



# Cactus Needles

Volume 18, Number 7 – July 2011

Southwest Costumers Guild, PO Box 39504, Phoenix AZ 85069

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

## Officer Contacts

President Frances Burns  
Vice President Nyki Robertson  
Treasurer Ros Lyn Jeppesen  
Secretary Theresa Contos  
Editor/Webmonster Randall Whitlock  
Archivist Jean Palmer

[president@southwestcostumersguild.org](mailto:president@southwestcostumersguild.org)  
[vicepresident@southwestcostumersguild.org](mailto:vicepresident@southwestcostumersguild.org)  
[treasurer@southwestcostumersguild.org](mailto:treasurer@southwestcostumersguild.org)  
[secretary@southwestcostumersguild.org](mailto:secretary@southwestcostumersguild.org)  
[webmaster@southwestcostumersguild.org](mailto:webmaster@southwestcostumersguild.org)  
[archivist@southwestcostumersguild.org](mailto:archivist@southwestcostumersguild.org)

## 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.*

March 12 – July 31, 2011 – **Theatre de La Mode** at the Phoenix Art Museum. Parisian fashion from the post WWII era displayed on 27” miniature mannequins. <http://www.phxart.org/fashion/>

July 8-10, 2011 – **Medieval Mayhem** at Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex, 1101 Woodland Road, Lakeside AZ <http://www.azmayhem.com/>

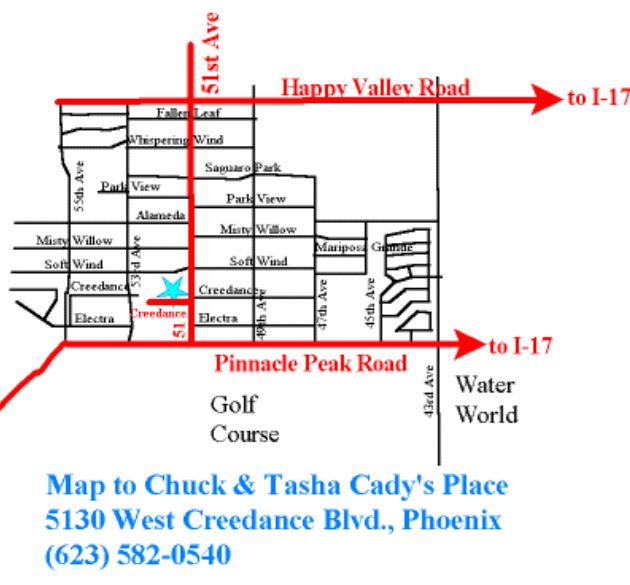
July 16 & 17, 2011 – **Arizona Highland Celtic Festival** at Foxglenn Park, 4200 E. Butler, Flagstaff, Arizona. <http://www.nachs.info/festival.shtml>

July 24, 2011, 4PM – **Something Fishy\*** SWCG Pool Party at Chuck & Tasha's home in NW Phoenix. Fish-themed costumes? Brainstorm the calendar for the rest of 2011.

July 29- August 1, 2011 – **Costume College** at Warner Center Marriott in Woodland Hills, California. A whole weekend of costuming workshops also features a Time Traveler's Gala, Fantasy Tea, Costumer's Marketplace and many other fun events. <http://costumecollege.org/>.

August 27, 2011 – **Dark Ones August Party** at “Shadowhaven,” Theme = Ship Wrecked. <http://www.darkones.org/>

September 2-5, 2011 – **CopperCon 31** at the Hilton Garden Inn, 11460 W. Hilton Way, Avondale, Arizona. Guests include Carrie Vaughn, Adam Niswander and Janni Lee Simmer.



