



Newsletter of the Southwest Costumers Guild

# Cactus Needles

Volume 17, Number 3 – March 2009

Southwest Costumers Guild, PO Box 39504, Phoenix AZ 85069

<http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org/>

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## Calendar

*Do you know an event of interest to Arizona costumers? Please contact your editor with the details. **Red text and an asterisk\*** designate an SWCG-sponsored event. Unless otherwise noted, our monthly meetings start at 1PM. **Green Text** indicates an event hosted by our friends at SunaCosu (<http://www.sunacosu.com/>)*

Third Saturday of Every Month, 10 AM – **Personal Projects Workshops\*** at the Glendale Cascade Mobile Home Park community center, 5747 West Missouri Avenue, Glendale. Bring your current project, socialize, pick our brains, Stitch and B. . . . Contact VP Nyki for details.

March 13-14, 2010 – The **Battle of Picacho Peak** at Picacho Peak State Park. The new visitor center is finished and the annual reenactment of Arizona's only civil war battle is back. Unfortunately, this state park is scheduled to close come summer. <http://azstateparks.com/parks/pipe/index.html>

March 13, 2010 – **SunaCosu Renaissance Festival Meetup** Meet at the Arizona Renaissance Festival entrance at opening time.

March 18-21, 2010 – **National Festival of the West** at Westworld in Scottsdale. Features films, celebrity appearances, music, reenactors, merchants, chuck wagon cooks, mountain men and, of course, a costume contest. Adults \$14. <http://www.festivalofthewest.com/>

March 20, 2010 9-12 – **Day of the Spanish Horse** at Estrella Mountain Park. <http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/estrella/EventsDetailPublishers.aspx?EventID=10581>

March 20, 2010 – **A Night in the 40's Big Band Dance and WWII Musical Show** at Falcon Field Airport Commemorative Air Force Arizona Wing, 2017 North Greenfield Road Mesa, Arizona. Tix \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door. <http://www.bigbanddance.com/>

March 26-28, 2010 – **Con-Nichiwa** at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde in Tucson, Arizona. A new Animé convention from the creators of Phoenix Cactus ComiCon and Saboten-Con. <http://www.con-nichiwa.com/>.

March 26-28, 2010 – **Phoenix Sister Cities Worldfest** at Heritage Square, 7<sup>th</sup> Street & Washington, Phoenix. <http://www.phoenixsistercities.org/>.

March 28, 2010 – **Screen Printing\*** – SWCG Workshop at Jean's place in Sun City. Gail Wolfenden-Steib will show us a novel screen printing technique.

Saturday, April 24, 2010 – **Apache Dress\*** - SWCG Workshop at the Glendale Cascade Mobile Home Park community center, 5747 West Missouri Avenue, Glendale. Cindy Trail will show us some basics of traditional Native American clothing.

April 15-18, 2010 - **Fibers Through Time 2010: A Fiber Odyssey** at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Phoenix North Metro Center (I-17 & Peoria Ave) is a conference of fiber artists sponsored by Arizona Federation of Weavers and Spinners Guilds, Inc. Online registration for the conference is closed, but the vendor room is free and open to the public. <http://www.azfed.org/>



May 7-10, 2010 – **Costume-Con 28** at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. <http://www.cc28.org/>

May 14-16, 2010 - **LepreCon 36** at the Phoenix Mesa Marriott Hotel in Mesa, Arizona features guests of Honor George R.R. Martin, Charles Vess and James A. Owen. <http://www.leprecon.org/>. *See attached flyer.*

Greetings Guildsters,

I, your loyal editor, have taken on the job of Masquerade Director for LepreCon 36. The masquerade will be held on Saturday, May 15, with the specific details about the time and room to be worked out at the next hotel walk. There have been many kinds of costumed events at prior lep's. This time, we'll return to a familiar stage masquerade, but suitably scaled down for the size of the con to minimize stress and maximize fun for our contestants and crew.

I intent to put up a small riser stage from which contestants can give presentations from a basic fashion show walk to a brief cosplay sketch. Simplicity will be the order of the day. Tech will be

minimized with no special stage lights and probably no pipe & drape, but I hope to offer some sound support – on the order of a Master of Ceremonies, a laptop computer and an amplifier. The masquerade may be combined with a dance or other evening event to further simplify the logistics.

I will simplify the signup process too. There will be no contestant meeting, just a signup table out in the hallways on Saturday morning and afternoon, attended by myself and volunteers. You need not commit a big chunk of your convention just to enter the masq! I will endeavor to keep the signup form down to one page. There will be few contestant divisions and prizes will likely be simple ribbons and personalized certificates. If anyone wishes to donate more substantial prizes, I listen eagerly.

