

Cactus Needles

Newsletter of the
Southwest Costumers Guild

Vol 12 #12, 2005

Contacts

Southwest Costumers Guild PO Box 39504 Phoenix AZ 85069-9504	www.SouthWestCostumersGuild.org www.costume.org
President Diane Harris	602.841.1608 calliebelle@earthlink.net
Vice President Jean Palmer	623.876.1848 bjeanpalmer@msn.com
Secretary Paula Lary	480.784.5901 paulaslary@yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor Randall Whitlock	602.995.7514 602.697.0492 randwhit@moirandalls.com
Treasurer Tasha Cady	623.582.0540 tasha.cady@honeywell.com
John Autore	480.733.2745 creativelympls@yahoo.com
Courtney Black	darkladyofavalon@aol.com
Frances Burns	928.284.9860 francesb@sedona.net
Anna Caggiano	623.582.0540 annamc@ix.netcom.com
Sue and Angie Clayton	480.759.0199 sueclatyon@cox.net
Carlos B. Egan	gacatawba@yahoo.com
Margaret Grady	602.796.1229 mgrady@eigi.com
Mark Greenawalt	480.496.0266 mark@futureclassx.com
Michael Griffith	somniac754@hotmail.com
Lyn & David Jeppesen	602.275.3321 rjeppesen7@hotmail.com
Bonnie Love-Svirskas	602.840.2470 bonnieaz@cox.net
Pete Manly	623.876.1848 petemanly@msn.com
Edouard B. Mesert	602.678.4751 ebmassociates@cox.net
Laurie Taylor	480.560.7016 laurie@mazarineblue.com
Nola Yergen-Jennings	623.435.9700 ladycamilla@cox.net

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.

November 12, 2006- April 2, 2006 –**Fabric of Jazz** at Mesa Southwest Museum, 53 North MacDonal, Mesa, Arizona. Exhibit of quilts, wall hangings, poetry inspired by Jazz. www.mesasouthwestmuseum.com

December 1, Noon and 7PM – **Lingerie Museum Presentation** at the Phoenix Art Museum. From Frances: “I just looked at the museum web site and there will also be a talk on the Lingerie exhibit with Curator of Fashion Design Dennita Sewell.”

You are cordially invited to attend the
**Southwest Costumer's Guild
Holiday Celebration**
Saturday, December 17, 2005
3:00pm - 5:00pm

Mimi's Cafe
10214 N. Metro Parkway West
Phoenix, AZ 85051
Near Metrocenter Mall - across the parking lot
from Ross and Petsmart

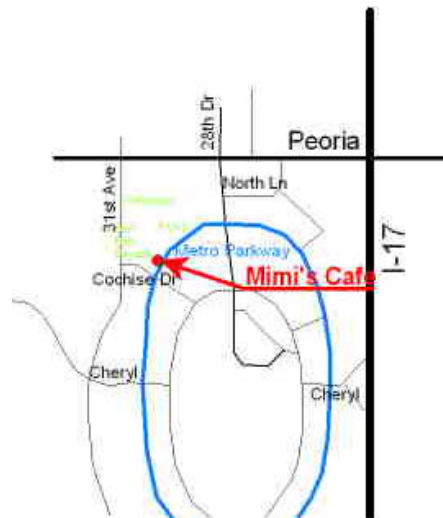
**YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO COME IN
COSTUME!**

Please R.S.V.P. to Diane Harris no later than Wednesday 12-14-05, either by phone (602-841-1608 or 602-565-2019) or email (calliebelle@earthlink.net). We will need a definite count of attendees. Potential members are welcome! Since this is a holiday event, your Guild will be subsidizing a small portion of the bill.

Directions:

From East Valley: From the I-10, take I-10 east through Deck Tunnel to I-17 North to the Peoria exit. Turn left. After the underpass, turn left at the 1st light, but stay in right lane after turn. Turn right at Metro Parkway. You will see Mimi's about 1/4 block down on the right hand side.

From West Valley: Take 101 east to I-17 South to Peoria exit. Turn right and drive to 1st light. Turn left, but stay in right lane after turn. Turn right at Metro Parkway. You will see Mimi's about 1/4 block down on the right hand side.



December 4, 2005 – **Arizona's Ghost Towns and Mining Camps** exhibit/lecture at Red Rock State Park near Sedona AZ (928) 282.6907.

December 10, 2005, 10AM – **Holiday Wreath-Making Workshop** at Oracle State Park near Oracle AZ (520) 896.2425.