Costume Parade on Saturday and Danse Macabre masked ball on Sunday.  
<http://www.coppercon.org/>

*Come to the Coppercon Masquerade Parade and Mixer and show off your hall costume! It will be held Saturday night, September 3rd 2011, 7:00 until 9:00 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn, 11460 Hilton Way in Avondale, AZ. We will have music, goodie bags for those in costume and door prizes. There will also be a photographer present so that you can have your picture taken in your costume.*

September 24, 2011 – **Can't Stop the Serenity** at the Fox Theater in Tucson. Annual charity screening of Joss Whedon's "Serenity" by the Arizona Browncoats. <http://azbrowncoats.org/csts>

October 14, 2011, 6-10 PM – **Robots vs. Zombies**. Mesa Second Friday Night Out street fair on Main Street, between Robson and Center Streets in downtown Mesa, Arizona.  
<http://www.2ndfridaynightout.com/>

October 15-17, 2011 – **Helldorado Days**. Tombstone, Arizona's annual celebration of their wild west heritage. <http://www.helldoradodays.com/>

October 29, 2011 – **Dark Ones Dead Man's Party** at "Ashwood Hall." Halloween Masked ball.  
<http://www.darkones.org/>

November 4-6, 2011 – **Tucson Celtic Festival & Scottish Highland Games** at Rillito Raceway Park 4502 N First Ave Tucson, AZ. <http://www.tucsoncelticfestival.org/>

November 9-14, 2011 – **Southern Crusades** – Society for Creative Anachronism combat, arts & sciences camping event at Winkelman Flats Campground in Winkelman, Arizona.  
<http://www.southerncrusades.org/>

November 11-13, 2005 – **TusCon 38** at the in Hotel Tucson CityCenter in Tucson, Arizona. Guests include Patricial Briggs and Dr. Dave Williams.  
<http://home.earthlink.net/~basfa/t38main.html>

November 11, 2011, 6-10 PM – **Wild West Steampunk**. Mesa Second Friday Night Out street fair on Main Street, between Robson and Center Streets in downtown Mesa, Arizona.  
<http://www.2ndfridaynightout.com/>

November 11-13, 2011 - **TusCon 38** at The Hotel Tucson City Center, 475 North Granada, Tucson, Arizona. Author GOH is Patricia Briggs. <http://home.earthlink.net/~basfa/t38main.html>

January 13-15, 2012 – **DarkCon 2012**. [www.darkcon.org](http://www.darkcon.org)

February 25-26, 2012 – **Vul-Con** gaming convention at the Phoenix Convention Center.  
<http://www.vul-con.com/>

April 6-8, 2011 - **LepreCon 38** at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in Tempe, Arizona features guests Franchesco and Joe Haldeman. <http://www.leprecon.org/>.



May 11-13, 2012 – **Costume-Con 30\*** "Sands of Time" at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in Tempe, Arizona. <http://www.costumecon30.org/>

May 11-13, 2012 – **KimeraCon** anime & gaming convention. at the Phoenix Marriott Mesa in Mesa, Arizona. <http://www.kimeracon.com/>



### David Ayres to Offer Zombie Makeup Classes

I'm starting a Zombie Makeup EFX Class this summer. Anyone interested that lives in the Phoenix/Scottsdale, Arizona area, please let me know by sending me a message.

David Ayres, Makeup EFX Artist, Maskmaker, Props  
Rental Manager of Mardi Gras Costume Shop  
480-429-7618, [createman@aol.com](mailto:createman@aol.com)

### On the Web

*ICG Newsletter* 10.3 – May/June 2011 features Bruce & Nora Mai's account of Carl Mami's early efforts and their ongoing efforts to digitize the ICG Archives, ICG Treasurer's annual statement, interview with Jill Eastlake (winner of this year's ICG Lifetime Achievement Award), Winners and pictures from Costume-Con 29, From the Editor presents thanks to members of the ICG officer corps and editorial board, links to Cactus Needles, Virtual Costumer and Yipe!

*If you are an ICG member in good standing, you should have received an e-mail with link and password to the digital newsletter or a paper copy of the newsletter.*

**Two issues of Yipe!** From Editor Kevin (posted to ICG-D), "Our lamentably delayed May issue, "International Travelogue", and our June costume wedding special, "Unbridled", are now both available for free download from <http://www.yipezine.com/>! As usual, we're always on the lookout for material (articles, photos, letters of comment) for future issues. All such can be directed to [editors@yipezine.com](mailto:editors@yipezine.com). Enjoy! "

### From the Mailbox

St. Louis Costumers Guild, *The Scarlet Letter*, June/July 2011 features many short columns, including Presidential Message, From the Eds, News You Can Use, Stuph Overheard at CC29, Balticon 45 winners, Archive News, Costume News from the Net, SLCG Calendar, photos from Oak Knoll Park shoot, The Future of Costume-Con: Re-focusing Efforts, The Lynns' Whirlwind Convention Tour, S.L.U.T.S. on Stage photos, Renfair lunch photo.

