

International Costumer

Volume XXI Issue 1

Jan-Feb 2022



["The Masked Ball"](#) (c. 1876) by Georges Jules Victor Clairin (1843-1919).

From the President's Desk

Kevin Roche

Season's Greetings; Happy Holidays!

I'm writing in mid-December 2021 from our suite at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC, where DisCon III, the (delayed and reduced) World Science Fiction Convention will be held in just a few days. Andy and I arrived a few days early to settle in and play tourist, and to take a much needed vacation after the last two very trying years.

(The photo at right is of my co-worker Wendy and I finally together in person at IBM Almaden at our winter holiday gathering last week; we've hosted dozens of online virtual events for the area IBMers working from home during the pandemic and even though it was scaled down to just a nice free lunch, at least this year we could get a picture with the tree, which is

our personal tradition. Have no fear, we immediately re-established our 6' social distancing. ☹)

This is our first attempt at attending a convention since the pandemic closed down Costume-Con 38, so we're taking it slow and careful; so far all the fans we've seen have been super-diligent about mask protocols (proof of vaccination and mask wearing are required by the convention) . We are going to feel



our way through the social aspects of the event (parties, panels, etc.) and can always retreat to the suite if necessary.

I was pleasantly surprised -- and honored -- to be asked to step in as the Worldcon Masquerade MC just a couple of weeks ago, so there are more costumes in my luggage than I had originally planned, including my very silly merman unicorn costume from Halloween. That one is for a party night I think; I have something more hostly in mind for the Masquerade.

Depending on how Worldcon goes, Andy and I are scheduled to attend Further Confusion in January and Gallifrey One in February, both costume-rich environments full of fans and friends; I hope everything works out.

The Board of Directors has been hard at work this quarter with some additional urgent cleanup of our

Standing Rules preparatory to a more detailed examination of our governing documents for revision in the year to come.

As things stand now, there *will* be an in-person Annual Meeting at Costume-Con 40 in Maryland in April, and I'll report further on that progress at the meeting.

With that in mind, I'm going to remind you again of these two very important things:

Lifetime Achievement Award Nominations Now OPEN!

Time is counting down to submit nominations for the ICG Lifetime Achievement Award! Nominations are due 60 days before the Annual Members Meeting, which (if I'm counting correctly) is January 31, 2022. Please visit the website at <https://costume.org/wp/icg-lifetime-achievement-award/> to see the details about eligibility and how to prepare a nomination. Nominations can be

made by any ICG member, chapter, or SIG in good standing.

Annual Meeting

Public Health situation permitting, we *are* planning to hold an in-person Annual Members Meeting at Costume-Con 40 in Bethesda. While the exact schedule has not been set, for the purpose of calculating deadlines, etc., consider the meeting date to be April 1, 2022 (and that's no joke!)

If you can't attend in person, you can submit a proxy for someone to vote on your behalf, either via this Google Form: <https://forms.gle/XsW9jnGvoZjZjcX47> by printing, completing, and sending the form in this issue or at <https://costume.org/wp/about-the-international-costumers-guild/icg-annual-meeting-proxy-form/>.

I wrote in more detail about them last month, but also don't forget:

- the Marty Gear Fund is accepting grant applications,
- we need a permanent newsletter editor (or two),
- there are committees you can help with,
- if you are interested in serving as an Officer of the ICG, nominations are open until March 22
- make use of the [cos-chat](#) Google Group!

You may have noticed that a brand new announce-only ICG Google Group was started; if you have an announcement that should go to all of the ICG, pass it in via your board representative, or email icg-president@costume.org for consideration.

Finally, as this the winter solstice approaches in another very tumultuous year, let me wish again for the happiness of you and yours in hearth, health, and home, and for a safe and Happy New Year!

Guest Editor's Letter

Philip Gust

Happy New Year! This issue of the *International Costumer* leads off with an update on Costume-Con 40, which takes place April 1-4 in Rockville, Maryland. It also includes an article that highlights new exhibits on display in the ICG Gallery.

