

Silicon Web Costumers' Guild

Silicon Web Staff

President:	Richard Man
Vice-President:	Kevin Roche
Treasurer:	Bruce MacDermott
Secretary:	Deb Salisbury
Web Diva:	Kathe Gust
Virtual Costumer Editor	Philip Gust



President's Message

Richard Man*

It's never a good month when we lose someone, and unfortunately we lost a valued member of our community, Kayta Barrows. Carole Parker has written an article remembering Kayta. She'll be missed.

Personally, 2010 is also a year of loss for our family as well, as I lost my father in June and then we lost our not-quite-6 year old corgi dog in early November. So I apologize for sometimes not keeping up with the Silicon Web or the ICG happenings.

As a chapter of the ICG, I feel that Silicon Web is entering into a phase of maturity. The founders (Bruce and Dana MacDermott, plus others) did a lot of stuff themselves, from taking on executive officer positions to newsletter editing and everything in between. In the last few years,

we have some new blood taking on leadership roles: Philip has been doing an excellent job as the newsletter editor, Kathe has been keeping our website up to date. Remember, our chapter is only as strong as its membership so I encourage you to step up and make our chapter even more vibrant.

Looking forward, our intrepid members Andy Trembly and Kevin Roche are the masquerade directors of the 2011 [Worldcon](#) in Reno. [Costume Con 29](#) will be in New Jersey and promises to be another great con as well. What are your costuming plans for 2011?



From the Editor

Philip Gust*

Welcome to the final issue of VC for 2010. The theme of this issue is "Victorian and Edwardian Fashions." I was originally reluctant to tackle such a formidable topic. So much has been written that it was hard to image what to publish that would contribute or shed new light.

I was almost ready to abandon the topic when I was struck by an idea: the Victorian and Edwardian eras are *huge*! The [Victorian Era](#) began with the passage of the Reform Act 1832, five years before Victoria

ascended the throne. The [Edwardian Era](#) is generally considered to run up to the end of World War I in 1919, even though Edward died in 1910. So much changed during those 87 years that it can't be treated as a whole. For perspective, imagine a musical era that begins with the heyday of John Philip Sousa and his band, and ends with the hard rock band *KISS*!

This issue starts with a look at costuming near the beginning of Victoria's reign, and ends with costuming at the advent of the air age. The articles include topics that aren't often covered, but provide interesting information costumers can use in their own recreations of clothing from this amazing time.

Three of the articles are by authors who recreated costumes from very different times. Bridgett Bradley-Scaife and Kendra Van Cleave tell the story of how they and eight other costumers recreated a famous 1855 portrait in costumes.

Lisa A. Ashton tells about how a vintage family photograph inspired her to recreate the dress that her great-grandmother wore on the "first day" after her wedding.

Deborah Parker Wong describes her "neo-Edwardian" costume that makes a surprising transformation into an outfit inspired by the first U. S. aviatrix, Harriet Quimby.



Other articles discuss important elements of Victorian era costuming. Kathe Gust reviews three of her favorite historical clothing books, all inexpensive and readily available. One of the books shows close-up photos of swatches for men's suits.

Nationally recognized bird artist Darryl Wheye tells how demand for feathers for Victorian and Edwardian hats nearly drove many species to extinction, and how groups like the Audubon Society eventually turned the tide.

The button industry experienced a boom during the Victorian and Edwardian eras, with the advent of the industrial revolution and changes in fashions. Button collector Virginia Knowles offers a primer on button styles that were popular during various decades of Victoria's reign.

Although foreign to our modern sensibilities, Victorian men and women often wore jewelry made with a loved one's hair as tokens of remembrance and affection. Kathy Fox shows examples of this art form from an exhibit she curated at San Jose State University's Beethoven Center.

Fans were also an important Victorian era accessory. I report on the grand re-opening of a museum dedicated to collecting and displaying vintage and modern hand fans, and the elusive "language of the fan."

