



Cactus Needles

Volume 18, Number 10 – October 2011

Southwest Costumers Guild,
PO Box 39504, Phoenix AZ 85069

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

Make a Steampunk Top Hat Fascinator! See Page 9.

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
vicepresident@southwestcostumersguild.org
treasurer@southwestcostumersguild.org
secretary@southwestcostumersguild.org
webmaster@southwestcostumersguild.org
archivist@southwestcostumersguild.org

Calendar

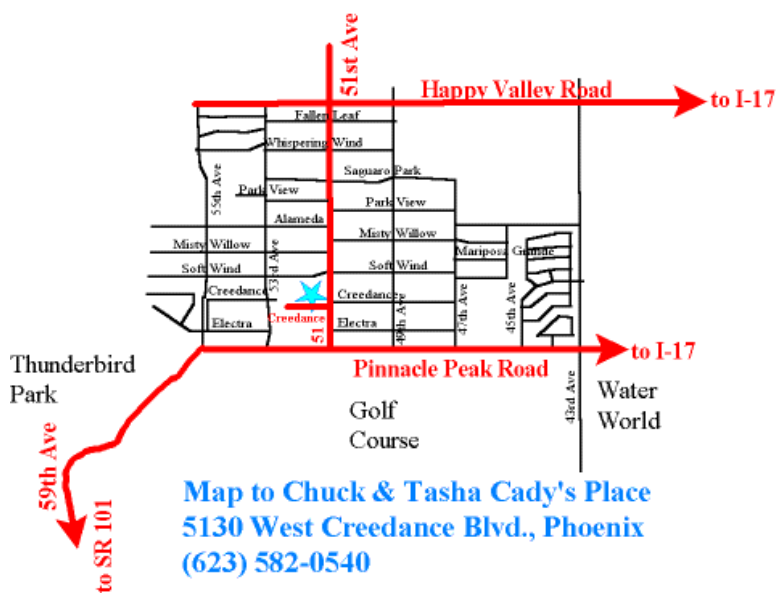
Do you know an event of interest to Arizona costumers? Please contact your editor with the details. **Red text and an asterisk*** designate an SWCG-sponsored event. *Unless otherwise noted, our monthly meetings start at 1PM.*

Beginning October 7, 2011 – **Monsterland** horror museum attraction at 18 West Main in Mesa.
<http://www.monsterland.com/>

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 14-16, 2011, 10 to 5 – **Wild Western Festival** at Saguaro Ranch Park in Glendale, Arizona. “History meets Hollywood.” <http://www.wildwesternfestival.com/>

October 14-Nov 6, 2011 (except Mondays & Tuesdays) – Arizona State Fair at 19th Avenue & McDowell Road, Phoenix. . <http://www.azstatefair.com/>



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

October 15, 2011 – **Maker Faire** at Heatsync Labs, 140 West Main Street, Mesa AZ. Heatsync labs also offers classes and group hacks practically every day of the week.
<http://www.heatsynclabs.org/>

October 21-30, 2011 (performances on Fri, Sat, Sun) – **Dracula** at Grand Canyon University’s Ethington Theater <http://www.gcu.edu/Event-Calendar/Dracula.php>

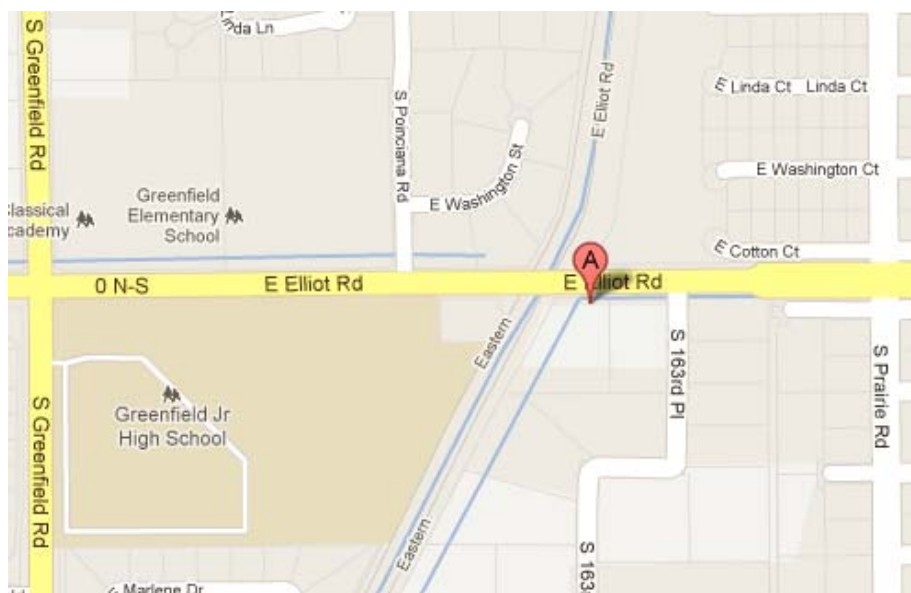
October 22 & 23, 2011 – **Sixth Korean Festival “Arirang”** at Heritage Square and Science Park, 115 North 6th Street, Phoenix.

