



## Cactus Needles

14.10 – October, 2014

Southwest Costumers Guild  
PO Box 39504  
Phoenix AZ 85069

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

*Mahala's grandson has quite a collection of superhero costumes.*

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### **On The Web**

The Greater Bay Area Costumers Guild's newsletter, **Finery**, went electronic a while back. The current issue can be seen at <http://www.gbacg.org/newsletter-links/> The September-October issue features "Beatnik Fashion: Not Every Member of the Beat Generation wore a Beret."

**Hollywood costumes come to life** <http://www.cbsnews.com/pictures/hollywood-costumes-come-to-life/> Slideshow. This is the same Hollywood Costumes exhibit that recently visited the Phoenix Art Museum, plus a few items not displayed locally. Found by Stephanie

### **SWCG Activity, September 28, 2013 at Chuck & Tasha's House** **Recorded by Randall**

Attending: Chuck, Tasha, Frances, Paula, Mahala, Jean, Wayne, Sharan, Randall.

This was social get-together without a formal call to order. Nonetheless, much brainstorming was accomplished for future guild activities and our own costume projects. Frances indicated that Diane will donate a stash of cotton fabric. Inspiration struck and it was decided the fabric will be used to build doggie mattresses for a local pet shelter. Other ideas for future activities (See calendar) include helping Jean further organize the guild's and her own books, more fun with felt, winter solstice potluck, preparations for the SCA's Estrella War, and a new fabric challenge involving some silver satin Tasha acquired some time back. Ideas for new outlet for our fundraiser costume items were discussed, as well as inspirations for our own Halloween costumes.

## A Simple Phone Pouch

By Randall Whitlock

The cartoon on the following page demonstrates how to make a pattern for a simple flap belt pouch suitable for carrying a cell phone, pocket camera, folding knife, multi-tool or other small, brick-shaped personal accessory.

First, measure the length (L), width (W) and thickness (T) of your device.

On paper or in your favorite graphics software, draw four rectangles.

- A front/back that is L by W (green on the cartoon)
- A side that is L by T (yellow)
- An end panel that is W by T (blue)
- A seam allowance of consistent width and variable length (red)

For my pouch, I used thin leather bonded to fabric. This material does not fray, so I could use a very narrow seam allowance of 1/8 inch. For woven fabrics, use a quarter inch and reinforce the edges with a serge or trim, if you can. Perhaps add a lining.

Make the pattern for the front panel by laying out a front with two edges along its sides and an end at the bottom. Add seam allowance to the sides and end. Connect the corners of the side pieces with the corners of the end pieces with smooth curves.

Make the pattern for the back and flap by laying two fronts and an end piece end to end. Shorten the pattern by a bit, depending on how much you want the flap to overlap in front. You may wish to chamfer the corners for a smoother look. Add seam allowance to the sides and one end.

Lay out your two pattern pieces onto suitable fabric. Fold over the corners of the front piece and close them with a short seam. The seam can go to the outside or the inside, according to your aesthetic preferences and what fabric you chose.

Sew a belt loop onto the back panel. I like to use 1" web strap, which is available in any fabric or upholstery store. I like to sew down the top and affix the bottom end with Velcro or a snap. That way, you can slip the loop through your belt without taking it off. You might also affix a prefabricated metal clip, available at leathercraft stores. If you don't want a belt loop, perhaps you could fashion a wrist strap or affix a fob to make the pouch easier to find in a purse.

Affix matching closures to the top outside of the front panel and near the top inside of the flap. This is more easily done before you join the front to the back/flap. Velcro works well, but make sure you purchase some of good quality. The sticky-back dollar store stuff will not last.