Expert hat maker Rosemary Greene fills us in on Fascinators, a kind of headwear that Victorian ladies reserved for special occasions, but that took on a life of their

own in the Belle Époque, and are all the rage again in today's fashion world.

Finally, Carole Parker offers a fond remembrance of veteran costumer and SiW member Carolyn Kayta Barrows, who passed away this month. Kayta wrote op-ed pieces for VC's "Virtual Soapbox" feature. Look for a final article by Kayta on her wearable cloth dolls in the February 2011 issue of VC.

Here is a quick preview of what is upcoming in VC. The February 2011 issue is on Fantasy costuming in every imaginable form, from Fairies, to Mardi Gras, to Pirates. The May 2011 issue is about Militaria, covering all aspects of military and military-influenced historical and sci-fi/fantasy costuming. I'm pleased to announce that the August 2011 issue will have the theme "East Meets West," about Eastern influences on Western clothing, and how Western styles influenced Eastern clothing.

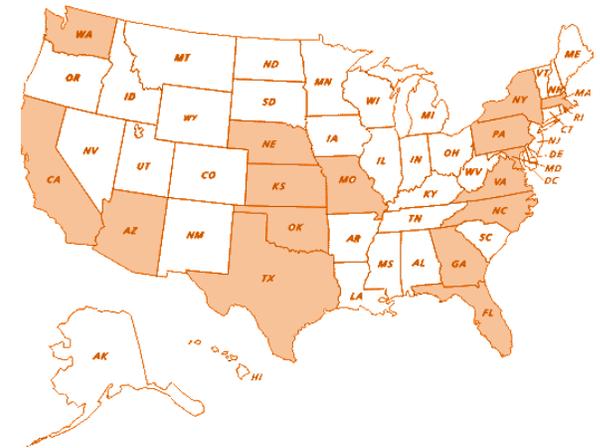
See the [Upcoming Issues](#) page of the SiW web site for details. Now is a great time to start writing for VC, and share what you know and love with your fellow costumers.



From the Secretary Deb Salisbury*

As of 31 Oct. 2010, SiW has 68 members in 16 US states, up from 50 members this time in 2009 and 43 members this time 2008. See the [Members](#) page on

our website for details. SiW remains the largest ICG chapter.



Arizona	1	California	43
Florida	1	Georgia	2
Kansas	1	Massachusetts	2
Maryland	3	Missouri	1
Nebraska	2	New York	1
North Carolina	1	Oklahoma	2
Pennsylvania	2	Texas	1
Virginia	1	Washington	1



From the Web Diva Kathe Gust*

I'd like to tell you about several enhancements to the SiW web site this year. First, the [Organization](#) page is now an entire section that includes pages for the SiW by-laws, a summary of responsibilities for the officers, and the SiW's *Dream Catcher* award. The *Dream Catcher* page describes the award, and lists past recipients. Each listing includes the recipient name, the name of the entry, the division, where it was awarded, and a photo of the entry.

Next, the *Virtual Costumer* [Table of Contents](#) now enables you to download individual articles, starting with the August 2009 issue, the first one in the expanded e-zine format. This is especially welcome for those with slower internet connections. There are also thumbnails of the covers, and issues are now sorted from most recent to least recent, to make it easier to find the one you're looking for.

Finally, there is a new [Costuming Links](#) page. This page includes links to the ICG, other costuming organizations, costume related web sites, and members' commercial and personal web sites. You are welcome to suggest new links in any of these categories, or even new categories.



From the VP and ICG Representative
Kevin Roche*

In some years, the ICG board is a fairly quiet group, with only a few routine activities to take care of. 2009-2010, on the other hand, gave us a fair amount of work to do. Fortunately for your lowly SiW representative, it was the good kind.

We started the year by considering and then approving a late December request from Anime North to be recognized as an International Competition in accordance with the IGC Fairness Guidelines. Representatives of A.N. persuaded us that their costume competition should be

considered on a par with Costume-Con and Worldcon in terms of quality of entries and overall competition.

