

International Costumer

Volume XIII, Issue 2

International Costumers' Guild

March-April 2014



Celebrating With Style

President's Letter

by Phil Gust

The annual ICG Annual Meeting will take place at Costume-Con 32 the morning of Friday, April 25, 2014. This is a chance for you to interact with fellow members, chapter board representatives, your elected officers, and to hear the 2014 Annual Report. You may also bring items of business before the membership and ask questions of the board and officers. Finally, you can vote on a slate of ICG officers for the 2014-2015 term.

While everyone is welcome at the meeting, only ICG members in good standing may speak at the meeting *and* vote.

Agenda Items: If you want to make sure that a specific topic or business item is covered, before the meeting, please send it to icg-president@costume.org with the subject line *Annual Meeting*.

Officer Nominations: If you want to serve as an ICG officer, please send your name and the office you are interested in to me with the subject line **Officer Nomination**. Most of the current officers are willing to stand for reelection, but others are encouraged to run as well.

Our current Corresponding Secretary, Jan Price, is not standing for reelection. Please consider serving in this position. See Section 9 of the ICG Bylaws for more information about the duties of this office. <http://www.costume.org/documents/bylaws.html>

Proxies: If you will not be at the ICG Annual meeting, or aren't sure, you can still vote. Please complete a proxy form and give it to someone who will attend with instructions on how to vote for you.

The proxy form is on page seven of this newsletter. While we prefer that you hand-sign your proxy form, we realize that is not always practical, and will accept forms that have been digitally "signed" (*i.e. /signed/ Your Name*). Digitally signed proxies are subject to verification. To simplify counting votes, only printed proxies presented at the meeting by the assignee will be accepted.

I look forward to seeing you at the ICG Annual meeting. If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me by e-mail or phone. I normally respond to e-mail messages within 24 hours, so if you don't get a response, please resend it.



1915 Mardi Gras Maskers.



Photo from happymardigras.blogspot.com

From the Editor

by Carole Parker

Costume-Con is a celebration of costumers and costuming, and we are looking at Carnivale and Mardi Gras happening at publication time-another time of celebration and costuming. It seemed to me that the 1915 and 1908 (cover) Mardi Gras postcards show some costuming fun as well as being historical.

Don't forget that while we are celebrating costuming, we have our annual meeting taking place at Costume-Con. Please consider running for office, working on a committee, or even taking over as Editor of the *International Costumer*.

I don't think I can say it any plainer folks: *If someone does not volunteer to take over as editor of the International Costumer after the May-June issue, you won't have an International Costumer to read.*

I love you all, but I have other obligations that I need to meet, and I will not have the time to devote to creating this newsletter.

This is an easy group of people to work with, and the Editorial Board will help you as much as *you* like. They make great proofreaders and catch things that make for a better newsletter. I could not have done nearly as good a job without them.

Please reread the last newsletter about what it takes, and send an e-mail to:

icg-president@costume.org

or

icg-newsletter@costume.org

to answer any questions you may have. Yes, I will be available for hand holding if needed or wanted. Otherwise, it's yours.

Costume-Con 32

by Dawn McKechnie

Costume-Con 32 is fast approaching and it looks like it's going to be a big one!

We're feeling the love, and with so many great costume enthusiasts on the way, it's hard not to be getting excited that it's just around the corner.

The only catch, so far, is with so much awesome packed into one place, our main hotel is fully booked! Occasionally a room will free up in the Sheraton, so we are sharing a list of nearby hotels. This information is available on the Costume-Con 32 website:

<http://costumecon32.com/cc32-location/hotel-info/> and at the end of this article.

All the event directors are hard at work getting ready to bring you four fantastic shows: *Single Pattern Competition* (Friday), *SF&F Masquerade* (Saturday), *Future Fashion Folio Show* (Sunday afternoon), and



Historical Masquerade (Sunday evening).

Jacqueline Ward in a previous SF&F Masquerade.

Costume contests are not limited to just humans! Doll fans, don't forget to bring your dolls

and enter them in the doll show. Costume creations for all types of dolls are accepted.