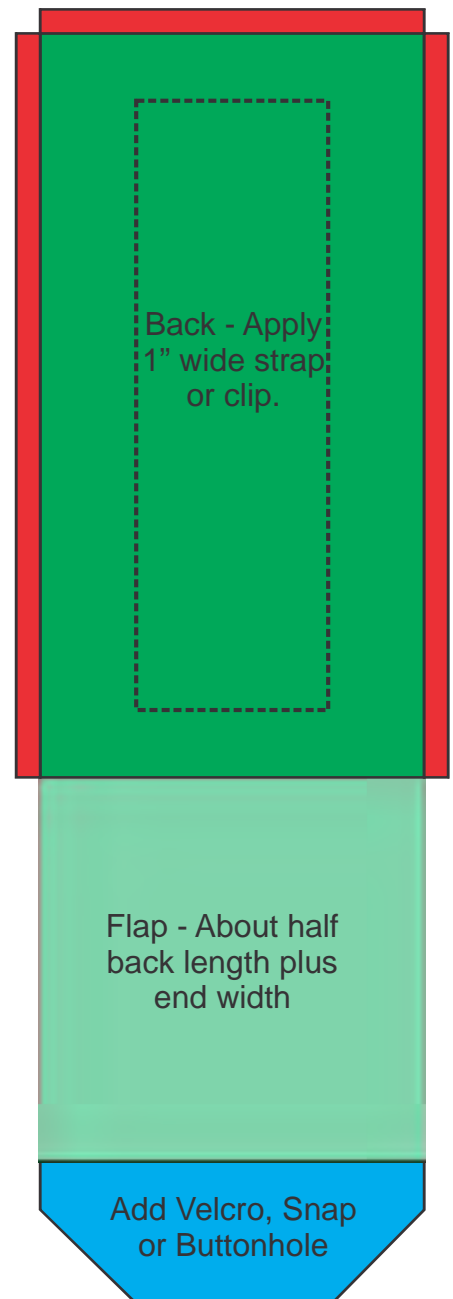
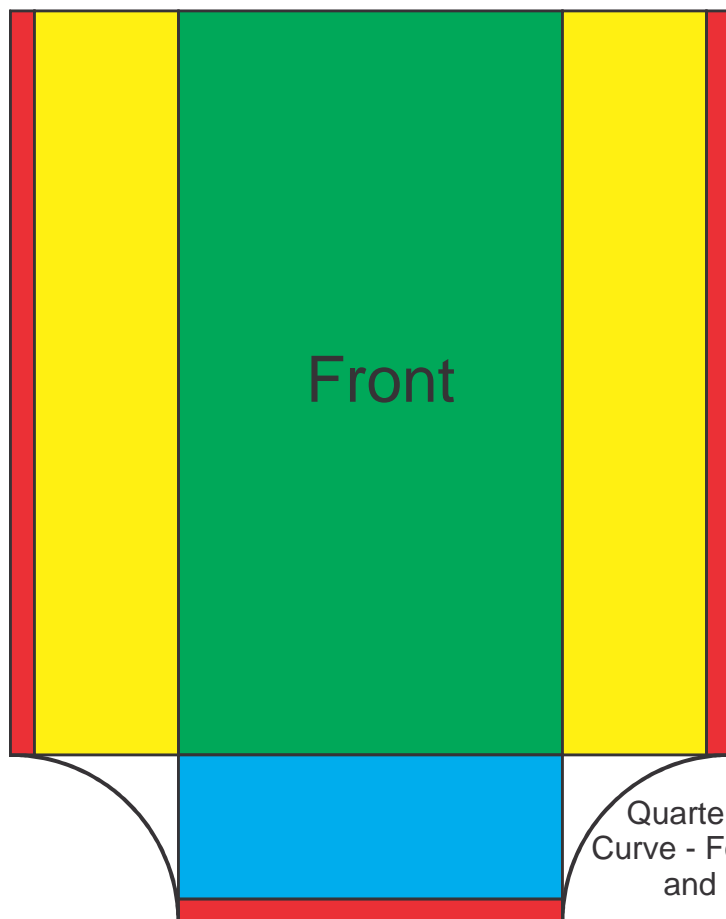
Snaps are good too, but make sure your phone is protected from the metal edges. One way to accomplish this is to buy snap tape, which consists of rows of snaps bonded to cotton twill tape. Sew the snap tape to your pouch at the appropriate positions and the edges of the snaps will be concealed.

Sew the front piece to the back along the sides and bottom. Again, you can put the seam on the inside or the outside, according to the nature of your materials.

# Randwulf's Cell Pouch by Randall Whitlock June 1, 2014

- Front/Back
- Sides
- End
- 1/8" Seam Allowance

Finished Pouch



Make lots of these pouches for different purposes. Plain leather is good for concealing your phone at a medieval event. Fancy brocades are good for high middle ages, regency etc. Consider matching the fabric to the rest of your costume. How about a whole row of these pouches for something like Batman's belt or Chewbacca's bandolier? The possibilities are endless.

### 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.*

October 10-November 2, 2014 – **Arizona State Fair** at 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue and McDowell Road, Phoenix <https://azstatefair.com/>

October 10, 2014, 6-10 PM – **Nightmare on Main** Between Center and Country Club on Main in downtown Mesa. Costume contest, Tour the Haunted Basement, Zombies Walk, and 50+ artists showing original artwork, live bands, entertainment, food, and fun with shops and restaurants open late. <http://2ndfridaynightout.com/2.html>

October 11, 2014, 11AM –Noon – **Día de los Muertos Storytelling** at Ocotillo Library, 102 W. Southern Avenue, Phoenix. Celebrate the Día de los Muertos tradition with Zarco Guerrero's unique masked characters and hilarious style of story-telling. Musical accompaniment by Carmen de Novais.

