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International Costumers' Guild

www.costume.org
EDITOR’S NOTE

Well folks, here it is, the year 1999, in one issue. Not as big as I planned, but for all the help we are getting, very little was able to be included in this issue. It is still a big undertaking, which I hope never to have to do again.

This four part issue combined was made harder due to a lack of material to use, but as always the team at 85 W. McClellan Ave. came through. It seems strange that no one else visited any conventions other than the few mentioned, and that so few attended them.

So once again, thank you to those that helped and, to the rest be afraid because next quarterly will hold the sum total of your efforts.

As you check through this issue(s) please stop by the memorial section. Over the last few years we have lost several costumers, whom in their own way made this hobby fun. I knew all of those honored here and it saddened me to receive the notices of their passing.

There are several people I would like to thank, but I know that if I tried to name the names I would forget someone. But as you read through this issue look at the names and ask why you are not there, and if they found the time, why didn’t you.

Next, I would like to say WELL DONE to the Mais for their work on the Annual. I know how hard they had to work to produce it. And how hard and forgotten being the editor of anything is.

Now for my personal complaint; I have been doing the Archives since before it was, and had only one complaint over the years... No help, and understand I am NOT talking money. The guild and its chapters, as well as CC committees, have been right there when I needed funds. They have flattened each hill of money trouble without fuss. But there is still a large problem with getting items (photos and stuff) to be scanned into the Archives. The list of people who have given of their personal photos is very small, not more than a dozen have come forward. And the empty spaces are large, and for some chapters, space is all there is.

The last word, I promise you who have sent in items to the Quarterly may turn to the next article. Since CC-14 I have heard what was wrong with the Quarterly. Time and time again, I heard what needed to be done. I have seen committees formed to help and advise the editor in the duties as they saw it. Then we formed an editorial committee to look at the problems and advise the editor and help with the running of the Quarterly. Well where the HELL are you?? A note, a line, an article would be of great help. As for the rest of you, where are you? You all were there to say how poorly the Quarterly was run and to point the finger of shame at the editors before me, and even me. But as I head for completing my
promise of being up to date, I can’t find you. I find letters saying no more funds, but no articles, no mention of the last issue, no results from the lost and found. Not one word from many of the chapters, even to say hello. This larger Quarterly is ready to roll and the next is started already. If the Quarterly is to stay on time then YOU must help. Don’t look around, don’t tell me how busy you are, don’t say I forgot. Just write. Here is your chance to see it in print, to be known by your fellow costumers as a person of talent and action, or to be known as one of the killers of the Quarterly. The choice is yours.
IN MEMORY

Over the last few years we have lost several members of the costuming community. Some of them having left, are remembered as members of the First Family of Costumers, but some are people we have had a chance to know as friends and teachers.

Three of these people are honored here. Two are members of the list of Lifetime Achievements awards. The third was known to all as one of the best MCs.

The words and thoughts here can't ever show just how much they were respected and loved. Nothing I could add would do any of them justice, but I have to try.

Pat Kennedy was a friend. His name graces the library of the ICG. A great man and always there. Able to walk on stage in front of thousands and be at home. Whether as a contestant or as an MC, he was the best.

Gary Anderson was a hell of a person who I knew on a limited basis, but there is a line from a movie I think of when we talk about him, "He is the kind of a guy that kids want to grown up to be and men wish they were."

And last, but never least, Marjii Ellers. The first time I saw Marjii was in a black and white magazine called Masquerade. She was dressed as the Black Queen and I was stunned. Later I got to meet this most beautiful lady. I read somewhere that beauty is measured by the heart, which made her most beautiful indeed.

The memories here were written for Costume & Masquerade, and are used here without permission because I forgot to call and get it. I hope they understand no harm was intended; however if you guys feel that a sacrifice is needed I volunteer to send either of the other editors listed on the masthead.

If you get a chance, look in the library and enjoy their work. You will be impressed by the work and thought these people produced.

And it is nice to know, if there is an after life, that these three will be there to make sure the masquerade is great to watch and fun to enter.

Carl Mami
The costuming community at large and especially we in the CGW have lost a great lady. Marjii Ellers died at home, July 24, after fighting a recurrence of cancer. She was cremated and her family scattered her ashes "in the mountains she loved so well", according to a letter received by John Hertz from her husband, Frank Ellersieck.

Marjii was a charter member of the Costumer's Guild West, one of the original "Mafia". She contributed to our newsletter, to the Costumer's Quarterly, and shared her expansive knowledge of the art and craft of costuming both formally and informally. We learned from her at panels; we learned from her by observing her work and we learned from her in the countless hallway and room party conversations.

She was the person who defined the term "Hall Costume" for us. "Everyday wear for Alternate Worlds". She taught us to "design (our costumes with) a pocket for the room key, packability and the ability to go to the bathroom in costume". I remember hearing her advise a young novice to "never be ugly", that even the most horrific costumes should be beautiful in its horror. She convinced us that, in competition costuming, to "ignore the judges...your foremost concern is with your costume and how it communicates with the friendly people out there". And for Marjii, the audiences were always friendly. Much of
her work fell into the Science Fiction and Fantasy category. She won Judges Choice in 1972 at LACon with her daring "Black Queen". In the "Masquerade" magazine she commented on the presentation: "A lot of energy and feeling about the role of women as queens, priestesses and goddesses welled up from my subconscious and projected it out to the stunned audience. Those are moments of triumph, when you are the incarnation of a terrifying combination of sex and power." Marjii knew how to move an audience, whether to tear as "The Queen of Air and Darkness" or to laughter as "Father Guido Sarducci" or to grins as the cutest Ice Cream Cone you've ever seen. She had a delicious earthiness, and many of her costumes were quite provocative. (One of her favorite awards was "Best Pussies", given to her at Midamericon by no less than Sally Rand, for a set of cat costumes.) But she had an ability to do and say the most outrageous things in a totally non-offensive way. I remember watching slides with Marjii when a picture of the Black Queen came up. The costume was topless, and Marjii commented that they were pretty perky for a 54 year old! She put the costume on again at CC8 in 1990 at 71, and with great delight, acknowledged that they still looked great!

Marjii as the Black Queen at CC8

She was much honored, not only for her costuming but for her years of service to the Science Fiction fan community as well. She was Fan Guest of Honor at the NasFic in 1987. Big Heart award winner at ConFrancisco in 1993, and as recently as 1997 was recognized at Loscon for her work. I had the delightful privilege of presenting her with the ICG's first Lifetime Achievement Award at Costume-Con 8 in 1990. I was inspired to have the ICG initiate this award in large part from a desire to recognize her contribution to our art form.

But beyond the stunning costumes and the knowledge she shared, Marjii was fun! She was the most welcoming person I knew. Time and again she swept up a newcomer in her wake, introduced him or her to everyone in sight, critiqued costumes in the most helpful way and made that person feel for that moment that they were the most important person in Marjii's universe. And, for that moment, they were.
Marjii inspired so many of us, not only to be better costumers, but by her example, to be better people. She had a smile that lit up the room and a charm that made even the prickliest of fans melt. It is typical of her generosity of spirit that in the past few years, as she battled the cancer, she gave away much of her library, her costumes and so many of her costuming treasures to other costumers.

But I will remember most the gifts of her heart. Every time I worry about taking a risk in my costuming I think of Marjii and the Black Queen. When I write articles or speak on panels, I know I am following in Marjii's path. Every time I go up to a new costumer and try to make them feel welcome and appreciated, I do it because of Marjii's example. And from now on, whenever I sew on a pocket for the room key, I'll grin just a little in her memory.

-Janet

Marjii at CC8's Masquerade as a Strawberry Ice Cream Cone with a Berry Merengue hat.

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Note to the reader: I sat down a couple of times to write about the most recent winner of the ICG’s lifetime achievement award, but memories come back far too intensely. To get this article out in a timely manner for this magazine I am presenting a series of memory and excerpts of articles from “the Gary List”; a chronicle of him, his family and friends during Gary’s last nine months with us. Yes, the seams show, but so does the love. Read and remember.—Cat-

They say that when a king dies, a comet streaks the skies to announce it to the world. What is more fitting tribute to the passing of a techno wizard, than the communications satellite that tumbles in our sky the day of his death?

for Gary, May 20th, 1998

Wednesday afternoon, May 20th, Gary Anderson passed away at home with his wife, Janet, at his side. It was very quiet and easy as his breathing just slowed and then stopped. There was no pain, even at the end. Malcolm Scott tried CPR and then we let him go.