Many social events are planned to take place at Costume-Con 32 as well. A few examples are:

Late Thursday night, we will have a *Meet-and-Greet* for first timers to get to know more about Costume-Con informally. It's a great way to meet some longtime Costume-Con attendees and make new friends! If it's your first Costume-Con, don't forget to check out the panel for those new to Costume-Con.

Make sure to check out the *Monster Club Friday Night Social*! We hope you will come to see the *Single Pattern Competition* and then stay for a fun and relaxing social experience hosted by vampire maids. All monster kind and their mortal friends are welcome at this event to mix, mingle, and to make and meet friends!



Friday Night Monster Club Social vampire maids. Meetups We will be having meetups

during the weekend, so people with shared interests can exchange ideas, show off their creativity, and make new friends!

Confirmed is a *Doll Enthusiast* meetup as well as a *Notions and Fabric Swap*.

We are looking for more meetup hosts. If you have an idea for a meetup and would like to be a CC32 meetup leader, please email us via the costumecon32@gmail.com address, with "Meetup + (subject)" in the title. We look forward to your e-mails! Topics are unlimited, but we ask that they

remain family friendly in the general convention space.

Have you heard about our room parties and Room Party Contest? Costume-Con 32 will be holding a room party contest for those clubs, ICG chapters, and individuals who wish to host a room party at CC32. Room parties hosted on Thursday, April 24th; Friday, April 25th; Saturday, April 26th, and Sunday, April 27th will be eligible to win a nifty prize.

Please notify of us your intention to host a room party as well as the basic theme. Then promote! Promote! Promote! Win the hearts of the people and the judges.

More details:

<http://costumecon32.com/about/con-suite-parties/>

Many amazing places to visit are in Toronto and the surrounding areas. I know one particular tour is in high demand. The Fibre Fantasy Artists' own Jacqueline Ward will be leading a tour to the *Gerrard India Bazaar* on Monday.



Gerrard India Bazaar - the Monday tour. For those staying late Monday, join us poolside for a CC pool party, or gather in

the con suite for snacks and to reflect on another great year of Costume-Con experiences.

Please keep checking our website:

<http://www.costumecon32.com>

and our Facebook Page for more details and developments.

[Toronto Airport Marriott](#)

1-416-674-9400

901 Dixon Road · Toronto, M9W 1J5

Onsite parking, fee: 19 CAD daily

Distance from Sheraton = 500 meters (35 second drive, 5 minute walk)

Best Perks: Closest to Sheraton.

[Courtyard Toronto Airport](#)

1-866-460-7456

231 Carlingview Drive Toronto Ontario M9W 5E8

Onsite parking, fee: 12 CAD daily

Distance from Sheraton = 700 meters (1 minute drive, 9 minute walk)

Best Perk: Free Wi-Fi

[Radisson Suite Hotel Toronto Airport](#)

1-800-395-7046

640 Dixon Road, Toronto, Ontario M9W 1J1

Onsite Parking \$14 day

Distance from Sheraton = 1.2 km (2 minute drive, 15 minute walk)

Best Perk: Tim Hortons coffee shop and five restaurants in the same parking lot

[International Plaza](#)

1-416-244-1711

655 Dixon Road Toronto, Ontario, M9W1J3

Onsite Parking fee, \$16 daily

Distance from the Sheraton = (850 meters, 1 minute drive, 11 minutes walk)

Best Perk: Pool with waterslides

[Travelodge Hotel](#)

1-800-578-7878

925 Dixon Road, Dixon and 427, Toronto, ON M9W 1J8 CA

Onsite parking, fee: 12 CAD daily

Distance from Sheraton = 700 meters (1 minute drive, 9 minute walk)

Best Perks: Mini Fridge, Great Rates

[Holiday Inn Toronto Int'l Airport](#)

1 877 660 8550

970 Dixon Road Toronto, Ontario M9W 1J9 Canada

Onsite Parking fee, \$16 daily

Distance from Sheraton = (1.1 km, 2 minute drive, 13 minutes walk)

Best Perk: Perkins in lobby is 24 hours, (but service is slow at night).

[Quality Suites Toronto Airport](#)

1 416 674 8442

262 Carlingview Dr., Toronto, ON, Canada, M9W 5G1

Onsite parking fee 15.00 daily

Distance from Sheraton = 800 meters (1 minute drive, 10 minute walk)

Best Perks: Some suites have fridges and microwaves.

