

# The International Costumer

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The newsletter of the International Costumers' Guild, Inc.

*Vol XXIV Issue 1 - February 2025*

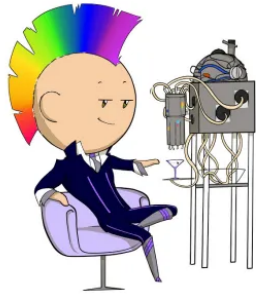


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## From the President's Desk — February 2025

By Kevin Roche



### Happy New Year!

I admit it: I've been remiss in posting From the President's Desk columns for the last six months! Here is my long-overdue letter to our members.

This winter we've been to PawCon

and Furcon, and are preparing for Gallifrey One in Los Angeles on President's Day weekend. We built a set of eerily effective dog-skull masks for the "mythical afterlife"



theme at PawCon, and my Rocky the Flying Squirrel got a very effective minor makeover in time for Furcon. I also did a very silly crossplay costume based on Pinky Pie from My Little Pony for a charity show last October (aka "Pinky Pie Pony Club")

All those projects were updated in the build diaries on my Twisted Image website, where you can follow the process and see the results. (<https://twistedimage.com/closet/build-diaries/>)

## Costume-Con 43 Canceled; Annual Meeting Will Be Virtual on April 12th

By now you have heard the sad news that Costume Con 43 has been canceled. We still need to hold our annual General Membership meeting, so we will be doing so that weekend, on Saturday, April 12, at noon Central time. Registration instructions will be published shortly.

**Please** do take time to attend the meeting if at all possible; this is your opportunity to elect our board officers and vote on any business before the membership.

I expect the document review committee will have proposed new governing documents for the membership to approve.

That weekend I will also be announcing the recipient(s)\* of the 2025 ICG Lifetime Achievement Award.

Nominations (or requests to reactivate a prior year's nomination) are open until 11:59 PM Pacific time on February 11.

### Other Business!

- The Board reviewed and passed our corporate budget for 2025 well in advance of the mandated deadline last month.
- ***Nominations are open for board officers***, until 11:59PM on March 13, 2025. (see [Standing Rules SR 3](#)). Send nominations to [icg-president@costume.org](mailto:icg-president@costume.org)
- We still need volunteers for:
  - *International Costumer Editor*
  - *Public Relations Committee*
  - *Technology & Web Committee*
  - *ICG Press Selection Committee*
  - *Assistant Archivists*

*None of these roles need be overwhelming with the level of automation we've added to our websites and publications*

## Take advantage of Our ICG Resources!

The ICG Zoom meeting account and our Google Workspace resources are available to all Chapters, SIGs, officers and committees. If you have a Guild-related project underway for which one of those would be useful –reach out to the tech committee so we can see how best to set up access for you!

## Reprise: About the ICG Lifetime Achievement Award Process

I posted this last year as well, but it bears repeating, so I'm reposting it. The gallery of recipients of the LAA (<https://costume.org/wp/icg-lifetime-achievement-award/>) describes its intent and the rules for nominations, but the actual selection process is somewhat buried in our governing documents (SR 21, to be precise), so in case you've ever wondered, here is how it works:

- **Administration:** the entire LAA selection process is administered by the current President of the International Costumers Guild.
- **Nomination:** a nomination may be nominated by any member, Chapter or Special Interest Group (SIG) in good standing by sending it to the President. Nominations may be submitted at any time, but a nomination for a particular year's award must be received no later than 60 days before the Annual Meeting. Practically, this means that the board and members will receive a reminder from the President roughly 90 days before the meeting of that nomination deadline
- **Ballot:** The President then assembles a ballot of all the nominated members as well as a packet of any supporting information supplied by the nominators, and distributes it to the electing officers (I am currently in the middle of that process).
- **Election:** the ballot is distributed to all chapter presidents and the corporate officers. They are asked to indicate their preferences and return them to the President by 30 days

before the Annual Meeting. The rules require a majority (not just a plurality), so the vote is done as a ranked choice (instant run-off) ballot. On occasion, it may take several stages of elimination through those ranked choices to achieve a result.

