



THE ICG NEWSLETTER

Published by the International Costumers Guild
a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization



Volume 6, Issue 6 - Holiday 2007

President's Message

We got steam heat, baby!

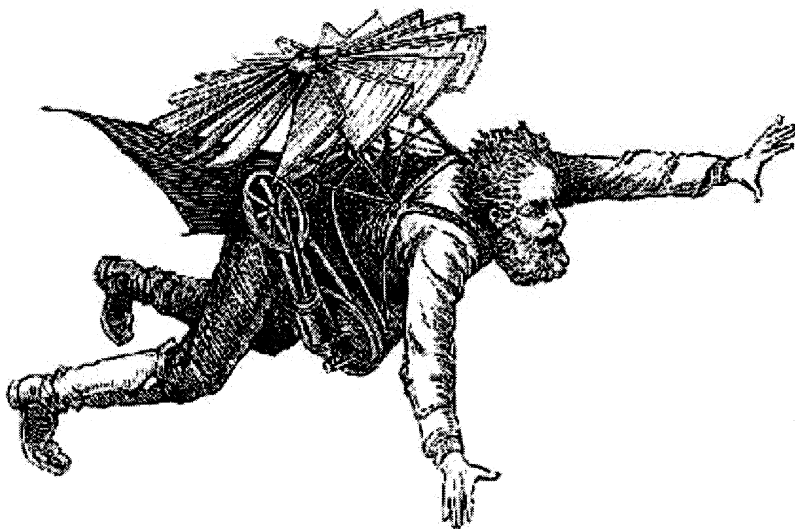
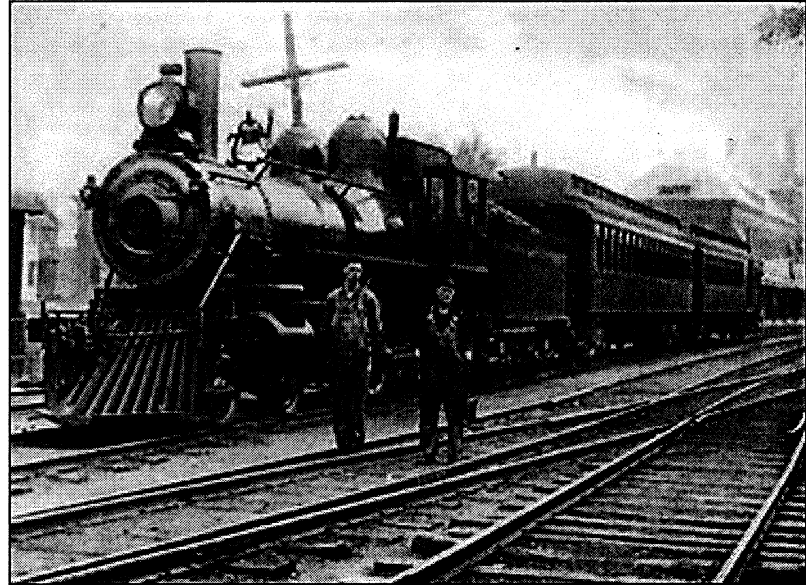
So the latest, biggest, new costumer-friendly trend is Steampunk, which will probably be passé real soon now. A large two-part article on Steampunk starts in this newsletter issue, so I won't even begin to try and explain – just read the article. And before this it was... can't remember?

Well, that's the way it is with trends – one day you're Animé & Cosplay with tens of thousands of people at a single convention and the next you're the only Klingon at the party. Sad, really, 'cause you spent a lot of time & money on that costume. And darn it, you liked being a Klingon.

So what do you do when your favorite "next great thing" is out of style? You can try to see if you'll fit into the new trend. Is there really a place for you amidst all the young and firm (but infinitely less skilled) in your new playground? I say yes: even if it's not one of the main characters, why shouldn't you have fun too? There's bound to be minor characters that you might like. Or you can create your own character that simply fits into that reality.

Or you can wait for the next bus. Sure, Superheroes are all the rage now but your spandex allergy just won't let you play. Wait awhile. As we say here in St. Louis: "Don't like the weather? Stick around, it'll change". Popular costume trends are just like that. A few months, another movie, a hot new TV show/book/computer game or simply a change of season (hot weather affect your outfit choice much?); there'll be something new & tantalizing coming along soon.

Or you can still kick it old school. Keep doing that Klingon/Star Wars/Pirate/Snow Queen. After all, you still like it, it still fits and you intend to wear it until it falls apart. Good for you, you don't have to be trendy. And attitude counts for a lot in costuming; if you love it & really wear it then nobody can say you should be doing something else just 'cause it's new.



My point? Costuming is about choices; what do you want to wear and who do you want to be today? Like any fashion choice, "what costume will I wear today" is heavily influenced by what is perceived as edgy and current. Some costumers hop on the trend-train faster than others. They have a new costume for every new craze and a closetful of outdated outfits. Others pick a style and stick with it; maybe it's flattering, maybe it reminds them of a good time in their lives. Some of us like to be cutting edge but want to still love the golden-oldies. And that's good too.