This was the conclusion of a valiant nine-month battle with the deadly rare form of brain cancer, glioblastoma multiforma. He beat all the odds by staying with us as long as he did, giving both family and friends a chance to say good-bye. (We definitely did have some wondrously grand times over the last months.) He leaves behind the brightest joy in his life...his Lady Love, Janet, and four grown children: Maura, Evan, Erik and Dagny and his grandson Jonathan.

He was an RF Engineer, Computer Guru, Filker and Costumer but most of all he was our friend. He was Uncle Gary, Chief Ook-Ook and many more pet names.

His sense of humor, wicked though it could be at times, brought laughter to all of us. Many of us have stories where he sat talking and joking with us long into the night to help brighten our mood and guide us past crisis points. He knew what to say when and how so we could really understand...and when he twitched his wicked eyebrows and cracked his off-the-wall jokes, how would he not lighten our troubles.

He always had time to help us with a crazy project or problem. It might be last minute help on a structure challenge in our wild costume or, more critically, a repair shortly before we were to go on stage. He would help us bring our crashed computers back on line. He had the patience of the Sphinx as he walked us through the steps, even if he’d occasionally stoop low enough to send us searching for the <any> key to hit. When our...
song wasn't quite right, he was there to encourage us to finish it. He could provide just the right rhyme, even if it might be more that a little bit warped. He always shared himself and made us feel better about ourselves.

He was well-known as the founder (Big Chief) of the Ook-Ooks — our own troop of folks who tote, lift, lug, tape, glue and otherwise get stuff where it is needed to be and in the shape it needs to be in. Leading his crew of Ooks, he created a tradition of jokers, gentlemen and helpers. He worked wonders at masquerades and could get a union crew to eat out of his pocket and beg for more. Many a masquerade would not have run as smoothly without his help. His Ooks made heavy work disappear in minutes and entertained at the same time. He is notorious as the inventor of the Ook slogan “strong like bull; smart like tractor, smooth like brick, smell like goat!” to the bewilderment of the uninitiated but the smiles of the hordes.

At Costume Con 16 in St. Louis this year, Gary Anderson was awarded the ICG’s Lifetime Achievement Award. This is given in recognition for contributions made to the costuming community over the course of many years. He had been a costumer, teacher, organizer and techno-wizard who had shared his knowledge with the international costuming community. Here is but a summary of his contributions.

Gary had served the ICG and the costumers in many ways. He had been ICG treasurer and the Costumer’s Guild West’s treasurer. He was Co-Chair of Costume Con 8 and authored sections of the Masquerade Handbook. He had judged Costume Cons, Westercons and Worldcons. He had been a masquerade MC. Besides working and organizing crew and tech on numerous costume cons and world cons, he had handled masquerade operations at too many local cons to even begin to count. During his years of working on masquerade he had contributed to the shaping of tech and safety requirements.

He taught at Costume College, Costume Cons and regular conventions. He taught more people to grommet, build electronics or work with verrrrry unusual materials than probably anyone else in the country. He’s always ready to stop and give extra lessons to make sure you understood. He’d tell you what glues lame to plastic without dissolving either one or help you solder your belt together at midnight…and keep you laughing the whole time so you didn’t get too nervous about your own masquerade entry.

At Costume Con 8, it was his technological expertise that actually hot wired the hotel that year and gave us lights for the grand events. He was skilled at making any and all computers (including light board computers) obey him. His engineering expertise had saved many rickety stages, backdrops or wings. (It was amazing what da Ook could do with Duct tape and a chair or piece of wood…but those who have been rescued by him, know!)

Beyond assisting with operations, tech, and running things he was also a costumer in his own right. Contrary to popular opinion, he had made his own costumes on occasion. The worst, err…, most memorable example was at Costume Con 6 when he was the Chief Ook-Ook. The fake fur ensemble was * entirely * his own design and construction. This was why he normally worked as part of a team with his costuming partner, Janet. In group costumes he was the structural engineer, carpenter, and electrician.
Among other costumes, he had appeared as Emperor Shadam IV from Dune, Fred Glitzstone, and most recently as the Port Admiral Haynes in the Lensman wedding at LaConII. He was the chief designer and engineer responsible for the 30-foot long, 12 ½ foot high alien, as well as the glowing lens and many other parts of the group – the largest ever put on a WorldCon stage. In The King & Queen of the Spider Courts he build the magnificent wire crowns and collars and the weapons. He was builder of Grand Props the most outlandish of which were the Tesla coil staffs for The Courts of Chaos. While chief of Grand Guignol Ops for ConFrancisco he engineered and led construction on the 24' long golden gate bridge that floated on stage in a sea of fog at Opening Ceremonies.

He was best known though, for his unstinting willingness to help out any costumer in need. Hot glue gun at the ready, soldering iron always hot, grommeting kit standing by – whatever your need, Gary was happy to help you get your project made – or fixed. The ICG’s Lifetime Achievement award was certainly well bestowed.

In Filking, he led the “charge” to help create a whole class of “ose” filking. (Ose=Morose) Catch him on a powerful night when his sense of humor was really charged! More than a little off key, he would sing far too many verses of a song that would wrench your heart and bring you to tears. His songs had their own magic.

His magnificent engineering ability allowed him to design entire circuit boards in his head. Yet, his patience allowed him to teach us how to use a soldering gun and create a basic switch even when we were all thumbs. While he helped build tools of war, he also taught us the joys of constructing wings, fanciful aliens, bug-eyed monsters, etc.

He was not a series of contradictions...he really could do it all!!! The most magnificent part of that was that he wanted to share it with all of us. Some of us knew him for years and he became brother to us. Others met him only once or twice... but we all were touched by the depth of his heart.

Gary we’re going to miss you!
Pat Kennedy
By Byron Connell

Patrick M. Kennedy – best masquerade MC around, ICG Vice-President for three terms, co-chair of two SF cons and a costume-con, fellow toiler in the vineyards of New York States’ government, punster, gentleman and gentle man – was a dear friend for some fifteen years. How can I recall him for you?

Image: Pat at his most elegant, as Sir Thomas Boyd of the Queen’s Own FBI (in Mark Phillips’ Novel, That Sweet Little Old Lady, Sir Thomas looked just like King Henry VIII), in impeccable Todurs enhanced by his own mustache and beard. It won Most Authentic at the LACon masquerade in 1972 [that’s LACon 1!]. A decade later, at 1982’s Chicon IV, Pat was Sir Thomas again, as prop, in Peggy Kennedy’s entry as Miss Rose Thompson (in the novel she believed herself to be Queen Elizabeth). As the Queen, Peggy knighted Sir Thomas using the Character’s own FBI-issue .45 cal. automatic.

Image: Pat at his silliest, entering a Tackycon masquerade as a “German Shepherd.” He wore a shepherd’s “natural” burlap clothes with a pickelhaube and a shepherd’s crook made of toilet paper rolls. On his back he wore a sign that read “Deutsch Lambs Uber Alles.”

Image: Pat the world’s best masquerade MC (his New York automobile license plate was “MC NO 1”) at ConStellation, the 1983 world science fiction convention (Baltimore, Maryland). With Marty Gear, the Masquerade Director, in “full Drac” on stage, at the podium Pat threatened Count Dracula with a stake, reached into a satchel, pulled out a “steak,” and shouted, “Peggy, not that kind of a stake!” Continuing to fend off the Count, Pat reached again into the satchel to brandish a holy implement. This was a fish with holes in it and his comment was “Holy mackerel!” Finally, he proclaimed, “I have a cross for you, Count,” to which Marty replied, “Oy vay! Do you have the wrong vampire!” If you don’t believe me, see the masquerade video – all this was captured for posterity (thank Ghod!).

Image: No pun was too low – written, oral, or visual. In 1986, Pat co-chaired LASTCon Fore (4) with me. We entered the opening ceremonies, to the strains of the Triumphal March from Aida, as “Your Con-Tweedles,” arms over each other’s shoulder and carrying golf clubs. I introduced him with “He’s Dee”; Pat’s line was “He’s um…” Pat also MC’d the LASTCon Fore masquerade; I have a videotape of it that I will gladly lend to anyone who would like to see it.

