

Costume-Con 33

Charleston, SC

May 15 – 18, 2015

A view from the Con-Chairs seat

I've always had a vague curiosity about why they call it the "Never Again Club?" With just a few short weeks until the big opening night, I have discovered the answer to that question. And to my upcoming con chairs I will be the first to tell you all the stage and community theater training and experience in the world never quite prepares you for what could happen when you try to put on an event of this scale. Even the best laid plans of mice and men always have an unexpected wrinkle. In my case the setbacks have laid mostly within my own personal health issues and yes to some extent those of others as well. But before my last shred of sanity gets placed in it tightly sealed Tupperware container for the duration I need to take a moment of time on my Con-chair soapbox to say a big thank you to those who have stepped up and taken the reins when the going got rough. Names need not be mentioned here those folks know who they are and I am so thankful to each and every one of them. Hindsight being 20/20 there are several things that I would like to have done differently, but experience has always been the real teacher.

That being said I can say that we have planned what we hope is going to be exciting and fun weekend for all of our attendees. I have personally seen to making arrangements for our attendees to have a chance to see Charleston, South Carolina at its finest. Two guided tours of Historic Downtown Charleston are scheduled and in your registration package you will receive discount coupons for admissions for restaurants and other historic locations should you desire to venture out on your own during your stay. Remember we have arranged special convention rates with the hotel so you can come a few days early or stay a few days late and enjoy the city. See the Costume-Con 33 website for details on how to sign up for the tours.

Another really great item that I myself am so looking forward to will take place on Saturday afternoon in the Hospitality Room/Patio hosted by our local Charleston Convention "Atomacon" will be the "Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social". Both Rob and I are proud to be affiliated with Atomacon and have been their Masquerade director (Rob) and Costume Programmer (Sandy) since the first one in 2014. Please do stop by and say hello to the founder and our very good friend Janet Iannantuona and show your support for this upcoming regional convention. I am also pleased to announce that working with the hotel staff has resulted with the Sunday brunch and Cotillion no longer requiring a separate meal ticket to attend. The Sunday brunch will now be taking place in the Hospitality Room/Patio area which all members are invited to attend after which guests will stroll to the Carolina Ballroom for the Future Fashion Show and a special feature competition called "Miss Ellen's Portieres".

Charleston was voted by Conde Naste Traveler (once again) as the number one Vacation spot in the United States, so we decided to dispense with the same old same old Costume-con Dead Dog party and declare Tuesday, May 19 Costume-Con 33 Dead Dog Day! For our friends and attendees who are not checking out until Wednesday you will have all day Tuesday to have fun in Charleston to see the museums, tour historic

houses, or head for the beach. After you've done all of that then in the evening join us at one of Charleston's hottest Pubs "The Blind Tiger" for a drink and one of the best burgers you'll even sink your teeth into. Why just have a few hours one night when you can make it a memorable day before heading home.

We are looking forward to seeing you in a few short weeks.

Your Con-chairs

Sandy Swank and Rob Himmelsbach

Hotel Information:

Charleston Plaza Hotel

1-843-747-1900

Room rates are traditional king or double \$119.00 per night (includes handicap accessible rooms). Business King or Double \$129.00 per night. Club King or Double \$139.00 per night, for 1 to 4 people.

There is a workout room and indoor/outdoor pool. They have one restaurant and bar within the hotel; and many other restaurants are within a free shuttle ride of a two mile radius. Also, plenty of FREE parking.

Getting Here

Shuttle service is available from hotel when traveling to the Charleston International Airport. Just let the hotel know when you are arriving and they will be there.

From the North and West: I-26 East toward Charleston. Exit 213B. Stay in right hand lane. At the second traffic light turn right onto Goer Drive. Hotel is on your left.

From the South: 17 North to Charleston. Take 526 to Montague Avenue exit. Right onto Montague. Go past the Coliseum and Convention Center. Stay on Montague Avenue going toward I-26 and pass over I-26. Turn right onto Goer Drive. Hotel is on your left.

Once you are here

Membership packets should be available for pick up in Hospitality Room on Thursday night for early arrivals from 4 pm to midnight.

