



**Monthly Newsletter of the Southwest Costumers Guild  
Vol 11 #3 March 2004**

*Professional editor on closed course. Do not try this at home.*

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*Please send corrections by e-mail or mail to the editor.*

**Calendar**

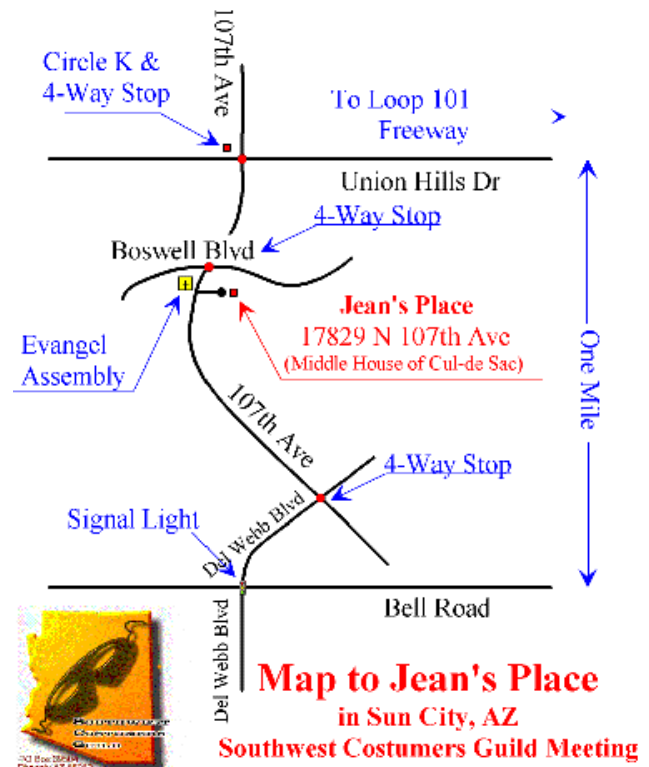
\*Indicates an event organized by SWCG. Unless otherwise noted, SWCG meetings begin at 1:00 PM.

February 7 through March 28, 2004 (Saturdays, Sundays and Presidents' Day) 10-6 – **Arizona Renaissance Festival & Artisan Marketplace**. Big Renfaire on Hwy 60 just east of Gold Canyon in Pinal County, Arizona. [www.royalfaires.com](http://www.royalfaires.com)

March 13-14, 2004 – **Battle of Picacho Peak** Annual civil war reenactment at Picacho State Park, Arizona at I-10, Exit 219. The battles of Glorieta Pass and Val Verde will also be reenacted along with demos of war camp life. Event starts at 10 AM. [www.azstateparks.com](http://www.azstateparks.com)

March 18-21, 2004 – **National Festival of the West** at Westworld in Scottsdale, Arizona. Annual festival features western music jamboree, western trade show, western film festival, cowboy spirit award, cowboy poetry, celebrity appearances. Adults \$12, Seniors \$6, Kids \$4. [www.festivalofthewest.com/](http://www.festivalofthewest.com/)

March 28, 2004, 11:30 AM – **Costume College Pre-Meeting\***. SWCG planning session at Jean's Place. Folks planning to attend this year's Costume College will get together to discuss travel plans and side trips. See Frances' brief writeup later in this ish.



March 28, 2004, 1PM – **Buckram Hats**. SWCG workshop at Jean's Place. We'll start building some Victorian and other historical or fantasy hats using double buckram. See Frances' materials list later in this ish.

April 2-5, 2004 – **CostumeCon 22** at the Holiday Inn Select Decatur, 130 Claremont Ave., Decatur, GA. "If you've never met a sequin you didn't love, if you spend the entire movie either critiquing the costumes or trying to figure out how to make them, if the clerks at the fabric

store know you by name —this con's for you!" ICG Annual Meeting. [www.cc22.org](http://www.cc22.org)

April 3, 2004, 10-5 – **Arizona Book Festival** at the Carnegie Center, 1101 W Washington, Phx. Booth displays from local publishers, literary societies (including CASFS & LepreCon), and libraries. Lots of author guests including Ursula K LeGuin, Alan Dean Foster, and Diana Gabaldon.

April 25, 2004, 10 AM – **Prize Making\*** SWCG workshop at Jean's place. We'll build some hats and other items as participant and crew prizes for the upcoming LepreCon, WesterCon and CopperCon masquerades. Bring your sewing tools and machinery and some odd fabrics.