October 23, 2011 – **Advanced Materials*** SWCG Workshop at Tasha’s Place Work with “Wonderflex” and other shapeable materials. Call 623-582-0540 for directions. See Map on Page 1.

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 6, 2011 – **Silk Painting*** SWCG workshop at Lynn’s place at 2675 East Elliot Road, Gilbert AZ. Lost, call Lynn at 480.748.3174 (cell) or e-mail octoberfam@gmail.com.



Directions: TAKE: I 60 (Superstition Freeway) TO: Greenfield Rd., Turn South and proceed on Greenfield to Elliot Rd. (2.5 miles). Turn Left and proceed East (approximately ¼ mile) past Green field Elementary and Greenfield Jr. High. Turn Right just after crossing the large Salt River Project Irrigation canal (there is an 8’ tall gray concrete block wall with the address “2675” mounted to the wall at both entrances to a circular driveway in front of a large Red Brick Ranch style home). Parking and location of the class is on the

west side of the home.

From Lorena, our instructor:

We will be painting on silk scarves with silk dyes and water soluble resist. For the first part of the workshop I would like everyone to experiment on a 12"x12" swatch of silk so that they can try out the dyes and see how they "flow" and how the resist works to stop that flow. A note about the resist- The silk soaks up dye and the colors spread quickly. The resist is used to stop this flow. We will use small squeeze bottles of resist to "draw" designs on the silk. Everyplace that resist is used will keep the silk white- no dye will penetrate the silk in these areas so it is great for drawing designs on the scarves before we begin the painting process. BUT the resist must dry completely before any painting or dyeing begins. So, a thin but solid line should be used. Participants can create what ever design they'd like on their scarf with the resist - but it needs to be simple and light handed... a design with thick lines of resist, and/or too complicated of a design (using too much resist) and the scarf will take too long to dry... there will be no time for painting! It is easy to get hung up on the resist and then have no time left to paint... and honestly, they will want plenty of time for painting - it is the BEST part! :) We can always go back to the practice swatch and

paint while we wait for the resist to dry, or that would be a good time to bring up any agenda items/ have your regular meeting.

One final note... I will have to steam set the scarves for the dyes to become permanent. I can do about 4 scarves at a time, and the process takes at least an hour. So you guys won't be able to take your creations home with you, unless maybe someone out there owns their own steamer and feels comfortable using it for their scarf.

I can bring the finished scarves to the next meeting, or drop them off at someone's house. Just let me know what you guys would prefer.

Please bring:

- an idea for a simple design for your scarf (see the note about the drying time for the resist...)
- clothes that are ok to get colorful
- aprons and surgical style gloves (if you don't want to be dyed...)
- regular paint brushes to experiment with - very fine to medium brush size (I will supply 1" sponge/foam brushes, but it's always fun to experiment with different tools)
- a blow dryer and small extension cord- to help your resist lines dry a bit faster
- anything else you would like to bring- your travel set of sewing tools, art bin, something to take notes with, etc.

