



The ICG Newsletter



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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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I have a dream. I envision a time when I can write this message without it being full of boring hard work and bad news. I hope some day to be able to write a message to my fellow members that's full of exciting new projects for the ICG; great news about growth, progress and fun activities. But not today.

Recently the Board of the CGW announced that they are considering action to secede from the ICG as a chapter to become an independent organization. There are a variety of reasons that they feel this action is necessary, some of which are only known to themselves. I'll reserve comment on this issue (and certainly refrain from my personal opinion), but in reality some of their reasons are quite valid. I have spoken with their President, Darla Kruger, and am assured that there is no offer or argument I can make for the ICG that will change the CGW Board's collective mind.

They will be making this recommendation to their membership at their annual meeting in early August. The vote will probably be final before this newsletter is in many members' hands.

No matter which way that vote goes, we will always wish the CGW well. They were one of the founding chapters and have flourished throughout California, with out-state members as well. Their very size and success is one of the compelling reasons for their decision. It would be unfortunate if they were to leave and they are certainly always welcome, regardless.

If the vote goes to secede, then communication will remain open between them and the ICG; after all we have the same goals and interests - why wouldn't we "keep in touch"? One thing I can assure you of is that if they leave, their members who still have an interest in the ICG will be welcomed into other chapters. Their full rights as ICG members will be honored and they will not be abandoned, we will find them a new home. ICG Vice President Jan Price is heading up a committee to guide the ICG in dealing with any "refugees" from disaffiliated chapters (a policy we've needed for some time which was initiated before the CGW announcement) and the efforts of that committee will be finalized soon (see paragraph 4 below on page 2).

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IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Calling all former ICG Officers - please contact the President asap; she has questions fer yew!

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Some of you have met me personally, and know that Jay and I have two little girls. We named our firstborn Katherine Grace, and gleefully anticipated bringing her with us to various costumed events. We were somewhat surprised, however, when the reaction from our local chapter of the ICG to the idea was less than enthusiastic. Nevertheless, we persevered, our chapter rethought their position, and a picnic was soon planned at which we would give Katie her ICG debut.



Excited for us all, I bought a pattern, found period-looking fabric, sat down at the sewing machine, and soon had a new hobby - drinking. The fabric was slippery, the pieces wouldn't fit together, and convincing our 2-year old daughter to stand perfectly still while pinning various pieces was a challenge. Nevertheless, the dress went together, and I crowed about my newfound "expertise" to all who would listen.

It wasn't until we were driving up to the event itself that sweet Katie announced her hatred for all things pink. And hats. The dress itched, and she insisted we take it off now, please. We won't go into the wedding cake incident later that day in print.

Suffice to say, several lessons were learned at this event alone, and it is in this issue that Lynne Taylor, a dear friend and parent of another costumed child, and I share some of those lessons learned with those costumers out there with children just waiting for an opportunity to join us. I hope you enjoy the article - we certainly enjoyed writing it. (And of course, what use is it being newsletter editor if I can't publish cute pictures of my kid now and again!)

By the way, a brief but shameless plug here: I've been recruited to help plan childrens' costuming panels and events for CC26. Come help! Come attend!! Bring your kids and join the fun - a costuming playdate!!!!

Meanwhile, I've been bit by the poll bug. I've polled the ICG Yahoo group a couple of times with various questions relating to costuming. This month's poll is published in here along with some of the many responses received, as well as two very cute photos of Kevin Roche and Jeff Harris.

One part of my job as newsletter editor is to find (or write) articles to interest the membership. Thus far, we've had issues spotlighting Anime and Cosplay costuming, masquerade costuming, and now children in costuming. I've got articles in the works on photographing costumes, and on Internet research for costumers. But I'd love some fresh new ideas from the membership on what you'd like to see in future issues. Please write me with your ideas for feature articles, and I'll be happy to work with you to make 'em happen.

Hope you enjoy this issue, and remember, submit early, submit often!

NOTE:
NEXT DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS
SEPTEMBER 15!

President's Message continued from page 1

On the good side (and, yes, there is one), here are the significant points of committee and other activity:

1. Budget and Finance Committee – This committee is reforming and looking for members. It is chaired By Bruce MacDermott and we have one volunteer - Henry Osier from CCG. We'll need 3 other non-Board ICG members to fill slots. Any ICG members with interest in budget contact me (the Pres) to volunteer.

2. IRS / 501(c)(3)3 problem - Byron Connell and Bruce MacDermott are pursuing the initial steps with this to see where we stand and what we need to do to get back in compliance. There will be future announcements about their findings after they contact some aides at the IRS.

3. Fundraising Committee – Visit our Café Press sit to acquire your own t-shirts, buttons, etc. We've already had a number of sales, support the ICG!

4. Transitional Membership Committee - formed to construct a new Standing Rule to address the issue of members who still have time remaining on their ICG membership if their chapter becomes disassociated for whatever reason. This Committee is headed by Jan Price and should have official verbiage for the Board to discuss and vote on in the next few weeks.

(Note: this was not created because of the recent happenings with the CGW but will certainly be useful to have in place no matter what their decision.)

5. The website - Jeff will be finalizing details on migrating the website to a new server. Once that is done, he can pursue all of the additions that he's been discussing recently. There's no point in making those improvements or changes until the migration is complete, but he will surely be implementing several of them immediately thereafter.

6. The Archive Online Committee - see #5 above. The Committee has several first steps outlined, but none of them can be exactly defined (much less implemented) until the website moves. Once they know the parameters they'll be dealing with, the committee can make a report to the Board as to what they recommend be accomplished first and how they intend to implement it.

7. The ICG Guidelines - the Committee has moved onto the second part of the guidelines. Once they have a clear definition of exactly what will be addressed in this section, they will make their report and seek input.

8. The Newsletter - Still on schedule, still producing, still seeking content. If you have members with nifty how-to's or other stuff, steer them Denisen's way.

9. The PR Committee - It will live again. Currently Karen Heim (our C-Sec and head of the PR committee) is settling into her new duties but will solicit interested parties soon. If you have ideas on promoting the ICG, contact her directly.

Nora Mai
ICG Pres

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GLITZIANA'S GEAR
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All of the images are in black and white, just SCREAMING to be embellished

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Edna
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