May 1-2, 2004, 10-6 – **May in the Meadows Renaissance Faire** at the Downtown Civic Center in Prescott Valley, Arizona. A new faire from the people who bring you the annual Devonshire Renaissance Faire. [www.devonshirefaire.com/may](http://www.devonshirefaire.com/may) See press release below.

May 7-9, 2004 – **LepreCon 30** SF/Art Con at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel, 2620 W. Dunlap, Phoenix, AZ. Guests of honor include author David Drake, artists Donato Giancola and Sylvana Anderson. Art Show & Auction, Gaming, LARPs, Computer LAN Party, Charity Auction, a Dealer's Room, Con Suite, Video, Anime and more. There will be a Masquerade directed by guildfriend Margaret Grady. Go to [www.leprecon.org](http://www.leprecon.org) for details.

May 23, 2004 – **B.Y.O.B.\*** SWCG workshop at Tasha's place. We'll build decorative water bottle covers and mug straps suitable for renaissance faires and other historical events. Bring some suitable decorative fabric strapping, and of course *Bring Your Own Bottle*.

June 26-27, 2004 – **Renaissance in the Pines**. A fine renfaire at Fort Tuthill, off of I-17, just south of Flagstaff, Arizona. From the web page at [www.renaissanceinthepinesinc.com](http://www.renaissanceinthepinesinc.com), "*Step back in time to the Shire of Stone Ridge to the year 1560 as we put on a festival in honor of Queen Elizabeth's visit. See fully armored knights joust, historical recreations from lace-making to blacksmithing, games of skill and chance, a marketplace full of rare and unique treasures, stage shows of swordplay and comedy acts, children theatre, music, dancing and much more.*"

June 27, 2004 – **Velvet Embossing\*** SWCG meeting/workshop at Carlos' place.

July 2-5, 2004 – **ConKopelli (WesterCon 57)** Regional SF Convention at the Wigwam Resort in Litchfield Park, Arizona. Guests of honor include authors CJ Cherryh and Diana Gabaldon, artist David Cherry, fan John Hertz, and music guest Heather Alexander. Go to [www.conkopelli.org](http://www.conkopelli.org) for details. *SWCG will host a*

*costumers' suite on Friday and Saturday. Guildster Carlos Egan will direct the masquerade.*

July 25, 2004 – **Splashdown\*** SWCG social at Chuck & Tasha's place. Our annual costume party in the pool. Make a costume you can swim in. This year's theme is "Aliens."

August 29, 2004 – **Chemises and Shirts\*** SWCG workshop at Randall's place. Learn to build a basic underdress or shirt. Bring muslin or other suitable fabric.

September 26, 2004 – **Buckram Hats II\*** SWCG workshop at Carlos' place. Put finishing touches on the hats we started in March.

October 24, 2004, 10 AM – **The Cloaking\*** SWCG workshop at Jean's place. We'll build some capes and other items to sell at Devonshire as our annual fundraiser. Bring your sewing tools and try to find some of the "Dreaded Black Fuzzy" fabric.

November 28, 2004 – **Bustles\*** SWCG workshop and potluck at Frances' place in Sedona. Bring food to share. Bustle material list to be posted later.

Saturday, December 18, 2004, 5 PM – **Dickens Walk\*** SWCG social at Edouard's place. Assemble in Victorian or other winter costume, then walk the Christmas at First festival together.

January 30, 2005 – **Duct Tape Mannequins\*** SWCG workshop at Jean's place. Build a custom dresser dummy around your body using the handyman's secret weapon.

February 27, 2004 – **Calendar Girls & Guys\*** SWCG meeting at Stephanie's place. Annual calendar planning.

#### **Buckram Hat Forms at March Meeting** by Frances Burns

##### Things to bring:

Any hat patterns you have  
Materials for copying hat pattern  
Wire cutters

Paper scissors - Buckram is extremely hard on scissors.  
Sewing machine with heavy duty needles  
Extra sewing machine needles, pins, & pencils  
Flannel or other soft cloth for covering form (old t-shirts work just fine)

##### Optional:

Fashion fabric (I do not expect people will be ready to cover their hats this session.)  
Embellishments

**Note:** We'll do a special early meeting before the main meeting for people interested in going to Costume College this year.

Those of us who intend going to Costume College, or are interested in the event, will meet at 11:30 AM at Jean's to discuss travel arrangements, hotels, and additional attached field trips. Example: doing the upscale shop tour including International Silks and Woolens, Richard the Thread, Oriental Silk Shop, and F&S Fabrics either before or after the convention.