- **Award:** presuming there is a majority, the name(s)\* are supplied to a trusted agent to have the award plaque prepared for the announcement and presentation at Costume-Con. (We then proceed to the annual cat-herding that is attempting to photograph all the LAA recipients on site at the event for a “class picture”)

\*The LAA has on occasion been presented to a couple, hence the singular/plural construction.

Hope to see most of you at the virtual meeting!

Kevin Roche  
President, International Costumers Guild

## Proposed Reissue of ICG Governing Documents to Be Considered at 2025 ICG Annual Meeting

By Kevin Roche

The Governing Documents Review Committee has completed a review and rewrite of the ICG Governing Documents. These would be filed as a wholesale replacement (“reissue”) of the existing documents as provided for by Maryland corporate law. As required by our existing Governing Documents, this is the official 45 day notice of these proposed amendments, necessary for them to be considered at the Annual Membership Meeting to be held on April 12.

A ballot is being prepared in advance to allow remote voting and confirmation of membership as mandated for this decision.

These proposed documents represent new, clean versions of the ICG's two primary governing documents which will be filed with the State of Maryland, where the ICG is incorporated, as replacements to the versions currently on file. Both documents required a restructuring and edits and additions to clarify the content, including edits to make sure that terms were used consistently and to ensure that the Bylaws and the Standing Rules were in line with each other. Both had dozens of edits over the years and the language had drifted apart in some places, and having had so many edits, each had dozens of change references which made them a challenge to read.

Leslie Johnston as chair has expressed her heartfelt thanks to the Governing Documents Review Committee— Anne Davenport, Betsy Marks, and Jeanine Swick, with additional input from Byron Connell —for providing conceptual and actual edits, and to Kevin Roche and Pierre Pettinger who reviewed and provided edits for the penultimate drafts which resulted in the final versions now up for review.

As ICG President I personally wish to commend Leslie Johnston, the Docs Review committee, and Byron and Pierre for all their various contributions in taking on this enormous task and doing a stellar job.

Kevin Roche  
President, International Costumers' Guild

You may view the proposed replacement Bylaws at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GphOiby4vuXVS1gf5eJSbBW6IqhM6jC5/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GphOiby4vuXVS1gf5eJSbBW6IqhM6jC5/view?usp=drive_link)

And the new Standing Rules at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/123R3MvUaYyVFhcjrK0CsZIMS6as8dqfL/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/123R3MvUaYyVFhcjrK0CsZIMS6as8dqfL/view?usp=drive_link)

By submitting these as a reissue of our governing docs with the state, all the revision notes in the text are reset. However, anticipating that some members may wish to examine the

changes (there are \*many\*) the committee has also prepared lists of the changes:

Bylaws: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1maiFLyPLvVluq481iH7GT4Hf8vtABs3j/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1maiFLyPLvVluq481iH7GT4Hf8vtABs3j/view?usp=drive_link)

Standing Rules: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QqbKxVKzGek09FuelO\\_XVvYzTRumX2OG/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QqbKxVKzGek09FuelO_XVvYzTRumX2OG/view?usp=drive_link)

## Introducing the International Costumers' Guild Press

By Philip Gust



The International Costumers' Guild Press is the publication arm of the International Costumers' Guild (ICG). Its mission is to publish long-form content including books and monographs on topics related to costumes and costuming. The ICG Press was chartered by the ICG Board of Directors. Its operation falls under

the ICG Publications Committee, which I chair, and its business and operational functions are overseen by an Editor in Chief who is appointed by the ICG Board.

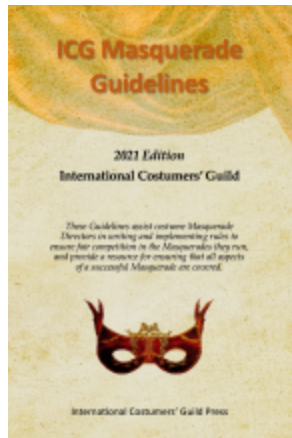
In 2024, I began reinvestigating small-press publishing options, and the time seemed right to begin work on getting the ICG Press running. I found that there have been a number of changes in the self-publishing and small-press publishing world that make it more feasible than in the past.