Any questions, please email me at freja13@gmail.com or my mom at octoberfam@gmail.com Thank you! – Lorena

Hi....if people want to bring spray bottles then we can spray dye lampshades too....I have two tired lamp shades I plan on spiffing up...Lynn

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, 2011, 6-10 PM – **Steampunk Street III**. Mesa Second Friday Night Out street fair. Tune-up your Time Machines and rev-up your Ray Guns, **Steampunk Street** is on again in downtown Mesa for November's Second Friday event (11/11/11)! Come join us as we line Main Street from Robson to MacDonald with the most masterful mechanisms, marvelous mufti and amazing art ever imagined! <http://steampunkstreet.com/steampunk/>

November 11-13, 2011 – **TusCon 38** at the in Hotel Tucson CityCenter in Tucson, Arizona. Guests include Author Patricia Briggs and Planetary Geologist Dr. Dave Williams. <http://home.earthlink.net/~basfa/t38main.html>

November 19-20, 2011 – 5th Annual **Phoenix Fireland Faerie Festival** at Estrella Mountain Park, Goodyear AZ. <http://www.westerngatesfaerierealms.com/PhoenixFaerieFestival.htm>

December 3, 2011, 7-930 PM – **Fiesta of Light Electric Light Parade** in Phoenix, Central Ave from Montebello to Camelback to 7th St. then Indian School This year's theme is "Silver Bells." <http://phoenix.gov/parks/calendar/index.html>

December, 2011 (date and time TBD) - **Mainly on the Train*** SWCG Road Trip. Take a ride on the Arizona Eastern Railroad's "Copper Spike" train from Globe, Arizona. Costume encouraged. <http://www.copperspike.com/>

January 13-15, 2012 – **DarkCon 2012** features steampunk poker party, costuming, gaming, LARPs and craft classes. Guests include author Jacqueline Carey, actors Doug Jones and Meg

Foster and game professionals Ruth Thompson, Bill Myer, John Wick and Ken St Andre.
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/>

CC30 News

Save Your Jars. There will be a fiber-reactive dyeing workshop at Costume-Con 30, so please help out by saving up some jars. Suitable jars should be plastic, about a quart in capacity, and have a water-tight screw-on lid. Mayo jars work great. Pass your jars to Gail, Margie, or any other local CC30 staffer who doesn't duck fast enough.

The Future Fashion Folio judges are hard at work going through all of the submitted costume designs and preparing the folio, which will be delivered to all members electronically.

Los Niños Hospital has agreed to accept all of the Cactus Hand Puppets and toys that we can make. They were delighted with our offer. Everyone is encouraged to attempt at least one.

The con will feature a retrospective of master monster costume maker Lance Ikegawa, seen in his Blue Meanie costume in the September Cactus Needles.

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

August 31-September 3, 2012 – **CopperCon 32**, “Year of the Dragon,” features guest author/game designer Ari Marmell. <http://www.coppercon.org/>

Arizona Centennial Quilt Unveiled

by Diane Harris

Left: Diane with Bonnie Russell, president of the Prescott Historical Society.



We met. We packed the car. We drove. We ate breakfast. We dressed. We drove some more. Where did we go, you ask? to Prescott, AZ - Sharlot Hall Museum for the unveiling of the Centennial Quilt. This quilt is beautiful. It is not just fabric. The true passion of Arizona comes through; the pioneer history, its growing up and now modern times; oh, the energy and time that it took to create this wonderful piece of art. There is nothing that is missing on this quilt, including listing all of the past Governors, all of the native and cactus plants, the bola tie and even the Arizona song - everything that makes Arizona what it is. Nothing was left out. The enthusiasm and passion from those who worked on this quilt was simply unmistakable. Many, many hours went into this work. The Museum hosted

an enchanting tea party, complete with finger sandwiches, scones, little cookies, lemonade and ice tea. The weather could not have been more perfect than it was. Sitting down at the tables under huge trees and meeting new friends was a delightful way to pass the afternoon. Frances and I had a delightful time. As you will see from the pictures, there were quite a few who "costumed" in various periods, both before and after the turn of the 19th century. This quilt will be traveling to other locations. If you have a chance, be sure to try to view it.

Frances and I also couldn't help ourselves and just had to pose with some of the corvettes also on display around the Courthouse square. Hope you enjoy!

Right: The Arizona Centennial Quilt is much too big and detailed to capture in a single photo frame. It must be seen in person.



Left: 'Vette's Day – Frances and Diane pose with the classic cars on the Prescott town square.

Reviews of the CopperCon 31 Costume Fashion Show

I really enjoyed it! Ideally, it would be great to have a bit more space for green room, but we always have to work with the space we've got. And the contestants seemed pleased. When you have pleased both the crowd and the contestants, you've got a winner! Big congrats to Theresa on her first time as MD!! And also to the tech crew! -- Elaine

I thought the Masquerade format worked very well. We thoroughly enjoyed it without all the hoopla. AND it didn't take so much time for the judges to rule, so we were out with our "seats" still awake. The entries were superb as usual and I think everyone enjoyed it. – Lyn



Coffee with Doughnuts

by Randall Whitlock

There are many civilized niceties I'll give up for a weekend camping trip. A morning cup of coffee is not one of them. Instant just doesn't do it for me and loose coffee grounds can be a huge mess when you're away from the kitchen sink. Your sewing skills can save the day (at least the beginning of the day).