December 10, 2005, 2PM - **Vintage Beads. .Trash or Treasure** at Cave Creek Museum, 6140 E. Skyline Drive, Cave Creek. (480) 488-2764 Admission is free A lecture and demonstration on how to tell a new bead from a vintage bead. www.beadgals.com

Thursday, December 15, 7PM – **Suitable Gown for Her Majesty** presentation at the Phoenix Art Museum

From the CROFT, forwarded by Frances:

*"We will be presenting the "Suitable Gown for Her Majesty www.saragrace.net/3E_10_QEW_Event_Pics.html again at the Phoenix Art Museum www.phxart.org/events/lectures.asp in conjunction with the exhibit Lingerie: Secrets of Elegance www.phxart.org/exhibitions/current.asp on Thursday, December 15th at 7:00 pm. So for those of you who missed it last year, here is another chance! I will be presenting a short slide show of costumes which includes a color slide of a rarely seen portrait by Frederigo Zuccero. (This portrait appears in Max Von Boehn's Modes and Manners and was formerly thought to be a picture of Mary Stuart.) It is particularly interesting for it's huge mahoitered sleeves. *_Thursday nights at the museum are free!_* So you can see the whole museum and the presentation for the price of gas! Hope to see you then." Saragrace*

Saturday, December 17, 2005, 3PM – **Holiday Dinner*** SWCG social. We'll meet at the Mimi's Café near Metrocenter for an early supper. Costume Encouraged! *See the Prez's flyer on page 1.*

January 14, 2006, 10AM – **Photography of the Old West** exhibit at McFarland State Park near Florence AZ (520) 868.5216.

January 14 & 15, 2006 – **8th Annual Gathering of the Gunfighters** at Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Park. 16 old west reenactment teams perform a 2-day best of the west competition. (928) 783.4771.

Saturday, January 14, 2006 – **Glendale Glitters and Glows*** SWCG field trip. We'll meet at the Pete's Fish & Chips on Glendale Avenue at 4:30 PM for a light and greasy supper, then tour the street festival. Costume encouraged!

January 29, 2005, 3PM – **Calendar*** SWCG business meeting at the Bookman's Book Store, northwest corner of

19th Ave & Northern in Phoenix. We'll do our annual officer elections and plan out guild activities for 2006. Bring ideas! www.bookmans.com

February 11, 2006 10 to 5 – **Tour of Historic Florence** at McFarland State Historic Park. (520) 868.5216.

March 10, 2006 – **8th Annual Gathering of the Gunfighters** at Yuma Territorial Prison State Historic Park. Yuma's old west gunfight teams show how the west should have been. (928) 783.4771.

March 11-12, 2006 – **Battle of Picacho Peak** Annual civil war reenactment at Picacho State Park, Arizona at I-10, Exit 219. www.azstateparks.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.

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.

May 26-29, 2006 – **CostumeCon 24** at the Hotel Fort Des Moines in Des Moines, Iowa. This year's theme is "Epic Movies." Memberships \$85 until Dec 31, 2005, \$95 until the con. <http://cc24.dmsfs.org/>.

June 24 & 25, 2006 – **Renaissance in the Pines** at Fort Tuthill off of I-17, just south of Flagstaff, Arizona. A fine one-weekend renfaire.

Edouard to Organize Regency Dancing

Edouard Mesert and Marty and Alice Massoglia are going to bring Regency Dancing to Arizona. We already have a location in Tucson. We are almost positive that Bookman's will let us alternate months back and forth. Edouard has the music, and book of instructions. Marty and Alice are willing to come on a regular basis to help us get started. Costumes are encouraged. ebmassociates@cox.net

Upcoming Plays at Ethington Theatre

Grand Canyon University's Ethington Theatre will present the following plays over the next few months, featuring costumery by our own Nola:

December 9-11 & 16-18, 2005 – **Arms and the Man** by George Bernard Shaw.

February 17-19 & 24-26, 2006 – **The Three Sisters** by Anton Chekhov.

April 21-23 & 28-30, 2006 – The Robber Bridegroom by Alfred Uhry.

Order your tix at (602) 589-2871. Grand Canyon University is at 3300 West Camelback Road in Phoenix.

From the Mailbox

The Greater Bay Area Costumers Guild *Finery* V3 #6, Nov/Dec 2005. Victoria Manassero Maat's review of "Dressing a Galaxy: The Costumes of Star Wars." Meeting & activity schedule for 2006. Lyn McMasters' "Buckram 101."

We received a flyer for the new Folkwear pattern: "#144 Tribal Style Belly Dancer."

We received an "Alchemy of England" goth jewelry catalog.

Sweatshop



Building hats and capes at our November Sweatshop. Photo by Pete Manly.



The Finished Hats, seen on Randall's table at the Devonshire Renaissance Faire. Photo by Randall Whitlock.

Mike's Photo Art

Mike Cassidy has been having some fun with the costumed digital photos he took at CopperCon earlier this year.

Mike took one of his group photos from the Victorian Costuming panel discussion and moved it to a more appropriate setting – a Table Setting.



Mike managed to get Margie a "guest appearance" on Deadwood.



Antiquing Silks with Bleach

by Diane Harris

I recently was commissioned to design and build an Edwardian dinner gown. My client wanted the fabric to look antique and yellowed. She chose silk taffeta as the fashion fabric, which I found at EmBee's (Los Angeles fabric district). The taffeta originally was white, so that it could be dyed. After doing some research on "teasing" the fabric, Frances Burns (a Guild member) told me that silk will yellow by bleaching. The bleaching doesn't destroy the fibers of silk because of the proteins. So, after test bleaching with different times and amounts of water and bleach in my sink, then discussion with Frances (I was very nervous), I bleached the silk taffeta in my washing machine. Here is the method.