Several publishers have begun catering to these markets by providing turn-key solutions that include on-demand printing and distribution to major book sellers. The cost for self-publishing and small-press publishing has also decreased

considerably to the point that there are few up-front costs to set up titles for publication.. There are also many online resources available to guide self-published authors and small-press publishers through the process.

In September 2024, I reported my findings and recommendations to the ICG Board, and they asked me to take on the role as the founding Editor in Chief to get the ICG Press running. Although I have been involved in editing and publishing for a number of years, starting up the ICG Press required learning about all the details of book publishing, evaluating and selecting a vendor to print and distribute the books, and identifying a few initial titles that can be used to work through the process.

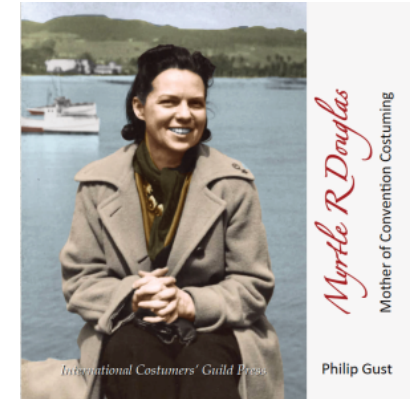
After several months of work, I'm pleased to announce that the International Costumers' Guild Press is up and running, with the first two titles just published at the end of January 2025. Visit the [International Costumers' Guild Press](#) page for more details. These two titles are based on existing ICG assets, which enabled me to focus on the publishing process.



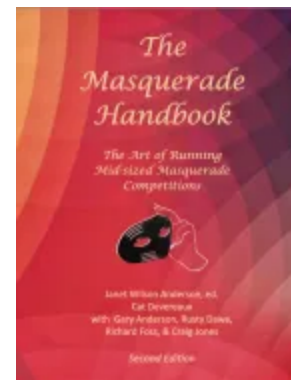
The first title is the 2021 Edition of the *ICG Masquerade Guidelines*. The Guidelines were created by the ICG to assist costume Masquerade Directors in writing and implementing rules to ensure fair competition in the Masquerades they run, and provide a resource for ensuring that all aspects of a successful Masquerade are covered. The Guidelines were created by the ICG Guidelines Committee in 1992. There have been four revisions, in 1994, 2006, 2010, and 2021.

This book is available in paperback, hardcover, and ebook versions. Visit the [ICG Masquerade Guidelines](#) page for information about this title, and to locate book sellers who offer the book. The ICG Press also sells the paperback and hardcover versions directly through our publication partner, IngramSpark.

The second title is *Myrtle R Douglas: Mother of Convention Costuming*. In 2016, the International Costumers' Guild recognized Myrtle R Douglas as “The Mother of Convention Costuming” for creating the first costumes ever worn at a sci-fi/fantasy convention, in 1939. This full-color commemorative book, based on the video I made for my presentation at MidAmeriCon II, the 74th Worldcon, pays homage to the fan who forever influenced what we wear at sci-fi/ fantasy conventions.



This book is available in paperback and hardcover versions. Because of the graphic layout and color illustrations, it is not easily adaptable as an ebook. Visit the [Myrtle R Douglas: Mother of Convention Costuming](#) page for more information and to locate vendors who sell the book. The ICG Press also sells the paperback and hardcover versions directly through our publication partner, IngramSpark.



The ICG Press will release its third title, a new edition of *The Masquerade Handbook*, on March 15, 2025. This work was originally compiled and privately distributed by Janet Wilson Anderson in 1991, and has been out of print since then. In 2022, ICG Vice President Leslie L. Johnston, working with ICG members Jill Eastlake and Judy Mitchell, began a project to bring this long-out-of-print title back to life and put it in the hands of today's costumers. They turned over their work to the ICG Press in late fall of 2024.

