



THE ICG NEWSLETTER

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COSTUMERS' GUILD, INC.
A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

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The International Costumers' Guild, Inc. (ICG), is an affiliation of amateur, hobbyist, and professional costumers dedicated to the promotion and education of costuming as an art form in all its aspects.

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NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

The ICG board authorized an online edition as well as a printed edition of the newsletter. Your newsletter delivery preference is part of your ICG membership record. If you want to change or verify your delivery preference, contact your local chapter. As editor, I rely on these records to determine who receives a newsletter, and by what means of delivery.

Members who have an e-mail address on record will be notified when a new online edition is available. Those who receive the print edition are also welcome to experience the online edition by going to <http://www.costume.org/currentnewsletter>. When prompted, enter the user name "newsletter" and the issue password "diamond"

Back issues of the ICG newsletter are available online for the entire costuming community to enjoy. Contact the newsletter editor to report problems or comment on the newsletter. If your postal or e-mail address changes, notify your local chapter promptly, or send your updated information to icg-membership-corrections@costume.org. Returned copies of the print edition will generally not be re-mailed.

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Betsy Delaney, Philip Gust, Carole Parker, Jeanine Swick and Randall Whitlock.

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• ICG WebSite: <http://www.costume.org/>

• Yahoo! Groups:

- ICG-D@yahoogroups.comGeneral Discussion
- ICG-BOD@yahoogroups.com ..Board and Officers Discussion
- ICG-TW@yahoogroups.comTech and Web Discussion
- ICG-Pub@yahoogroups.comPublication Discussion

ICG-D is open to everyone, including non-members. Everyone can read message archives of the other groups, but only invited members can submit messages.

ICG MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Your ICG membership benefits include voting rights and a subscription to this newsletter. Chapters that fail to report their members and submit their dues run the risk of being deactivated. Members of deactivated chapters who wish to participate in activities as ICG members must join an active chapter of the ICG. Members of Chapters that have 'expired,' but are in good standing, are temporarily in the 'T-chapter,' a sort of limbo for members 'between chapters.'

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ONLINE SUBMISSIONS (GUIDELINES APPLY TO ADVERTISING ALSO)

Submit copy as rtf, doc, .docx or .txt files, please. All current graphics formats are acceptable.

HARDCOPY SUBMISSION (IF ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY)

Send by snail mail to the ICG Newsletter address below. We reserve the right to retain all hard copy unless accompanied by a SASE.

SUBMISSION/ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Deadline to receive materials or advertising for print is the FIFTEENTH of the month prior to publication. :

- Issue 1 – January/February 15 December
- Issue 2 – March/April 15 February
- Issue 3 – May/June 15 April
- Issue 4 – July/August 15 June
- Issue 5 – September/October 15 August
- Issue 6 – November/December 15 October

ADVERTISING RATES

Rates are per issue. Please make payment to the ICG, Inc. and send with advertising copy to the ICG Newsletter Editor. Ads received without payment will not be published. Advertising revenues help defray the cost of mailing the newsletter. Additional proceeds benefit the ICG.

AD SIZE	MEMBER RATES	NON-MEMBER RATES
Full Page (4" x 7")	\$30	\$60
Half-Page (4" x 3.5")	\$20	\$40
Quarter Page (2" x 3.5")	\$10	\$20
Classified Ads	Free	\$0. 50/word

ICG NEWSLETTER

International Costumers' Guild, Inc. Newsletter, March/April 2012.

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International Costumers' Guild, Inc.
 c/o Patrick J. O'Connor, Editor
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Please send corrections to icg-newsletter@costume.org.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ANN CATELLI

The Annual Meeting is coming up soon! Elections are to be held, as they are every year. The offices are President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. Nominations for all offices are most welcome. I will not be running for president at the Annual Meeting.