Enough of images. Among his manifold abilities, Pat was a Notary Public. Pat worked for the New York State Office of General Services to develop and write technical specifications for state purchasing contracts. I worked across the Empire State Plaza for the State Education Department. Occasionally, we would meet each other on the quarter-mile long concourse under the Plaza that links its buildings. I remember that, one time when Tina and I were fighting a mechanic who had caused
thousands of dollars damage to our car, Pat met me to notarize my signature on a handwritten record of my telephone conversation with the creature in question. (Ultimately, we prevailed.)

In 1989, Pat was co-chair, with Peggy, of Costume-Con 7, the first CC in New York and only the third on the East Coast. We joined together the official sponsorship of LASTsfa (our local SF club) and the Sick Pups' unofficial support to run a pretty successful Costume-Con (in my humble opinion).

In 1992, in what some call one of my periodic attempts to control the ICG, I persuaded Pat to stand for ICG Vice-President. He was elected at CC 10 (Lincoln, Nebraska), running unopposed, and was re-elected at CC 11 (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) the next year and at CC 12 (San Jose, California) in 1994, serving until his death. Pat was the first ICG officer to die in office.

Among my regrets are, first of all, that Pat is not still with us. Second, however, is that we never awarded him the ICG Lifetime Achievement Award during his lifetime, despite his accomplishments and his services to the costuming community. Pat was the best masquerade MC in the world, and made many entries successful. He co-chaired CC 7. He served longer as the ICG's Vice-President than any other person elected to that office. As Vice-President, Pat investigated the steps the Guild should take to trademark identifying characteristics. He provided us with clear actions to take; it's not his fault we never followed up on them.

For a number of years, Pat Kennedy – the world's number one MC – was master of ceremonies for the masquerade at Lunacon, the New York City area SF con. The year he died, Sue De Guardiola, the masquerade director, MC'd the event herself. At the end of the show, she said that Pat was in Valhalla, hoisting one with the heroes and shield maidens. I'm certain she was right.
Archon 23 Masquerade Overview  
October 2, 1999

Archon is a general Science Fiction and Fantasy convention for the St. Louis, MO, region, with an attendance near 2000 members each year. It has been held at the Gateway Convention Center for the past 6 years. All the diverse, normally separate, genre interest groups are brought together as an enthusiastic audience for what is the biggest event of the weekend, The Grand Masquerade. Seating is approximately 1000+, with standing room only. The Archon Grand Masquerade boasts International-level quality technical equipment and experienced crew. Sheila Lenkman has been its Masquerade Director since 1995, assisted by her husband, Scott Corwin.

There were 25 entries total: 2 Junior, 16 Novice, 2 Journeyman, and 6 Master. There were also 2 non-competition presentations.

Best In Show was "Awakening", by St. Louis Costumers Guild member Susan Eisenhour and Margaret Blakely. The presentation was about how the elves taught the trees to talk and dance, with Susan in a very large tree costume.

Best In Class - Master went to "The Beast-y Boys", a furry rock and roll band, by Daren Bost, Cheryl Glover and Jeff Larson.

Best In Class - Journeyman: "Sleeping Beauty" by SLCG members Rachel and Larry Leip, Micaila Leip, Jamie Hanak, Gary Hanak and Katherine Shoemake.

Best In Class - Novice: "Blaze Scintilla", a magical cat/human by SLCG member Bruce Hinterleitner.

Best of Junior Class: "Fairy Princess", by Melissa Knappenberger.

In other Judges Choice awards:

Up and Coming Costumer - "Queen Iwannadolla", by Michelle Sauer and brother Frank Sauer as an Austin Powers look-alike.

Most Fun On Stage - "South Trek", Ann Hinch, Vicky Carson and Gail Barber.

Best Recreation - "Biggs Darklighter", a Star Wars pilot, by Lester Schopp.

Most Beautiful - "Aztec Technotribal", Nancy M. Mildebrandt.
The two non-competition presentations were "Return of Schlitzy the Pinhead", by Tom Seymour, and "Is There In Truth, No Beauty", by SLCG member Sandy Pettinger.

These presentation award winners can be seen on the Archon masquerade web page at http://home.i1.net/~scorwin/masquerade.html. (Note: it is a numeral "1", not an "!")

Workmanship Awards were as follows:

Best Recreation: "Queen Iwannadolla", Michelle Sauer and Frank Sauer

Best Masks: "South Trek", Ann Hinch, Vicky Carson and Gail Barber

Best Use of Cotton: "Dust Bunny", Zo Allen

Best Group of People Working Together at Varying Levels of Experience: "The Zodiac", Nora Mai, Bruce Mai, Jeff Morris, Mary Morris, Larry Mische, Ramona Taylor, Karen Heim, Steve Swope, Cathy Costen, Pat Bothman, Genie Hillen, Sue Parent

Best Metalwork: "Priscilla, Queen of Stargate", T. Phenix Gambino

Best Use of Feathers: "Aztec Technotribal", Nancy M. Mildebrandt

Best Dressmaking: "Sleeping Beauty", Rachel Leip, Jamie Hanak and Katherine Shoemake

Best Use of Fur: "The Beast-y Boys", Daren Bost, Cheryl Glover and Jeff Larson

Best Use of Glitter: "Goauld System Lord & Servant", Dorcas Jean Buehler and Heather Joy Buehler

Best Construction of a Vehicle: "Pod Racer: Anakin Skywalker's First Attempt", Christopher Rowley, Mark Rowley and Cindi Gille-Rowley

Honorable Mention: "Fairy Princess", Melissa Knappenberger

Honorable Mention: "Redneck Jedi Knight", Bruce Hinterleitner and Ryan Hinterleitner
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(Make cheques payable to Costume-Con 19.)
Costume Con 17 started off poorly for me. I had just gotten out of the hospital with my heart acting up and was being fussed over like I was sick or something. Between Elaine, Dora and Heather I was smothered. Then with Robert and Gloria there I was sure I would not last the weekend. But as the Con settled into its routine they let me do what I do best, and it started to click.

Robert was assigned to see I was a good boy, and off to the Friday night social we went. The nice thing about this social and all the others is you can have as much fun as you can stand, being with old friends and introduced to new ones. This one was as good as any.

The theme was Gilbert and Sullivan and it was fun. I had worked on the program for the event and it was well received and I was happy.

It was an early night for me as there is a lot going on to be taped: the Future Fashion Show with the bra contest, the Hafla and, of course, the S. F. & F masquerade and the Historical. It had promised to be a tough shoot as the Sick Pups were working on the Battle of the Bulge, and the Sick Pups are hard to shoot as they are all over.

And so the weekend went. No matter how hard you work, something goes wrong or is left behind. This time it was the shoe for my tripod, and I was off to find a new one and several other little items.

I had been looking forward to the bra contest and was not disappointed. It was fun to watch and shoot, and I was sure it was the highlight of the weekend. Rae Bradbury-Enslin was the greatest ever. The lady is not to be believed or missed on stage. (I was to find out in the future, that there is a real sick mind there.)

I was looking forward to the SF & F because both my daughters and my granddaughter were to be on stage and Elaine was to be the MC. It was her first time, and she was driving us crazy being happy and afraid at the same time. Elaine, as it turned out, was better than I thought she would be. I was sure she would do well, as I was remembering her as a judge at Aussie Con 2, when she had only seen five masquerades in her life.

First out was the $1.98 event and Heather’s first time on stage, and I missed it. Next was Victoria (granddaughter) and she was the greatest (no brag, just fact) as the Little Mermaid. Later in the show were my two daughters also doing something from the Little Mermaid (I was one happy daddy), and so it went. And then the judges were out and the waiting started. I knew that Victoria would get something; it works that way with the young ones. But I was going mad listening to my girls worry if they looked alright, and if they had a chance, and did they look alright on stage.
Then at last the judges were back and I knew it was almost over, but first they had the other awards. Now don't get me wrong, they are important and well and truly earned, but these were My Girls. I wanted to know the good or bad news now; was it champagne or hot cocoa. Would it be see I told you, you were good, "or" the judges were blind and other strange remarks about their parents (fathers do those things).