Preparing the title for publication involved scanning a printed copy of the original, extracting (and in some cases

reconstructing) the text and images, and designing a new layout and cover. Leslie also contacted Janet and the other authors or their representatives for permission to publish it. I am very grateful to Leslie, Jill, and Judy for their work, to Kathe Gust for her help preparing it for publication, and to Janet for her endorsement of the project and for writing an introduction to this new edition.

With a new layout, typography, and graphics, the second edition makes this classic work available again to members of the costuming community. I hope that you will enjoy reading this new edition and learning from the authors' experiences.

This book is available in paperback, hardcover, and ebook versions. Visit the [The Masquerade Handbook](#) page for information about this title, and to locate book sellers who offer the book. The ICG Press also sells the paperback and hardcover versions directly through our publication partner, IngramSpark.

For those who would like a behind-the-scene look at what was involved in starting the ICG Press and the process of publishing these first three titles, I will be presenting a "Silicon Web Costumers' Guild Presents" webinar on Sunday March 9 at 1pm PT, 4pm ET. Use this [link](#) to register for the webinar.

## CC-43 Future Fashion, Single-Pattern Contests Go Virtual

By Philip Gust



Although Costume-Con 43 will not take place this year, Chairman Henry Osier announced that the Future Fashion Show and the Single Pattern Contest will still take place in April as virtual events. These events will provide the costume community with a glimpse of what virtual competitions are like and how to run them.

Future Fashion directors Pierre and Sandy Pettinger, and Single Pattern directors Bruce and Nora Mai decided to go forward

with their respective events as virtual competitions, and have created Facebook events where those who are interested can stay up-to-date with the latest news.

- Future Fashion:  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1351437902960173/>
- Single Pattern:  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1816090722490014/>

Both contests will take place via Zoom on April 12, 2025 starting at 9pm ET, 6pm PT. The link will be posted on the Facebook event pages.

## Future Fashion Show

Most of the original rules for the show as originally published on the Costume-Con 43 website still apply. However, we will need to add a couple of rules.

1. To enter the Future Fashion Show you must inform us of your wish to do so and which design you wish to make. All designs are available since we will not limit how many folks can make a given design, with the exception of Space Bee Princess on page 24 and Iris on page 60. You can do so via a Facebook message or e-mail ([Folio@CC43.org](mailto:Folio@CC43.org)). If you have already chosen a design and informed us, you do not need to do so again. Choices must be made by March 31, 2025. (We really recommend choosing earlier since that would only give you a week to make your choice.)
2. Entrants will need to supply us with photos of your entry. We prefer a dropbox link sent to us via a Facebook message or email. If this is not possible, let us know and we will figure something out. We would like a front view, back view, and any detail shots you would like to include. If you have any workbook notes, you may send us those as well.
3. Photos must be received no later than 8 pm Central Time on April 5, 2025.

4. If you have not yet received a copy of the Future Fashion Folio, let us know and we will send you a dropbox link so you can download it.
5. After the show, we plan to upload the show onto YouTube.
6. We encourage everyone to donate to Henry Osier so he can pay for closing everything down. This will include any last-minute bills that may come up. We want to emphasize that this is NOT required to enter the show, and you may enter even if you were not a member of Costume-Con 43.

— Pierre and Sandy Pettinger, Future Fashion Show Directors

## Single Pattern Contest

The rules for the contest as originally published on the Costume-Con 43 website still apply. As a reminder, here are the patterns selected for this contest. All are available online, directly from the pattern companies, and may also be available at local fabric stores that remain in your area.

1. A pair of overall patterns paying tribute to Oshkosh WI, the home of OskKosh B’Gosh. Founded in 1895 they are renowned worldwide for their children’s clothing, particularly bibbed overalls.

**McCall’s 8437** – Misses Overalls by Brandi Joan; Floor length overalls with adjustable racerback straps. Overalls feature bib pocket, front buckles, side snap closures, and front and back pocket.

**Simplicity 8615** – Mimi G’s Men’s Vintage Jumpsuit and Overalls (a reworked pattern from the 1970s)

– *View A* with fly front zipper closing, has notched collar, back yoke, chest patch pockets, lower pockets that form carriers, back carrier, self-fabric buckled belt and short set-in sleeves with tuck detail.