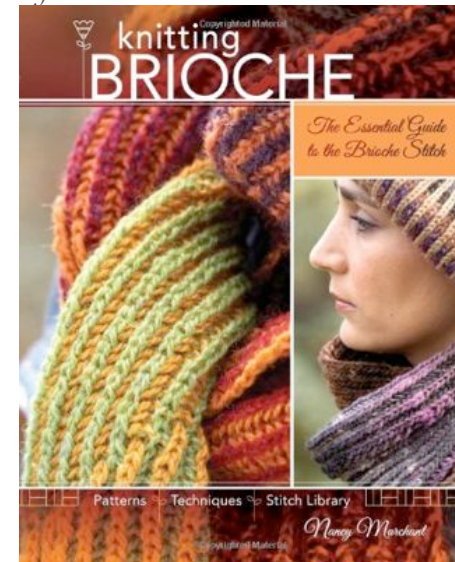


[Steampunk Convention](#)

Coming in 2015! Geneva Steam Convention hosted at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, WI. March 6-8th, 2015. Website coming soon! Look for the convention on Facebook!

Book Review

by Leah O'Connor



Knitting Brioche: The Essential Guide to the Brioche Stitch (Paperback)

If you are interested in brioche knitting, this is a must have book. I counted 50 distinct stitch

patterns, and that did not count all the variations you get when you add color. *Brioche* has about 30 project patterns for everything from simple scarves to complicated sweaters. It also has very good directions, drawings, and pictures to help the you learn brioche knitting.

My only problem with the book is that I prefer the *knit one below* method of knitting brioche, and all Marchant's directions use the *slip yarn over* technique. This means I have to re-chart all of her patterns, but that is a good thing. It helps you really understand the pattern.

I also think her instructions are overly complicated, and tells the knowledgeable knitter how to do something they already know how to do.

Neither of my complaints affect the value of this book. It is definitely worth owning.

Archive Activity Report

Pat & Peggy Kennedy Memorial Library 2013
by Bruce Mai

March 2013 saw the launch of the new YouTube Channel web series called *Spotlight On...* Roughly ten minutes in length, they feature a well-known costumer from our community. The first episode features Kathy Sanders, covering her creations from the 1970s until 2000, when she stopped.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YAzlUZ-eXg&noredirect=1>

Future episodes will be produced as time permits.

At Costume-Con 31, Pierre Pettinger, Nora Mai, and I were recognized for our work on the Archives with a *President's Award*, presented by ICG President, Philip Gust. Three video presentations debuted at CC 31 during the SF&F masquerade halftime. The first was an Academy Award-style memorial for three costumers we lost before CC31: Kent Elofson, Patti Gill (Mercier Paczolt), and Jan Howard Finder (aka *The Wombat*).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2JL2g1Cw1Xc&noredirect=1>

The second was a music video featuring masquerade entries at Archon – the St Louis, MO venue. The third music video, saluted veterans of Costume-Con. All three were very well-received.

Thanks to ICG member Dawn McKechnie, the Archives now has a sizable collection of Canadian costuming videos, mostly drawn from anime conventions in the Toronto area. More recently, five videos from Convergence (Minneapolis) were added to the Library, courtesy of the Madison Area Costumers Guild (*the MACs*).

A request to produce a memorial video for the late Marty Gear came to the Archives midsummer, and was presented at LoneStarCon 3 (Worldcon). Preceding it was the video honoring Elofson, Gill, and Finder. Observers at the masquerade halftime say the audience began chanting “Marty! Marty! Marty!” and then applauded when his voice was heard.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kjPO55NjM0&noredirect=1>

Recently, Byron Connell requested a copy of the video to be shown at Arisia, which takes place every January in the Boston area.

At the beginning of November 2013, the Chicon 7 (Worldcon 2012) Committee made a very generous donation of \$1,000 to the ICG Archives in recognition for its work and to help it make further acquisitions. This will help to replace any equipment that may be needed in the future, plus purchasing videos from conventions where possible.