When you are waiting for something it never seems to get there, and I was waiting and pleading to any deity that would listen to just get them off and get on with it, as this was going to color my whole evening. The lens of a video is an inch square and you are never listening to the words as you are muttering silent commands to your self: tighter, pull back, follow.

Some where I missed the next event and was being tapped on the shoulder by Robert and everyone was applauding and I was told to go up, Robert would take over. I know I got there, as I have seen the tape, but from here on I was in a daze. I knew I won something, but what? I had always said that John Fong should have gotten the Lifetime Achievement Award, and here I was getting it! It is a different world, standing there with that plaque in your hand. You can rehearse your lines and know what you would say if you won, but the event removes your tongue and drains your brain to mush. Some how I said something, I had to listen to the tape (I said it but still don't understand it) and went back behind the camera.

I shot the rest of the awards. My daughters got Best Recreation award in the Novice division. It would be champagne that night for sure. There were other awards; weeks later I was to read what they were. And they are in this issue some where. But that night was a blur.

The Historical and the Hafla were a piece of cake to shoot. It was the first Hafla I ever shot, and it was fun. The Sick Pups lost the Battle of the Bulge to the S.L.U.T.S. They were all pleased. And then it was over for another year. All that was left was the yearly meeting of the ICG, packing up, and going home.

In the course of your life you get a few seconds of happy shock, pride and gladness. As a father, I enjoyed it four times, and I am lucky to enjoy it all over again as a grandfather. Then this, I now understand Sally Fields "you really like me".

Carl Mami
CostumeCon 17
By Dora Buck

Okay, so I am writing again. Second Con, first CostumeCon that I have attended. To say that things were normal is not true. I had seen costumes at my first con, but this, words couldn’t express the awe and wonderment that I felt.

Let me back up a little. I was not sure I had wanted to attend. I was healing from some surgery. I had lost my job, and my daughter and I were looking at having to move. Carl (who had his own medical problems) and Elaine said that it would be great and that it would boost my spirits. So off we go to Cherry Hill, NJ where it is was held.

Heather went off in search of treasures from the Dealer’s Room. She came back with an offer of my services (I am a certified Massage Therapist). When both of us returned to the Dealer’s Room, Heather introduced me to the dealer who was in need of a back massage. Fifteen minutes later I walked away with a beautiful pair of earrings. Bartering is really a lost art that should be brought back.

Friday night was Gilbert and Sullivan night. Elaine let me wear one of her outfits. It was a tie skirt with a blue vest. I also carried a blue parrot named Indigo Montoya.

Saturday there was much to do and panels to go to. Heather ended up in the $1.98 room and created a beautiful white with lace evening attire. She was on stage that evening with the masquerade showing what she made (her first stage showing).
It really was a unique masquerade. Elaine was MC, something she had never done before, but did very well. Victoria (Carl and Elaine’s granddaughter) on stage being the little mermaid. Gloria and Leah (Carl’s daughters) on stage being Ursula and Ariel from the Little Mermaid. Robert (Gloria husband) helping to video tape the event and keeping Carl in line. But the best was when Carl got the Lifetime Achievement Award. I’ve known Carl for a while now and I think that this was the first time that I have seen him speechless. Robert did get this part on tape for all eternity. It was a big night for the Mami Clan. Victoria, Gloria and Leah all took awards.

The following is a list of the winning costumes for the Science Fiction/Fantasy Masquerade:

Presentation Award:

Young Fan
“Catch of the Day” – The Little Mermaid – Victoria White

Novice
Honorable Mention – A New Hope – Jared Dashoff
Best Recreation – Poor Unfortunate Souls – Gloria White and Leah Pizzo
Most Promising Novice – The Gypsy Queen – Elizabeth Schechter
Best in Class – I’ll Take One of Those – Michael Bruno

Journeyman
Honorable Mention – Mulan and Mushu – Brenna Beattie and Thumper
Silver Lining Award – Jerry Garcia Through the Looking Glass – Sandy Swank
Best in Class – A Deathly Valentine – David Scanlon
Most Elegant – Spider Woman – Joan Bradt
Most Deadly – Sleeping Beauty – Christiane and Thomas Truelove

Master
Best Pussy – Lady Miss PC – Nora Mai
The “Toulouse-Lautrec” Award – Mulan Rouge – Steve Swope
Best Mythology – Magic of the Ancients – Lisa Ashton, Ming Diaz and Lance Oszko
Most Humorous – A Tale of Starfish Crossed Lovers – Rae Bradbury-Enslin, Stephanie Carrigg, Rob McKeagney, Charles Sumner and Mike Carey
Master (cont)

Best Recreation – The Mask – Bruce Mai
The “Out of Sight” Award – How to Give the Evil Eye – Carol Salemi
Best in Class – Mobil Mooseterpiece Theater presents “The Three Mooseketeers” – Cheryl Glover, Jeff Larson, Daren Bost, Matt Brady and Terry Smith with assistance from Judith Smith and Marion O’Brien-Clark

Best in Show (Presentation): Minotaur

Workmanship Award:

Novice
Excellence in Hand Weaving – Nemesis – Marsy Sumner
Excellence in Hand Embroidery – The Gypsy Queen – Elizabeth Schechter

Journeyman
Metalwork – A Deathly Valentine – David Scanlon
Headpiece Construction and Leatherwork – Minotaur – Darren Bradbury and Craig Enslin

Master
Foamwork and Beadwork – Magic of the Ancients – Lisa Ashton, Ming Diaz and Lance Oszko
Best Use of Found Objects – A Tale of Starfish Crossed Lovers – Rae Bradbury-Enslin and Stephanie Carrigg
Tailoring – The Mask – Bruce Mai
Make-up and Headpiece Construction – How to Give the Evil Eye – Carol Salemi
Detailing – Mobil Mooseterpiece Theater presents “The Three Mooseketeers” – Cheryl Glover, Jeff Larson, Daren Bost, Matt Brady and Terry Smith with assistance from Judith Smith and Marion O’Brien-Clark

Historical Masquerade

Novice
Construction & Detail Award
Consistency to Thematic Detail – Sundaes in the Park (Butterscotch) – Chrism Kronick
Honored for Excellence for Consistency of Construction Based on Documentation – Daisy Belle – Rae Bradbury-Enslin

Documentation Award
Best Documentation – Daisy Belle – Rae Bradbury-Enslin

Presentation Award
Best Presentation – Daisy Belle – Rae Bradbury-Enslin
Journeyman

Construction & Detail Award
- Best in Class, Interpretation – 1886 Bustle Dress – Zelda Gilbert
- Best in Class, Recreation – A Swedish Colonist – Judy Mitchell
- Consistency to Thematic Detail – Sundaes in the Park (Blackberry Cobbler) – Trudy Leonard

Documentation Award
- Honored for Excellence for “Good Taste” in Documentation – Sundaes in the Park

Presentation Award
- Best Presentation – Sundaes in the Park – Caran Wilbanks, Debra Brightwell, Trudy Leonard, Chrism Kronick, Fiona Leonard and Bill Kronick
- Be(a)st Presentation – The Pleistocene Philanderer – David Scanlon

Master

Construction & Detail Award
- Best in Class – Vienna by Moonlight – Darla Kruger

Best in Show Documentation:
- Tie – A Swedish Colonist (Depth of Research) and The Harem Girl (Comprehensiveness of Detail)

Best in Show Construction & Detail:
- The Harem Girl

Judge’s Choice:
- A Swedish Colonist

Best in Show, Overall:
- The Harem Girl

Future Fashion Show

Award for Most Accurate Made by Other than Designer:
- Lost Luggage Evening Semi-Wear (Version 2) – Designed by Nora Mai, made and worn by Barbara Lynn Higgins

Award for Most Accurate Made by Designer:
- Zoot Suit Coatdress – Designed, made and worn by Nora Mai
BRA Contest

First Place Award - Tasslemaster 5000 - Rae Bradbury-Enslin
Second Place Award - Blinded by the Light - Faith Baker

- Best Use of Technology in a Support Device - Tasslemaster 5000 - Rae Bradbury-Enslin
I had been to a Philcon, a Lunacon and a CostumeCon, which were all very local in comparison to when we went to Aussiecon 3 in Melbourne, Australia. What a long way to go for a con. It was worth the trip. We (consisting of myself, Carl and Elaine Mami and the ever loveable teenage daughter Heather Buck) left from Newark airport and flew to LA. Then onto Hawaii for 2 days to get adjusted to the difference in time zones. Touring the island of Oahu was great. I even put my feet and hands into the Pacific Ocean. Carl did the video taping, of course. This from a person who only once was away from the east coast, and then I missed seeing the Mississippi River while driving over it (that is another story). While touring the island, we came across the filming of “Baywatch Hawaii”, and got the film crew T-shirts to prove it. Carl video taping, of course.