I look forward to the help and support of SWCG for this event. The best thing you can do is to show a costume. This is a small con, so it does not need to be a huge and elaborate CC-level costume, just something you enjoy being seen in. Of course I'll appreciate any other help you might wish to lend, such as den mothering, attending the signup table, stage teching, etc. Please contact [editor@southwestcostumersguild.org](mailto:editor@southwestcostumersguild.org) with your ideas.

Please tell everyone in the convention and costuming communities **THE LEPRECON MASQUERADE IS BACK!**

-- Randall Whitlock, Lep 36 Masquerade Director.

May 27-30, 2010 – **Phoenix ComiCon** at the Phoenix Convention Center and Hyatt Regency Hotel. Guests include Jonathan Frakes and Jim Steranko. <http://www.phoenixcomicon.com/>

May 30, 2010 – **Duct Tape Dummies\*** - SWCG Workshop at the Glendale Cascade Mobile Home Park community center, 5747 West Missouri Avenue, Glendale. Build a custom dress form using packing peanuts and the handyman's secret weapon.

June 3-7, 2010 – **Highlands War XVI** at Mormon Lake Campground, Coconino County, Arizona. The SCA Kingdom of Atenveldt's summer event in the cool highlands. <http://www.highlandswar.org/>

June 4-6, 2010 – **Anime Kaigi** at the du Bois Center, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona. The first convention for anime fans in northern Arizona features costume contests and a J-Fashion show hosted by SunaCosu. <http://www.animekaigi.com/>

June 19, 2010, 1PM – **SunaCosu Duct Tape Doubles Workshop** at the Pyle Adult Education Center, Southern & Rural in Tempe.

June 27, 2010 – **Corset Fitting\*** - SWCG Workshop at the Glendale Cascade Mobile Home Park community center, 5747 West Missouri Avenue, Glendale.

July 9-11, 2010 – **RandomCon** Arizona's Gaming Convention at the Windemere Hotel, 5750 E. Main Street, Mesa, Arizona. <http://www.randomcon.org/>.

July, 2010, 1PM – **SunaCosu Kimono Demo** at the Pyle Adult Education Center, Southern & Rural in Tempe.

July 25, 2010 – **Sweatshop\*** - SWCG Workshop at the Glendale Cascade Mobile Home Park community center, 5747 West Missouri Avenue, Glendale. We'll build some cloaks and other garments for a fundraiser.

August 29, 2010 – **Pool Party\*** - SWCG Social at Chuck & Tasha's place. Our annual costume party by and in the pool. Theme to be announced.

September 4-6, 2010 – **CopperCon 2010** at Windemere Hotel and Conference Center 5750 East Main Street in Mesa, Arizona. The Guest of Honor is Stephen R. Donaldson. The con features a masquerade directed by our veep, Nyki. <http://www.coppercon.org/>.

September 26, 2010 – **Fabric Swap\*** - SWCG meeting at the Glendale Cascade Mobile Home Park community center, 5747 West Missouri Avenue, Glendale. Sure, that piece of fabric, notion, or tool seemed like a good idea at the time, but it's been sitting around for years. Maybe someone else has a better use for it. Maybe they have something you can use. Let's barter!

November 12-14, 2010 - **TusCon 37** at Hotel Tucson, 475 N. Granada in Tucson, Arizona. Guest of Honor is Jim Butcher, Author of the Harry Dresden novels. <http://home.earthlink.net/~basfa/> or <http://www.tusconscificon.com/>.

November 20-21, 2010 – **Phoenix Faerie Festival** at Estrella Mountain Park in Goodyear, Arizona. <http://www.westerngatesfaerierealms.com/PhoenixFaerieFestival.htm>

January 6-9, 2011 – **MythosCon** at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in downtown Tempe, Arizona. This is a convention for fans of H.P. Lovecraft and his works. <https://www.mythoscon.org/>

*We at Cactus Needles wish to express our condolences to longtime friend and Costume-Con 30 committee member Jo Webber for the loss of her mother. – ed.*

Frank and Jo will host a wake for the passing of Nancy J. Webber  
Saturday, March 13, 2010, Starting at 4PM  
4823 E. Presidio Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85254

Please feel free to bring some appetizers to contribute, we will cook a ham and have beer and wine on hand.

If you would like to send a remembrance, a donation to Hospice of the Valley in Nancy's name would be appreciated. We will have a collection jar for any donations if you wish to donate at the wake. The funds will be used to keep the chocolate bowl full.

Hospice of the Valley  
1510 E. Flower St.,  
Phoenix, Arizona 85014

**Nancy J. Webber**  
4/5/1932-2/27/2010

Beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother she is survived by her 5 children, Jo, Sue, Harry, Phil, Matt, her six grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren. She loved her home in Superior, AZ and the company of her pets. Being a military wife meant a lot of moving around in the early years of her marriage. So after returning to the States from a deployment in Germany they settled in New York. From there they moved to the Arizona and eventually planted roots in the Verde Valley. Camp Verde is the place that the kids grew up and called home. In the 60s she was a 4H leader and in the 70's was a Arizona State Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. Nancy loved sports and rarely missed a game where her children were involved. She often spoke of the excitement of being at the World Series in 2001. She spent much of her later years traveling, playing in the SCA, and living in a number of places in Arizona and New Mexico.

