



# Cactus Needles

Volume 18, Number 11 – November 2011

Southwest Costumers Guild,  
PO Box 39504, Phoenix AZ 85069

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

“**Mardis Bra,**” featuring feathers and strings of party beads was Laura Whitlock’s\* contribution to the “Bras for the Cause” fundraiser auction in support of mammography for the underinsured, held at the Curves gymnasium in Winterset, Iowa. Check out the

program at <http://www.brasforthecause.com/>

\*Nepotism Disclosure – Laura is your editor’s sister, whose film work includes “A League of their Own.” The event was hosted by Cousin Debra Field and the picture was taken by Aunt Dorothy Bates.

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*The officer e-mails may be down for a while in November as your webmaster migrates the SWCG site to a new host. Messages can be relayed through [randwhit@moirandalls.com](mailto:randwhit@moirandalls.com)*

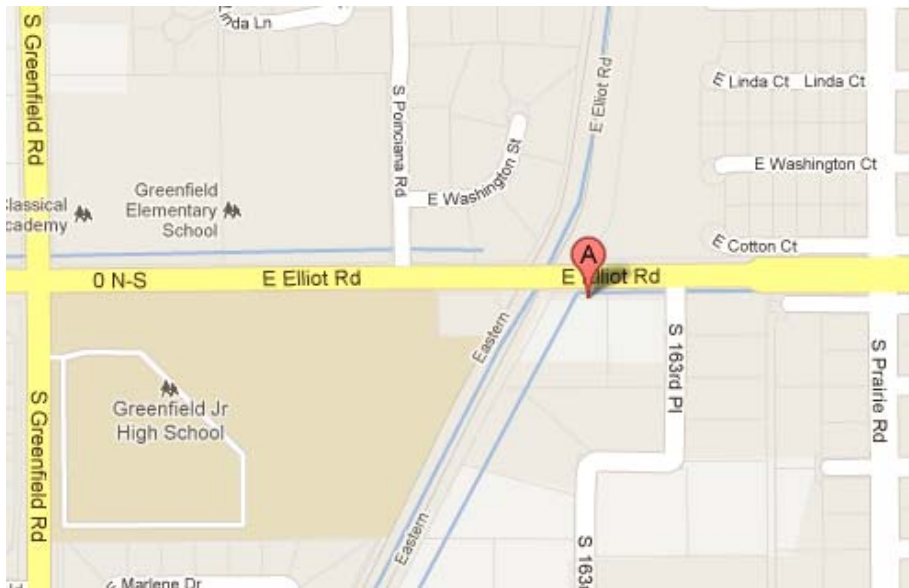
## Calendar

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.*

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 5-6, 2011 – **Tucson Comic Con** at the Bookman’s Event Center, 5120 S Julian Drive, Tucson. <http://www.tucsoncomic-con.com/>

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](mailto: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 Greenfield 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.*

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 13, 2011, 11AM-6PM – 10<sup>th</sup> Annual **Discover India Festival** at Heritage Square and Science Park, 115 N 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix. <http://www.iaphx.org/>

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

Beginning November 25& 26, 2011 – **Glendale Glitters** on the Glendale town square. Street fair features trees and buildings decorated with holiday lights. Lights go on at 5PM nightly through January 14, 2012 with the fair on Friday and Saturday evenings. Special weekend events include Dec 2&3 – Glendale's Spirit of Giving Weekend, Dec 9 & 10 – Glendale's Winter Wonderland Weekend, Dec 16&17 – Glendale's Jingle Bell Rockin' Nights. <http://www.glendaleaz.com/events>

November 26, 2011, 6PM – **Tempe Fantasy of Lights Opening Parade** on Mill Avenue in Tempe, Arizona <http://www.millavenue.com/events/fantasyoflights>

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 10, 2011, 6PM – **Tempe Fantasy of Light Boat Parade** on Tempe Town Lake <http://www.millavenue.com/events/fantasyoflights>

*The Copper Spike excursion train appears to have been discontinued due to a change in ownership of the Arizona Eastern Railroad. We had to change the December activity.*

December 11, 2011 12PM - **Wonderflex – This Time Fer Sure\*** SWCG Workshop at Jean’s place in Sun City. Learn to work with “Wonderflex” and other shapeable materials. Also Calendar planning for 2012.

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](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/>

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

### **Sally’s Fabrics Closing**

After more than forty years in business, Arizona’s largest independent fabric store will close its doors permanently on December 3, 2011. A clearance sale began on October 31 and will continue until the closing date. If you have a machine in for repair, please pick it up before the closing date. Arrangements are being made to try to continue the educational programs and repair services at other venues.

The former Baseline Road store closed last year. Sally’s Fabrics is located at 1235 East Main Street in Mesa, Arizona, near Main and Stapely. <http://www.sallysfabrics.com/>

## Scaling Up



Robin has taken her fascinator pattern (featured last issue) and enlarged it to a full size, custom fitted top hat. Made from stiff felt and velvet, it features a lace-up back.

## Guildsters do Halloween

Most of these were seen at the Dark Ones party on October 29, 2011.