--Take two coffee filters and press them flat with finger pressure.

--Place the basket of your field percolator on the filters and scribe around it with a pencil. --Find the center of your circle and scribe a half-inch diameter circle around it.

--Sew through both coffee filters around the inner circle and most of the way around the outer circle. I used black thread for the picture, but white thread is less likely to affect the flavor and color of the coffee.



--Cut a small X in the middle of the small circle with a craft knife.



--Measure out enough coffee for one pot, grind it to the appropriate texture.

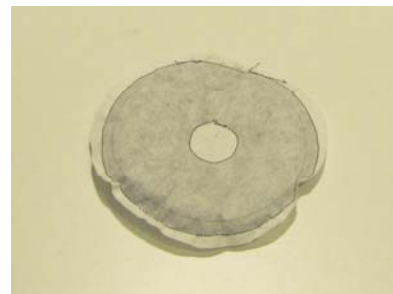
--Using a funnel, pour the coffee in through the gap in the outer seam.

--Sew the gap closed. Trim the excess paper from around the seam if you want to be tidy.

You now have a doughnut-shaped filter sachet full of your favorite coffee. Store it in a zippered plastic bag until the camping trip. When coffee time comes, drop the sachet into the percolator basket, passing the end of the pump through the middle of the sachet.

Brew and enjoy. The used grounds will be retained in the sachet, easy to dispose of.

This trick works for drip coffee makers too. Match the outer shape of the sachet to the shape of the drip basket. You won't need the center hole. Make sure the sachet fits the basket tightly and leave a bit of paper around the outside of the seam. You want the hot water to flow through the coffee sachet, not around it.



From the Mailbox

Costumer's Guild West **Squeals from Da Ghodfuzzy** 27.2, October 2011. Gads but Dan Destler is doing creative cover layouts these days! This one features Lance Ikegawa's Blue Meanie on the front and three others from the Renovation masquerade on the back. Inside, Lance gives some cool details about the costume. Officer reports. Minutes of the CGW annual meeting. Shawn Crosby explains the "Not So Secret Service" of being a BOD member. President's Message. Pamela Wiggs' "Message from a (Costume College) Scholarship Recipient." Aunt Alys Advises on cross-stitching, repurposing holiday decorations, lint rollers. Tonya 's Webworld gives sites on the golden age of Hollywood. Natalie's report from the Los Angeles County Fair Costume Contest with many pictures. Upcoming events galore. Message from Costume College 2012 Dean. Editorial Notes explains some changes in how the newsletter is assembled.

St. Louis Costumers Guild **Scarlet Letter** Archon Edition Aug/Sep 2011 features an account of a strange attempted robbery by Gumby. The List – strangely quotable quotes. Is DragonCon overtaking San Diego ComiCon in costume participation? A review of Metropolis, Illinois's annual Superman Celebration. A run to Shapiro's Metal Supply. Quick pattern review. Upcoming events.

Come see our full-color exchange copies at the next SWCG meeting.

On the Web

Among its many other features, the **International Costume Guild** web site has a listing of conventions with costuming activity at <http://www.costume.org/conventions.html>.

JoAnne Kirley spotted this **Guide to Common Home Laundering and Drycleaning Symbols** at <http://www.textileaffairs.com/c-common.htm>. It explains all those mysterious little icons you find in the care labels of your clothes. Check out the site for JoAnne's shop at <http://costumes-period.com/>

ICG Newsletter 10.4 September/October 2011 includes Randall's Coffee With Doughnuts how-to, Henry's postmortem of the second North American Discworld Convention masquerade, and reviews of the books, "17th Century Women's Dress Patterns," "Gentlemen's Dress Accessories," "Not a Toy: Radical Character Design in Fashion and Costume," "Illuminating Fashion: Dress in the Art of Medieval France and the Netherlands." Part 4 of "What's in the Archives." Reviews of chapter and open newsletters.

ICG Members should receive either the paper edition or an e-mail with link and password to the digital edition. If you didn't receive it, check your spam folder.