For the costume college web site go to: <http://www.costumecollege.org> College dates are July 30 to Aug 1, 2004.

### **From the Mailbox**

GBACG *Finery*, Vol 2 #2, March/April 2004. Gibson Girls on the Loose, Pretty Prints, Clever Cottons: 18<sup>th</sup> Century Fabrics. Upcoming events include Mad Hatter Tea Party, Harry Potter Costume Clinic, Renaissance Hat Workshop. Look over *Finery* at the next SWCG meeting.

### **New Renaissance Faire in Prescott Valley**

From the press release received 2/23/04:

*The May in the Meadows Renaissance Faire, produced by Devonshire Renaissance Productions – May 1&2, 2004, from 10 AM to 6 PM, Admission is \$5 for all, Children under 5 free. The Faire is located at the Downtown Civic Center in Prescott Valley.*

*Swords, Lords and Ladies. . .*

*Come one and all to the first annual May in the Meadows Renaissance Faire! The show re-creates an Elizabethan marketplace in the year 1558. The festivities include jugglers, jesters, dancers, minstrels, street actors, musicians, arts & crafts, knights performing combat demonstrations, and a visit from Queen Elizabeth I (played by MiMi Altree) joining the celebration. Come feast upon the royal foods of the time and join in the spirits! There will be dozens of local and traveling peddlers and guilds demonstrating handmade crafts and skills of the time; and many activities for the children to enjoy. Enjoy three stages of entertainment, unique shopping opportunities, and fill ye heart with merriment!*

*Devonshire Renaissance Faire Inc. is a nonprofit organization. The faire is produced by its own staff with support from the Town of Prescott Valley. Visit the web site at [www.devonshirefaire.com/may](http://www.devonshirefaire.com/may)*

### **Incoming E-Mail**

Australian Costumers Guild *Coztume* Issue 55, January 2004. We've just reestablished a newsletter swap with the ACG by e-mail! This photo-packed issue includes accounts of a recent ACG costumed visit to a science center, hula hooping, pattern reviews, upcoming costume ball, mascot costumes. Look over a printout next meeting.

### **Quick Store Review**

**Bead Box**, 1290 North Scottsdale Road, Tempe, AZ 85281 (SWC, Scottsdale Road & Weber Drive).

I passed through Bead Box briefly while working on an environmental assessment of the strip mall which includes it. Being on company time, I didn't get to look around much. The place seemed to be a well-stocked beading store, particularly strong on metal beads.

They offer classes under the name "Beadbox University." According to the flyer (See it next meeting), these classes include basic beading, wire wrapping, earrings, spiral stitch, peyote (the stitch, not the drug), right angle weave, frilly fringe, etc.

The business card says Bead Box also has locations in Arizona Mills Mall and 3111 West Chandler Boulevard in Chandler, as well as an online store at [www.beadbox.com](http://www.beadbox.com).

The Rio Salado Courtyard strip mall is a fairly good neighborhood for costuming. I used to live nearby. Besides Bead Box, the mall includes "As Is Fashions," a very inexpensive department store outlet. The southern adjoining Pure Fitness Plaza includes what is probably the last walk-in Tandy Leather store in Arizona. Unfortunately, the neighboring Lewis Camera store appears to be closing down.

### **Parting Thought**

Most of us do this for fun & profit, but costume can also provide a powerful means of political expression. Last Wednesday my job took me to the Burton Barr Public Library in Phoenix. Always a zone of rampant free speech, one usually has to run a gauntlet of petition circulators to reach the door.

Standing (appropriately) peacefully next to the front door was a line of five or six women in broad hats and black veils bearing the banner, "Women in Black Against War." I suspect I would have known at least one of the protesters without their veils. They were silent as statues, merely holding out their flyers in one hand.

I'm more of a dude in tan who supports our troops, but they certainly got my attention.

**ICG Proxies!**

If you are an ICG member, you should have received a proxy form for the ICG Annual Meeting at CostumeCon on April 5, 2004 along with your ICG Newsletter. If you can't make the meeting yourself, be sure to send you signed proxy with someone who is.

Bruce Mai of the St Louis Costumers Guild indicated online he is willing to bear proxies for SWCG members. You can send him your proxy at Bruce Mai, 7835 MILAN, ST LOUIS MO 6130-1251.