Leaving at midnight we were on our way to Sidney for a couple of days. Sidney is a wonderful place to visit. So many things to see so little time. We did tour the Opera House and the Museum of Australia, had a dinner cruise on the harbor, and went to the Taronga Zoo. If you think this is about a vacation and not costuming, you are half way right. The costuming part is just starting. We did a day trip to “Old Sidney Town”, Australia’s version of Williamsburg, VA here in the States. It is a re-enactment of the first settlements of Sidney. Every one was in costume, except us Yanks. We were having a wonderful time talking and joking around with the soldiers. When two of them saw Heather, they made Carl an offer of 1 chicken and 2 potatoes for her hand. Heather, not knowing what to do or say stayed behind me. She whispered in my ear that if she were in costume she would know what to do. With that knowledge, I went to one of the soldiers who were very happy to help out. There was a scenery prop of a dress and apron on the wash line, which he took down and gave to Heather to wear for the rest of the day. It was great to see her fall into character with the right attire on.

After all of that it was on to Melbourne and to Aussiecon 3. The hotel was great and the convention center large. Being that this was my first world con I thought that the crowds would be overwhelming. I was informed that the membership was around 1200, but the space was so vast it seemed like there were not that many people there. Like with all cons they were looking for volunteers. Heather and myself signed up for the Green Room at the Masquerade, Carl was video taping, and Elaine made herself available to help as judges’ clerk. As it turned out one of the judges did not come back from dinner with his agent, and Elaine became one when they announced her name as a judge. When I reported to the Green Room, I was amazed that there were only 14 entrants. Making myself familiar with the surroundings on how to get from the green room to the stage, I found a number of people that I knew working the backstage and also tech crew members. It really felt like I was back home in the States.
The format for the masquerade was unique. We dubbed it the Nicky and Danny Show. It was very entertaining. They were tag team co-emcees. The show started with the filkers. They had skits and jokes mixed in with the show of costumes. Half time consisted of a gentleman who played the didgeridoo. The judges deliberated on the floor in a corner of the hall behind the bleachers. The did make decisions and they are as follows:

Best in Show: Robert Jan
Experienced:
  Best in Category: Gail Adams
  Best Instant Gratification: Chris Purdy
  Best Comedy Performance: Widya Santoso
Beginners:
  Best presentation: Karen, David & Megan
  Best Costume: Trish Ostweld, Lynette Mayer
Young Fans:
  Best Ecologically Sensitive Attitude: Adam McCaw
  Best Contrast of Good and Evil: Michael & Natalie Ortlieb
  Best Choreography: Shayna Lynn Waitsman

Jan Finder (the Wombat) also handed out six hall costume awards. I am very proud to say that Heather won one of those awards. She was wearing a tie dress. Accessories were red pearls, red shoes and a red handbag. The title for the outfit was “All tied up and no place to go”.

I did make it to the dealer’s room. I thought I was in a library or bookstore. There were lots of tables, but mostly books for sale. No jewelry, no material, no trims, no knickknacks of any kind to be found. That was very disappointing. I thought I was going to come home with lots of things that were Australian and a lot less money.

When it is all said and done, I am very glad that I was able to attend the festivities. I had a wonderful time. If you get a chance, Australia is a beautiful place to visit. I hope to go back for CC20.

---Dora Buck
What I Did On My Summer Vacation

We went to WorldCon.

Now, unless you live somewhere in Australia or New Zealand, you probably don't consider a trip to Melbourne a 4-day-weekend thing. Neither did we. We started with a few days in Hawaii to adjust to the time change (and to shop, and to relax, and to shop...you get the idea). Thanks to flight delays in Calif., we lost more than half of the first day, but we managed to fill the rest of the time very nicely. Then, on to Sydney.

We spent almost a week in the center of Sydney, and toured like crazy. Carl and I had been there 10 years earlier, for AussieCon2, and wanted to see some of the things we remembered, and to show them to Dora & Heather, who were travelling with us. Most of them were no longer there. Naturally. We did, however, find lots of other stuff to visit, tour and enjoy. Only one block from our hotel was the Museum of Australia, which was wonderful, and there were many other things within relatively easy walking distance. We took advantage of a couple of tours and such, and filled the days and evenings as much as possible. (We especially loved the $$$$ exchange rates!) The Opera House is breathtaking to walk through, despite 200 stairs (all going up!), and we were privileged to be able to sit in on an orchestra rehearsal. The acoustics there are amazing! Much to our relief, the hotel had a rooftop pool and jacuzzi, so we could soak away the day's aches and pains each night, which we did, while enjoying the view over the city.

Too soon, it seemed, we moved on to Melbourne. WorldCon was held in a wonderful and vast convention center, and the main hotel was conveniently attached. It was all located on the river, and just across the street from the Casino. Carl & I had bought our memberships very early, but Dora & Heather had just decided on the trip, so needed to get memberships on site. Since they were so expensive, and we still wanted to tour some more, they just got day memberships for masquerade day. (Yes, we toured. Yes, we shopped. A town full of antique shops was on one tour. Antique jewelry full of opals! Yes, some came home with me. Silly question!) We even spent a few hours in the casino. Not lucky hours.

The membership was small for a WorldCon, and we were told that half of the membership came from the U.S. I have to admit to skipping most of the programming due to touring, etc. The programming changed so often, however, that the Pocket Program was going to be nominated for a Hugo in the "Best Short Fiction" category. Several U.S. costumers attended, but did not enter the masquerade. (In our case, it was because of the luggage restrictions.) Instead, we all volunteered. We
could be found both front and back stage, on tech, in the green room and judging. That was me. Carl taped, Dora & Heather were den moms, and I was supposed to be judges' clerk. My other task was to give the author on the panel any judging guidance he might need, since he had never judged a masquerade before. I got us all set with seats in the front row of bleachers - there was no judges' table - and we waited.

Let me back up for a minute. The Masquerade was not run by costumers, for reasons I never fully understood, but by the same people who jumped in to run it 10 years ago. Thank Ghod for them! Without them, there would have been no masquerade at all! So, I don't fault them for not planning what would be, for most of us, some obvious things - like a judges' table and a room to deliberate in. I also won't belabor any other unusual things we encountered. None of our lives were dramatically altered because the masquerade was not the way we would have done it. (It's still a hobby, after all.) It was fun! There were not many entries, but we enjoyed them very much. A few were absolutely astounding, and they got Best in Class and Best in Show. I was, however, quite disappointed that more Down Under costumers didn't attend, because I was looking forward to meeting more of them.

Anyway...............there we were in our seats, with clipboards, papers, flashlights, etc. at student-type armrest desks, waiting. The other two judges were, incidentally, folks I had judged 10 years earlier. It was fun to see them again. They were not Guild members because they were under the impression that you needed to be doing historicals to join, and they did SF/F. I hope I changed their perceptions on that one. Lots of people are shy of doing historicals (me included). The show began with a full half-hour of filking. We were told that it was to allow folks to get in to the theater. They were quite good, but a half-hour.............! Then it was Show Time. The MCs began introducing the judges, and announced me as the third judge. It seems our pro had just never returned from dinner with his agent! Perhaps the long filking session had something to do with waiting vainly for him to appear? Oh, well.

Did I mention no room for deliberating in? Well, I was speaking literally. We found ourselves a corner, on the floor, behind the bleachers, and plunked ourselves down there. Traffic flowed around us. The Masquerade Director came by every two or three minutes (really!) to ask if we were done yet. We filled in and signed certificates on the floor. It was An Experience. I did make one unshakable decision. I insisted that all Young Fans would get an award, with certificate. The M.D. wasn't happy about that, but he gave in. Ultimately, he thanked me for insisting. There were only 4 kids, and 2 were his!!

