Janice Bennett did a beautifully rendered and accessorized Gandalf the Grey, and Melissa Hawk's Mail Order Bride was a delicious piece of fun - a bridal trousseau completely constructed out of USPS boxes, folders, labels and literature, including a corset was made from Express Mail envelopes! Marty Gear treated us to some genuine stage magician sleight of hand to produce A Midnight Snack from his wizard's robes and hat. Julia and Richard Hyll presented a sweetly masked Carnevale "what-might-have-been" moment with Surprise: A Brief Encounter. My laugh-out-loud moment was delivered by Lisa Ashton as Mary Gothins, punctuated by her pulling a giant tape measure from her reticule, which confirmed that she was "perfectly evil in every way".

Henry Osier did a series of Educational Moments demonstrating assorted alternative uses for the official Costume-Con 25 thong. 'Nuf said (well, maybe not quite: "The stupid! It hurts!").

Three other entries stand out in my memory of the show. Michael Sawyer as Dharm Rush the Manticore (made by Lance Ikegawa, Michael and Brit Martin) is an astonishing fursuit creation, and quite deservedly took Best in Class Master. I had seen the suit's debut at Futher Confusion, and it was a pleasure to see how Michael had created the stage persona and body language for it.

(Costume-Con Review Continued on Page 3)



(Costume-Con Review, Continued from Page 2)

Best Recreation in the Master Division went to Trinity Blood by Aurora Celeste, Kerri Knorr, Catherine Schaff-Stump, Nicky Mucher, and Brian Smith. I think we'll be seeing many spectacular costumes inspired by this particular anime/manga series, and the detail and workmanship in this group's entry definitely set a bar for those who follow. They received Best in Show Workmanship for their efforts.

Finally, an entry that just brought a smile to my face was There and Back Again, which was Tolkien's The Hobbit realized as Chinese-styled puppetry, with the puppeteers in beautiful Asian-inspired costumes. As the presentation unfolded the story unrolled again in my minds eye. I especially liked Smaug in the style of a fighting kite. Apparently the judges agreed, because they presented Deb, Rhiannon, Ryan and Terry Jones with Best in Show for their entry.

The Historical Masquerade comprised fourteen entries, all of them strong. I was very pleased to see much attention paid to their stage presentations by the entrants; while the costumes were definitely the focus, all of them had obviously spent time considering how to show off their work and entertain the audience at the same time. I don't think there were any particularly weak entries in the show, but here are some highlights:

Jackie Thomas' Bon Voyage was a treat, with an upstage steamer full of people waving goodbye as Jackie's excited young traveler hurried to board before it departed. Gypsy Ames was tantalizing dancing in bones and skin in Vajra, which I believe was based on a ritual dance costume.

Susan Leibhart's Toll House of the August Moon was a droll play on classic tea-ceremony, with chocolate chip cookies and toll house morsels decorating her kimono. Unfortunately for me in the back row, when she sat down to perform her cookies-and-milk ritual, she vanished from view because of the low stage height. She won a Judges Choice award for her good taste.

Megan Bouchard rolled onto stage as Batty Aunt Dotty, an undead baseball fanatic gliding along on an equally costumed mobility scooter. The Moonlight Ladies (Genie Hillen, Jessica Jakel and Ramona Taylor) wound besotted cowboy Bruce Mai in a web of fate until he succumbed.

Two more entries in particular stood out for me. One was Miranda J. Miller's Victorian Dinner Gown; Miranda looked every inch the gracious and graceful young hostess as she not-quite-danced around her parlor waiting for her dinner guests to arrive. And finally, Angele Grewe's presentation "My Torch Burns: 1943" was the absolute image of a classic '40s chanteuse. I was particularly taken by the effort she spent on learning and lipsynching the torch song used in her presentation; as someone who has performed in that same milieu it was a pleasure to see such a passionate performance. Angela ended up winning both the Costume-Con 26 Persistence of Stitchery award and the Historical Masquerade Best in Show award.

While CC25 was a relatively small convention (around 240 attending members), both masquerades were full of beautiful work. It was a pleasure to be in the audience. Now, of course, I want you all to pull out the stops and go whole-hog next spring at Costume-Con 26!



