

ICG NEWSLETTER ANNUAL REPORT

**Submitted by Denisen Hartlove
to Nora Mai, ICG President**

Of late on the ICG-D list, the question has been raised as to the benefits of ICG membership. Since taking the position of editor of the ICG Newsletter last October, the ICG newsletter team of editors, writers and mailing party attendees has worked hard to provide a product that can be viewed as one of those benefits.

In managing the ICG newsletter, I have actively sought writers of articles of interest to the ICG membership, whether the members be interested in science fiction, fantasy, historical, anime, reproduction or any other types of costumes. Some of the articles published have included a review of a book on the Star Wars costumes, the completion of a reprint of Karen Dick's article on adhesives which included extensive reference tables, an article along with photos on cosplay costuming, an article which included input from many competition-minded costumers on masquerade techniques, and several columns from the director of this year's WorldCon regarding his masquerade and what to expect at same. Future hoped-for articles include costuming using the Internet, costuming with and for children, and possibly an article or two on costuming with dolls.

In addition to articles, the newsletter has brought in advertising revenues in order to offset the cost to the organization of printing the newsletter. Advertisers have included Renaissance Fabrics and L.A.con IV. I have also worked with service providers (e.g., local copy companies and the Post Office) to keep publication costs as low as possible while still providing a quality product. Attached to this memo is a sheet showing the costs and revenues of the newsletter from the issue that went out in December 2005 to date. Future costs are expected to increase slightly, with copy costs rising from \$.03 to up to \$.05 per page. Postage rates also are expected to rise in the next year, although it's not clear how much. The newsletter budget as proposed this year is higher than the costs have been for the last three issues as a result, but lower than the amount estimated in previous budgets in an effort to keep the ICG's budget within current revenues. No costs are expended at this time in payment for articles, images, or food and beverage for mailing parties, and no costs are included in this year's budget for same either.

I'd like to take a moment to publicly thank the ICG Editorial Board, as well as all of those who have submitted articles for the newsletter and those hardy souls who've shown up for newsletter mailing parties. Thus far, I feel that we as a group have worked hard and been successful in publishing a great newsletter, and I'm looking forward to continuing to labor in that direction to the overall benefit of the International Costumers Guild.

Thank you for your time.

Denisen Hartlove, Newsletter Editor
International Costumers Guild, Inc.