My next Learning Experience was the next morning, when we went to the masquerade wrap-up session. I expected the good old gripe session that most of us have come to expect as our due, and found that their idea was a show-&-tell of the
costumes and how they were made. A really interesting session that I'd like to see done more often, but I did miss the chance to hear what went wrong (very little, actually).

We stopped in Hawaii again on the trip back, but again lost half a day to airline snafus on one end and rental car & hotel problems on the other. We did get a good night's sleep, a chance to repack and some time for more last-minute shopping. In the long run, we had to buy a large duffel-type bag for all of our purchases! It seems there's this really Kick-ass flea market around the stadium in Honolulu............... We've begun saving to get back there for Costume Con. I need to find those antique stores again!

By Elaine Mami
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<td>Chapman, Judith Ann &amp; John P.</td>
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<td>Mitschek, G. Ann</td>
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As of July 24, 2000 we have received 42 of the Quarterly’s back. This means that we paid the printers to make 2 copies of the Quarterly for each of these people. We paid the post office so far twice, once for the original mailing and once for returning it. We will pay the post office again when we get a correct address. This in my mind is a waste of money and valuable time on my part. With technology as it stands today, we should not have this waste. E-mail, voice mail and yes even using the snail mail we should have updated information with a few days. Without correct addresses we will not be able to fulfill the Quarterly’s obligation to these members.

Dora Buck
The Public Relations Committee has conferred by e-mail on a number of topics. Here is a summary of our analysis and some suggestions for action. Mostly this list includes things to do. In some ways, though, my imperfect impression is that the ICG and/or costumers in general are our own worst enemy. The lack of a public face (long years without regular publication of the Costume Quarterly, just recently remedied) has contributed to our invisibility. Plus some of the folks who know of us believe that we’re all costume Nazis, unaccepting of anything less than perfection. You need only monitor some of the costuming listserves to come across attitudes ranging all the way from extraordinary generosity and willingness to share knowledge to rigid, intolerant mean-spiritedness. We can’t do much about this, but as we’ve outlined below, there’s lots we CAN do.

I. First, where are the people who might want to know about the ICG? We should be careful not to restrict ourselves only to costumers who are interested in our own particular turf.

   A. Science fiction fandom. SF fandom has lots of conventions. Cons – opportunities to recruit. There is also a book put out called the FANDOM DIRECTORY which sells mailing lists. Their web site is http://www.fandata.com. (Pat has a copy of their directory and will donate it to the Public Relations Committee though Carol says that the web site is much more up-to-date.)

   B. Historical reenactment groups
      Ren-faire folk
      SCA
      Civil War and Revolutionary War reenactors
      (Are there any Viet Nam war reenactors? Grenada? Desert Storm? If not, why not?)
      Western history groups like the Single Shot Action Society (???)

   C. Costume history folks, like some of the people in the Costume Society of America, but clearly only some of these

   D. Professionals, like designers, educators, etc.

   E. People who costume for other reasons, like fetishists, etc. (They do GREAT workshops on corsets and leatherwork!)
F. The gay community

G. Colleges and universities with programs in fashion and costume design and theatre

H. Stores that sell to costumers, such as fabric, trim, and bead shops as well as practically everyone in the Whole Costumers Catalog.

I. Listserves of interest to costumers.

J. People who read Threads, Renaissance, Piecework/Beadwork – perhaps the ICG could advertise here.

II. Secondly, how do we get in touch with these groups to let them know that we’re around and we’re fun?

A. Science Fiction venues

1. For the S-F types, the cons are certainly a beginning. The idea (Byron's?) of having a table at this year's WorldCon is an excellent one. The idea (Bruce's?) of spreading flyers around at these and some of the events listed below is also an excellent one. Byron has a flyer, and I've created some as well.

2. Calling the program chairs for upcoming cons and offering to do costume programming can work, too. I know that people can be idiosyncratic (and S-F fans maybe more than most), but I have had excellent personal experience working on the L.A. WorldCon. I just called the programming chair, said that I'd noticed that no one was doing costume programming, and could I do it for him? He was delighted. Programming is much less expensive and intrusive than asking for a masquerade and has the potential to bring in more people to the con. Keeping track of the number of people who show up to the programming as well as getting ICG members to attend the con shows the con committee the worth of the work.

Carol had some success with this, too. She notes, "We did a panel on sewing unusual fabrics at one of our local science fiction conventions. SRO and a lot of people took flyers. Next year they'll give us more space.

3. There are also science fiction societies in some of the bigger towns who could be good places to start. Find these societies, get guild members to attend meetings, offer to work on projects, etc.
B. Historical Reenactors: Go where they are and:

1. hand out flyers for upcoming guild events
2. run a costume contest with prizes for the best costumes
3. run a workshop on how to costume for the particular event
4. run a bus or carpool-caravan of costumers to the local ren-faire/pirate gig/shooters society event. The ICG members can have a blast, and they get a chance to show their stuff and their support of these groups.

C. Costume history folks and professionals - scholars, museum people, academics

Advertise our events where they can see it. Costume Cons and Costume Colleges can be very attractive to these people. Many of them have never seen anything like what the ICG members can do, and many will be fascinated. Workshops, colleges, etc. can be VERY interesting to the scholar as well as the general person who makes costumes for school plays, Halloween, etc.

D. General Interest

1. Didn't the Sick Pups used to go to their local Medieval Knights tournament dinner/show thing in groups and in costumes? Why not open this up to the greater public, in a controlled kind of way, and have a preliminary set of workshops to help people do costumes to wear that night? Other possibilities might include local Halloween events and costume contests. And thank you, British Airways.

2. Bruce suggests that the PR group explore on-line announcement lists such as conferencealert@onelist.com. This is a conferenceAlert list for all types of conferences, seminars, workshops, job fairs, and other events all over the world and online.

Most of the ideas generated by the PR Committee have to do with increasing membership: letting people know who we are and what we do. Hopefully, they'll like us and maybe even join us. If the aim of this public relations push is to create or improve our image, then perhaps other steps need to be considered. Advertising in national publications or printing our own calendar come to mind as good suggestions. Next year's committee might want to begin by deciding what their specific goals are. That should help them formulate specific objectives.

Respectfully submitted,

Zelda Gilbert
Chair, Public Relations Committee
Hi —

This is a quick message to all in advance of the Annual Meeting in two weeks.

Proposed Amendments to the Standing Rules.

Enclosed with this message are the proposed amendments to the Standing Rules listed as items VI. C. 1 and VI. C. 2 in the agenda I sent last month. The first would create the Budget and Finance Committee that I believe the Guild needs in order to manage its affairs, use its resources in accordance with its goals, and enable it to develop and grow. Having this committee in place will become all the more important once the Guild receives and acts on the report of the Special Committee on the Future Direction of the Guild.

I propose a five-member committee, composed of the Treasurer and four ICG members who are not Officers or members of the Board of Directors, to be appointed by the President. The President would designate one of the four as the committee chair. The committee would be responsible for reviewing periodically the ICG's finances and for preparing annually a proposed budget. The budget would treat revenues and expenditures associated with The Costumer's Quarterly separately from other ICG revenues and expenditures. The committee could also create other revenue and expenditure categories.

The Committee would present the proposed budget to the Board of Directors. The Board could adopt it, together with any amendments the Board desires, or refer it to the Annual Meeting for adoption. It is my intention that this procedure would allow chapters to consider the proposed budget before the Board votes on it.

Please remember that the By-Laws make the calendar year our fiscal year. During the course of a year, the Board could increase or decrease expenditures to meet emerging needs and the President could increase or decrease expenditures by up to 15 percent without the Board's approval.

The second set of amendments would change Standing Rules 12, 13, and 14 to eliminate inconsistencies between our Standing Rules and the Costume-Con ConStitution promulgated last year by the owners of the Costume-Con service mark. The changes would delete obsolete provisions of the Standing Rules.

Both proposed amendments are drafts. Please review them and bring to the Annual Meeting any proposals from your chapters for changes to them. At the Meeting, these two proposals will be discussed fully and amended as the members decide.
Election of Officers.

I have received one nomination for the office of Corresponding Secretary.

Other Agenda Items.

Last time, I said that I hoped to include the proposed 1999 budget with this message. It's not ready yet. If I can do so, I still intend to get it to you in advance of the meeting.

Chapter Representatives.