Registration will be open the following hours:

Friday, Saturday and Sunday 9am – 6pm

(Ticket sales for masquerade only: Saturday/Sunday \$10 from 7pm to 8:30pm)

Programming/workshops will run the following hours:

Friday: 12 Noon to 5pm

Saturday, Sunday: 8:30 am to 5 pm

Monday: 8:30 to 3 pm

Hospitality hours will be:

Thursday: 4 pm to midnight

Friday: 7am to 6 pm

Saturday and Sunday: 7am to 6pm and after masquerade till 2 am

Monday: 7am to 4pm

Friday Night Social (Come see the Blind Tiger)

Our overall theme is “Welcome to the Jazz Age”. It is where you’re invited to come see the infamous “Blind Tiger”. A term taken straight from the 1920’s era of prohibition for those illegal gin joints (also referred to as a speakeasy). In keeping with the theme, a cash bar that will serve cocktails in coffee cups in addition to a buffet of southern favorite foods.

Opening ceremonies will include an onstage sketch where you will be introduced the Con-Co Chairs and Vice Chair who are also founding members of “The Pirates of the Carolinas Costumers Guild” who will be your hosts for the evening as well as the first appearance of Miss Janet Wilson Anderson as a special Costume-Con 33 guest.

Oh and BTW you will need to know the “Password” to enter.

Single Pattern Competition and Show

Under the direction of Elaine Mami of the Southwest Costumers Guild, presentation will also take place during the Social. All the pattern choices are available through Folkwear at their website www.folkwear.com

The competition is prejudged and judging will take place Friday afternoon at 2 pm (see pocket guide for location). A panel of judges will examine the garments for creativity, workmanship, use of materials and overall concept. The garment must be made using one of the following patterns, and the overall silhouette must be recognizable as derived from one of those patterns. The Costume-Con 33 Single pattern competition director and selection committee has chosen the following Folkwear patterns. Metropolitan Suit, Monte Carlo Dress, Le Smoking Jacket and Vintage Vests.

Doll Competition

You may submit a human or alien doll, or a costumed creature.

A purchased figure, such as a Barbie(R) doll or Breyer(TM) horse, or a personally crafted figure may be entered. There will be separate judging categories for purchased figures embellished by the entrant and entrant-made figures. Entrants should clearly state which part of the figure they made. No kits for clothing or pre-printed cloth outfits are allowed.

Emphasis in the judging of dolls will be placed on the costuming of the doll or creature, including the scale & fit. Judges will have final control over all categories and awards given.

All non-perishable materials are allowed.

Entrants need not be present to win. Supporting members may have someone else bring their entries. Costume-Con 33 is not responsible for entries lost, delayed, misdirected, damaged, or destroyed by the delivery service of your choice.

By submitting your entry, you are giving Costume-Con 33 (and its designated representatives) permission to photograph and/or videotape your entry for the purposes of sale as part of post-convention packages. Your entry may also be photographed or videotaped, for personal enjoyment only, by members of Costume-Con 33.

Dolls with the Costume-Con 33 theme of Buccaneers, Belles, and Bootleggers are warmly welcomed.

Displays

Many of this year's displays will be from Janet Wilson Anderson, our special Guest of Honor. Please make sure you stop by the glass enclosed display room and marvel at the workmanship of these and many other costumes as we "Step Back in Time".

Also this year we are proud to announce that we will be displaying the NASA Quilt. The ICG has been instrumental in arranging this showing. Please stop by and look but don't touch.

Quilt Competition

I'm pleased to announce the Bobby Gear Memorial Quilt Contest that will take place at Costume-Con 33. See website for all of the rules and guidelines.

Hall Costume Awards

What would be Costume-Con be without hall costumes? So wear your costumes while attending the convention, you never know when someone will hand you a ribbon for looking your best.

Future Fashion Show

The Future Fashion Show will take place on Sunday in conjunction with the Cotillion starting at 10 am. Join us for a continental breakfast in the Hospitality Room and then a stroll to the ballroom for the show. Reserve your design(s) by emailing your choice (please include page number) along with your name and preferred email address to:

futurefashionshow@cc33charleston.org

Entries will be accepted until April 30, 2015. Entrants are asked to please check in with the show director Nora Mai upon arrival at the convention.