So where do you think the next trend will come from?

Nora Mai, ICG President

(Ed: Note: Train photo taken by Fred Dye)

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ICG Web Site: www.costume.org

Membership Report as of November 13, 2007

Chapter Name	Chapter Members (Primary)	Last Updated
Armed Costumers Guild	24	July 2007
Beyond Reality	39	July 2007
Chicagoland	8	February 2007
CG Western Penn	10	March 2007
Dallas/Fort Worth	17	November 2007
Fiber Fantasy Artists	6	September 2007
Greater Columbia	21	July 2007
Greater Delaware Valley	6	June 2007
Middle Tennessee	11	May 2007
New Jersey/New York	27	November 2007
Northern Lights	36	November 2007
SiliconWeb	50	November 2007
Southeastern	15	October 2007
Southwest	22	November 2007
St. Louis	40	November 2007
Utah	11	July 2007
TOTAL	317	

ICG Membership Benefits

Your ICG membership benefits include voting rights and a subscription to this newsletter. Chapters that fail to report their members and submit their dues run the risk of being deactivated. Members of deactivated Chapters who wish to participate in activities as ICG members must join an active Chapter of the ICG.

ICG Email Mailing Lists

ICG-D@yahoogroups.com (General Discussion)
ICG-BOD@yahoogroups.com (Board & Officers)

ICG-D is open to everyone, including non-members. Instructions for subscribing to any of the ICG email mailing lists can be found at this URL:

help.yahoo.com/help/us/groups/groups-19.html

Publication Specifications/Advertising

Deadline to receive materials or advertising for print: The 1st of the month prior to publication. Further, updated information will be included in the next issue. Please get us your submissions and advertisements for the next issue by no later than January 1, 2007.

Electronic Submissions

Electronic submissions must be at least 300 dpi resolution. Material may be formatted as follows: text, RTF, MS Word or Corel WordPerfect. Sorry, we can't accept .txt format. Graphics at 300 dpi resolution in GIF, JPG or TIF. Email to icg-newsletter@costume.org. Please contact us first before sending attachments in email - we're sensitive to viruses!

Hard Copy Submissions (if absolutely necessary)

Send by snail mail to *The ICG Newsletter* address listed on page three of this issue. We reserve the right to retain all hard copy unless accompanied by a SASE.

Advertising Rates

Ad rates for The ICG Newsletter are per issue. Please make payment to The ICG, Inc. and send with advertising copy to *The ICG Newsletter* (email address above). Ads received without payment will not be published. Advertising revenues are used to defray the cost of mailing the newsletter. Additional proceeds benefit the International Costumers' Guild, Inc.

Ad Size	Member Rates	Non-Member Rates
Full Page	\$60	\$120
Half-Page	\$30	\$60
Quarter Page	\$15	\$30
Eighth Page (Business Card)	\$7.50	\$15
Classified Ads	Free	50 cents/word

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ICG Newsletter Identification Statement:

International Costumers Guild, Inc. Newsletter
 September-October Issue Date - Published Bi-Monthly
 International Costumers Guild, Inc.
 c/o Denisen Hartlove, Editor
 5532 Montana Drive, Concord, CA 94521
 Volume 6, Issue 6
 Subscription Included with Annual Membership of \$8

Message from the Costume-Con 26 Future Fashion Folio

Never know quite what to make for your next costume?
Want to see a preview of what you'll be seeing on the catwalk at Costume Con 26?
The Future Fashion Folio for CC26 will be hitting the mail shortly!!

This year we've had some amazing entries come in. Our cover is by a newcomer, a middle-schooler from China. I think you'll agree with me that she's a force to be reckoned with and that we'll be seeing her couture designs for many years to come.

We also have a stunning Evil Genius design from another newcomer, a fashion student from India. There are also submissions from some familiar names, including a few that we've missed and are happy to see back.

We had several special categories to start with, and a few more that kind of invented themselves based upon the entries we received. Alien Santa Claus' anyone?

Don't have time for an entire outfit? Don't forget that the Single Pattern Contest has a lovely hat pattern from Lynn McMasters (get it at <http://lynnmcmasters.com/wellington.html>). The team that will actually put on the show has added another Single Pattern option that is in keeping with our Seussian and Evil theme.

With 84 pages of designs (and a stunning color cover!) there's bound to be something here to get your creative juices flowing. Whether you're looking for ideas for dressing the small army you're raising, or an outfit to wear on Mulberry Street, the Future Fashion Folio has something for you. Visit www.cc26.info to register!



We're all going . . . are you?



Costume-Con 26

Adventures in the Costume Continuum!

April 25-28, 2008, San Jose CA

Visit us & register: www.CC26.info

email: info@CC26