We currently have candidates for:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer

We need candidates for both secretarial offices:

- Corresponding Secretary
- Recording Secretary

We also need two dedicated members to serve in positions that are critical to our organization:

- Newsletter Editor
- Webmaster

Finally, we need several members to serve on committees that provide guidance to our organization:

- Communications and Public Relations
- Finance and Budget
- Publications
- Technology and the Web

Please consider volunteering. Just a small investment of your time will yield big dividends for our costuming community. You really *can* make a difference!

Corresponding Secretary

The Corresponding Secretary is responsible for all official internal and external correspondence on behalf of the ICG. The Corresponding Secretary also maintains a calendar of ICG deadlines, including membership due dates, annual submissions from chapters, and proxy submissions for membership meetings. The Corresponding Secretary is a member of the Board of Directors and the Communications and Public Relations Committee. Good communications skills are important.

This an elected position, with a one-year term.

Recording Secretary

The Recording Secretary maintains the official records of the ICG, including its By-Laws, Standing Rules, and meeting minutes, and makes them available to the membership. The Recording Secretary also maintains a list of the committees, their members, and the expiration dates of their appointments. The Recording Secretary is a member of the Board of Directors. Good record-keeping skills are important.

This an elected position, with a one-year term.

Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter Editor publishes the ICG Newsletter. The ICG Newsletter includes a summary of official ICG business and reports. It also offers updates on Chapters activities and events, as well as feature articles about costuming. The Newsletter Editor stays in touch with costumers and chapters, and assists members to publish articles of interest to the community. The Newsletter Editor is a member of the Publications and the Technology and Web Committees.

Knowledge of document editing and formatting programs such as Microsoft Word and simple image editing programs is important. Past experience with editing a newsletter, or even a high school yearbook or newspaper is very useful.

This is an appointed position with no fixed term.

Webmaster

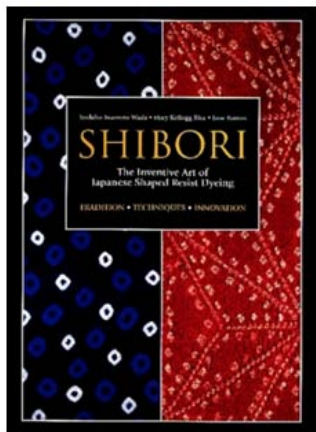
The Webmaster maintains and improves the ICG website. The website includes announcements, copies of all official ICG documents and financial reports, the ICG Newsletter, the Pat & Peggy Kennedy Memorial Archives, and a links to the ICG Gallery. It also includes costuming information such as convention schedules and links to useful costuming resources. The Webmaster is a member of the Technology and Web Committee.

Basic knowledge of creating and editing HTML pages, and simple image editing programs is important. Past experience with designing and maintaining a personal website or one for a non-profit organization is very useful.

This is an appointed position with no fixed term.

NOW IN PAPERBACK!
BY KATHE GUST

Two excellent and very expensive books have finally been released in paperback.



Shibori: The Inventive Art of Japanese Shaped Resist Dyeing by Yoshiko Iwamoto Wada, Mary Kellogg Rice and Jane Barton (Feb 21, 2012) List Price: \$48.00 Amazon \$29.36 and free shipping.

There are only a handful of books on traditional Shibori in English. Yoshiko Wada covers the scope of Shibori, its history, artists and techniques with expertise and beautiful photos. Beautiful enough for a coffee table book, it also covers techniques with clear, detailed instructions and diagrams. Whether you want to try this craft or simply enjoy the art of beautiful textiles, this book is the one you must have for Shibori dyeing. The many illustrations of designs and textiles are in color plus black and white.



What Clothes Reveal: The Language of Clothing in Colonial and Federal America

by Linda Baumgarten (Feb 28, 2012) List price \$45.00 Amazon \$34.20 and free shipping.

The book consists of six chapters and a conclusion segment. So much information is included that the reader can be interested in it on many levels. It will be particularly interesting to those who recreate garb of the period, as it contains detailed information on construction and materials; however, even someone with scant knowledge of costume & history will find it an engaging book.