Should you attend
Costume-Con 26?

This survey will help you decide!

	Yes	No
Do people tell you your mom dresses you funny?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you dress your kids funny?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you dress your dolls funny?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a picture of your sewing machine?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In a heart-shaped frame?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does your idea of event wear include a sword, ray gun, or drop spindle?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you an Evil Genius?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you have answered Yes to any of these questions, then you are a costumer and should attend CC-26!

Returning to California for the first time in 14 years!

April 25-28, 2008, DoubleTree Hotel, San Jose CA

Costume-Con 26 is a premiere venue for professional and hobbyist costumers to meet, compete, share, and socialize.

Visit us & register at: www.CC26.info
email: info@CC26.info

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NEWS FROM CHAPTERS AROUND THE WORLD!



Costumed High Tea

By Susan Smith

On April 29th, twelve members of the Northern Lights Costumers' Guild (No.L) attended a costumed high tea at the Colonial Inn in Concord Ma. This was the second such costumed event attended by our members. Costumed teas are fast becoming a favorite costumed social event for our chapter. Our first one was at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston, MA in May 2006. It was so well received that we decided to do another one at a different venue. This time we chose the Colonial Inn in historic Concord, MA.

The Colonial Inn is one of the oldest inns in America. The original structure was built in 1716, and the property has been

operating as a hotel since 1889. They host high teas every Friday to Sunday from 3:00 to 5:00. The tea menu offered an assortment of fine English, Chinese and Indian teas served in elegant bone china tea cups. The menu also included homemade tea scones served with Devonshire cream, preserves and whipped butter, an assortment of specialty sandwiches, fresh berries with whipped cream and a panache of pastries and English toffee.

Those attending were encouraged to wear a costume. Members arrived costumed in period costumes representing medieval, colonial and Regency styles. The event was coordinated by Pat Vandenberg. In attendance were Ann Catelli, Pat Vandenberg, Allan Kent, Sue Brown, Doug Ray, Stephanie and Rich Fine, Susan Smith, Jill and Don Eastlake and Jill's sister Betty.

We had such a good time we have already planned another costumed tea to be held at the home of Sue Brown and Doug Ray in late September. Plenty to time to construct the next costume!

The Armed Costumers' Guild:

A Brief History and Introduction

by Henry Osier, Règle Mystique des Balles et du Drap

Back in my early days of being a science-fiction fan, I discovered that costuming had its own entire subgroup. But before that, I was into firearms. Naturally, one of my first entries was a Cowboy. Yeah, not science fiction, but I saw my SCA friends running around in their garb, so, why not.

Fast forward many years. Back at CC23 in Utah, Lisa Ashton and I headed over to the Browning Firearms Museum. She was in a lovely Victorian ensemble, I was dressed like Rough Rider Teddy Roosevelt. When we got back and told folks where we went, I was surprised at the number of people who said that they wished they had gone with us. That weekend, I formed the ICG Gun Club. During the next year, I would occasionally send around weird stuff I found on eBay.

At CC24, I told Nora Mai about us. She said we could not use that name. Ninety minutes later, I had a new name. The Armed Costumers' Guild. "We like costumes. We like armaments. If they happen to be from the same period. great! If not, that's great, too!" One of our founding members suggested that when we get enough members, we petition to become a fully recognized Chapter.

At CC25 this year, we went into the meeting with 13 members, 6 of which were primary members and not a member of another Chapter. Over the weekend, the ACG swelled to 35 members.

So, we, the armed but well dressed, say hello to all our Costume Brothers and Sisters.

