

BRCG Meeting Minutes April 2004

On April 20th, 2004 from 7:30 to 9 PM, the Beyond Reality Costumers Guild held its monthly meeting at Olympia Pizza in Wallingford. Those who were lucky enough to find change in their couches following tax day even got to eat.

Kate, the newsletter editor provided the guild with a summary of the International Costumers Guild meeting which she attended. Full meeting notes can be obtained by contacting Erik, the guild secretary. A few items of note, the ICG has chosen to drop the Costumer's Quarterly publication to save funds, however a newsletter is still being published, and will actually be raised from 4 to 6 issues per year. An effort is underway to archive taped masquerades to DVD, but price is an issue. Annual dues have been raised from \$4 to \$6 per member (price already included in your BRCG membership). With the exception of one person, the ICG officers will remain the same for next year. The next ICG meeting will be held at Costume Con 2005 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Vicki, the Grand Pooh Bah, gave us a wrap up of guild activities at Norwescon, which took place earlier in April. The guild made \$108 at the information table, including 4 new memberships. Vicki noted that the hotel sales manager purchased two pin cushion shoes which we had for sale and said they were, "way under priced." The recently created BRCG banner was on display behind the table as well. Many hall costume ribbons were handed out, but some remain. There was a general consensus that a new ribbon making workshop should be held soon.

Anita announced to those who were unable to attend Norwescon who won the Single Pattern Contest. She mentioned that she will try to select next year's pattern before November 1st to increase the time people will have if they wish to participate. She also mentioned that she's open to suggestions on next year's pattern, and ideas can be passed along to Vicki, or any of the BRCG officers who will make sure to get it to Anita.

Vicki served as the Norwescon Masquerade Director this year, and let us know that there were some ConCom-mandated directives that brought on some questionable safety issues to the entrants and volunteers. Don proposed removing BRCG affiliation in the masquerade if the safety concerns aren't resolved. Kate proposed a committee to interface with the Norwescon staff on safety and time issues. Don amended that proposal to remove the "interface with Norwescon", and just develop a proposal and report back to the guild. That way the guild would be clear on its intent before approaching Norwescon. The guild voted, and the amended proposal passed. Anita and Troy volunteered to form the committee to develop the proposal for NWC, and will report back to the guild. New members for the committee may

volunteer or be recruited.

The guild next discussed attending the movie "Van Helsing" as a group costuming event. More information was needed on available theaters, so Kate volunteered to research and post information to the Topica message board.

Next meeting we'll be discussing a possible BRCG dues increase to accommodate the ICG dues increase. Also, apparently Rustycon is eager to have a costuming track again, and we will discuss if BRCG wants to be involved with this convention. Believe me, folks, you won't want to miss that action. Reality TV has nothing on the high drama, and emotional charge of a BRCG meeting, so make it a point to be a part of YOUR guild. Soapbox mode canceled, see you next month.