

International Costumer

Volume XVIII Issue 4

July- Aug 2019



President's Message

By Marianne Legume



*"Reign of Terror Belle", Photography by
Isabelle Roza*

The summer costuming season is upon us! For many, it's a break from the rush of all the Spring conventions and ConCrunch sewing. Others are gearing up for Renaissance Faires, SCA events, and reenactments while making room for summer vacations and family get togethers. The particularly ambitious

are even working on their competition pieces for Costume Con next year- it's never too early to start!

Our chapters are also getting ready for a variety of summer activities. Here are my top ten ideas for summer costuming activities, some are already being planned by chapters!

- historical teas
- group movie nights
- garden picnics
- convention appearances.
- Victorian pool parties (and a sewing workshop beforehand!)
- Body Painting workshops (no time for embellishing skin like when it's actually warm out!)
- road trip to visit other chapters or museums
- cosplay BBQ in the park
- beating the heat with a silk fan painting workshop
- Marching in local parades!

Whatever your plans are just remember to stay hydrated, use

natural fibers, and know the signs of heat exhaustion and how to treat it! Suffering for the art should not extend to actual physical harm!

Yours in Costuming,
Marianne Pease

Co-Editor's Message

By Melina Chestley



*"Anya" Photo by Richard DuFault
@OShutterPhoto*

It seems that summer has finally arrived and I hope that everyone is getting a chance to enjoy it. For me that means more yardwork than I want to think about and getting my Costume

Con projects up and running. So many new skills to learn.

Marianne listed a number of interesting summer costuming activities in her letter and if you or your chapter are participating in any of them (or anything similar) please send us a write-up. It is always interesting to see what the guild is doing.

A quick reminder about newsletter submissions:

Article due dates are:

Dec 15	Jun 15
Feb 15	Aug 15
Apr 15	Oct 15

Articles should be short (1 to 3 pages) and in a word or text format with photos sent as separate attachments.

Thank you to Anne Davenport, Leo d'Entremont and Manu Henault for their contributions to this month's newsletter.

About the Cover Photo:

From Star Wars Celebration 2019. Costume display hall shot by Anne Davenport.

Masquerade at ConQuesT 50

By Leo d'Entremont

The Kansas City sci-fi convention, ConQuesT, has just celebrated its 50th convention with a newly updated Masquerade. First-time Masquerade director Leo d'Entremont revised the ConQuesT Masquerade format to follow ICG guidelines with the intention of rebuilding the event within the convention and costuming circuit. The ConQuesT masquerade went dormant for several years without a director. It was restarted in 2017 under an interim director who was too busy to continue running it. Leo stepped up with just over two months to go prior to the convention and decided that it was time for the show to get a face-lift. Leo has been a masquerade participant at the regional, national, and international level for twelve years, and is a member of the Kansas City chapter of the ICG. He has recently made his debut as a masquerade MC at CostumeCon 37. Having competed in ICG style competitions as well as unaffiliated competitions, Leo felt that the structure of the ICG guidelines

would give a better sense of establishment for new participants. He also hopes that it will help to attract participants from other parts of the midwest region and nearby ICG chapters.

The renovation of the masquerade started with a freshly revised webpage complete with novice-friendly instructions and guidelines. (<https://www.conquestkc.org/masquerade/>) Online registration was set up next. Full rehearsals with light and sound were implemented with 15 minute time slots to give coaching time to novices who had never been in a masquerade.

To complement the masquerade, Leo submitted several related items to the programming schedule, including panels to help explain ICG masquerade format and presentation techniques to attendees.

The May 25th competition attracted 10 participants.

In the Novice Division, Presentation awards were as follows:

Honorable mention for “Making an Entrance” went to Ayrucia Thompson for “Valkyrie Hussar.”

A Judge’s Choice award for “Best Conquest” was awarded to Cameron Collins for “Red Dalek.”

“Best in Class, Novice” was awarded to Hayley Bhatia for “Pam Poovey.”



Cameron Collins: “Red Dalek” Photo by Maegan Kabel

In the Novice Division, Workmanship awards were as follows:

“Best in Class, Novice,” was awarded to Cameron Collins for “Red Dalek.”

In the Journeyman Division,

Presentation awards were as follows:

“Best Characterization” (Presentation) was presented to Clara White for “Little Bo Peep in Fabric Land.”

In the Journeyman Division,

Workmanship awards were as follow:

“Workmanship Award” was awarded to Clara White for “Little Bo Peep in Fabric Land.”