Finally, another web series was launched. *A Look Back* features highlights from past masquerades and other costume events. The premiere episode is about the 1981 Worldcon – Denvention II, in Denver, CO. Footage from this masquerade has not been seen by the public in decades. A few names there are still competing today. It is hoped that this series will raise awareness of our hobby's history and the greater general costuming community.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xBdFcVgx0v4&noredirect=1>

Book Review

by Kathe Gust



Fabric for Fashion, The Complete Guide: Natural and Man-made Fibres

By Clive Hallett and Amanda Johnston

This updated version of the 2010 book was intended to make plain the behavior and properties of different fabrics to fashion designers. It provides a mix of

practical information and industry vocabulary, discusses the characteristics of fabrics, and helps readers exploit materials to push the boundaries of design.

At \$40.00 list price, this paperback isn't something you'd expect everyone to buy, but community colleges and academic, or even larger public libraries might be willing to purchase. If you can settle for Amazon, get it for only \$27.79

Be sure to visit the publishers site <http://www.laurenceking.com/us/fabric-for-fashion-the-complete-guide-natural-and-man-made-fibres/>

to view gorgeous color photographs that show examples of the inside pages.

The accompanying volume *Fabric for Fashion: the Swatch Book* (\$85.00 list / \$55.10 Amazon) is very much worth a look too, according to the folks at *The Sustainable Angle*. It contains over 100 swatches of widely used fabrics.

<http://www.laurenceking.com/us/fabric-for-fashion-the-swatch-book/?>

Membership Differences

Primary versus Non-Primary Membership
by Jeanine Swick

Costumers become members of the ICG by joining chapters. Currently, sixteen chapters are in the U.S. and Canada. Most of them serve members in a geographic location or region. One, the Silicon Web Costumers' Guild, is a virtual (online) chapter. Each chapter collects membership dues, and a part of each member's dues goes to the ICG to support programs that benefit all chapters. What if a costumer decides to join another chapter? Does this mean paying the ICG again?

Recognizing this problem, one of the earliest *Standing Rules (SR)* adopted by chapter representatives on the ICG board was SR5. SR5 provides that if a member belongs to more than one chapter, then one of the chapters is the *primary* chapter and the others are *non-primary* or *secondary* chapters (same meaning). You can read the full text of SR5 at:

<http://www.costume.org/documents/StandingRules.html#5>

When you joined your first chapter, they recorded you as a primary member, and other chapters you join later record you as a non-primary member. Only the primary chapter forwards a portion of the membership dues on to the ICG, so the member only pays the ICG portion once. That's why chapters charge less for non-primary membership, because they don't forward anything to the ICG for non-primary memberships.

This could get confusing for the chapter and ICG treasurers to keep track of, so SR5 says that you have the same membership renewal date for your primary chapter and any non-primary chapters. The chapter treasurers make a monthly membership report to the ICG treasurer that includes renewals. If you join a new non-primary chapter, the chapter treasurer will need to know the renewal date of your primary chapter, so that your membership period matches your primary chapter. That means your first membership period with a non-primary chapter may be less than a full year.

So feel free to join a second or even third chapter! Just be sure when you do to let each treasurer know who your primary chapter is and your renewal date, so everyone is on the same page.

Publisher Announcement

by Eddy Espina

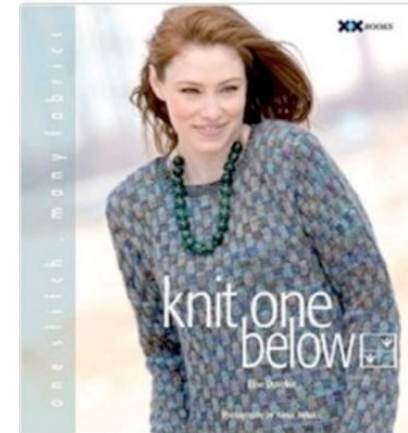
Our partner, Quite Specific Media has a new book coming out. The new book is *Digital Costume Design & Rendering* (9780896762718) by Annie O. Cleveland. It is about designing costumes using Photoshop and/or Painter.

<http://www.silmanjamespress.com/shop/pc/Digital-Costume-Design-Rendering-60p3534.htm>



Book Review

by Leah O'Connor



Knit One Below: One Stitch, Many Fabrics (Paperback)

This book has many projects using different color variations of the

brioche stockinette stitch pattern. It has good diagrams of the *Knit One Below Brioche* technique, but ignores or is unaware of other techniques and stitch patterns. If you want many project patterns in *Brioche Stockinette*, you will like this book, but do not expect a reference book on Brioche. For that, get Nancy Marchant's book. If you cannot find *Knit One Below* at your local library, it is definitely worth buying. I have swatched several stitch patterns using both techniques, and once they are blocked, you cannot tell them apart.