My client wanted to be able to hand wash the garment, if necessary. She gets a rash from the dry cleaning solutions. I had already pre-washed the fabric.

Wash your fabric first, but do not dry fabric yet. Set your washing machine on the permanent press cycle and let the washing machine fill with water. I used the warm/cold setting. When the agitation cycle begins, put in 1/2 cup bleach. Let it agitate so that it is completely diluted in water. **Put your wet fabric in the washer at this time** Check yellowing after 5 minutes, then 2 minutes, then 2 minutes again. The agitation cycle was about halfway complete at this time. I then added an additional 1/2 cup bleach (diluted in a pitcher of water) to the mixture as it continued through the agitation cycle. This ultimately brought the fabric to the desired yellowing. I checked the color about every 2 minutes. The fabric reached the desired antique look at the end of the agitation cycle. It was a little darker, since the fabric was wet. Then I let the washing machine go through the entire permanent press rinse cycle, but flipped the setting to the gentle spin cycle. I dried the fabric on gentle for just a few minutes. I then ironed the fabric while it was still damp. This method gave me a luscious antique look. My client loved it.

This method also works for wool.

Thank you, Frances, for this tip.

Bernina Fashion Show Winners

Forwarded by Frances Burns

If it is still up on the web - You can view the 2005 Bernina Fashion Show entries and award winners online at: <http://www.berninausa.com/campaign/redirect.jsp?cmID=C1548223230823819L5227U69847>

This was hosted at the Fall Quilt show in Texas this year.

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January 12.1 – Cleaning the Mailing List, Please send me your stuff!, Carry On at Conventions, Randwulf's Jester Hat Published

February 12.2 – Officers for 2005, Take the Magic Bus to Costume-Con, E-Mail Change for John, Feedback Sought for New ICG Masquerade Guidelines, Rayon Thread, Images from Glendale Glitters & Glows, Country Dance In Phoenix, Jammin' with Jammies,

March 12.3 – Hale Centre Theatre Schedule for 2005, Optimo Custom Hatworks, The Hat Jack Hat Stretcher, Pattern Alert: Stretch Glove Pattern, Duct Tape Dummies, Stand for a Duct Tape Dummy, Special Section: Cosplay Comes to Arizona, Cosplay, The Cosplay Contest at AniZona, Cosplay: The Illegitimate Child of SF

Masquerades, Costuming a World Apart: Cosplay in America and Japan

April 12.4 – Vandals Strike Local Clothing Store, Lessons I Learned from Sewing, AniZona Review, Jennifer Begins Naval Career, Civil Expedition, The 5th Texas, Nola is DarkCon Chair

May 12.5 – Nola Makes Plans for DarkCon 2007, Trek Costume Pattern Source

June 12.6 – New Contact for the Prez, Welcome New Member, ICG Annual Meeting Summary, Cosplay Revolution, Thrift Store Costuming Or How to Make Cool Costumes on the Cheap, The Finished Costume: How to Accessorize for the Complete Look, LepreCon Masquerade Summary, African Clothing Display at Tempe Public Library, Latex EFX Makeup Class at Mardi Gras in Scottsdale, Valley of the Moon, Tucson's only Historic Fantasy Land

July 12.7 – Randall to Direct Coppercon 25 Masquerade, Hint from Paula, Phoenix Culture Cauldron E-Mail Group, Dark Ones Newsletter Revived, Chainmail Workshop Pictures, The Houppelande Wraparound Comes Around

August 12.8 – Francis Ray Gish 1934-2005, New E-Mail for Paula, Costume College Pix, Coppercon 25 Masquerade Update, Product Plug for "Goof Off," The Propeller Beanie: An Historical Perspective, Some Pictures from the July Photo Session, A Visit to the Pendleton Woolen Mills

September 12.9 – Coppercon 25 Masquerade Update, iTheatre Collaborative Schedule, Alien Extreme Halloween Event Planned for Mesa, Swap 'Til You Drop, We Make History

October 12.10 – Coppercon 25 Masquerade Wrap-Up, The Jedi Belt Project, The International Horror and Sci-Fi Film Festival, Grand Canyon University Ethington Theatre Schedule, New Theatre to Open at PVCC, In Memory of Barry Bard, Seen at the October SWCG meeting at Bookman's

November 12.11 – Christmas at First Cancelled, Coppercon 25 Memories Disk Complete, The Pause: A Random Thought from your Editor, Truly Victorian French Vest Bodice - TV 463, Cooking with the Corpse Bride.

December 12.12 – Upcoming Plays at Ethington Theatre, Regency Dancing, Sweatshop Pictures, Photo Art, Antiquing Silks with Bleach, Cactus Needles Index for 2005