



International Costumers' Guild

President's Message

June 11, 2000

Hi to all –

This month, I'm reporting on the Annual Meeting and covering a couple of other items. I'll take the latter up first.

Lifetime Achievement Award.

I am delighted to report that the Board of Directors has conferred the International Costumers' Guild's 2000 Lifetime Achievement Award on **Sandy and Pierre Pettinger** for their contribution to the costuming community. Sandy and Pierre are master costumers; they've been costuming actively at least since the early 80s. They were among the founders of the Midwest Costumers' Guild and co-chaired Costume-Con 10. They have actively taught other costumers their knowledge and skills for 20 years.

Costume Guild UK.

CGUK has a new mailing address:

Costume Guild UK
c/o Marion Byott (Membership Secretary/Treasurer)
64 Frith Road
Croydon CR0 1TA
UNITED KINGDOM

2000 Annual Meeting.

About 25 members attended the Annual Meeting on May 29, in Hartford, Connecticut. This report does not follow the agenda strictly.

After reviewing, correcting, and approving the minutes of the 1999 meeting, the members received the reports of the Guild's officers and committees. I've enclosed a copy of the President's Report for 1999-2000.

Membership and Finances. On behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee, the Treasurer reported that the number of ICG members reported by the chapters stood at 508 as of May 19th. (I've enclosed a copy of the membership report.) This was a 56 percent drop in reported members since the 1999 meeting. Much of the drop was caused by two large chapters that did not report all (or in one case, any) members. Consequently, for 1999 the Corporation's general account ran a deficit of \$285.16, and for the first half of 2000, a further deficit of \$925.11. The deficit was caused largely by a budget that assumed 1,000 members when only 508 members were reported. I have enclosed the 1999 and 2000 statements of income and expenditure and the balance sheet as of May 29, 2000. Please see the President's Report for 1999-2000 for a further discussion of our financial situation.

For 2000 and 2001, The Board of Directors has adopted austere budgets, as recommended by the Budget and Finance Committee. They were reported to the members. (I'm now paying for my President's Messages out of my own pocket, for example. The Webmaster is continuing to pay for the website out of his pocket.) However, both budgets project continued deficits. The budgets for 2000 and 2001 will be posted on the web site.

At this time, the Corporation is still solvent. However, if we continue to post deficits, that will change. Several chapters owe unpaid dues, however, and payment will help to ameliorate the financial picture. Nevertheless, in my opinion the only way for the International Costumers' Guild to return to the surplus of revenues over expenditures that we enjoyed in 1998 is to grow into it. The budget for this year is based on 600 members. That for 2001 assumes a 10 percent membership growth, to 660. Virtually all continuing expenditures will be associated with services that will retain the present membership and support efforts to attract new members.

There having been no communication from the South Bay Costumers' Guild for over 12 months, the Treasurer was directed to send the chapter's president by certified U.S. Mail a warning that the chapter will be dissolved unless it submits its dues and membership lists, with a copy to the chapter treasurer.

The Costumer's Quarterly. The Editor reported that the next issue would be ready at the printer on June 1st. As of today, copies are in the post. The 1999-2000 President's Report discusses the *Quarterly's* current circumstances.

Special Committee on Membership (Dina Flockhart, Darla Kruger, Brenna Sharp, Sharon Trembley, and Ken Warren). **Ken Warren** reported for the special committee that I appointed to recommend action by the members on a motion made at the 1999 meeting that had been tabled to this meeting. The motion, made by John Syms and seconded by Ken Warren, was "To separate ICG membership and Chapter membership, ICG membership to be overseen by the Board of Directors." On the committee's behalf, Ken pointed out that adoption of the motion would sever all ties between the ICG and its chapters; therefore, the committee unanimously recommended that the motion be defeated. **As the first item under Old Business, the members defeated the motion unanimously.**

At the committee's recommendation, the members created a new staff position of "Chapter Liaison." The purpose of the position is to improve communication between the chapter and the ICG. (Its nickname is either Guido or Moishe.) The position reports to the Board of Directors. It was established only for one year; if it succeeds, it may be made permanent. With the Board of Directors' concurrence, I appointed **Darla Kruger** as Chapter Liaison. Darla is the current president of Costumer's Guild West and this year's dean of CGW's Costume College.

Chapters will be hearing from her. They may reach her by e-mail at devinedwk@aol.com

Fundraising. Under New Business, the members adopted a motion by Betsy Delaney to create a standing Fundraising Committee. The Board directed me to request interested members with some fundraising experience to submit resumes to me. Members interested in improving the ICG's revenues should send resumes or statements of their fundraising experience to me at the address at the end of this message.

Officers. The members selected the following officers for 2000-01 and the Board of Directors duly elected them to their posts:

<u>President:</u>	Byron P. Connell
<u>Vice-President:</u>	Kenneth T. Warren
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Sharon Trembley
<u>Corresponding Secretary:</u>	Jess Miller
<u>Recording Secretary:</u>	Dora Buck

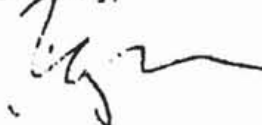
The members thanked Steve Swope for his work as Recording Secretary.

Costume-Con 18. The members voted their thanks to the Costume-Con 18 committee for making our meeting room available for an extra hour beyond our scheduled time of adjournment by moving to another location the program item scheduled in the room for that time. We specifically extended our thanks to Robert Sacks, the CC 18 program coordinator, for relocating the program item.

Of course, this is just a brief summary of the Annual Meeting. The complete draft minutes will be distributed as soon as Steve completes them.

Members may reach me by e-mail at either bconnell@nysed.gov (work) or BP.Connell@worldnet.att.net (home), or by regular post at 50 Dove Street, Albany, NY 12210-1811, USA.

Sincerely,



Byron P. Connell, President
International Costumers' Guild

Enclosures