An expert opinion from *The Principles of Knitting* by June Hiatt: *The Brioche family of patterns can be done using two distinctly different techniques...[and both] produce exactly the same fabric.*

From the ICG

This year's International Costumers' Guild (ICG) annual members' meeting takes place in April at Costume-Con 32 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. If you will not be attending the meeting, and you want to vote, please print, fill out, and sign this proxy form. Then give it to a member who is attending. You *must* fill in the form completely and sign it. *Incomplete or unsigned forms will not be accepted.*

ICG 2014 Annual Meeting Proxy Assignment Form

On this _____ day of _____, 2014, I, _____ assign my vote to _____, and authorize the above-named ICG member, belonging to the _____ Chapter, to represent me in all business before the 2014 Annual Meeting of the International Costumers' Guild (ICG).

Assignee Name*: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Assigner Name**: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Signature: _____

**Who you are authorizing to vote on your behalf. **Your name.*

Chapter Newsletters

Does your chapter publish a newsletter? Is there a costuming e-zine that would be of interest to ICG members? Send your recommendations to:

icg-newsletter@costume.org

If your ICG chapter wants to start a newsletter, the Publications Committee can help you get started. To learn more:

icg-pubscommittee@costume.org

ICG By E-Mail or Internet

All members are welcome to join the ICG general discussion *Yahoo! Group* and participate in lively conversations on costuming. Please send comments and suggestions to the board and the standing committees using these e-mail addresses:

WebSite: <http://www.costume.org/>
Yahoo! Groups

General Discussion

icg-d@yahogroups.com

Board of Directors

icg-board@costume.org

Budget and Finance Committee

icg-financecommittee@costume.org

Public Relations Committee

icg-prcommittee@costume.org

Publications Committee

icg-pubscommittee@costume.org

Technology & Web Committee

icg-techcommittee@costume.org

ICG Membership Benefits

Your ICG membership benefits include participation in a chapter(s) of your choice, voting rights, and a subscription to the *International Costumer*.

ICG Editorial Board

Betsy Delaney, Kathe Gust, Philip Gust, Bruce Mai, Patrick O'Connor, Carole Parker, Jeanine Swick, and Randall Whitlock.

ICG Officers 2012-2013

President: Philip Gust

icg-president@costume.org

Vice President: Aurora Celeste

icg-vice-president@costume.org

Treasurer: Jeanine Swick

icg-treasurer@costume.org

Corresponding Secretary: Jan Price

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Recording Secretary: Kathe Gust

icg-rec-secretary@costume.org

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icg-newsletter@costume.org

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webmaster@costume.org

Website Assistants:

Carole Parker, Susan Toker

Archivist: Pierre Pettinger

icg-archivist@costume.org

Gallery Admin: Bruce Mai

gallery-admin@costume.org

GEL Administrator: Bruce MacDermott

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Parliamentarian: Pierre Pettinger

icg-parliamentarian@costume.org

Newsletter Delivery

The ICG Board of Directors authorized an online as well as print edition of the newsletter. Your newsletter delivery preference is part of your ICG membership record. If you want to change or verify your delivery preference, contact your local chapter. The newsletter staff relies on these records to determine who receives a newsletter and by what means of delivery.

Members who have an e-mail address on record are notified when a new edition is available. Those who receive the print edition are welcome to view the online edition by going to:

<http://www.costume.org/currentnewsletter>

When prompted, enter the user name "costumer" and the password "mardi2014gras."

Back issues of the ICG newsletter are available online for the entire costuming community to enjoy. Contact the newsletter editor e-mail address to report problems or comment on the newsletter. If your postal or e-mail address changes, notify your local chapter promptly, or send your updated information to icg-membership-corrections@costume.org. Returned copies of the print edition will not be re-mailed.

Online Submissions

Submit copy as rtf, doc, docx or txt files to the newsletter editor e-mail address. All current graphics formats are accepted.

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