Open Newsletter Positions

The *International Costumer* newsletter helps members stay in touch with what is happening in the ICG. Editing and distributing the newsletter depends on members like you to donate your time and talents in service of the costuming community. If you are interested in these positions or want to find out more, contact me at icg-newsletter@costume.org

Editor(s): responsible for soliciting content and creating the newsletter (6 issues per year). This does not

have to be a solo job if two people would like to be co-editors.

Website helpers; responsible for uploading the newsletter to the website and sending the newsletter announcements to the mailing list.

Royally Celebrating 40 years of Costume-Con

By Dragan Rose (Greater Columbia Fantasy Costumers' Guild), with contributions by Byron Connell (NJ/NY Costumers' Guild)

Happy New Year! As we begin a new year all of us are looking forward to having the first in person Costume-Con since 2020. Everyone has been working hard to make Costume-Con 40, "Rogues, Royals, and Renegades" one to remember.

In addition to the usual line up of events, the Sci-fi/Fantasy and Historical Masquerades, panels and workshops, and the Friday Night Social, we will be hosting entrants

from the CC38 Single Pattern and Future Fashion Show. We want to make note that the CC38 Single Pattern Contest and Future Fashion Show will be on Friday at the Friday Night Social. The CC40 Single Pattern Contest and Future Fashion Show will be on early on Sunday Morning before tech rehearsal for the Historical Masquerade.

There is also the Doll contest, Quilt competition, and especially for CC40 a Face Mask contest, and a Tiara Contest.



If you're more interested in historical costume than fantasy or science fiction costume (or you just want to do it all), on Sunday, the Historical Masquerade lets you present a costume completely accurate to the garments you're reproducing or the period you're working in (e.g., 15th century Renaissance Italy), from the skin out, or one that visibly departs from a period in order to capture a "special" look (e.g., a Starfleet officer in 15th Century Renaissance Italy). They're two separate entry categories (historical dress vs. historical interpretation)! Or, of course, you could present entries in each category if you can find a second body. The judges will review your documentation and your workmanship as well as your stage presentation – you could wind up with three awards for one entry!

For anyone who is interested in doing more than just Costume-Con, the hotel is located a block away

from the North Bethesda Metro Station that can take you to all the attractions in Washington D.C. Costume-Con also falls within the time for the National Cherry Blossom Festival and we will make sure to have the schedule of events available. Because of the hotel's location in downtown Rockville there are also plenty of dining options to fit any budget.

Costume-Con 40 will be April 1 to 4, 2022 in Rockville, Maryland. For more info and to register, check us out at: <https://costume-con40.org/>.

New ICG Gallery Exhibits

By Philip Gust (Silicon Web Costumers' Guild)

Now that the ICG Gallery is back online, the ICG Archives team has used a feature available with the Omeka software that hosts it to create exhibits with curated collections of images in the Gallery around common themes. Visit the Gallery at <http://gallery.costume.org/>.

[See Leslie Johnston's article on the ICG Gallery in the Sept-Oct 2021 special issue of the "International Costumer" at <http://costume.org/wp/the-international-costumer-newsletter/> - ed]

This article highlights new and recently-updated exhibits and describe what they cover. Keep visiting the ICG Gallery website for new exhibits from the ICG Archives team.

Costumes and Costumers of the 1960s

(UPDATED) Costuming and Cosplay are not a recent thing. Convention costuming really started at the first Worldcon in 1939 (NYcon 1), when Myrtle ("Morojo") Douglas dressed herself and her then-boyfriend Forrest ("Forry") J. Ackerman in costumes inspired by the 1936 movie *Things to Come*.

But costuming really took off at conventions in the 1960s, paving the path to become the huge



Myrtle "Morajo" Douglas and Forrest J "Forry" Ackerman, Worldcon 1 / NyCon 1, 1939.

international convention and costuming/cosplay community that it is today. This exhibit looks at costuming in the 1960s, 1960s costumers, and notable authors in costume.

Worldcon 2006: LACon 4 Masquerade

(NEW) This exhibit is a recreation of the Science Fiction and Fantasy masquerade at the LACon 4, the



Pierre Pettinger, Sandy Pettinger, Tina Connell, and John Blaker as Heritors of Yu. Photo by Charles Mohapel. Worldcon 2006

64th World Science Fiction Convention (Worldcon), held on August 23–27, 2006, in Anaheim, California in its original run order, and identifies the awards that entries received.