October 11, 2014 – **Dining Among the Dead** Victorian dinner party on the gazebo patio at Pioneer & Military Memorial Park, 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue & Jefferson, Phoenix. Tix \$45 by reservation only. Contact [nazan222@aol.com](mailto:nazan222@aol.com) or see Dining Among the Dead on Facebook.

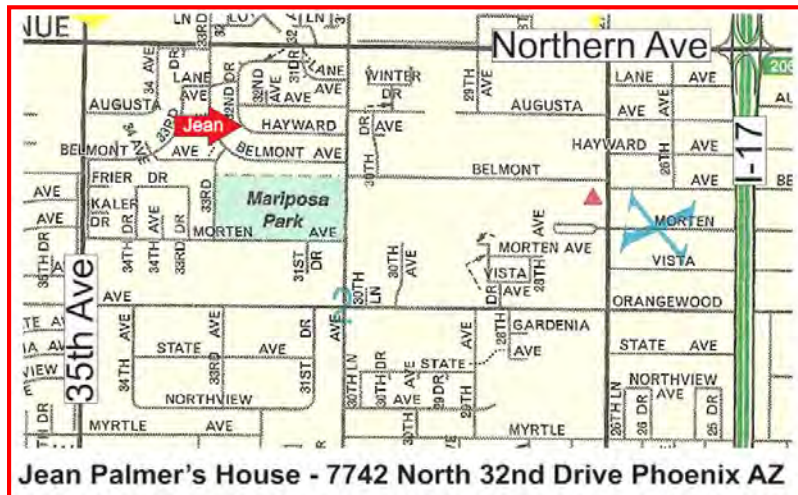
October 12, 2014, 2-5PM – **Joe Bethancourt Tribute Concert** at the Musical Instrument Museum, 4725 E. Mayo Boulevard, Phoenix AZ. Come join us as friends and musicians pay homage to the Godfather of Arizona folk music. Admission is free. Seating will start at 1:30pm. We want to thank the Musical Instrument Museum - MIM for donating the use of their performance hall for this special event. Musicians and friends of Joe who would like to participate in the event should contact Bob Zucker at [rzucker@amazradio.org](mailto:rzucker@amazradio.org). Due to the large number of expected participants we are encouraging musicians to appear as duos, trios or larger groups to allow time for everyone to participate. Cher Bethancourt and Joe's children will be in attendance. *See attached flyer.*

October 17-19, 2014 – **Helldorado Days** in Tombstone, Arizona. <http://www.helldoradodays.com/>

October 17-19, 2014 – **Comic Media Expo** at the Mesa Convention Center. New comics and pop culture con. [www.comicmediaexpo.com](http://www.comicmediaexpo.com) .

October 17-18, 2014 – **Oktoberfest** at St. Rose Parish Campus-Anthem 2825 W. Rose Canyon Circle Anthem Arizona 85086. Casino Gaming Fundraiser, Puppet Show, Pumpkin Patch, German Band, German Food, German Beer, Delicious Homemade Desserts, Fireworks, Beer Stein Race, Beer Barrel Rolling and numerous other games. On October 18,

from 11 AM-9 PM, we will be having Live Music, Puppet Show, Pumpkin Patch, Food, Beer and many other attractions throughout the day. <http://www.stroseparishaz.org>



October 19, 2014 – **Straighten Jean Out\*** SWCG social and activity at Jean's place, 7742 North 32<sup>nd</sup> Drive, Phoenix AZ. Hang out, converse and help President Jean finish the organization of the guild book collection we started this summer.

OCTOBER 24-26 – **Wild Western Festival**, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily at Sahuaro Ranch Park. -- **Wild Western Festival**

- The tagline: "History Meets Hollywood" . What to watch: gun fights, stunt shows, Native American dancers, trick horses, magic shows, and the chance to meet Hollywood Celebrities. What to listen to: live music from Best in the West musicians. What to wear: something special if you want to enter the 1880' Old West or Steampunk costume contest on Saturday, or if you want your dog to feel less self-conscious while taking part in the pet costume contest on Sunday. Where to rustle up some grub: sidle up to the food vendors, or enter the pie-eating contest, Habanero Holler contest, or Sunday's chili cook-off. Where to buy proof of your time-traveling adventure: from artisan vendors. Kids can ride: a fake bucking bull or a real standing pony. Kids can also: jump in the bounce house, compete against kin in wheelbarrow races and bean-bag tosses, easily avoid jury duty. More info: <http://www.wildwesternfestival.com/>

