



BUCCANEERS, BELLES & BOOTLEGGERS

Costume-Con 33

Charleston, South Carolina

May 2015

Message from the Con Co-Chairs:

We at CC-33 have been working hard to bring you one of the best Costume-Cons ever. We are currently working to obtain a hotel contract with a Charleston, SC hotel for our event and hope to have it signed and settled by the end of May 2013. Our con com is planning several fun events over the course of our four day convention with lots of great programming, workshops and we are negotiating to see if we can provide a special tour of the Charleston Museum textile collection. We plan to host a special competition division of our "Quilt Show" for kids' quilts after which we will ask that these special quilts be donated to young cancer patients at MUSC (Medical University of South Carolina) Children's Hospital. Our Sunday cotillion and brunch where you will be entertained by Co-Con Chair Rob Himmelsbach's special competition "Miss Ellen's Portieres", and last but not least a different and very special Monday night "Dead Dog party" at one of Charleston's hottest pubs.

We are also pleased to announce that this coming November of 2013 we will be working in conjunction with the Charleston fan community to help launch their first "Atomacon". (The Atomacon folks have been instrumental in helping us so far with the details for Costume-Con 33 and we look forward to their help in expanding our programming, in the areas of Anime, Cosplay, Steampunk, and Rococopunk costuming. Both Rob and I will be there to help run the first Atomacon masquerade competition and assist with their costume programming, and we ask that you take a moment to look at the Atomacon web site at <http://atomacon.org>. If you are available to lend a hand or your experience, or just attend a brand new convention, please get in touch with their con com. We are looking at the opportunity to offer a few extra days stay at the con hotel as well, so our members can also experience the many wonders that historic Charleston, SC has to offer. Charleston was picked by the CC#33 site selection committee because it is a destination city, with a little something to pique everyone's interest, from historic sites to breathe taking sunrises and sunsets. A food lover's dream with restaurants galore from gourmet to the neighborhood luncheonette, Charleston has something to suit everyone's taste. We will be soon polling the convention membership about interest in a Gray Line city tour. If we get enough interest we plan to schedule a city tour to give our members an idea of what is around the city so that they may return for a visit on their own time. If you have Facebook please check out and like our Costume-Con 33 Facebook page or follow us on Twitter. Our page administrator does post items of interest to both Facebook and Twitter on a weekly basis. And don't forget our website at www.CC33Charleston.org. Keep an eye on your mailbox for our upcoming Costume-Con 33 Progress Report #2 which should be ready for release sometime in August of 2013.

Programming:

I'm Lisa Ashton, a costumer living in Maryland. I'm honored to be Program Director for CC33. In time, I hope to have 3 or 4 "Co-Directors" working with me to help design a terrific program of panels, workshops and demonstrations for the con, but right now I need your ideas, and your willingness to volunteer to speak to and share your knowledge and skills with your fellow costumers! What type of programming do you want to see? What topics would interest you? To suggest a panel or workshop idea, or to volunteer for a panel or to do a workshop or demonstration of a technique, please email me at lisa58@juno.com.

Masquerades:

I'm Byron Connell, director of the Science Fiction and Fantasy masquerade. CC 3 was my first Costume-Con, followed by CC 5. Since then, I've been to every Costume-Con since CC 7, except CC 20. Usually, I'm the guy running the green room. However, I've directed masquerades at regional science fiction conventions as well as two world science fiction conventions (Anticipation and Chicon 7). While I directed the Historical masquerades at CC 24, 25, and 29, this will be only the second time I've directed a Costume-Con Science Fiction masquerade. My first was at CC 10, where I was the co-director. I intend to bring my experience in directing CC historical masquerades as well as worldcon masquerades to the CC 33 Science Fiction and Fantasy masquerade.

I am Dana MacDermott, and I have taken on the responsibility of running the Costume-Con 33 Historical Masquerade. This will be my first time in this role, although I have run the Future Fashion Show, and participated in other positions of responsibility on a Costume-Con staff. Beyond the nuts and bolts of running the Masquerade, my primary concern will be to find ways to expand participation in our Historical costuming show/competition. I am particularly interested in encouraging first time entrants, the idea being, get them onto stage, make it an enjoyable experience, and they will do it again. To this end, I will be trying some new approaches. Stay tuned, and you will see how this develops.