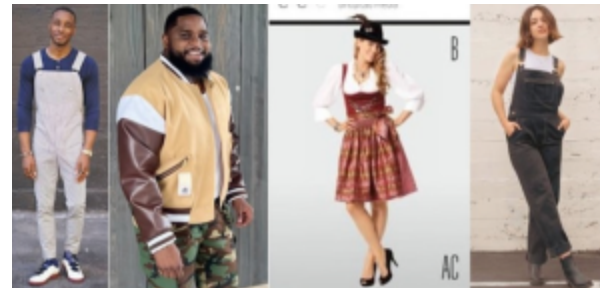
– *View B* with fly front zipper have side button closing, suspenders crossed in back and fastened to the bib with hook-up closures. Includes a patch pocket buttoned to the bib, front and back patch pockets, and a back tool pocket.

2. A Varsity Jacket for the Wisconsin cold season.

**Know Me 2010** – Designed by Sins of Many; lined bomber jackets have contrast sleeves, rib knit collar, sleeve and waist bands. Long bomber is button front with arm zipper pocket and double welt side pockets. Short bomber is snap front with zipper pockets on arm and front. A Know Me by Mimi G. sewing pattern.

3. A dress that honors the Northern European heritage of many Wisconsinites.

**Burda 7443** – A dirndl dress with classic styling: the bodice with the low neckline, the pleated skirt, a short-ruffled blouse with broad cuffs, and ruffled apron with tiny folds.



— Bruce and Nora Mai, Single Pattern Contest Directors

# About the International Costumers' Guild

The International Costumers' Guild (ICG) is an affiliation of hobbyist and professional costumers, dedicated to the promotion and education of costuming including cosplay as an art form in all its aspects. The ICG is a U.S. 501(c)(3) non-profit, educational organization.

## Benefits

Member benefits include participation in local Chapters and Special Interest Groups (SIGs), voting rights, eligibility for grants, online forums, social media, learning and volunteer opportunities, and announcements about ICG business and activities. Chapters and SIGs are eligible for tax-exempt status, Quickbooks, web hosting, Zoom, and Google Workspaces.

## ICG Officers

- **President:** Kevin Roche ([president@costume.org](mailto:president@costume.org))
- **Vice President:** Leslie L. Johnston ([vice-president@costume.org](mailto:vice-president@costume.org))
- **Treasurer:** Jeanine Swick ([treasurer@costume.org](mailto:treasurer@costume.org))
- **Corresponding Secretary:** Merrily Wolf ([corr-secretary@costume.org](mailto:corr-secretary@costume.org))
- **Recording Secretary:** Anne Davenport ([rec-secretary@costume.org](mailto:rec-secretary@costume.org))

## Helpful Hands

- ***The International Costumer:*** ([newsletter-editor@costume.org](mailto:newsletter-editor@costume.org))  
**Digital Edition:** Philip Gust  
**Print Edition:** Patrick O'Connor
- **Webmaster:** Philip Gust ([webmaster@costume.org](mailto:webmaster@costume.org))
- **Archivist:** Pierre E. Pettinger, Jr. ([archivist@costume.org](mailto:archivist@costume.org))  
**Assistant Archivists:** Bruce Mai, Nora Mai
- **Gallery Administrator:** Nora Mai ([gallery-admin@costume.org](mailto:gallery-admin@costume.org))  
**Gallery Webmaster:** Leslie Johnston
- **GEL Administrator:** Bruce MacDermott ([gel-admin@costume.org](mailto:gel-admin@costume.org))  
**Assistant GEL Administrator:** Elaine Sims
- **Parliamentarian:** Pierre E. Pettinger, Jr. ([icg-parliamentarian@costume.org](mailto:icg-parliamentarian@costume.org))

*The International Costumer* is published by the ICG Editorial Board. We welcome short costuming articles, book reviews, event reports, and news items. For the latest content, visit the [International Costumer webpage](#).

**ICG Editorial Board:** Kathe Gust, Philip Gust, Betsy Marks, Patrick O'Connor, Kevin Roche, Jeanine Swick, Randall Whitlock.