Clara White: “Little Bo Peep in Fabricland” Photo by Maegan Kabel

In the Master/Craftsman Division, the Presentation awards were as follows:

“Most Majestic” was awarded to Jesse Robinson for “Forest Faun.”

In the Master/Craftsman Division,

Workmanship awards were as follows:

“Best in Class, Master,” was awarded to Bethany Padron for “We Are Gray.”

“Best in Show, Workmanship” was awarded to Ayrucia Thompson for “Valkyrie Hussar.”



Ayrucia Thomspson: “Valkyrie Hussar” Photo by Maegan Kabel

“Best in Show, Presentation” was awarded to Bethany Padron for “We Are Gray.”



Benthany Padron: "We Are Gray" Photo by Maegan Kabel

As Best in Show winners, Bethany Padron and Ayrucia Thompson were awarded free memberships to ConQuesT 51.

A Guild Award for "Great Potential" from the Kansas City chapter of the ICG was given to Novice Jenna Merry for her costume "She-Hulk." Congratulations to all participants and award winners!



Left to right: Leo d'Entremont (Masquerade Director), Shannon Shell (Judges' Clerk), Jennifer Old-d'Entremont, John Hart, and Rosemary Williams. Photo by Maegan Kabel

Judges were John Hart, Jennifer Old-d'Entremont, and Rosemary Williams, all members of the Kansas City chapter of the ICG. Sound and Lights were run by Shahzaib "Mage" Bhatia and assisted by Tom Horton. The MC was Sherri Dean.

ConQuesT 50, the Kansas City Chapter of the ICG, and Leo d'Entremont would like to thank all participants and those who supported this masquerade event. Join the fun next year as ConQuest and the KCCG continue to grow our masquerade competition!



News from Costume-Con 38

by Manu Hénault and the CC38 Team

Hello all! We are happy to say that CC37 went very well for us: around 30 new memberships sold and many many happy people in the morning with the maple cream (gee what was in that cream anyways...the world will never know). We hope you had a wonderful CC37 as well and wish to see you soon either at CC38 or at another convention coming soon. As you know, Costume-Con 38 is now less than in a year! How are your costumes preparation going? More than ever, we are working to bring you a unique event with this French-Canadian flavour (see what I did there, eh?).

As of when this blurb was written, we now have over 400 members registered for the convention, all over the US and the Canada. We insist that due to the

hotel capacity, this edition will cap at 1000 members total (including merchants and staff). Hurry up to register before it's too late! Also, did we mention we are having a special that consists of 4 regular memberships at the price of 3. Select the option 4@3 on the registration page located at <http://costumecon38.org/en/registration/>

You're already registered? Good for you! But did you get a room? Our room block is almost at 40% full already and growing pretty steadily each week! There is no deposit required for reservation but you need to cancel 72 hours prior to the date of reservation to avoid penalty fees. Reserve online here: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/97993?groupID=2495488#/guestsandrooms>

Reminder that the FFF is still accepting designs until September 1st, 2019. Look at this page for more details: <http://costumecon38.org/en/programming/competitions-and-events/fff/> or write to our Director at ffcc38design@gmail.com

In the same train of thoughts, though the rules are not out yet, here are the chosen patterns for this CC edition:



All McCall's: M7271, M7368 and M7736
If you would like to meet us in person, our next convention are:
Médiévales Lanaudière
<https://medievalesslanaudiere.com/>
ConBravo! <https://2019.conbravo.com/>
Québec Comiccon
<https://www.comicconquebec.com/en/>
At anytime you can reach us at

admin@costumecon38.org

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The 2019 Chicago Star Wars Celebration

by Anne Davenport (article photos by Anne Davenport)

Details:

Star Wars Celebration

Apr 11 - Apr 15, 2019

McCormick Place Convention Center,
Chicago, Illinois

Whatever might be said of a Star Wars Celebration, it is a major costuming event . . . if you're wearing a Star Wars costume or cosplay. Or if you want to go look at and/or take pictures of them. With over 60,000 attendees (according to one quote in the Chicago Sun Times online) it is a giant opportunity for devoted fans to suit up and binge on their favorite franchise.

As I've said many times before, Celebration itself is not a convention; it is a giant Star Wars trade show. It is stuffed with more kitsch and product placement for the Galaxy-Far-Far-Away than any other place on the planet.