October 24-25, 30-31, November 1, 6-8 @ 7:30pm, October 25, 26, November 1, 2, 8 @ 2:00pm - **Revenge of the Space Pandas or Binky Rudich and the Two-Speed Clock** By David Mamet at the Brelby Theatre, 6835 N 58th Ave. Glendale, AZ [www.brelby.com](http://www.brelby.com)

Binky Rudich, his friend Viv, and his almost human sheep Bob, tinker with a two-speed clock with the idea that, as Binky says, "Time on Earth moves at the same speed all the time, but there is another speed, a slower speed, and if we could find it, everything would standstill on Earth and we would spin off." And they do! To Crestview, Fourth World in the Goolagong System, ruled by George Topax and guarded by the Great Space Pandas. The excitement really begins when the Supreme Ruler commands that Bob be brought to him, never again to leave Goolagong, and he steals the two-speed clock just to make sure. Only a very serious playwright could produce such an insane comedy!

*As a bit of a note on 'costuming' – We also went to see Little Shop of Horrors there. They did a good job of the Audrey II. Small, it was a hand puppet. Seymour would clutch the pot, and one hand came up inside to move the plant. The large version was well done, with a large enough pot to do stage-magic and let her eat several cast members. – Tasha*

October 31-November 2, 2014 – **TusCon** SF convention at Hotel City Center, 475 North Granada Avenue, Tucson, Arizona <http://tusconscificon.com/>



October 31-November 2, 2014 – **Tucson Celtic Festival** at Rillito Park. <http://tucsoncelticfestival.org/> (page not yet updated for 2014 festival).

October 31, 2014 – **Monsters Ball** at Alwun House, 1204 E. Roosevelt Street, Phoenix. Featuring The Mod Zombies and The Sinisters, for a “zombie apocalypse so infectious you’ll want to eat your brains out!” High-energy thrill-seekers costume ball. A night of rockabilly zombie surf bands. Complimentary finger-food, with spine-chilling libations at cash bar Alwun’s annual blow-out Halloween art party gets raves as an annual “not-to-be-missed” bash, includes crowds costumed for revelry with spirited prizes, finger-food and spine-chilling libations at the cash bar. Partygoers are invited to “unleash their little monster – be they vamp, zombie or trans.” All saints and sinners welcome to join in macabre undead revelry. <http://alwunhouse.org/>

November 1-2, 2014 – **Phoenix FearCon** at Courtyard by Marriott, 1650 North 95<sup>th</sup> Lane, Glendale AZ. <http://phoenixfearcon.com/>

November 6-8, 2014 – **Tucson Quilt, Craft & Sewing Festival** at Tucson Expo, 3750 E. Irvington Road, Tucson <http://quiltcraftsew.com>

November 8-9, 2014 – **Tucson Comic Convention** at the Tucson Convention Center. <http://www.tucsoncomic-con.com>

November 9, 2014 – **All Souls Procession** in downtown Tucson. <http://www.allsoulsprocession.org/> *Check the web site for several weeks of lead-in events.*

November 13-17, 2014 – **Southern Crusades** – Society for Creative Anachronism combat, arts & sciences camping event at Fort Huachuca, Wren Arena, Arizona (new site). <http://www.southerncrusades.org/>

November 14, 2014, 6-10 PM – **Steampunk Street** Between Center and Country Club on Main in downtown Mesa. <http://2ndfridaynightout.com/2.html>

November 23, 2014 – **More Fun with Felt\*** – SWCG workshop at Sharan’s place. Sharan will again demonstrate her monster pincushion pattern. You can build one or follow another project with our stash of felt of various colors.

December 12-15, 2014 – **Phoenix ComiCon Fanfest** at University of Phoenix Stadium, Glendale AZ. <https://phoenixcomicon.com/page/82>

December 21, 2014 – **Solstice Potluck\*** SWCG social at Chuck & Tasha’s place. Celebrate the first day of winter with lunch with your friends. Annual officer elections.

January 29, 2015 – **Doggie Beds\*** SWCG workshop at Chuck & Tasha’s place. Build pet mattresses to donate to a local animal shelter.

January 29-31, 2015 – **Phoenix Quilt, Craft & Sewing Festival** at the Arizona State Fairgrounds, 1826 W. McDowell Road, Phoenix. <http://quiltcraftsew.com>

February 22, 2015 – **War Prep\*** SWCG workshop at Jean’s place. Get your costumes in condition for the annual SCA Estrella War.

March 29, 2015 – **Fabric Challenge\*** SWCG workshop at Chuck & Tasha’s place. Create a project using the silver satin stash. Maybe something we can appear in together at conventions?

### **Copyright Statement**

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