

	<h2 style="text-align: center;"><u>Cactus Needles</u></h2> <p style="text-align: center;">16.05 - May 2016</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Southwest Costumers Guild PO Box 39504, Phoenix AZ 85069 http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org</p>
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Recent Event

<p>Randall created a mash-up of Cthulu and The Flying Spaghetti Monster for The Dark Ones elder gods-themed party. Yes, that's real spaghetti.</p>	
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Briefs

Thank you. I got several this month!!!

Submitted by Randall Whitlock

Did you catch last week's episode of "Chicago Fire?"

This was episode 4.20 - "The Last One for Mom." If you missed it, you can view the episode on the NBC web site, streaming app, or through Hulu Plus.

The feathered sculpture the director risks his life to save from a museum fire in the opening segment was actually made by my sister, Chicago-based milliner and theatrical sculptor Laura Whitlock.

Submitted by Mark Sweebe (This copyright is dated 1949, so it should be public domain by now)

Advice from a Singer Sewing Machine Manual from 1949

Prepare yourself mentally for sewing.

Think about what you are going to do. Never approach sewing with a sigh or lackadaisically. Good results are difficult when indifference dominates. Never try to sew with a sink full of dirty dishes or beds unmade.

When there are urgent housekeeping chores, do these first so that your mind is free to enjoy your sewing. When you sew, make yourself as attractive as possible. Put on a clean dress. Keep a little bag of French chalk near your sewing machine to dust your fingers at intervals. Have your hair in order, powder and lipstick put on. If you are constantly fearful that a visitor might drop in or your husband will come home, and you will not look neatly put together, you will not enjoy your sewing.

Submitted by Randall Whitlock

Some folks asked Sunday where I get those Minnetonka brand boot moccasins I alter to make my renfaire boots and what they cost.

I haven't bought a pair for years, so I checked Amazon.com.

Yes, they are still available in men's and women's sizes in black or natural brown. The price varies with size from about \$93 to \$105.

If you are thick in the calf, I would suggest trying them on in person, rather than buying online. The fit runs a bit slender.

Submitted by Tasha Cady

Review of costumes in Huntsman, the Winter War

Freya, the Winter Queen, tended to wear houplande-style outfits, with a slightly raised collar. She wore a head-piece that concealed the front of her hair, with small (owl) wings on either side. One of the more interesting headpieces was her evil sisters with very light chains coming down from the mid-forehead over the nose and them sweeping to either side under the eyes. That might be fun to try for somebody who wears glasses as I think it would go over glasses OK.

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.*

May 6-9, 2016 – **Costume-con 34: The Wonder of Nature** at the Marriott West in Madison, Wisconsin <http://www.costumecon34.com/>

May 8, 2016 - **Shoe Disguises*** SWCG meeting at Tasha's place. Randall will demonstrate some ways to make your footwear blend with your costume, including the infamous duct tape boot pattern. – for refernces – meeting date was moved

MAY 13-15 - Mad Monster Phoenix - Horror / Sci-Fi / Fantasy - WE-KO-PA RESORT, Scottsdale/Fountain Hills, AZ <http://madmonster.com/events/phoenix2016/>

May 14 Chandler public Library Downton Abbey event. Showing up in period costume would be appreciated by the library

April 28 to May 26 Thursdays – 4-6 PM Create Your Own Cosplay workshops
Phoenix Burton Barr Public Library (SEC Central & Willetta Street) Mach 1 room on the 4th Floor.



June 2-5, 2016 – **Phoenix ComiCon** at the Phoenix Convention Center
<http://www.phoenixcomicon.com/>

June 12, 2017 - **LepreCon Wrap-Up*** SWCG meeting at Jean's place. Finish up the blue vests and other special projects for LepreCon.

June 23-26, 2016 – **LepreCon 42: The Meaning of Life, The Universe and Everything** at the Embassy Suites North (SEC I-17 & Greenway Road) in Phoenix. <http://leprecon.org/>

July 7-10 **Highlands War** at Ashurst Lake near Flagstaff. The web site is <http://highlandswar.org/> but they haven't updated it for this year's event yet

November 11-13, 2016 – **TusCon 43** at Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 4550 S. Palo Verde Road, Tucson, AZ 85714. This year's guest of honor is George RR Martin.

<http://tusconscificon.com/>

Sept 24 & 25 2016 **Keen Halloween Event** at the Phoenix Convention Center

“We capture the best parts of your Halloween memories; bridging the gap between horror-based conventions and child-focused events, creating a new concept to celebrate Halloween every day. We provide entertainment, workshops, a maker's faire, and one-of-a-kind vendors for a fresh take on Halloween to people of all ages.” <https://www.facebook.com/events/1030865616987329/>

April 20-24, 2017 – **Costume-Con 35** at the Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale, 6750

Mississauga Road, Mississauga (near Toronto), Ontario, Canada <http://costumecon35.com/>

July 1-4, 2017 – **WesterCon 70** at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel. Guests include Julie Dillon, Larry Elmore, Gini Koch and Weston Ochse. www.westercon70.org

Minutes

SWCG Meeting May 1, 2016 at Mahala's Home

Recorded by Randall Whitlock, SWCG Secretary

Present were Mahala, Tasha, Jean, Paula, Sharan, Randall

We chilled out in Mahala's front yard and tended her garage sale while talking business.

Convened at 2:03 PM.

The prez and veep had no reports. It has, after all, only been two weeks since last meeting.

Secretary Randall reminded the group that proxies for could still be sent by e-mail before the next weekend's ICG annual meeting.

Treasurer Tasha reported that recent e-mail communications problems with the ICG treasurer have been resolved and that she needs to change her Yahoogroups settings to her current e-mail address.

Events officer Sharan brought up details for several ideas for future SWCG activities. These include a sewing machine feet workshop from Erica, a wild west riparian walk in Tucson, a sewing machine maintenance workshop, Tasha's metal enameling technique and Randall's etching technique (perhaps combining the two). Budget for these activities was discussed.

Sharan also brought up the possibility of selling some of our fundraiser renfaire garb through Etsy with the help of a friend.

In old business, interest was expressed in several Guildsters attending an upcoming AZ Haunters social and Paula has done more research on fabric photo printing.

The business meeting adjourned at 3:05 PM.

We then put away the garage sale items and traipsed inside for ice cream and fruit as Randall gave a quick demo on the various renaissance faire boot disguises he has used over the years and a tape wrap technique for deriving a sock/boot pattern fitted to your leg.

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