The book does a marvelous job not only of explaining how clothing was crafted, but how it was used as a symbol of status, from the slave to the wealthy. While not intended to be the minute examination of garments in her "Costume Close-up: Clothing Construction and Pattern, 1750-1790," it is an important companion volume.

The illustrations feature photos of 18th- and early-19th-century garments from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation collection. Many are in color.

ARCHIVE ARTICLE # 6
BY BRUCE & NORA MAI

We hope you've had a chance to enjoy some of our hobby's history that we're making more accessible via the International Costumers Gallery and the Road Shows. So much more work needs to be done - it will be years before the bulk of the photographic images are online. Perhaps you've thought you'd like to help in some way, but didn't know how. Here are some suggestions:

Promotion

The simplest way you can help is to promote the Pat & Peggy Kennedy Memorial Library – especially the Gallery. It is the single most effective tool for promoting costuming and the ICG. Tell your friends, fellow costumers not associated with the Guild, parents, kids, relatives, etc. If we have photos of you (and if we don't, chances are we just haven't had time to put them up yet), direct them to our site. It raises awareness of our hobby and, hopefully, people will tell others they know about it. On the Guild Chapter level, you can create an account and display photos of your group's activities there (free of charge, by the way). Mention the Library on other costuming forums, mailing lists, etc.

Donations

You can donate to the Archives in numerous ways. If you have costume pictures you've taken, we'd love to have them. Get the word out to photographers and videographers who attend conventions. Put them in touch with us, or encourage them to donate. If you or someone else doesn't want to donate, but would be willing to let us copy materials, we have the equipment to digitally convert them and give back a digital copy in return. We can handle just about any format of photos, slides or video. Were you a participant in a masquerade? Many conventions only distribute video recordings of their masquerade to their participants. If you can convince the Powers That Be to donate a copy, we would be very grateful.

Another way you can contribute to the Archives is to actually donate money. Currently, a portion of your membership dues goes to funding Archive activities. Those dues have helped in acquiring new materials, blank media, website hosting and Road Show media players. Additional money given generously by individual members has allowed us to track down more visual material for the Library that has been for sale on the Internet.

Data

Perhaps the biggest need we have is for information. We can barely keep up with the amount of video and photos that we have to digitize and share. At the moment, we can only add info to the IC Gallery, and there are many holes to fill. Eventually, we would like to build a database people can search. If you have data about a photo on the Gallery (identification, spelling corrections, awards, etc.), you can send it to us via email. Alternatively, we can set you up with an account, so that you can leave comments on the Gallery photos.

As part of the Gallery effort, we're still working on getting the Costuming Oral History project off the ground. If you have an interesting story about your costume regarding its construction, interactions with an audience member, a judge, a celebrity, etc., we want to hear it.

Finally, we need winners lists or running order documents from masquerades. These lists help when there is a question about a person in a photo, presentation title, making sure we have all the entries in a masquerade accounted for, plus providing a complete event history.

You can help out in numerous ways to help us help promote costuming – it's all a matter of how much you want to get involved. We welcome any and all suggestions.

IF YOU ARE NOT ATTENDING THE ANNUAL ICG MEETING IN TEMPE, AZ:

PROXY FORM: Copy and give to a member who is attending CC 30 in Arizona.

■ *This Proxy Statement is for ICG members who will not be attending the Annual Meeting at Costume-Con. If you want to vote, complete the form and give it to someone who will be attending.*

International Costumers' Guild 2012 Annual Meeting Proxy Assignment Form

On this _____ day of _____, 2012, I, _____, assign my vote to _____,

and authorize the above-named member of the International Costumers' Guild, belonging to _____ Chapter, to represent me in all business coming before the 2012 Annual Meeting of the International Costumers' Guild.

Assignee Name*: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: ZIP/Postal Code: _____

Assigner Name**: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: ZIP/Postal Code: _____

Signature: _____

*Who you are authorizing to vote on your behalf. **Your name.

