



Vol 12 #9, September 2005

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### Calendar

Know of an upcoming costumed event in Arizona? Please tell your editor. **\*Indicates an event organized by SWCG.** Unless otherwise noted, SWCG meetings begin at 1 PM.

September 9-11, 2005 – **Coppercon 25** at the Embassy Suites Phoenix North (SEC Greenway Road & I-17) Fan-run SF Con featuring guests of honor Robert J. Sawyer, Greg Keyes, Escape Key, and Larry Nemecek. [www.coppercon.org](http://www.coppercon.org). For masquerade info, go to <http://members.aol.com/coppermask25>.

September 18, 2005 – **From Russia With Tasha\*** in the Bookman's bookstore meeting room at the northwest corner of 19<sup>th</sup> and Northern Avenues in Phoenix, Arizona. Tasha

will show us her costume photo collection from her recent visit to Russia. Meanwhile, we'll plan out guild activities for the next several months. What would you like to do?

November 12, 2006 through April 2, 2006 – **The Fabric of Jazz** at the Mesa Southwest Museum, 53 North MacDonald, Mesa, Arizona. This exhibition features quilts, fabric wall hangings and poetry inspired by jazz musicians and their work. [www.mesasouthwestmuseum.com](http://www.mesasouthwestmuseum.com)

November 18-20, 2005 – **TusCon 32** at the Innsuites Hotel Tucson. Fan-run SF Con featuring guests of honor David Brin, Theresa Mather, Edward Bryant, and Bill Winski. <http://home.earthlink.net/~basfa/>

November 19-10, 2005 10 AM-6PM – **Devonshire Renaissance Faire** at Los Olivos Park, north of the northeast corner of 28<sup>th</sup> Street and Indian School Road in Phoenix. [www.devonshirefaire.com](http://www.devonshirefaire.com)

April 14-16, 2006 – **AniZona 2** at the Embassy Suites Phoenix North (SEC Greenway Road & I-17) Arizona's own Anime and Manga convention [www.anizona.org](http://www.anizona.org).

May 5-7, 2006 – **LepreCon 32** at the Embassy Suites Phoenix North (SEC Greenway Road & I-17) Fan-run SF Con featuring guests of honor Alan M. Clark, John Vornholt and Bill Blair. [www.leprecon.org](http://www.leprecon.org).

### Coppercon 25 Masquerade Update by Randall Whitlock

Plans are shaping up for the Coppercon 25 Masquerade, to be held September 10, 2005.



Mardi Gras Costume in Scottsdale has donated a handmade beaded and feathered velvet mask with a retail value of over one hundred dollars. This will be the Best in Show prize.

With (literal) material support from the guild, I've built brown corduroy cloaks as prizes for the Novice and Experienced divisions.

The Novice Cloak is based on the Randwulf's Yoked Cloak pattern while the Experienced Division cape is an Inverness Cloak with a circular shoulder cape.

Youngfen contestants will each receive a prize of chocolate Pirate Gold.

There will be a new category this year, called "Performance Only." This category allows persons with purchased or rented costumes to appear in the masquerade. Performance only entries are not eligible for best in show, but can receive performance-related mentions, like most humorous. I do not include in this category costumes which were made by a close friend or relative of the model. These can be entered in the Novice or Experienced divisions so long as the maker is included as a contestant and shares any prizes. The key question: Was the costume made for Love or Money?

Be a digi-ninja! When we hand out hall costume awards this year, let's try to get a digital picture of each one. This might be made into a poster to be displayed on Sunday at the con. We can transfer pictures to my computer the same way we did at the July meeting.

The signup form is ready and can be downloaded from the masquerade information page at <http://members.aol.com/coppermask25>.

### **From the Mailbox**

*The ICG Newsletter*, August/September 2005 features part one of Animal X's "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Glue, But Were Afraid to Ask."

### **iTheatre Collaborative Schedule** **Sent in by Diane Harris**

Following are dates for the iTheatre Collaborative 2005/2006 season. This theater group is in its third year here in the Valley. They perform at the Herberger Black Box space - 3rd Street and Van Buren. I am heavily involved with this group through costume design.

iTheatre Collaborative  
2005/2006 Season  
Contact Phone Number: 602-347-1071  
[www.ithatrecollaborative.org](http://www.ithatrecollaborative.org)

September 16-18, 22-25, 30-October 1, 2005  
Death and the Maiden by Ariel Dorfman  
Co-produced with A.S.U.-West.

This internationally award winning play is set in an unnamed country that is struggling to form a democratic government after overthrowing a brutal dictatorship (Sound familiar?). The play's action follows a woman who, twenty years before, under the previous regime, was arrested, tortured and raped, is suddenly confronted with the man she believes was her torturer. Seeing the opportunity to exact her revenge, she sets about extracting his confession and destruction. Written by the Chilean author/playwright and exile of the Pinochet regime, Ariel Dorfman, the play examines the dark side of humanity while asking difficult

questions about reconciliation, revenge, justice and the "march of freedom" and democracy. Strong language and violent themes.