Next Month: How to Spot ACG Members



**“Gosh, Percival, will you just look at all those numbers!”
 “Good thing we have Bruce around to explain them to us, Muffin.”**

<u>BALANCE SHEET (4/30/07)</u>		<u>SURPLUS AND LOSS BUDGET V. ACTUAL</u>			
ASSETS		INCOME			
Current Assets		Earned Revenues	Jan-April 07	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Checking/Savings	\$7,780.18	Advertising	\$185.00	\$100.00	\$85.00
Accounts Receivable	\$28.00	Membership	\$900.00	\$687.00	\$213.00
Total Current Assets	\$7,808.18	Interest	\$.17		\$.17
TOTAL ASSETS	\$7,808.18	Total Earned Revenues	\$1,085.17	\$787.00	\$298.17
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		Contributed Support			
Equity		Archives	\$800.00	\$80.00	<\$720.00>
Opening Balance (May 2004)	\$4,285.81	General Funds	\$14.00	\$00.00	<\$14.00>
Retained Earnings	\$2,329.28	Total Contributed Support	\$814.00	\$80.00	<\$734.00>
Net Income	\$1,193.09	TOTAL INCOME	\$1,899.17	\$867.00	\$1,032.17
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$7,808.18	EXPENSES			
		Business Expenses			
		Archives	\$00.00	\$300.00	<\$300.00>
		Awards	\$52.00	\$150.00	<\$98.00>
		Bank Fees	\$26.00		
		Website	\$22.48	\$22.47	\$.01
		Total Business Expenses	\$100.48	\$472.47	<\$371.99>
		Non-Personal Expenses			
		Printing and Reproduction	\$303.74	\$252.00	\$51.74
		Postage and Delivery	\$106.21	\$113.00	<\$6.79>
		Supplies	\$35.65	\$19.00	\$16.65
		Licenses and Permits	\$160.00	\$160.00	\$0.00
		Total Non-Personal Expenses	\$605.60	\$544.00	\$61.60
		TOTAL EXPENSES	\$706.08	\$1,016.47	<\$310.39>
		NET INCOME	\$1,193.09	<\$149.47>	\$1,342.56



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HELP WANTED

In Search of an Assistant/Successor

By Jeff Morris

As you might have heard, this is going to be my final year as ICG Webmaster. The official announcement was made at the Annual Meeting at CC25. It was suggested at that time that I find someone to assist with the duties with a long-term view of that person taking over after CC26 next year.

This of course leads into the question of just what it is a Webmaster does. Basically, the job falls into two categories: maintaining the website and overseeing the Guild's mailing lists. Of these, the first is the more labor-intensive, but the latter usually results in the bigger headaches.

The website duties are pretty straightforward:

- ★ Obtain and post content for the site in a timely manner
- ★ Maintain pages on the site (dead links, errors, etc., up-to-date information)
- ★ Oversee software packages used by the ICG (Gallery and so on)
- ★ Set policies and guidelines for material posted to the site
- ★ Beat the crap out of punks who try to hack the site

The position requires a working knowledge of HTML and File Transfer Protocol (FTP), as well as expertise with tools in those areas. I currently use Textpad to create and update the web pages (www.textpad.com), and SmartFTP to post pages to the server (www.smartftp.com), but these are far from the only available options.

In addition to the website work, the ICG Webmaster also oversees the communication processes for the Guild. Right now that consists of managing the ICG-D and ICG-BOD mailing lists, but can include message boards, IRC chats, LiveJournal/MySpace communities or other channels. Familiarity with these forums and programs would be a definite plus.

Communication duties fall under these categories:

- ★ Manage the ICG mailing lists (ICG-D, ICG-BOD, others as needed)
- ★ Assign and oversee moderators for forums
- ★ Set and enforce forum policies
- ★ Determine/configure web communication processes for Guild
- ★ And of course, the Webmaster answers questions, fixes things, and does little things that the President and/or the Board needs him/her to do from time to time.

So that's in a nutshell what I do (or try to do) for the ICG day in/day out. I'm looking for someone to help out and learn the ropes over the next year, at which time I will hand over the reins to that lucky person and ride off into the sunset. It can be a frustrating and time-consuming position, but it's a good way to help the Guild out and can be very rewarding in its own way.

If you are interested in the position, feel free to contact me at icgwebguy@costume.org and we'll talk.

We at the International Costumers Guild

Are so pleased to announce

the formation of

Two Bouncing New ICG Chapters!