However, moving past the conspicuous commercialism, the owners (Disney/Lucasfilm) and subcontractor (ReedPop) do a decent job of making it a friendly environment for costuming groups to gather, show-off and take lots of pictures.

Picture-taking opportunities are a favorite activity and uniquely available at Celebration. Want a picture of you in your Imperial pilot costume next to your TIE fighter? You can do that at Celebration.



The Exhibition area, the largest part of Celebration, hosts multiple fan-built sets from the movies, photo backgrounds and backdrops for the

perfect pic. But for some of the choicest photo ops be prepared to wait in line.



Celebration in Chicago allocated a large space in the Exhibition area for over a dozen fan tables (at no charge to the costuming clubs), from Rebel Legion to Dark Empire, Dented Helmet to Jedi Assembly. The centerpiece of this was a group costume display.



Space was also provided to the fan groups to give costuming panel discussions and demonstrations. The Saber Guild, a group that specializes in Jedi/Sith costuming and stage fighting, were given a stage where they presented their fighting skills, performances of Jedi/Sith legends and demonstrations on how they do it. But a whole separate room from the Exhibition area was allocated for the Droid Builders, a regular attraction at Celebration.



They have gone far past just building R2D2 with many BB-8s, R4s, Choppers, mouse droids, Gonk, and more. Their near-museum quality display also includes cutaways to show the attendees just how they build them.

And to encourage newcomers to catch the droid-building bug.

Another favorite activity are the fan club group photos. Costumes/cosplay just have a different feel to them when everyone else is joining in on the fun with you.



And no worries about wearing the same thing. Five Kylo Rens together is ten times the fun. And even more stunning if it's a dozen Wookiees.



The non-conformist costumes turn up everywhere. There are the inevitable stormtrooper variants; Elvis-trooper, pink-trooper, Muppets-troopers, Walking-Dead-trooper (with excellent zombie makeup for when he took off his helmet). There was someone in a large rolling Bantha costume and a gaggle of fans in Starfleet uniforms carrying signs that declared 'Worst Star Trek Convention Ever'. There was Furry-X-Wing Pilot and Mickey Mouse Pilot, and the guy in the Deadpool costume wearing a Slave Leia metal bikini over it.

And finally, for something that may or may not be costume/cosplay, is the Tattoo Pavilion, a regular feature of Celebration where the tattoo pens were buzzing all weekend.



Fans can make an appointment to get their Star Wars favorites indelibly immortalized on their bodies or enter the tattoo contest for best body art.

Star Wars Celebration does have a cosplay contest, generally on Saturday

afternoon, between celebrity stage appearances. But one can just walk down the halls and aisle to many creative and first-rate costumes just walking around. Celebration features a great deal of quality, not just quantity.

So, if you're in the mood to overdose on Star Wars, Celebration is a good place to do it. The next Celebration has been announced for the end of August 2020 in Anaheim, California, at the convention center right next to Disneyland. But get your tickets quick (on sale 21-June-2019), the 2019 Celebration 4-day ticket sold out in a week.

Discount Reminder 10% off



Click on the Business Program button at the top of the page. Input your information and upload a PDF or JPG copy of your proof of membership found in the email with the newsletter. Elected and Chapter officers can use the link to the ICG webpage listing their position instead of uploading proof of membership. An email will be sent to you within 3 business days with your special code. Your code works only with your account and cannot be used on another account.

About the ICG

Membership Benefits

ICG membership benefits include participation in local Chapters and in Special Interest Groups, voting rights, eligibility for grants, online forums, learning and volunteer opportunities, and the International Costumer.

ICG Online

Visit the ICG website for current information and resources:

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

Join us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/internationalcostumers>

Join the ICG-D Yahoo! group for lively discussions on costuming-related topics:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/icg-d>

Amazon Smile link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1656188>

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The Marty Gear Costuming Arts and Sciences Fund

The Marty Gear Costuming Arts and Sciences Fund provides grants for projects and activities that promote the art and science of costuming. For information on how to apply for a grant, please visit

<http://www.costume.org/grants/grants.html>

The International Costumer

The *International Costumer* newsletter is published bi-monthly by the ICG. The current issue is for members only. Back issues are freely available to the costuming community on the ICG website.

Online Submissions

We welcome short costuming articles, book reviews, event reports, and news items. Submit your copy as rtf, doc, docx or txt files to the *International Costumer* editor: icg-newsletter@costume.org. All graphics formats are accepted.

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