Costumer's Guild West *Squeals from da Ghodfuzzy* 26.11, July 2011. Cover – Photos of Aimee Steinberger's Rapunzel from FanimeCon. March 2011 board meeting minutes, Aunt Alys Advises on Harbor Freight and vintage pattern sources, Tonya Clevenger reviews web sources on 1950s fashion, reviews of Alexander McQueen and Van Cleef & Arpels exhibits in New York, Pictures from the Black & White Tea, News and voting information for upcoming General Meeting, Upcoming events.

Randall brings these newsletters to SWCG meetings for your perusal.

## Minutes from the May SWCG Meeting

May 22, 2011 at Jean Palmer's place  
recorded by VP Nyki Robertson

In attendance: Frances Burns; Elaine Mami; Paula Lary; Nyki Robertson; Lyn Jeppessen; Mahala Sweebe; Tasha Cady; Margie Grady; Jean Palmer

### OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treasurer's Report: Lyn said to add \$150 to last month's reported balance to the current balance; however, the \$150 was a repayment from the CC 30 for the check we wrote them at the end of last meeting, so, technically, the balance shouldn't have changed much. (I suggest asking Lyn for the actual balance).

Secretary's Minutes from April: If you know of a mistake in them, please notify both Randall & the Contos's.

PayPal Committee: Not completely activated, but we can receive money on it. PayPal has requested more info from Lyn. Margie will put the tabs in for the membership fees, which we THINK are:

\$10 – SWCG ONLY – Individual + \$3 per additional family member – SWCG ONLY  
or  
\$18 – SWCG & ICG – Individual + \$4 per additional family member – for both.

Printer Committee: Achieved goal and is dissolved! YAY! We've gone through approx. 2/3 of the toner on the printer BUT we bought extra, so it's all good.

Webmaster and/or Newsletter: Randall not present. No report.

Archivist: Hasn't done anything since last meeting due to the fact she left town 2 days after our meeting and, having gallivanted gaily along the East Coast, has just returned. Nyki's offer to help still stands.

### OLD BUSINESS

The buttons were very well received – the 5 demos were QUICKLY claimed with more being immediately strongly requested (dare I say demanded?!).

Either Frances or Margie will post to the Yahoo group list an announcement for members who don't attend meetings regarding the sashes. If they don't respond, they (probably) won't get one.

State Fair: Nyki told Lyn she would either suck it up & co-ordinate it, or get- someone else to do so

It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed that we sponsor a Premium for Costuming again this year.

As many Guild members as possible need to enter the Fair in order to actively encourage other people's interest in Costuming.

We need to find out from MaryEllen: Can Guild members enter as “Display Only”? If so, when due? If not, then fine, we'll enter the Comp. When are those entries due? Would it be possible to have a table to ourselves this year? We will, of course, share nicely if we have to, but a table to ourselves lets us do & put out more things/info

## NEW BUSINESS

Highlands War - 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in June. Jean & Nola are definitely going, Randall might be.

When Randall shows up with the bank statement, Lyn will be out of town. It was agreed that he could turn it over to Margie.

We said yes to the Sister Group proposal from CGW (Costume Guild West) in So Cal Paperwork needs to be done to make it official.

Lyn ordered and received the Sewing Machine Clock. Um-mm, well, it was just as cute as a button; HOWEVER, when Frances attempted to put in batteries, it quite literally fell apart! It was a design flaw, so Lyn returned it instead of paying the bill. On to Plan B: the Sewing Machine Covers, discussion of which was tabled until the Summer planning session.

## COSTUMECON 30 (ominous music sounds in background)

Membership is currently close to 100. Elaine, of course, would like to see twice that. However, it was discussed that in the current economy, Conventions of ALL genre's are getting the majority of their memberships AT THE DOOR!

We will offer day passes; however, we will price them so as to encourage attendees to purchase the Full Membership

Usual Costume-Con attendance is 250-350 (We want more!)