YIPE! The October Worldcon review issue of Yipe!, "RENOvated" is now available for free download from <http://www.yipezine.com>. As usual, it's been published in two resolutions for your convenience. If you haven't visited the site recently, we've also posted the 12-page "mini" Yipe sampler that we printed to be included in the World Order Of Faneditors compilation at the 69th World Science Fiction Convention.—Kevin

Hauntworld http://www.hauntworld.com/haunted_houses is a commercial web site dedicated to haunted house productions and other Halloween attractions. It features a map-based applet for finding haunted houses state by state. Unfortunately, many of the links point to expired domains, presumably from haunted houses that will not be held this year. I guess cobwebs are appropriate in a haunted house. Links for Arizona include:

Chambers of Fear 11340 W. Bell Road, Surprise http://chambersoffear.com/	13th Floor and Zombieland 2814 W. Bell Road, Phoenix http://www.13thflooraz.com/
The Slaughter House 1102 W. Grant Road, Tucson http://slaughterhousetucson.com/	Golfland Fright Nights/ The Gauntlet 155 W. Hampton, Mesa http://www.golflandfrightnights.com/
Night of Impending Doom II 3836 W. Peoria, Phoenix http://nightofimpendingdoom.com/ Warning: my antivirus software reported a trojan horse.	Jack and Jill's Haunted Hill 9847 N. 14 th Street, Phoenix http://jackandjillshauntedhill.com/

Brief Rant: Why do these web sites play it so cagey with the physical locations of their events? I really had to hunt to find the addresses, sometimes on a completely different site. Don't webmasters realize ordinary people have to travel in the physical plane?

Look for even more local haunted house attractions at <http://www.azcentral.com/>.



Core Action Correction

In the spread of Mike Contos' photos of Renovation masquerade costumes in the September, 2011 issue, Vicki Glover's "Nothing to Wear" dragon kaftan (left) was incorrectly labeled as Elizabeth Mittman's "Phoenix." Richard Man's photograph of the real Phoenix is seen at right. Check out more of Richard's photos at <http://www.rfman.com/>.



A Top Hat Fascinator

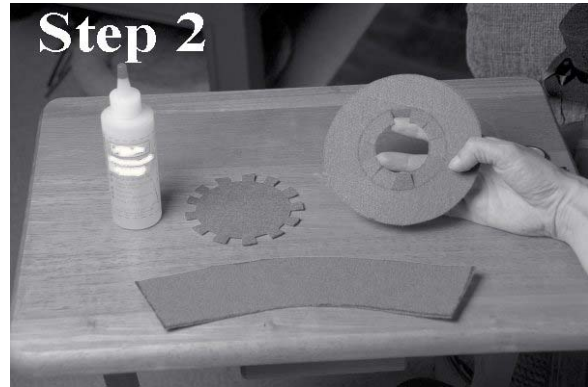
by Robin Prosjie with photos by Mike Contos

A “fascinator” was originally a small, feathery headdress. Think 1920s flapper. In recent years, particularly among the Steampunk crowd, they have developed into miniature caps, worn off-center and held with pins or clips. Here, Robin presents a fascinator in the form of a teeny top hat.—Ed.

MATERIALS:

Pencil
Pattern
1 piece of 8”x11” stiff felt
Craft or fabric glue
Scissors

First you need to decide if you’re going to make the “overlapped” or laced version



1. CAREFULLY READ THROUGH THE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST!

2. Cut out and trace the pattern pieces onto the felt.

3. Cut out the felt pieces, this is a good time to punch the holes if you’re making the laced version.

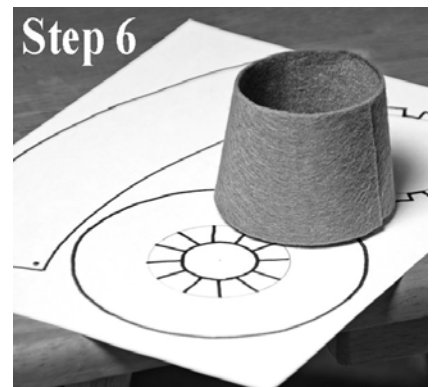
4. CAREFULLY cut the tabs on the top and brim pieces

5. Take the top pieces and place a small drop of adhesive on to 2 or 3 tabs and begin to attach to the INSIDE of the LONG or GREATER curved side of the body (see illustration). Hold until the adhesive has set, then continue gluing a few tabs at a time until the top is attached to the body.