Worldcon 2007: Nippon 2007 Masquerade

(NEW) This exhibit is a recreation of the Science Fiction and Fantasy masquerade at Nippon 2007, the 65th World Science Fiction Convention (Worldcon), held on August 30th - September 3rd, 2007. Yokohama, Japan. in its original run order, and identifies the awards that entries received.



James Joseph Styles as Australian Hitchhiker. Photo by Richard Man Worldcon 2007.

Worldcon 2008: Denvention 3 Masquerade

(NEW) This exhibit is a recreation of the Science Fiction and Fantasy masquerade at Denvention 3, the 66th World Science Fiction Convention (Worldcon), held on 6–10 August 2008 in Denver, Colorado, USA in its original run order, and identifies the awards that entries received.



Schoolhouse Rock Presents: A Reconsideration of the Astronomical Status of Dwarf Planet Pluto. Photo by Greg Brant. Wordcon 2008.

This Proxy Statement is for ICG members who will not be attending the Annual Meeting at Costume-Con. If you want to vote, print and complete the form and give it to someone who will be attending. You must sign this form for it to be valid. You can also submit a proxy online at <https://forms.gle/XsW9jnGvoZjZjcX47> .

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International Costumers' Guild 2022 Annual Meeting Proxy Assignment Form

On this _____ day of _____, 20____, I, _____,

assign my vote to and authorize the below named member of the International Costumers' Guild, belonging to _____ Chapter, to represent me in all business coming before the 2022 Annual Meeting of the International Costumers' Guild.

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.*

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

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

ICG Facebook group:

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

ICG Gallery

<https://gallery.costume.org/>

Members-only Google discussion group:

<https://groups.google.com/a/costume.org/g/cos-chat>

ICG Board meeting Google group:

<http://groups.google.com/u/6/a/board.costume.org/g/meeting>

Use Amazon Smile to support the ICG:

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

Board of Directors:

icg-board@costume.org

Budget and Finance Committee:

icg-financecommittee@costume.org

Costuming Arts & Sciences Grant Fund

icg-grants@costume.org

Public Relations Committee:

icg-prcommittee@costume.org

Publications Committee:

icg-pubscommittee@costume.org

Technology & Web Committee:

icg-techcommittee@costume.org

Guidelines Committee:

<http://guidelines-committee@board.costume.org>

Officers

President: Kevin Roche

icg-president@costume.org

Vice President: Leslie Johnston

icg-vice-president@costume.org

Treasurer: Jeanine Swick

icg-treasurer@costume.org

Corresponding Secretary: *vacant*

icg-corr-secretary@costume.org

Recording Secretary: Anne Davenport

icg-rec-secretary@costume.org

Helpful Hands

International Costumer editor: *vacant*

icg-newsletter@costume.org

Webmaster: Philip Gust

webmaster@costume.org

Archivist: Pierre E, Pettinger, Jr.

icg-archivist@costume.org

Gallery Administrator: Nora Mai

Gallery Webmaster: Leslie Johnston

gallery-admin@costume.org

GEL Administrator: Bruce MacDermott

Assistant GEL Administrator: Elaine Sims

gel-admin@costume.org

Parliamentarian: Pierre Pettinger

icg-parliamentarian@costume.org

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>

About 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 editor at icg-newsletter@costume.org. All graphics formats are accepted.

Contacting the Editor

Please contact the editor to report problems, or to offer comments and suggestions:

icg-newsletter@costume.org.

Newsletter Delivery

The *International Costumer* is available as both an online and print edition. Your preference is part of your ICG membership record. To update your information or change your preference, contact your local chapter. Returned copies of the print edition cannot be re-mailed.

Members who have an e-mail address on record are notified when a new issue is available.

Access the online edition at

<http://costume.org/wp/the-international-costumer-newsletter/> The user name is

"**costumer**" and password is "**New Years Ball**".

Editorial Board

Melina Chestley, Betsy Marks, Kathe Gust, Philip Gust, Andrea Lewis, Patrick O'Connor, Kevin Roche, Jeanine Swick, Randall Whitlock.