**Guildsters at the Faire**

Reported by Lyn Jeppesen, Photos from Elaine Sims

In spite of the rain all day, Fran, Lyn and Jean had a great time at RenFair on February 20. We visited the Greyhound Guild, shopped and shopped (not much purchased at those prices), and in general, though cold and wet most of the day, had time to look through nearly every shop of interest. Jeannine Swick (ICG Treasurer) was there and we were mutually introduced. Lyn visited old friends from the days of working with CROFT, and bought a small book on bodice making. It looks like it might be useful. When we gave up and left about 4:00 p.m. we gathered at a coffee shop and had tea and relaxed conversation, and then dragged our weary butts home.



Left to Right: Jean Palmer, Sammie Hirsch, Jeanine Swick, Elaine Sims (+1), Lyn Jeppesen, Frances Burns, Dave Sims (separate image).

## On the Web

Mike spotted this page, dedicated to props you can build with H.P. Lovecraft themes. Lots of printable graphics. Gear up for MythosCon! <http://propnomicon.blogspot.com/>

Silicon Web Costumers' Guild *Virtual Costumer 7.4* features an interview with Firefly and Dollhouse costume designer Shawna Trpcic and the San Francisco Opera costume sale. Go to [http://www.siwcostumers.org/vc\\_current-issue.html](http://www.siwcostumers.org/vc_current-issue.html) and download it as a .pdf file.

The latest issue of *Yipe!* is available at <http://www.yipezine.com> . It includes Carol Wood's review of the one-hour dress pattern and many, many photos.

## Guildsters at the Estrella War (plus an awesome hat)

Photos by Mike Contos



## Copyright Statement

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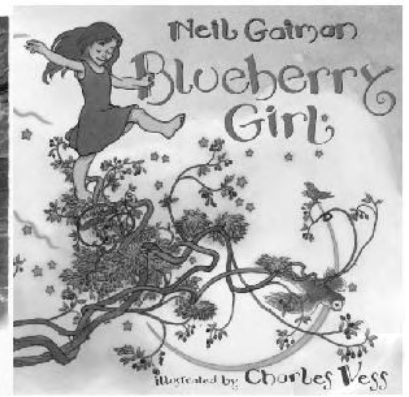
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Like what you see? Consider becoming a member or subscriber. Details and a signup form can be found at <http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org/>.



# LepreCon 36

## May 14-16, 2010

Phoenix Marriott Mesa, Mesa, AZ

### Artist Guest of Honor: **Charles Vess**

Award winning artist for *Stardust*, *Sandman*, *Blueberry Girl*, *The Book of Ballads*, *Rose*, and more.

### Author Guest of Honor: **George R.R. Martin**

Award winning author of *The Song of Ice and Fire* series, *Wild Cards*, *Sandkings*, & more.

### Local Artist/Author Guest of Honor: **James A. Owen**

Artist and author for *Here There Be Dragons*, *The Indigo King*, *Starchild*, and more.

LepreCon 36 will have discussion panels, presentations and demos with our guests and other participants. Other activities will include an art show, charity auction, gaming, hospitality suite, filk & music, and more.

#### LepreCon 36 Room Rates

**Phoenix Marriott Mesa**  
200 North Centennial Way,  
Mesa, AZ  
(480) 898-8300

Room Rates: \$99 S/D/T/Q + tax  
(online booking code "leplepa")

#### Membership Rates

\$40 thru 4/15/10,  
\$45 at the door

Kids 7-12 half price,  
Kids 6 & Under Free\*  
\* with Adult membership

Pay online using PayPal!

#### Contact LepreCon 36 at:

Write: LepreCon 36  
PO Box 26665  
Tempe, AZ 85285

Phone: (480) 945-6890

Email: [lep36@leprecon.org](mailto:lep36@leprecon.org)

[www.leprecon.org/lep36](http://www.leprecon.org/lep36)

### LepreCon 36 Convention Registration Form.

Complete this form and mail it with your check to: **LepreCon 36, PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Over 18?: ( )yes ( )no

I am interested in:  Art Show  Dealers Room  Masquerade  Running/Sponsoring a Game  Volunteering  Handicapped Access

Privacy Notice: We may use your contact information to notify you of future Leprecon, Inc. events,  
If you do NOT want to be contacted about other Leprecon, Inc. events, initial \_\_\_\_\_ and date \_\_\_\_\_.

Office Use Only : Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Cash/Check # \_\_\_\_\_) Taken by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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