General "rules":

All participants must attend a rehearsal at the convention.

Participants may re-create as many designs as they like, but each person can only appear on stage once, so you must find models for the other costumes.

If you choose to participate you are responsible for making the costume you select, finding a model (if you choose not to model it yourself) and transportation to the convention.

You must be an attending member of Costume-Con 33 to participate in the fashion show.

All models must also be attending members of Costume-Con 33.

“Miss Ellen’s Portieres” Competition

This competition is your answer to the question “What will you do when it’s curtains?” A new competition because we are in Charleston and any “Gone with the Wind” enthusiast knows both Ellen O’Hara (Scarlett’s Mother) and the notorious Rhett Butler were from Charleston. This is a prejudged competition with the presentation taking place right after the Future Fashion Show on Sunday.

Science Fiction & Fantasy Masquerade

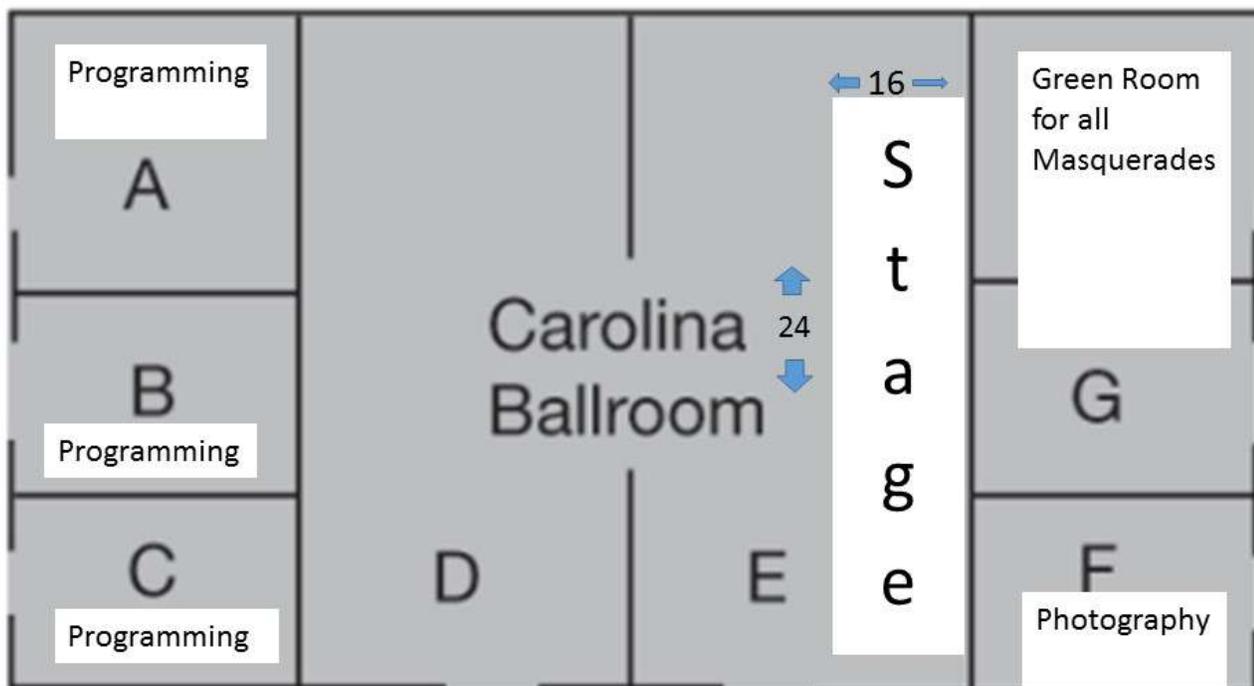
We encourage members of Costume-Con to show their fellow fans their costumes on stage and, if they wish to do so, compete for awards from our judges. No experience is needed; we’ll show you the ropes and help you on and off stage. There will be experienced judges to review entries on stage and, optionally, the workmanship on costumes. Please visit our website for complete information and list of rules.

Historical Masquerade

The Historic Masquerade is more than just a costume competition. It is an opportunity for research and applied scholarship. It also recognizes creativity, workmanship and stage presentation. All cultures, locales and historical eras are eligible to compete in the Historical Masquerade.