The Middle Tennessee Costumers' Guild
(President, Dennyse M. Hammen)

and

The Armed Costumers Guild
(President, Henry Osier)

Welcome!!!!

OH, THERE YOU ARE!
List of ICG Chapters and Chapter Representatives

Armed Costumers Guild**ACG**

2705 North Shepard Avenue
 Milwaukee, WI 53211
 ICG Board Representative: Henry Osier

Beyond Reality Costumers Guild**BRCG**

650 NW 76th St
 Seattle, WA 98117-4044
<http://www.brcg.org/>
 Contact: Vicki Glover
 ICG Board Representative: Kate McClure

Chicagoland Costumers Guild**The Chicago M.O.B.**

c/o Barbara Wright
 1926 N. Maple Avenue
 Arlington Heights, IL 60004
<http://chicostume.org>
 Contact: Barbara Wright
 ICG Board Representative: Val Roberts

Costumer's Guild of Western Pennsylvania

1619 Beechwood Blvd
 Pittsburgh, PA 15217
 Contact: Igor Roussanoff
 ICG Board Representative: Igor Roussanoff

Dallas/Ft. Worth Costumers Guild

c/o Maggie Smith
 5925 Forest Lane, Suite 505
 Dallas, TX 75230
<http://www.dfwcg.org>
 Contact: Jennifer Thompson
 ICG Board Representative: Jennifer Thompson

Fibre Fantasy Artists of Canada

c/o Dawn McKechnie
 2001 Bonnymede Drive
 Suite 148, Building 2
 Mississauga, ON L5J 4H8
 Canada
 Contact: Dawn McKechnie
 ICG Board Representative: Dawn McKechnie

The Greater Columbia Fantasy Costumer's Guild**GCFCG**

Post Office Box 683
 Columbia, MD 21045
 Contact: gcfcg@yahoo.com
 ICG Board Representative: Ann Hamilton

The Greater Delaware Valley Costumers' Guild

c/o Sandy Swank Chapter President
 246 West Upsal St F-303
 Philadelphia, PA 19119-3229
<http://dvcg.bravehost.com/>
 Contact: Sandy Swank
 ICG Board Representative: Sandy Swank

Middle Tennessee Costumers Guild

7439 Highway 70 South #254
 Nashville, TN 37221
 Contact: Dennyse Hammen
 ICG Board Representative: Dennyse Hammen

NJ/NY Costumers' Guild - Sick Pups

c/o Elaine Mami
 85 West McClellan Avenue
 Livingston, NJ 07039
<http://www.sickpups.or/>
 Contact: Elaine Mami
 ICG Board Representative: Dora Buck

Northern Lights Costumers Guild

c/o Susan Smith
 1 Glen Meadow Road
 Franklin, MA 02038
<http://www.northernlights.pothole.com/>
 Contact: Susan Smith
 ICG Board Representative: Janice Dallas

The St. Louis Costumers Guild**The St Louis Ubiquitous Tailoring Society (SLUTS)**

c/o Bruce Mai
 7835 Milan
 University City, MO 63130
<http://www.casamai.com/slcg/index.html>
 Contact: Bruce Mai
 ICG Board Representative: Bruce Mai

Silicon Web Costumers Guild,**The Virtual Costumers Guild**

c/o Carole Parker
 630 Barnsley Way
 Sunnyvale, CA 94087
<http://www.siwcostumers.org/>
 Contact: Carole Parker
 ICG Board Representative: Aurora Celeste

The Southeastern Costumers' Society**"The SECS Fiends"**

c/o Michelle Belle Isle
 336 Jordan Drive
 Tucker, GA 30084
<http://www.secsfiends.org/>
 Contact: Marissa Wronka
 ICG Board Representative: Marissa Wronka

Southwest Costumers Guild (SWCG)

PO Box 39504
 Phoenix, AZ 85069-9504
<http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org/>
 Contact: Randall Whitlock
 ICG Board Representative: Lyn Jeppesen

Utah Costumers' Guild - The Sew-and-Sewzz (UCG)

289 W. Hidden Hollow Drive
 Orem, UT 84058-7552
 Contact: utahguild@aol.com