At the same time, debating that decision made the board aware that the ICG had no standard protocols in place for handling such requests, even though the fairness guidelines have mentioned the possibility for years. I had the privilege of being on the committee that developed a draft proposal, which the board accepted and then the general membership ratified during the Annual Meeting at Costume-Con 28 in Milwaukee. We now, in addition to the "ICG Guidelines: Ensuring Fairness in Competition", also have the "ICG Standards of Practice for Costume Competitions Requesting ICG Recognition as 'International'."

The other major issue the board took up was to approve (and have ratified) a process to shift the ICG Newsletter to mainly electronic distribution. As the hardcopy Newsletter was the largest single expense in the ICG's annual budget, this should go a long way towards ensuring long-term solvency of the Guild.

We also welcomed three new chapters to the ICG this fall:

- Minnesota Society of Costumers
- Madison Area Costuming Society (MACS)
- Oklahoma Costumer's Guild aka Oklahomasque

I think all these things are clear indications that the ICG is both healthy and still relevant; in particular that Anime North's organization felt the cachet of being recognized by ICG as an "International Competition" was important, and that new chapters are still forming, are good signs as we move further into the 21st century.

Just one thing, though: where's my jetpack?



From the Treasurer
Bruce MacDermott*

As treasurer, one of my responsibilities is to prepare a financial statement and report on the SiW's finances each year. Here is an unaudited financial statement as of 31 Oct. 2010.

Balance Sheet

Accrual Basis As of October 31, 2010

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings		
1010 · Wells Fargo Checking		685.02
1030 · PayPal		129.06
1040 · Petty cash		6.00
1070 · Wells Fargo Savings		1,003.80
Total Checking/Savings		1,823.88
Other Current Assets		
1299 · Undeposited Funds		14.00
Total Other Current Assets		14.00
Total Current Assets		1,837.88

TOTAL ASSETS	1,837.88
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
3001 · Opening Balance Equity	794.48
3010 · Unrestrict (retained earnings)	826.18
Net Income	217.22
Total Equity	1,837.88
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,837.88

Profit & Loss

Accrual Basis January through October 2010

Income

5000 · Earned revenues	
5210 · Membership dues – individuals	708.00
5310 · Interest-savings/short-term inv.	0.42
5490 · Miscellaneous revenue	28.25
Total 5000 · Earned revenues	736.67
Total Income	736.67

Expense

8500 · Misc expenses	
8530 · Membership dues – organization	256.00
8560 · Outside computer services	60.00
8590 · Other expenses	131.45
Total 8500 · Misc expenses	447.45
8600 · Business expenses	
8670 · Organizational (corp) expenses	72.00
Total 8600 · Business expenses	72.00
Total Expense	519.45
NET INCOME	217.22

Author Acknowledgements

The Silicon Web Costumers' Guild honors the thirty-five people who generously shared their knowledge and experience in the pages of *The Virtual Costumer* in 2010. The twenty-one who are also SiW members are indicated with an asterisk beside their names. Thanks to all!

If you'd like to join them, consider writing an article for one of the 2011 issues. For information, visit [VC](#) on-line!



Bryan Little* Bruce MacDermott* Dana MacDermott* Jill MacLachlan



Leann McWaters* Richard Man* Stacy Meyn* Tara Maginnis*



Lisa A. Ashton Blake Barrett Kayta Barrows* Bridget Bradley-Scaife



Tracy Newby* Carole Parker* Kevin Roche* Deb Salisbury*



Betsy Delaney* Sandra Ericson Jade Falcon Kaja Foglio



Sillof Kendra Van Cleave Darryl Wheye Gail Wolfenden-Steib*



Phil Foglio Margot Silk Forrest* Kathy Fox Rosemary Greene*



Carol Wood* Deborah Parker Wong Jennifer Wylie*



Kathe Gust* Philip Gust* Mette Hedin* Virginia Knowles