November 4-6, 10-13, 18-19, 2005  
Baltimore Waltz by Paula Vogel

In a wild flight of imagination, Anna, an unmarried schoolteacher, who is diagnosed with ATD, Acquired Toilet Disease (See, your mother was right about public restrooms), a fatal new malady, and her brother Carl travel to Europe. Carl becomes involved in a wild Third Man-ish espionage scheme to find a cure for his sister, and Anna decides to drown herself in the sensuality of food and sex in her remaining time. Carl's quest for a cure ends as reality sets in, and we find that they never left Baltimore at all. Winning the Obie Award in 1992 for Best Play, this breakthrough comedy/drama is a tribute to the playwright's brother, Carl who died of AIDS in 1988 but as Miss Vogel puts it, this play is not about AIDS, but about something much more universal: "It's a play about processing grief".

December 16-18, 21-23, 2005  
Home for the Holidays

iTheatre's Christmas Cabaret created by Jeff Kennedy Already a holiday tradition, the iTheatre's Christmas Cabaret is a place to come home to for the Holidays. It's an all new show of holiday music featuring both classic and new songs performed by some of the best voices in the Valley. So get a babysitter for the kids and come to our cabaret (think nightclub, but without the smoke). You can enjoy a favorite holiday beverage or dessert from the bar and experience this funny, touching and heartwarming cabaret performance celebrating the holiday season. Conceived by music director, composer and pianist Jeff Kennedy.

March 10-12, 16-18, 2006  
Sweet Nothing in My Ear by Stephen Sachs

The tale of Laura and Dan, a happily married couple, she is deaf; he is hearing. Dan speaks and uses sign language to communicate with Laura and their son, Adam. His family's deafness has never been an issue for Dan until a doctor says that Adam should have a cochlear implant. As Laura and Dan struggle with this issue, the play beautifully explores deafness as a culture and not a disability, while shedding light on the ways in which we are able to love and hear each other. The play is performed to be understood by all audience members, hearing and deaf. The play won the California Governor's Media Access Award for Theatre and was a finalist for the PEN West Literary Award for Drama. The Los Angeles Times calls it "passionate, insightful, provocative and moving," and the Chicago Sun-Times calls it "Children of a Lesser God

meets Kramer vs. Kramer." Co-Produced with the Arizona Deaf Theater and A.S.U.-West

March 10-12, 16-18, 2006

The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man in the Moon Marigolds  
by Paul Zindel

Beatrice Hunsdorfer wreaks a petty vengeance on everybody about her including her two daughters. One daughter, Ruth, is a pretty but highly strung girl subject to convulsions; while the younger daughter, Tillie, plain and almost pathologically shy, has an intuitive gift for science. Encouraged by her teacher, Tillie undertakes a gamma ray experiment with marigolds that wins a prize at her school--and also brings on the shattering climax of the play. Proud and yet jealous, too filled with her own hurts to accept Tillie's success, Beatrice can only maim when she needs to love, and deride when she wants to praise. And yet, as Tillie's experiment proves, something beautiful and full of promise can emerge from even the most barren, afflicted soil. This is the timeless lesson of the play, and the root of its moving power and truth. Winner of the 1971 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

#### **Press Release:**

#### **Alien Extreme Halloween Event Planned for Mesa**

Please inform your members about our event. We believe we are right up your alley for a fun entertaining event for your members. We would be glad to offer a group discount if you are interested. Contact [groups05@hauntedphoenix.com](mailto:groups05@hauntedphoenix.com) for more information.

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

MESA, AZ – Alien Extreme 2005, the Valley's most FRIGHTENING Halloween haunt experience is preparing for the launch of a new season of thrills and chills. Proudly presented by Unforgettable Attractions, Alien Extreme Haunted Adventure is more than just a haunted house. It dares guests to enter the depths of a full-sized alien spacecraft and scientific station overrun by bizarre and fearful creatures from other worlds. It combines live actors, animated props and special effects to create a uniquely intense attraction. "An added bonus is that Alien Extreme is not your generic blood bath or demonic theme. It's an alien haunt that dares you to experience all the intense scares you need this year," adds Deborah Molique, marketing director.

Also featured is the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Corn Maze. The Corn Maze was cut using the Global Satellite Positioning System (GPS) and features a hunt for six checkpoints. It is approximately 3 miles of maze cut into 10 acres of corn. "We have something for everyone," says Rob Borucki, operator of

Alien Extreme. "Where our haunt is really geared toward teenagers and adults, the corn maze is not 'haunted' and can be enjoyed by families with smaller children."



