

# November Cactus Needles



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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.

November 10-12, 2006 – **TusCon 33** at the InnSuites in Tucson, Arizona. Fan-run SF convention. Guests: Emma Bull & Will Shetterly. <http://home.earthlink.net/~basfa/>

**The 2006 Devonshire Renaissance Faire has been cancelled. Go to [www.devonshirefaire.com](http://www.devonshirefaire.com) for details**

November 18 & 19, 2006 – **American Heritage Festival** at Schnepf Farms, just east of Queen Creek, Arizona. Southwest's largest and most diverse living history / historic education experience!

[www.americanheritagefestival.com](http://www.americanheritagefestival.com)

*A whole buncha guildsters are planning to carpool to American Heritage Festival. Contact Kathleen about tickets. [kfulton@fclaw.com](mailto:kfulton@fclaw.com)*

November 19, 2006, 11 AM – 6PM – **5<sup>th</sup> Annual “Discover India” Diwali Festival** at Heritage & Science Park in downtown Phoenix. Free admission. [www.azindiaassociation.com](http://www.azindiaassociation.com)

November 25, 2006 – **Victorian Christmas Ball** Join the joyful family of We Make History as we celebrate this wonderful season in the old Victorian style with dancing, gifts, caroling and plenty of good cheer for all! We request \$25 for adults and \$20 for those under 21. [www.wemakehistory.com](http://www.wemakehistory.com)

December 9, 2006, 3:30 to 6 PM – **Sewing Session\*** at Bookman’s, NWC 19<sup>th</sup> Ave & Northern, Phoenix. Get together to work on Turkish Court and other personal projects. **Note Time Change.**

December 11, 2006, 5:30 PM to 9ish – **S&B\*** SWCG personal projects workshop at Tasha’s Place.

January 4-7, 2007 – **DarkCon 07** at the Embassy Suites (I-17 & Greenway, Phoenix) anime, cosplay, art demos & displays, parties, computer gaming, costumes, bazaar, LARPs, Star Wars cantina & poker tourney. All chaired by our own Nola Yergen-Jennings. **Special Guest: Jewel Staite – “Kaylee” from Firefly and Serenity.** [www.darkcon.org](http://www.darkcon.org)

January 13 & 14m 2007 – **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of the Gunfighters** at Yuma Territorial Prison & State Park in Yuma. Two-day wild west reenactor skit competition. (928)-783-4771

February 2-4, 2007 – **Two Rivers Renaissance Faire** at Joe Henry Park in Yuma, Arizona. [www.tworiversfaire.com](http://www.tworiversfaire.com)

February 10 – April 1, 2007 (weekends plus Presidents’ Day) **Arizona Renaissance Festival** on Highway 60, east of Gold Canyon, Arizona. Large professional renaissance fair. <http://emol.org/azrenfest/>

March 7-11, 2005 – **Winter Range** at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility on Carefree Highway, just west of Interstate 17. The *Single-Action Shooting Society's* annual tournament of cowboy action shooting and mounted shooting includes a sutler's row with all manner of wild west costume items. [www.winterrange.com](http://www.winterrange.com)

March 14-17, 2007 – **USITT Conference & Stage Expo** at the Phoenix Civic Center. Annual conference of the association of design, production, and technology professionals in the performing arts and entertainment industry. [www.usitt.org](http://www.usitt.org).

April 5-8, 2007 – **AniZona 3** at the Phoenix Marriott Mesa and Convention Center in Mesa. Arizona's own Anime and Manga convention [www.anizona.org](http://www.anizona.org).

May 11-13, 2007 – **LepreCon 33** at the Phoenix Marriott Mesa, 200 N Centennial, Mesa AZ. Fan-run SF Con featuring guests of honor include author Nancy Triviss and artist Jael. [www.leprecon.org](http://www.leprecon.org).

**More Sewing Sessions at Bookman's**  
19<sup>th</sup> Avenue & Northern in Phoenix

Request was made at the last sewing meeting to continue the Saturday morning sewing meetings at Bookman's, as well as to extend the time. So with that in mind, I tentatively asked for the following dates: these are all Saturdays. I worked around any possible events that were on the Cactus Needles newsletter. I also added one in November that we hadn't considered.

11-25-06	9:30 - 3:30
12-30-06	9:30 - 3:30
1-20-07	9:30 - 3:30
2-24-07	9:30 - 4:30
3-10-07	9:30 - 3:30
3-24-07	9:30 - 3:30
4-14-07	9:30 - 3:30

--Diane Harris

**Tasha brings the following to our attention:**

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FOR SALE: Russian & Slavic Dance Costumes  
Russian, Eastern European, Gypsy, miscellaneous  
All clothes are medium and large sizes. Lots of other items.  
Phone: Tish Dvorkin (480) 986-6016, e-mail:  
LocaRosa480@msn.com  
See list, photos and some prices:  
[http://www.russianaz.org/news/2006/Nov\\_1\\_For\\_Sale\\_Costumes.html](http://www.russianaz.org/news/2006/Nov_1_For_Sale_Costumes.html)  
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Lyn Jeppesen's  
**COSTUME COLLEGE 2006 CLASS NOTES**  
Part One

Regency Overview – Saturday 9:00-10:20 a.m.  
Martha Davis

Ms. Davis informed us that, "as usual," she forgot her handouts. A sheet was circulated during the class for e-mail addresses to which she promised to send her handout. I collected Ms. Davis' e-mail address just in case.