Your Vote Counts! Check the ICG Web Site/ Yahoo Group for latest slate of Officers

DIGITAL IMAGES – THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY

PATRICK O'CONNOR, CHICAGOLAND COSTUMERS' GUILD

BASED ON A PRESENTATION BY BILL HIGGINS ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH-CAPRICON XXXI SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION NEAR CHICAGO.

Like many fans of science fiction, I attend a few local conventions every year. One of the regular contributors on science panels in the Chicagoland area is Bill Higgins, who is a physicist at Fermi National Accelerator Lab in Batavia, Illinois. Attending one of the science panels at this year's Capricon on a Sunday morning, my wife and I expected an update on recent developments in particle physics, space flight technology, or the latest word on superluminal neutrinos. Instead, Bill did a delightful presentation on his search for a remarkable piece of fabric.

This one was a woven portrait of a weaver whose inventions figured significantly in the history of computer technology. As it happens, there is an interesting overlap between the history of textile weaving machinery and data processing equipment.

Images today – particularly those in the current issue of the ICG Newsletter – are made of a digital pattern of dots called pixels stored in binary format in machine-readable documents called image files. Most of us think of this as a relatively recent development.

Wrong. They were first invented in textile form. That's right—fabric!

Binary-based digital images with 1,200 dot-per-inch resolution and a total pixel count over 20 megapixels (!) actually pre-date micro-based digital equipment, not by several years, but by two CENTURIES. These images still exist, and they were produced out of silk—by weaving looms.

In the 1700's, the French city of Lyon was arguably the center of the master-weaving industry in Europe. A number of inventors there developed and elaborated weaving mechanisms that could be programmed—that is, machines that could be directed by machine-readable documents to select which threads would appear on the upper surface of woven cloth with each pass of the loom's shuttle. The most successful of these designs was built by Joseph-Marie Jacquard. That his automated weaving loom drew the attention, and approval, of Napoleon Bonaparte two hundred years ago probably assured this success, but the idea had been around for a while. Although there was a backlash—one of the earliest examples of workers revolting against the technology that threatened to automate them out of a career—the support of the Emperor himself ensured that Jacquard's technology did not fall victim to another dark age.

The information that made identical, thread-perfect replicas of elaborate weaving patterns possible was the punch card. In Jacquard's machine, these were punched with holes that selected the threads to be shown on the top of the fabric. By the nature of weaving, this operation for patterns is binary. Each thread is either present or absent on the visible surface of the fabric. So, if intricate patterns in woven cloth resemble a digital display, the reason is that they ARE a digital display.



A LA MÉMOIRE DE J. M. JACQUARD.

One of Jacquard's successors who was successful using this kind of programmable loom was Michel-Marie Carquillat. He did a masterful portrait of his mentor using Jacquard's technology.

One of these Carquillat portraits, Mr. Higgins told us, had been in the possession of Charles Babbage, the would-be Victorian inventor of the digital computer. Inspired by the technical skill shown in this portrait, he planned to use punched cards like Jacquard's to program his steam-powered mechanical computer, the Analytical Engine, but this was never completed.

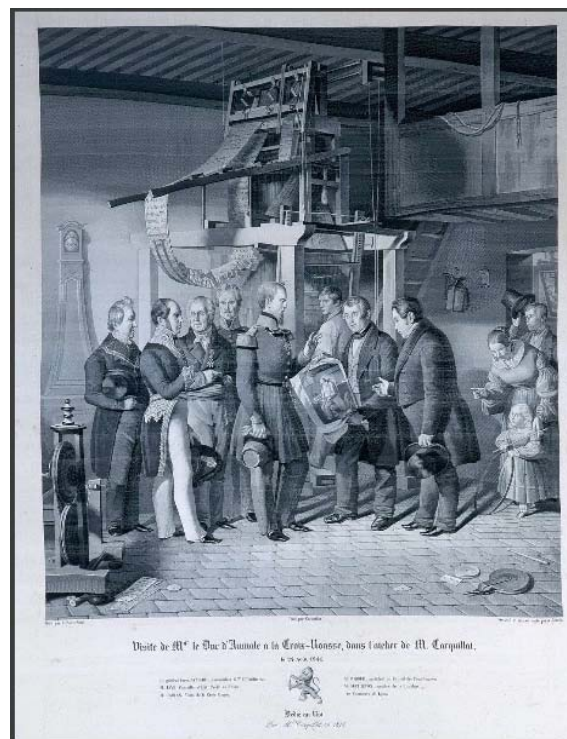
Others, like Dr. Herman Hollerith, who built less ambitious tabulating