6. If you are making the overlapped version glue the overlap at this time.

7. If you are making the laced version cut off one tab on the brim.

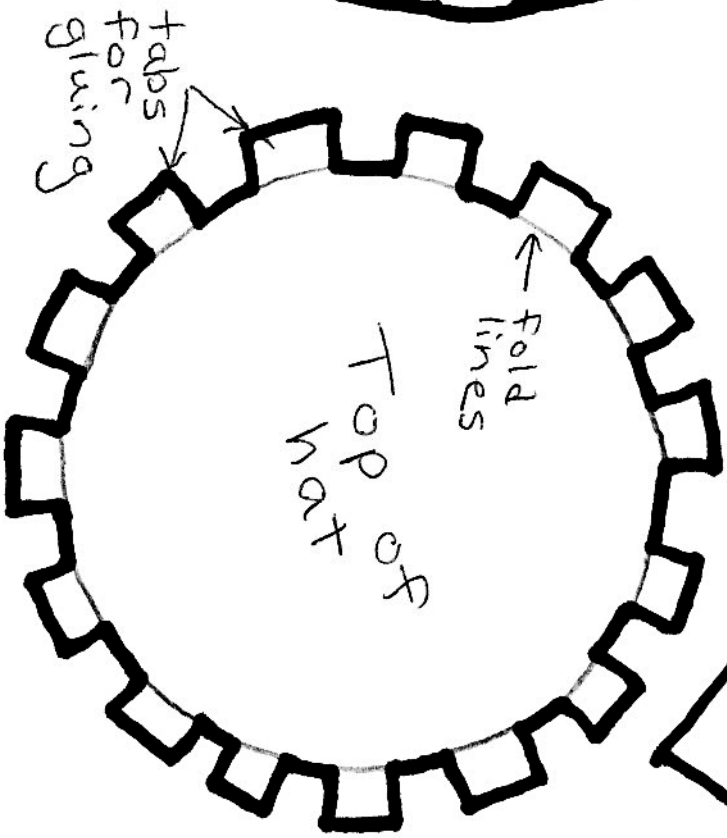
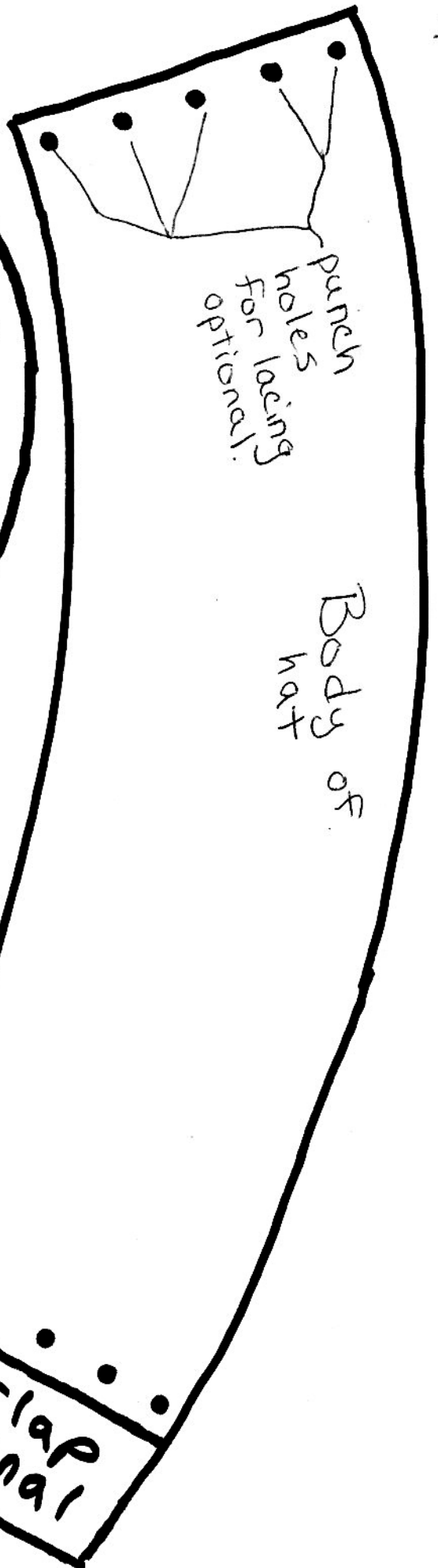
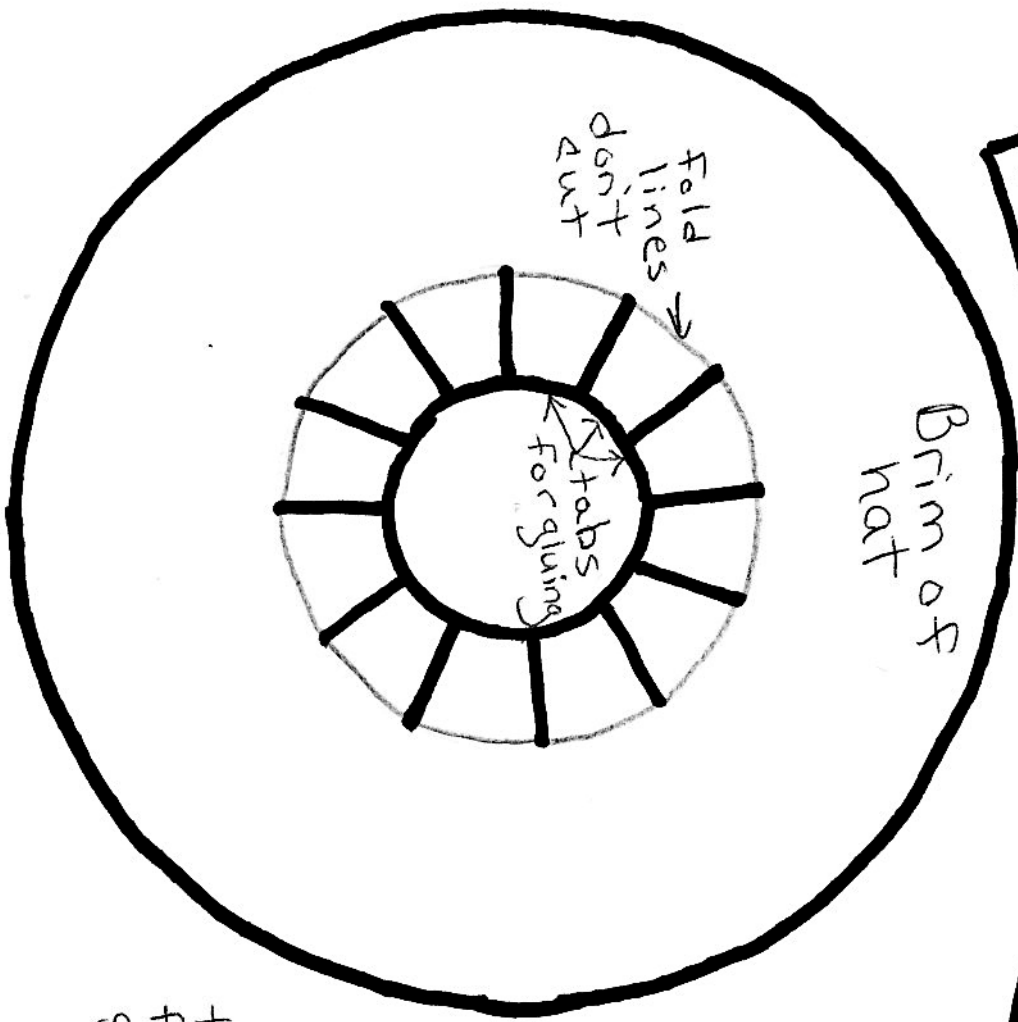
8. Begin gluing the brim to the body in the same fashion as the top was attached. **If you are making the laced version the space you made by cutting 1 tab off of the brim must align with the seam in the body that you will be lacing**



9. If you have made the laced version go ahead and lace it up.

10. Decorate





Copyright Statement

Cactus Needles is the monthly newsletter of the Southwest Costumers guild and is distributed by mail or e-mail to our member/subscribers. Back issues are posted to the SWCG web site.



Copyright for Cactus Needles belongs to the Southwest Costumers Guild. As reader, you have our permission to print and copy this newsletter, but only if you copy the entire newsletter, do not make alterations, and give it away for free. People who know what they're talking about call this the "*Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 3.0 United States License*," which can be viewed at <http://creativecommons.org/>.

Copyright for individual signed articles and illustrations belongs to their creators. If you'd like to reprint an article or picture in your own publication, please contact the editor at editor@southwestcostumersguild.org to arrange author permission.

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