Some, but not all, chapters have let me know who will be representing them on the Board of Directors at CC 17. If you have not done so, please let me know. If your chapter will have no one present at the Annual Meeting, there is nothing to prohibit you from designating a member in good standing in another chapter. In prior years, for example, the Australian Costumers' Guild designated a member of Guild West to represent it at the Annual Meeting.

I hope to see lots of you at Costume-Con 17 in two weeks.

Members may contact me by e-mail at bconnell@mail.nysed.gov, or by post at 50 Dove Street, Albany, NY 12210-1811 USA.

Yours,

Byron P. Connell, President
International Costumers' Guild
Here's my President's Message for February.

President's Message

March 1, 1999

Hello, everybody, So, what's been happening? There are lots of things in the last month that I want to report on. Most of them took place at our Annual Meeting.

New Chapter.

First of all, we have a new chapter! Please join in welcoming the Greater Portland Costumers' Guild as a chapter of the International Costumers' Guild. The members present at the Annual Meeting voted unanimously to admit them to membership. The new Greater Portland chapter's address is 7415 SE 31st Avenue, Portland OR 97202. Peggy Kennedy, master costumer and long-time costume fan, is its president. The chapter has already been active in meeting regularly and in publishing a monthly newsletter, "Critical Measure." I hope that other chapters will welcome our new chapter and add it to their newsletter mailing list.

Finances.

Next. We're solvent. We're not only solvent, we had a surplus of revenues over expenditures in 1998 of $2,227.89 and ended the year with a balance of $3,562.98. We had almost 1,000 paid members in 1998 (and, I suspect, may actually have had more than 1,000, counting all possibilities). That's an all time high! Total revenues were $5,833.75; total expenditures were only $3,605.86.

Most of 1998's surplus is only on paper; $1,285.72 consists of subscriptions for The Costumer's Quarterly we haven't spent yet. However, $942.17 is a real surplus in our general fund.

For 1999, the Board of Directors adopted a formal budget that allows the Guild to spend $5,390.00 of a projected $5,650.00 in revenue. That includes $3,680.00 in expenditures for the Quarterly against a projected $3,900 in subscriptions and other Quarterly revenues. The general fund projects $1,705.00 in expenditures against $1,750.00 in revenues. Overall, the 1999 budget projects a $265.00 surplus of revenues over expenditures for the year.

This is the first formal budget the ICG has ever adopted. For the first time, we have budgeted funds to support such on-going Guild activities as our Archives. The budget also includes authorized expenditures for publicity, correspondence, the Lifetime Achievement Award, and such planned undertakings as a Costume Calendar and an ICG Yearbook (see below). In both accounts, we're maintaining a ten percent reserve fund to cover unforeseen costs. These projected expenditures do not touch the $3,500 the Guild
has in the bank as of the beginning of 1999. They're based solely on projected 1999 revenues.

What happens if revenues fall short of projections? If they do, the money doesn't get spent. A budget is only a plan, not a guarantee. The Board adopted it and the Board will modify it if needed to keep expenditures in line with revenues.

At the Annual Meeting, the members also adopted a new Standing Rule that created a new Budget and Finance Committee for the Guild. It will be responsible for recommending an annual budget to the Board of Directors. The Board may either adopt the budget, defeat it, or forward it to the Annual Meeting for a decision by the members. The Standing Rule requires the Treasurer to report our revenues and expenditures to the Board at least four times a year.

The President may increase or decrease any expenditure item by up to 15 percent; the Board may vote to increase or decrease any item by amounts over 15 percent. This will permit us to keep budgeted expenditures in line with revenues as they are realized during the year. It is my intention as President that the ICG will generate a surplus of revenues over expenditures each year. (U.S. members might almost mistake me for a Republican!)

I will send you the exact language of this new Standing Rule in my next message. The members approved language somewhat amended from the draft I sent you last month.

ICG Calendar and Yearbook Projects.

As you'll recall, members have proposed that the Guild publish both an annual costume calendar and a yearbook. The Board of Directors has authorized the [poor demented fools] volunteers to pursue both projects.

Lisa Ashton has taken charge of the ICG Calendar. She will shortly be contacting chapters, members, and other costumers for photos of costumes for possible inclusion in the first (or subsequent) calendars. Lisa will be looking for a lot of advice and assistance from Guild members; please don't fail her.

Bruce and Nora Mai are in charge of the ICG Yearbook project. This will seek photos for the year from each chapter, together with information on the chapter and its activities over the year. They'll be in touch with all of you about the project and what they hoe you will provide. They, too, are looking for all the help you can provide.

These are important new projects for the International Costumers' Guild. Their success depends on you. Please don't disappoint your fellow costumers. Especially for the many ICG members whose interests lie outside the area of costume competitions, this is a new opportunity to let other Guild members -- and other costumers -- see what you are doing. I certainly want to see your stuff in both the calendar and the yearbook.
Standing Rules 13 and 14.

The members at the Annual Meeting voted to refer to the Board of Directors action on the proposed amendments to Standing Rules 13 and 14, concerning Costume-Con, to permit consultation with Karen Dick and Kelly Turner, the Costume-Con service-mark holders on the precise language proposed. Karen and Kelly, not the ICG, own the service mark, "Costume-Con." Upon agreement with them of the language to be use to update Standing Rules 13 and 14, the Board will adopt the amendments. I will send the amended rules to you as soon as they have been adopted. The Standing Rules may be amended either by the members at the Annual Meeting or by the Board of Directors.

New Officers.

At the Annual Meeting, the members selected, and the Board elected, the following members to be the Officers of the International Costumers' Guild for 1999:

President: Byron P. Connell  
Vice-President: Ken Warren  
Treasurer: Sharon Trembley  
Corresponding Secretary: Jess Miller  
Recording Secretary: Steve Swope

I know that you will extend your condolences to your officers for 1999.

Other Actions.

There were other actions that either by the Board or the members at the Annual Meeting took, but I think I've covered all the more important ones. The others include such things as extending the life of several committees and creating a few more. I'll fill you in on those in the next message. Let me close, therefore, with the following request:

Standing Committee on Budget and Finance. The new Standing Rule authorizes and requires the President to appoint to this committee four ICG members in good standing who are not Officers of the Corporation or members of the Board of Directors. The President will appoint members to serve for two-year terms, with two of the first four members appointed to two-year terms and two appointed to one-year terms, to provide overlap. I would like to appoint Guild members with experience in budgets and finances to the Committee, preferable members with experience in the budgets and finances of not-for-profit corporations.

Here's your opportunity to serve, guys! I don't have the kind of experience/expertise I'm looking for -- my budgetary experience is in governments, not in not-for-profit organizations -- so, don't be shy! I hope that several of you will put your names (or those of your fellow costumers) forward to serve on this very important ICG committee.

Lifetime Achievement Award.
Saving the best for last, I am delighted to announce that the International Costumers’ Guild has bestowed its Lifetime Achievement Award, for service to the costuming community on Carl Mami. Carl certainly deserves the award, for making so many costumers look so good. Please join me in congratulating him.

Thanks for putting up with all this bureaucratic stuff. I’ll try to keep it to a minimum (but not exclude it entirely) for the rest of the year. Members may contact me at:

50 Dove Street
Albany, NY 12210-1811
USA

or by e-mail at bconnell@mail.nysed.gov.