Anna's Black Widow filigree mask was made using the handyman's secret weapon – duct tape!

Randall became the Blue Screen of Death.





Jean



Nola



Robin



Elaine S. built this re-creation of Cindy Lou Who from the film, "The Grinch.

**Southwest Costumer's Guild Meeting September 25, 2011**

Recorded by Theresa Contos

The meeting started at 2:20 pm.

The Treasurer reported bank and petty cash balances.

Randall will be at Southern Crusades on 11-11-11 merchenting, some guild merchandise will be for sale there.

Tasha's son may open a hookah shop in the future and this could possibly be another oppourtunity to put our items on sale.

The secretary (me) has been asked to do a write up on the CopperCon Fashion Show for the Cactus Needles. I also wished to give a big THANK YOU to all the Guild members who helped me put the costume show on, it takes a village. Could not have done without all of you!

Newsletter: Randall needs items for the paper. Leads on upcoming events that may be of interest to our members and writeups on the events that you have attended would be helpful.

Website: Moving the website will be happening soon, it has been narrowed down to a couple of possibilities depending upon which is more compatible with our bank. Ipower is in the lead currently. Randall is still researching this.

Francis and Paula both need some bookmarks for distribution.

Old Business: The issue of becoming a sister organization with the Costumer's Guild West was discussed. Randall read out his adaptation of the standing rule that CGW uses for sister organization status. Tasha moved that we accept this rewrite to use as a standing rule for us, it was seconded and approved.

New Business: The due date for state fair entries has passed. Tasha needs to be paid for the Wonderflex, \$75 budget allowed. The AZ Steampunk Society is having a meetup at the Old Spaghetti Factory Oct.29th. We have a Guild Facebook Page, Michael Contos is currently keeping up with. Do we want to list addresses for meetings on this? It was decided not to do this. A phone number to call for directions and information was the favored method of contact. This will be left up to the person hosting each individual meeting. The November meeting will be silk painting at Lynn's house in Gilbert, RSVP will be necessary because class size will be limited to 10 persons.

Costume Con 30: We need to promote attendance by local groups. There has not been much feedback on the flyers we have distributed so far. The board would be willing to go talk to any interested groups. Classes for the Con were discussed, a Steampunk track of programming was discussed. Gail is willing to do a dye class, wide mouth plastic quart jars with screw-on lids are needed, please save them for her. So far 127 memberships have been sold. There is \$7,748 in accounts. We need to get 250 to 300 total memberships sold. Memberships price cut off occurs in Dec, the price will go up after that.

The meeting ended at 3:45.

### **Southwest Costumer's Guild Meeting October 24, 2011**

Recorded by Theresa Contos

The meeting started at 3:00.

Gopher badges for CostumeCon 30 were made at the beginning of this meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Lynn reported bank balance. Randall has estimated the new website will probably cost around \$50 per year, paying for this yearly would be the preferred method, rather than monthly. Randall will check and see if they have a three year deal.

Newsletter and Website: Sometime in the next two weeks the website may migrate to the new server, this may cause it to be down for a short while. It has been suggested we need a newsier newsletter, contributions are encouraged. Writeups on events attended would be good. There will be a Steampunk event on Main in Mesa on 11-11-11. Michael Contos will be bringing bookmarks to this event and taking photos for the newsletter.

Secretary: Nothing new, no report.

Old Business: No further communication from Costumer's Guild West regarding their prior sister organization overture. A suggestion has been made that we contact them by letter and make them a counter offer to be a sister organization to us. As secretary I will attempt to find out who their secretary is and make contact with help from Randall, who has been in contact with them so far.

New Business: Possibilities for the December meeting were discussed, as our original plan of a train ride have fallen through due to the railroad's decision to discontinue passenger service in favor of freight only. Other railroad tours were looked up on line and found to be more expensive. More research is needed for perhaps a meeting later on. Since the Wonderflex did not arrive in time for this month's meeting it was suggested December's meeting on Dec. 11th, will be Wonderflex at Jean's house to start at 12:00 noon. November's meeting will be November 6th at Lynn Everhart's house, silk painting, call her for the time. A suggestion for other meetings was paddle boats at Tempe town lake or a boat tour with dinner at Canyon Lake. Prices on these will be checked out.

Nyki issued a group invite to all guild members to her wedding which will be November 27th. The bride and groom will be in Viking costume, guests are invited to attend in costume of their choice. A potluck dinner will follow, an invite with location will be posted. Glendale Glitters was also suggested as a January field trip. Diane knows of someone who is giving away some draperies. She is going to take a look at them on Tuesday to see if they would be suitable for use as drapery for costume contest curtains to replace the flat gray panels. Our draperies need an upgrade and the current system belongs to CASFS.

Costume Con 30: The budget has improved some. We now have 4 or 5 dealers and will post them all on the website when we have 6. Nyki will check into prices on professional printing of some of the publicity items we need, considering that the price of ink cartridges for our printer has doubled since we bought the last one. A suggestion was made to contact the doll people, Jean will attempt to do so. Prospective teachers for CC30 were discussed. Suggestions are welcome.

The meeting ended at 4:15 pm

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