Miss Ellen's Portieres

As any obsessive reader of *Gone with the Wind* (such as my co-chair) knows, like the notorious Rhett Butler, Scarlet's mother, the eponymous Miss Ellen, comes from an old Charleston Family. In her honor, we are including a small side competition at CC33, entitled Miss Ellen's Portieres. The rules are pretty simple - buy, find or even make a set of curtains; then make clothing or a full costume out of them. As

simple as a pinafore from a set of kitchen cafe curtains. As elaborate as a Klingon wedding suit from an old set of theater curtains. Turkish harem outfit from something garish you found at the dollar store. Or maybe even Victorian Dalek (velvet, fringe and trim for days). Please see our website for complete rules.



Why Charleston?

Are you thinking about taking a vacation? Want to see old friends, want to make new friends, new sites, tastes, and sounds, want to see some of America's history, then visit Charleston, SC. Costume-Con 33 is being held in the Charleston area. Come early, stay late, but please make some time to visit this beautiful city.

The visitor's center is very helpful with a parking garage conveniently located. You can book a variety of tours right from that location. The Charleston Museum is across the street and many of the historic homes are within walking distance of the visitor's center. Also, enjoy Charleston's 3 free trolley buses right from the visitor's center so you have one stop parking.

There are many historical points of interest. Whether your interests are pre revolutionary to modern times you will find something to both surprise and delight you.

Food around the area is abundant. Local tea plantation and many restaurants with menus from just sandwiches to full course meals are located throughout the city.

We are planning to have in the next 2 progress reports more detail information concerning points of interests and food establishments. Looking forward to seeing you in Charleston, SC for Costume-Con 33.

Other Bits of Information

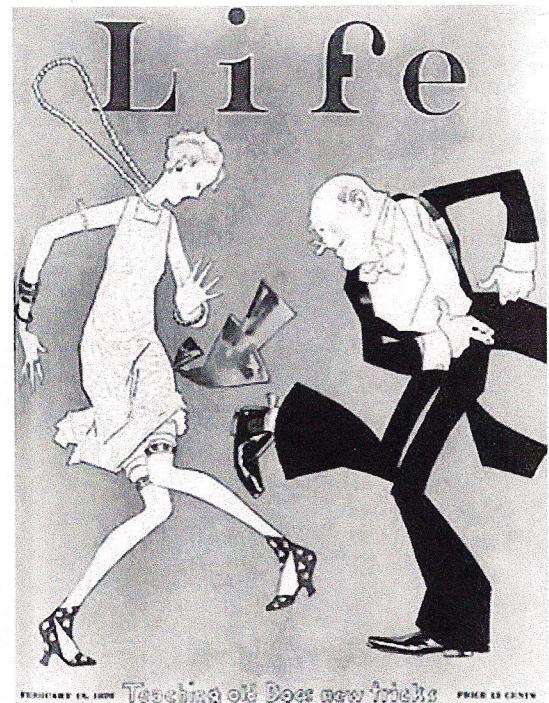
For a lot of you, the emphasis we've made on Charleston's Historical connections and CC33's theme may leave you wondering where is the Science Fiction and Fantasy? Never fear, there is a connection there as well.

The late Robert Jordan, author of the monumental fantasy series *The Wheel of Time*, was a Charleston native and graduate of the Citadel. The final volume of the series, now co-authored by Brandon Sanderson, should be out in hardcover early in 2013. In Jordan's world, created for this series, peoples and nations and orders are easily identified by characteristic clothes and styles - lovingly described by Jordan in some detail as characters in the novels travel across these lands and interact with the people. Some of the principal characters have also adopted unique clothing or accessories (q.v. Mat's flat-brimmed black hat) that make them instantly identifiable. Many of the styles of clothing described in the novels are easily reproducible by using historical garment patterns - not always from the same culture and/or time in any one costume!

On the Science Fiction front, I have to say that not as much has taken place locally - unless you watch *Falling Skies*, the post-apocalyptic/alien invasion series on TNT, where by the end of the second season, the intrepid band of survivors (the 2nd Massachusetts Militia) has made their way to the seat of the newly reformed American Government - in Charleston SC!

Anyone else out there better read or more into media that can add some Charleston SF&F connections to mine?

Rob Himmelsbach, Co-Chair & Loon



Thank you for reading Progress Report #1 for
Costume-Con 33