Like all competitions, this one does have rules. We have attempted to keep them to a minimum; but please visit our website to review them carefully and follow them.

Map of stage



Tours

Costume-Con 33 is also offering to its members 2 tours for those who cannot stay the extra time but would still like to see Charleston with all its beauty.

The first tour will take place on Friday May 15th (day one of the con) at 9AM. Registered CC33 members will meet in the hotel lobby where you will board a GrayLine tour bus for the "City and Harbor Tour". \$46.00 adults, \$31.00 Children (tour takes approx. 3 hours) this tour will cover 100+ historic points of interest along with an informative harbor cruise. (We are told that the bottlenose dolphin sightings are complementary.)

The second tour will take place on Monday at 11:00AM Registered CC33 members will meet in the hotel lobby where you will board a GrayLine tour bus for the "City and Plantation Tour". \$64.00 adults \$37.00 Children (This tour will take most of the day) This tour will include the 100+ historic points of interest in the downtown area then you will be whisked off to Historic Boone Hall Plantation, one of America's oldest still working plantations. There you will be able to take a guided tour through the mansion as well as a self-guided tour through the original slave cabins and learn the history through storytellers.

Both of these tours will require a minimum of 12 adults and will require a \$25.00 deposit per person in advance so we may commit to these tours.

To sign up please send your deposit via check made payable to Costume-Con 33 (be sure to put either "City and Harbor tour or City and Plantation tour in the note line on your check)

Mail to: Costume-Con 33 Tours

C/o Con-Chair Sandy Swank

199 Cabrill Drive

Charleston, South Carolina 29414

Your balance can be paid when you pick up your con registration packet upon arrival. Signups and deposits must be received no later than April 30, 2015. If the minimum number of tour participants is not met your deposit check will be returned with your con registration packet.

Members will also find discount coupons in their welcome packages for other tours and attractions they may want to explore on their own.

Project Transformations: Cosplay

Dear Costume Con 33 attendees:

For the past year and half, I have been doing a project called Transformations: Cosplay. It involves costumers/cosplayers photographed both in and out of their costumes, taken with 4x5 camera. I am honored to have recently received a generous grant from the International Costumers' Guild's Marty Gear Costuming Arts and Sciences Fund. With this grant, plus frequent flyers miles, I will be able to continue this project at CC33.

The project's work in progress photos can be seen

at: <http://richardmanphoto.com/PICS/TransformationsCosplay-Portfolio/> Eventually, I will be creating a book, and I will have a "mockup book" / project portfolio made from large prints at CC33 for "Show and Tell."

I would love to have your participation. To participate, I need to schedule 2x 15-20 minutes camera time with you, one for photos in costume and one in your normal wear or your professional wear, whichever you desire. For the costumes, as the prints may be displayed large at convention art shows and hopefully in galleries, costumes with details are preferred, but more importantly, they should be of a character that you feel comfortable "being", to go with the "Transformation" theme. I will also conduct a short interview regarding how you were drawn to the art of costuming.

I am still figuring out the space and time where I will be photographing. Thanks to an offer from masquerade photographer Ken Warren, I will most likely be sharing space with him, but obviously the masquerade photos will take priorities in use of the space. I will stay until Tuesday morning, though, so we have some flexibility.

If interested, please send email to richard@richardmanphoto.com or find me on Facebook as "Richard Man"

Program Book Ad Rates

Okay folks, we still have plenty of room in our program book. If you want everyone to know who you are, place an ad. Need more information send Dora Buck an email and she can fill you in on the detail. Her email address is dfb713@gmail.com

Rates:

\$25 for a Business card size

\$50 for a quarter page (2x2 ¾)

\$100 for ½ page (4x5 ½)

\$200 for a full page (8x11)

Who's to Blame?

Con chairs: Sandy Swank (who stuck his foot in his mouth in the con suite) and Robert Himmelsbach (who came along kicking and screaming NOOOO!!!!)