The haunt is open 22 nights from October 6<sup>th</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005. Alien Extreme 2005 is conveniently located at 4011 S. Power Road, Mesa, AZ 85212 (just south of Elliot Rd). Food, souvenirs and other concessions, along with free parking, will make Alien Extreme 2005 a must-do autumn evening event. A diverse range of wallet-friendly

ticketing options offer single attraction tickets from \$7-\$15 and combo tickets for \$20. Coupons are available at Del Taco, Spirit Halloween Superstores and other valley locations and via [www.AlienExtreme.com](http://www.AlienExtreme.com). Group rates are available. Take your staff out with our daytime or evening team building experiences for corporate or special group interests.

For the most current hours of operation, printable directions, coupons, sponsor specials and additional information, visit [www.AlienExtreme.com](http://www.AlienExtreme.com).

#### **Swap 'Til You Drop**

By Randall Whitlock

A quest for upgrade parts for the Pipe & Drape system this summer has taken me on a grand tour of swap meets around the valley. Here are some impressions:

Phoenix Park & Swap in the dog track parking lot at the southwest corner of 40<sup>th</sup> Street and Washington in Phoenix. This is the granddaddy of them all and probably the most diverse in its contents. I've visited it often over the years. Originally just a parking lot, it now has several permanent buildings and permanent shade canopies over all of the spaces. Admission is two dollars. You can park on-site for a fee, but the Gateway Community College campus across the street has free parking.

Indoor Swap Mart north of the northeast corner of 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Camelback Road in Phoenix. This is my first choice on hot days. It's indoors and air-conditioned. Probably the best one for costume stuff, merchants include Banner Knife & Garb (also seen at local renfairs with

ready to wear renaissance garb), a wig & beauty supplies dealer, and a guy who has Nehru jackets, as well as the standard dollar store items, watches, and tube socks. The food court includes a really good soul food place. Admission is one dollar. You get a punch card that makes your fifth visit free. Parking is free.

Goodyear Marketplace 17606 West McDowell Road (west of Cotton Lane) has a comfortable layout with roofs over all of the rows. Free parking and admission. Not as densely populated as other swap meets due to its remote location, but this is an up and coming swap meet.

Mesa Marketplace 10550 East Baseline Road, Mesa, near Signal Butte. This swap meet was one of busiest I'd seen when I visited it last November. The physical layout is identical to Goodyear marketplace with solid roofs over all of the rows. My cousin Barbara Clark runs a booth there, catering to the Red Hat ladies.

El Gran Mercado south of the southwest corner of 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Buckeye in Phoenix. This is a swap meet with a Mexican accent, literally. Most of the signs are in Spanish. Good deals on boots and leather goods. Parking costs three dollars, which includes your admission. You have to pass a metal detector to get in. I had to leave my Leatherman tool behind (Why isn't there some kind of second amendment for stage techies?).

Grand Avenue Swap Meet 7855 Northwest Grand Avenue, Peoria. Maybe I was there on a bad day, but all I saw was a couple of dealers with used furniture, tools, and other garage sale junk. Free parking and admission.

I haven't visited these yet, but they appear in the local Yellow Pages:

Glendale 9 Drive-In Theater 5560 North 55<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Glendale.

Phoenix Marketplace (also listed as Indoor Swap Meet), 6710 West Thomas Road, Phoenix

Peoria's Grand Bazaar 8455 Northwest Grand, Peoria

Mercado El Mirage Indoor Swap 13613 Main Street, El Mirage

As a rule of thumb, these marketplaces are best visited in the cool fall and winter months of the year. The merchants don't like the heat any better than the rest of us and you will find many unoccupied stalls during the summer.

Do you know of another swap meet around Arizona? Please share your impressions.

## We Make History

Reviewed by Kathleen Fulton

The We Make History organization draws people from many walks of life including historical re-enactors, home-schooled children and families, students, ballroom and/or folk dancers, etc. The group's focus is to engage enthusiastic people looking for an elegant, formal and respectful experience of a previous era. The grand balls are a costuming delight because most of the ladies dress in formal period (usually hand-made) gowns, and a good number of the gentlemen are attired in genteel and/or military period clothing.

One of my hobbies is dancing to old time live music as in English Country style. This type of dancing along with other period appropriate dances are done at the Grand Balls.

Also, I have attended the American Heritage Weekend festivities organized and sponsored by We Make History. This annual event takes place in November in Queen Creek at Schnefp Farm. Along with battle re-enactments, there are military encampments for viewing, a rendition of the "great awakening" church service, and vendors selling various period items.

### We Make History Upcoming Events

8/ 15/05, Mesa – The Pride & Prejudice Ball

11/ 11&12/05, Queen Creek – American Heritage Festival

11/26/05, Mesa – Our 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Victorian Christmas Ball

1/14/06, Mesa – Her Majesty's Royal Court Ball

2/18/06, Mesa – George Washington's Birthday Ball

4/8/06, Mesa – The 1861 Remembrance Ball