She asked if we wanted emphasis on presentation or construction, and the class selected the latter. Ms. Davis then began by outlining the Regency Period as follows:

Austin	1785-1818, actually 1805-1818 Novels set in 1790-1805 period
Federalist	1805-1810
Georgian	1764-1816
Regency	1813-1826
Napoleonic: or Empire	1780-1813

The underwear revolution began in the 1780s, going from the Chemise under dress, to chemise as underdress with an overdress, in a softening process, going from under bust all the way to behind hips. The bodice was introduced in 1792, and produced a dress call a "roundgown." The bodice consisted of two separate pieces of fabric brought up from waistline, over shoulder and tucked in back of garment.

1794 shows the waistline rising – bodice still separate from skirt, overdress degrades to back-skirt. Before 1775 and before corsets, light construction with stays produces "waist gatherer." French fashions have higher waistlines, with neckline in bodice and waistline in dress controlled and sized with drawstrings. Drawstrings were evident in dresses throughout the "Regency Period" and up to the early 1900s. Any garment with a round neck has a drawstring or equivalent.

1796 brings in the "roundgown", and in 1798 the bodice was closed. The American roundgown required a corset in 1798. Any garment not "structured," structure provided by undergarments.

Wrap dress is seen in early 1800s; pad in rear view, beginning of bustle.

Bodice waistline is only full ("Gathered") to get over bust. Lots of fabric and drawstring provides wardrobe flexibility. Jean Hunicutt and Janet Arnold cited as good sources.

1810 Austin/Federal period garments had very high waist, narrow bust depth, after the ancient Greek statues.

Therefore most garments were white as the plaster in the statues. Frescoes show bright colors in ancient Greek garments. Good source: Nancy Bradford (Branford?), "Costuming Detail." Embroidery is prevalent.

Russian colonists wore colored undergarments and sheer garments over to show the color, and many garments had sashes.

Throughout the "Regency" period 1785–1830, most garments were flat lined, not bag lined, making alternations easier.

1813 – Brought more structure to outer garments, away from undergarments.

1818 – Parisian influence brought slight flare to skirts.

1820s brought end of "Regency" period, even though women maturing after the period continued wearing the styles into the mid-Victorian period. The comment was made that even in the 50's our mothers were wearing their good clothes from the 30's. This trend has been evident throughout recorded styling.

French Drape Pattern Making – Saturday 11:30 – 12:50 -  
Kathy Lear

This was so interesting I took few notes. Please refer to handout. (*I presume Lyn has the handout – ed.*)

In fitting corset on model, Ms. Lear commented that she uses tennis shoelaces to lace her corsets, ties them in back and tucks the end in top at the back "rather have a messy back than a messy front." Diane and I both refrained from showing her our lacing strategy. Supply list provided on front of handout [One body; pings, scissors, marking pens, and muslin, several yards]. Note you cannot do this on yourself. You need either need a good dress form adjusted to your measurements, or a close friend who knows the technique.

No matter the style, pattern begins on shoulder line; pins should have head facing neck, not point. No marking until all adjustments have been made.

Referring to handout, after Step 7, cut muslin to waistline. In marking use a light pen to start, when sure of line use Sharpie so the right line is apparent.

For fullness in bust, put dart in mockup; if for princess style, move fullness to seam line and take dart out at seam, otherwise at shoulder. Do dart only in mockup, not on pattern.



**Frank McShane**

1954-2006

Photo by David Bluestein

Frank McShane passed away unexpectedly on Friday, October 27, 2006 on his way to work.

Frank was one of the anchormen of local SF fandom, serving in one office and another in the United Federation of Phoenix. Not a costumer himself, Frank quietly provided support for the costuming community. He donated the material that became part of the pipe & drape curtain system used at most local cons and fanacs.

I owed Frank dozens of favors. His job as a hotel laundry manager often led to first dibs on useful things as they were taken out of service. Much of my renaissance faire camp kit is built of sheets, tablecloths and shower curtains he gave me.

Funeral arrangements are in flux at this time. I will send out an e-mail as soon things are finalized.

--Randall

**From The Mailbox**

The ICG Newsletter Vol 5, Issue 5, Sept/Oct 2006: President's & Editor's Messages, Treasurer's Report, Richard Man's detailed tips on "Photography with a Digicam," ICG-D List Poll: What person or occurrence inspired you to start costuming, BOD meeting minutes, LA Con IV Masquerade winners, Director Martin Jaquish's review of the LA Con Masquerade

ARIZONA'S PREMIER FANTASY, SCIENCE FICTION & GAMING CONVENTION

# DarkCon 2007

PHOENIX, AZ JANUARY 4-7

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**KIT RAE: ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR**

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THEMED PARTIES NIGHTLY \* \* \* STAR WARS CANTINA & POKER TOURNEY

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\$35.00 ADULT (4 DAY PASS)

\$17.50 CHILDREN AGES: 3 - 14

## VIP MEMBERSHIPS \$150.00

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