Vice chair: Dora Buck (the buck did not stop at 29)

Big Tent Events: Vicki Warren

Dealer's Room: Sigrid Rothschild

Doll Show: Ann Catelli

Exhibits: Jeanine Swick

Future Fashion Folio: Carol Parker

Future Fashion Show: Nora Mai

Friday Night Social: Pirates of the Carolina's Costumers Guild

Green Room Coordinator: Joni Dashoff (aka the wicked art show director of the east)

Hall Costume Awards: Appointed stealth judges roaming the halls, beware my hearties.

Historical Masquerade: Pierre and Sandy Pettinger

Hospitality Room/Patio: Dora Buck

Photography: Ken Warren

PR: Morgan Skye

Programming: Lisa Ashton

Publications: Dora Buck, Morgan Skye, E. L. Wimett

Registration: Joni Dashoff

Science Fiction and Fantasy Masquerade: Byron Connell and Karen Heim

Site Selection Commissioner: Dora Buck

Social Media: Aurora Celeste

Tech: Sue Kulinyi

Tours: Sandy Swank

Treasurer: Joni Dashoff (who yelled at the con chairs "You idiots!")

Videographer: Eric Cannon

Webmistress: Lin Daniel

Costume Con 36 Site Selection Ballot

Costume-Con 36 Site Selection Ballot

This is your ballot for selection of the site for the Costume-Con 36 conference, the 2018 Costume-Con conference. You must be at least a Supporting Member (Fee: \$25.00 US) of Costume-Con 33 conference to vote. Please make your check payable to Costume Con 33. By paying your voting fee, you will receive a credit equal to \$10 towards a membership in the winning Costume-Con conference.

There is one bid: San Diego, CA.

Please cast your vote on the ballot below. The Site Selection Commissioner must receive mailed ballots by no later than April 15, 2015.

Ballots may still be delivered by hand until 2 pm Sunday of Costume-Con 33.

Mail this ballot to:
Costume-Con 36 Site Selection
Attn: Dora Buck
199 Cabrill Drive
Charleston, SC 29414

For security, you should seal this ballot and your \$10 voting fee check in an envelope. **DO NOT SEND CASH THROUGH THE MAIL!** Make check payable to "Costume-Con 36".

How to Vote:

This ballot uses a modified form of the Alternative Vote system, sometimes known as the "Australian Ballot". For those not familiar with the ballot process, the Australian ballot system is most used by the World Science Fiction Convention in their site selection process. On this, the Costume-con conference Site Selection process is modeled.

To vote, make your choices in order of preference, "1" for your first choice, "2" for your second, etc. You are not required to rank all the options. Ballots marked error with an "X" or check mark instead of numbers will be considered as a "!" vote for the bid thus checked, and "2" vote for No Preference. Note that "None of the above" is not an abstention, but a vote and none of the nominees should be given the conference. When the ballots are counted, all the first-place choices will be tabulated. If no nominee has received half or more votes, the nominee with the fewest first-place votes will be eliminated, and its votes transferred to the nominees marked "2" on those ballots. This process of elimination will continue until one nominee receives half or more of the votes, at which point it becomes the winner, unless its votes are outnumbered by "None of the above".

TIPS:

Please keep in mind that second and further preferences play no part in the voting unless and until your first choice has been eliminated. This is not a point system where many voters' second choice can overwhelm a few voter's first choice.

Nevertheless, if your top choices are eliminated early, your lowest preference could be the tie-breaker

between the remaining nominees.

To be given to the winning bid committee upon completion of the site process.

Fill in your legal name:

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Prov: _____ Zip/PC: _____ Country: _____

For Site Selection Commissioner's use only:

Site Selection Fee Enclosed: _____ Check #: _____

This ballot is: _____ Valid _____ Invalid/unverified _____ Duplicate



The Ballot

Costume-Con 36 in 2018

_____ Location: San Diego, CA

Hotel: TBD

When: Spring, 2018 (late March/early April timeframe)

Bid Chair: Rebecca Rowan

Supporting Organization: SANSFIS

_____ No Preference (Location: Anywhere – equivalent to abstention)

_____ None of the Above

_____ Write-in Bid

Receipt for site selection voting fee _____

Costume-Con 33

Received: \$ _____ Cash/check #: _____ Date: _____

From: _____

By: _____