Observations from CC 29:

Registration MUST be easy to locate AND clearly labeled! (In the evening, registration will move to the ConSuite)

We need to have clearly worded signage and lots of it! - Give Nyki a clearly worded list and she & her Staff will happily provide it. Some, by necessity has to be done At-Con, but majority of it can be printed up ahead of time. Margie will get Nyki's crew 4-5 rolls of the appropriate tape to put the signage up with. Nyki will borrow the ConOps box from CASFS for the rest of our supplies

Nyki ?volunteered? To handle Ribbons (Pre-Con activity). Contact Chaz Baden (on Facebook) and request his ribbon supplier. Also contact Hodges and PCNametag for prices, ask Bob LaPierre for his supplier

Tadeo is running the Tech Team. YAY!

Margie will get Nyki a list of what CC 30 wants to borrow from CASFS, and Nyki will present it (we definitely want the Art Flats!).

Tables in Hall: Registration, and Fan Tables for CC 31, CC 32, and CC 33

One of our ICG members styles himself a Critic :( . His comments on the Display Area are, unfortunately, correct. His comments on ConSuite; however, are both unfair and untrue!

ConOps will be in the Windflower Board Room, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Do NOT have to be open 24 hours (according to Elaine); however, someone with a cell phone needs to be “on call” when closed (probably be Nyki, since she's the one in charge of it). Tasha volunteered the Cady Clan to Nyki for ConOps! YAY!

Elaine asked Jean if she would be in charge of At-Con Volunteers. After a discussion of why we laughed at Elaine's perfectly reasonable request, Jean agreed to think about it. It was suggested by Elaine and quickly agreed upon by the rest of us that we would make Gopher-shaped Badges out of fake fur for the Volunteers! Tasha volunteered to start making them if she is given a pattern and some fur

Want headset type communication devices for Masquerades! We will most likely have to outsource them.

The Trimbles are doing a Retrospective for us. We want to get Lance Ikegawa to do one as well (Ricky will contact him about this).

We DO NOT USE THE WORD GUEST!

There will be parties in ConSuite Thursday Night and dead-dog in there on Monday night.

The main party in the evenings will be in ConSuite (room 2038). There may be a few room parties, but not many

ConSuite will provide hearty food for Staff – but it will NOT be put out – we will have to ask for it. Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

ConOps agreed to provide a Minion for ConSuite to run local errands for them

Mella Hoyt is confirmed as a Judge! She is apparently over-qualified and we are obviously overjoyed to have her. Elaine wants the rest of the Judges to be from ALL over the Country, with at least one being a Y-Chromosome

Historical Judges are the only Judges that get the Staff rate, since they end up sacrificing most of their Con to do their judging.

Denver, Canada and South Carolina will be sponsoring events in ConSuite. \$150 is the usual sponsorship. For that, they get big, bold signage in ConSuite (and on Kiosks) saying who they are and a table in the ConSuite to promote whatever they are (sell memberships, etc.)

Friday from 2 pm – 3 pm there will be a party in the consuite for newcomers. Need to have lots of good clear signage for this one!

During half-time at the Masquerades, they have the entrants parade on stage for Fan Photos. It was highly encouraged that we recruit Diane Harris as a poser.

It was suggested that Frances consider recruiting Tina Batt as a Judge's Clerk (She performed this task for Nyki at the 2010 Phoenix ComicCon Masquerade and was a life-saver!) (*Editor's note: she was also very helpful at NADWCON!*)

Nyki proposed that they have the Panelists/Presenters give ConOps an electronic form of their handouts &/or Bibliographies, then at their panel/demo/whatever get a list of attendees email addresses who want copies of them. ConOps will have someone collect the lists at the end of each session & start emailing the info so that it is there when the attendees get home.

We will have Nyki's computer and at least one other in ConOps and the Guild has promised the Printer.

Need Welcome Bag Goodies! - FREE, preferably! Talk with the Tempe Chamber of Commerce, get info from them for bags. Also, would they put the Con on their website?

Lyn needs flyers to take to Costume College by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Frances has agreed to sit a table at College if they provide us with one.