machines and whose company eventually became IBM, used variations on Jacquard's punch-card technology to do data processing. By the 1890's, the cards with holes in them, and machines for reading the data thereon, were in use for the number-crunching done on the U. S. Federal Census.

However, Higgins reported that he was looking for a specific silk portrait. This piece of silk contained not only the image of Mr. Jacquard, but also the weaver himself, Carquillat, and the machine which was used to produce its own image:

While visiting relatives in Delaware, and having heard that there was an example of this textile masterpiece in the University of Delaware Library, Higgins was struggling to explain to the librarian that what he wanted to see in the collection was not a book, and what it was, he looked over the librarian's head and saw it hanging on the wall in a frame just next to the room where the librarian was...

Voila!



Here we see the weaving loom being demonstrated for a royal guest, le Duc d'Aumale, son of French King Louis-Philippe, in August of 1841.

A more detailed look at this woven picture in black and white silk threads shows the master weaver Carquillat presenting a silk portrait of Jacquard to the Duke just completed by the machine behind the guests. The stack of punched-cards, roped together by cords, is seen above and to the left of the Duke, arranged for feeding into the machine to produce another replica of that portrait. The image was done using 24,000 punched cards containing 1000 hole positions (pixels) per card, thus—it is a 24-megapixel black-and-white portrait.



RECENT NEWSLETTER AND EZINE UPDATES



Cactus Needles

Newsletter of the Southwest Costumers Guild

Volume 19, Number 4 – April 2012
 Southwest Costumers Guild, PO Box 39504, Phoenix AZ 85069
<http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org/>

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 Vice President Mike Contos
 Treasurer Margaret Grady
 Secretary Sharan Hoyle
 Editor/Webmaster Randall Whitlock
 Archivist Jean Palmer

Cactus Needles is published monthly, and is available to the SWCG members and the entire costuming community upon publication.

<http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org/>

THE VIRTUAL COSTUMER, Volume 9 Issue 4, November 2011
 Silicon Web Costumers' Guild (SiW)

As "clothes make the man" they also define the heroes and villains of history, literature and our own imaginations. Includes Real Life Costumed Crusaders, making the original Godzilla costume, and a lesson on costuming for heroes and villains.



This "community issue" is available to the entire costuming community. SiW members can read the most recent "Americana" issue of VC three months in advance.

http://www.siwcostumers.org/vc_contents.html#v9_i4

YIPE!, Volume 3, Issue 10, October 2011

A privately published costuming ezine



Do you love video games? No? Boy, this isn't the issue for you, then... We've got mockery of WoWers, Kevin's words with an 8-bit video game priestess, random shots of Team Fortress 2 cosplayers, Mette's in-depth examination of the evolution of video games and how that's affected video game costuming, 10 questions for Lance Ikegawa (the most impressive video game costumer/cosplayer we've ever seen)— every Achievement on the dashboard!

YIPE! Volume 3, Issue 10, "Don't Hate the Cosplayer, Hate the Game," is now available to the entire costuming community.

<http://www.yipezine.com/>

Does your chapter publish a newsletter? Is there a costuming ezine that would be of interest to readers? Send your recommendations to:
icg-newsletter@costume.org.

If your ICG chapter doesn't have a newsletter but would like to, the Publications Committee can help you get started. To learn more, drop a note to:
icg-pubscommittee@costume.org.