Sincerely, Byron P. Connell,
President International Costumers’ Guild
International Costumers’ Guild

Agenda

for the 1999 Annual Meeting of
the International Costumers’ Guild and
Concurrent Meeting of the Board of Directors

I. Call to Order of the Meetings

II. Determination of a Quorum
A. Members Present
B. Members Represented by Proxy

III. Approval of the Minutes of the 1998 Annual Meeting

IV. Reports
A. Report of the President
B. Report of the Treasurer
   1. Finance
   2. Membership
C. Report of the Corresponding Secretary
   1. Correspondence
   2. Public Relations Committee
D. Report of the Editor, The Costumer’s Quarterly
   1. The Editorial Board
   2. Publication and Other Matters
E. Report of the Archivist
F. Report of the Parliamentarian
G. Report of the Webmaster
H. Report on Chapters Dissolved since the 1998 Annual Meeting

V. Old Business
A. Actions Regarding 1998 Special Committees
   1. Special Advisory Committee on the Future Direction of the Guild
   2. Committee on the Sale of Masquerade Videos
B. Any Other Old Business

VI. New Business
A. Action on Petitions of New Chapters for Admission to the Guild
   1. Greater Portland Costumers’ Guild
   2. Any Other Petitions
B. Consideration of the 1999 Budget of the Corporation
C. Amendments to the Standing Rules of the Corporation
   1. Addition of a New Standing Rule to Authorize a Standing Budget and Finance Committee
   2. Amendment of Standing Rules 13 and 14, Concerning Costume-
Con Site Selection, to Conform to the Costume-Con Constitution

D. Other New Business

VII. Selection of Officers

VIII. Adjournment of the Annual Meeting of the Members

IX. Election by the Board of Directors of the Officers Selected by the Annual Meeting

X. Any Other Business to Come Before the Board of Directors

XI. Adjournment of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
International Costumers' Guild

Amendment to the Standing Rules of the Corporation for consideration at the 1999 Annual Meeting

Agenda item VI. C. 1. The Standing Rules are amended by the addition of a new Standing Rule ## (number to be inserted), to read as follows:

## The ICG Budget. a. There shall be a standing Budget and Finance Committee to review periodically the finances of the Corporation and to prepare and present to the Board of Directors annually a budget for the Corporation. In preparing the proposed budget, the Committee shall consider the requested expenditures of each officer, committee chair, and staff member, together with estimated revenues for the year. It shall consider separately from the general revenues and expenditures of the Corporation all revenues and expenditures for The Costumer's Quarterly, and may identify as it wishes any other categories of revenue and expenditure to be considered separately. After consulting with the members of the Committee, the Committee chair shall inform all officers, committee chairs, and staff members of the dates by which such requests must be submitted and the information they must include.

b. The Budget and Finance Committee shall consist of the Corporation Treasurer and four members of the Corporation, who are not Officers or other members of the Board of Directors, appointed by the President, one of whom the President shall designate as chair.

c. Annually, in advance of the Annual Meeting, the Committee shall present to the Board of Directors its proposed budget for the ensuing year. The Board shall consider the Committee's proposed budget and may either adopt it, with such changes as the Board finds desirable, or refer it, with or without amendments, to the Annual Meeting for approval.
d. The Treasurer shall report the Corporation's revenues and expenditures to the Committee and the Board at least quarterly. To meet arising needs, the Board may increase or decrease budgeted expenditures as needed during the course of each year. To meet arising needs, the President may, without the Board's approval, increase or decrease budgeted expenditures each year by an amount not to exceed fifteen (15) percent of the budgeted amount and shall promptly report such changes to the Board and the committee.

Rationale: This new Standing Rule creates a permanent Budget and Finance Committee and spells out the Committee's duties and composition. It will give the Guild, for the first time, a mechanism for budgeting its resources. The Guild now lacks such a formal mechanism.
Hi to all —

This is my President’s message for March. Sorry it’s a bit late.

Updates and Corrections.

Over the past couple of months I’ve received some updates and corrections of chapter and officer names and addresses to pass on to you.

Greater Portland Area Costumers’ Guild. First, the correct name of our new chapter is the Greater Portland Area Costumers’ Guild. I omitted the word, "Area," last month in reporting the chapter’s recognition by the 1999 Annual Meeting.

Utah Costumers’ Guild. The Utah chapter has a new mailing address:

Utah Costumers’ Guild
289 W. Hidden Hollow Drive
Orem, UT 84054

ICG Officers for 1999. The contact information for this year’s officers is:

Byron P. Connell, President
International Costumers’ Guild, Inc.
50 Dove Street
Albany, NY 12210-1811
(518) 434-8217
bconnell@mail.nysed.gov

Kenneth T. Warren, Vice President
International Costumers’ Guild, Inc.
1139 Woodmere Road
Pottstown, PA 19464-2721
(610) 325-0027
kenw@voicenet.com

Sharon Trembley, Treasurer
International Costumers’ Guild, Inc.
338 Prospect Street
South Amboy, NJ 08879-1942
callisto@netlabs.net

Jess Miller, Corresponding Secretary
International Costumers’ Guild, Inc.
7348 Milwood Avenue, #1
Canoga Park, CA 91303-3426
msjess@earthlink.net

Steve Swope, Recording Secretary
International Costumers’ Guild
2845 Lemp Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63118-1713
(314) 772-8711
scs@inlink.com
New Standing Rule

As I reported last month, the Annual Meeting adopted a new Standing Rule creating a standing Budget and Finance Committee for the Guild and establishing a process for developing the ICG's annual budget. Here's the official text of the new standing Rule 25, as amended and adopted by the Annual Meeting:

25. The ICG Budget. A. There shall be a standing Budget and Finance Committee to review periodically the finances of the Corporation and to prepare and present to the Board of Directors annually a budget for the Corporation. In preparing the proposed budget, the Committee shall consider the requested expenditures of each officer, committee chair, and staff member, together with estimated revenues for the year. It shall consider separately from the general revenues and expenditures of the Corporation all revenues and expenditures for The Costumer's Quarterly, and may identify as it wishes any other categories of revenue and expenditure to be considered separately. After consulting with the members of the Committee, the Committee chair shall inform all officers, committee chairs, and staff members of the dates by which such requests must be submitted and the information they must include.

B. The Budget and Finance Committee shall consist of the Corporation Treasurer and four members of the Corporation, who are not Officers or other members of the Board of Directors, appointed by the President, one of whom the President shall designate as chair. In order to create a staggered membership for this committee, the President shall, on the first year of the committee's existence, appoint two members to a two-year term and two members for a one-year term. Subsequently, in following years, all members shall be appointed to two-year terms.

C. Annually, not less than thirty (30) days in advance of the Annual Meeting, the Committee shall present in written form to the Board of Directors its proposed budget for the ensuing year. The Board shall consider the Committee's proposed budget and may either adopt it, with such changes as the Board finds desirable, or refer it, with or without amendments, to the Annual Meeting for approval.

D. The Treasurer shall report the Corporation's revenues and expenditures to the Committee and the Board at least quarterly. To meet arising needs, the Board may increase or decrease budgeted expenditures as needed during the course of each year. To meet arising needs, the President may, without the Board's approval, increase or decrease budgeted expenditures each year by an amount not to exceed fifteen (15) percent of the budgeted amount and shall promptly report such changes to the Board and the committee.

I'm still looking for members to appoint to this committee. So far, I've had one volunteer, Bruce MacDermott. Any others interested?

That's all for this month. Members may reach me by e-mail at bconnell@mail.nysed.gov, or by post at 50 Dove Street, Albany, NY 12210-1811, USA.

Yours,

Byron D. Connell, President
International Costumers' Guild, Inc.
Hello, everybody --

It has been pretty quiet lately, so this will be a short note. We've been enjoying a lovely, unusually warm and sunny, spring here in the northeastern U.S. I hope the rest of you are enjoying seasonable weather, too.

Dues and Updates

Several chapters have asked when the new bank account will be open so they can send us their dues. It is open now. Please make checks payable to International Costumers' Guild, Inc., and send them to:

Sharon Trembley, Treasurer
International Costumers' Guild, Inc.
398 Prospect Street,
South Amboy, NJ 08879-1942
USA

Please remember to send her member information, too. The Standing Rules say that each chapter must send the Treasurer annually its list of officers' names, addresses, and, where available, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. If the chapter designates someone other than its president to be its representative on the Board of Directors, that person's name, address, telephone number and e-mail address must be included. Annually, each chapter must also send the Treasurer the complete list of its ICG members in good standing, including name, address and, when available, telephone number, and whether the member subscribes to The Costumer's Quarterly. Each quarter, the chapter must send the Treasurer new members' names, addresses and (when available) phone numbers, together with their dues, and any updates to members' addresses and phone numbers.

Glitziana wants you!

We still need volunteers to help run the ICG. I need three members, who are not chapter presidents, to join Bruce MacDermott and Sharon Trembley on the new Budget and Finance Committee. I also would like to hear from any members interested in joining the special committee to review our membership system and make recommendations to the next Annual Meeting (at CC 18).

Members may contact me by e-mail at bconnell@mail.nysed.gov, or by regular mail at 50 Dove Street, Albany, NY 12210-1811, USA.

Sincerely,

Byron P. Connell, President
International Costumers' Guild, Inc.