*Margie will put the many various incarnations of the flyers on the List as soon as she can figure out how to label them.*

At this point, Nyki, the note taker, had to leave, so thus ends the Minutes.

### **Minutes from the June SWCG Meeting**

June 26, 2011 at Frances Burns' place, Village of Oak Creek, Arizona  
recorded by Randall Whitlock

Present – Blaine, Nyki, Rebecca, Randy, Bella, Jean, Randall  
Called to order 2:57 PM

#### Reports

Treasurer not present, but Randall reports \$115 from sale of cape and hats at Highlands War.

Secretary also not present but Nyki reports May minutes were recorded & delivered to newsletter editor.

PayPal Committee – Margie has finished setup, so it is now possible to pay dues by PayPal. Margie will send details to Randall for posting to web site.

Archives – Jean described ongoing efforts to organize our back newsletters and newsletters sent from other costume interest groups into some kind of order.

Newsletter – Randall presented usual plea for submissions. Please send reviews, pictures, brief impressions.

### Old Business

Sashes & Buttons – Randall made up 15 more SWCG logo buttons (see masthead of this newsletter) for a total of 20. Moved and passed to reimburse him \$20 for materials. Post will be made to Guildsters Yahoo Group that members who have not yet built their SWCG sash bags need to collect their share of the materials.

Randall passed around his completed sash bag for perusal. Modeled at right by the lovely Silvia, it is not the standard pattern. The bag is sized for a netbook computer and the sash is detachable.

CGW Sister Chapter Offer – Randall will continue e-mail dialogue with Costumers Guild West and prepare formal letters if needed.

### New Business

Nyki recommends SWCG procedural officers and BOD be made separate to reduce potential conflicts of interest.

Frances has volunteered to make sashes for Masqueraded Directors and other notable persons who need to be easy to find at Costume-Con 30.

Frances is looking for a cartoonist to render an idea she has for a CC30 fundraiser design for Cafe Press items.

Bry Squires contacted SWCG by e-mail to invite us to participate in upcoming charity fundraiser workshops at HeatSync Labs, a nonprofit workspace in Mesa, AZ. (The e-mail is reproduced later in this newsletter with Bry's permission.) Response from the members was generally favorable and Randall will answer the e-mail for more information about Bry's plans.

### CC30

Flyers have been prepared for the single-pattern and doll contests. Some of these have been distributed to local stores. Mahala is researching local dollmaking clubs to contact.

A second printer will be available for at-con use.

We need to prepare wording to be used in contacting local nonprofit organizations.

### **An Invitation from HeatSync Labs.**

Greetings! My name is Bry and I'm a member of the Rebel Legion (Mos Eisley Base) and have been to a few of your meetings at Kiwanis Park.

First let me talk to you about HeatSync Labs.





For the past two years HeatSync has been trying to reach out to different communities that can take advantage of it's Not For Profit status as a location where people can make the DIY projects of their dreams. I'm looking to gather the local costuming groups in the area that have produced fantastic projects, and are charity/community minded.

What I'd like to propose is that these groups hold a "for charity workshop" and panels at HeatSync Labs. The event would go on for 4-6 hours with panels given by each of the costuming groups, and then small demonstrations on how to build certain items, or skills like bargain shopping, thrift store diving and what parts are hard to look for. We would charge the public a small fee (5-10 dollars, depending on the needed supplies at higher rates. We could even build something with the 3D printer like meeting tokens or offer a small meal) that covers the cost of the space (1 dollar per person), and then the rest to is given to the charity with the highest interested/impressed turnout (determined by a feedback slip as the voting process.) As that costumers are often in need of a place to build and create costumes and props, HeatSync could then be doubled as a workshop for your group, this place is open 7am -10pm everyday. I have one of the Champions of HeatSync, Jacob Rosenthal's blessing to contact all the groups in the valley and try to make this happen, his email is jakerosenthal@gmail.com. We'd hope to get started as soon as the end of July! If this is something you would like to be involved with please let me know! Hope to hear from you soon.

HeatSync Labs. is now Located @ 140 W. Main Mesa AZ <http://www.heatsynclabs.org/>  
-- Bry Squires, [SquiresAlchemy@gmail.com](mailto:SquiresAlchemy@gmail.com)

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