

	<h2 style="text-align: center;"><u>Cactus Needles</u></h2> <p style="text-align: center;">19.012 - February</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Southwest Costumers Guild</b>  <b>PO box 39504, Phoenix AZ 85069</b>  <a href="http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org">http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org</a></p>
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### **Recent Events**

SWCG (Jean, Paula, Randal, Sharan, Tasha) participated in the Tempe Library con. We got a very nice thank-you letter from the organizer. There are some photos from the event at the end of the newsletter. None of us there keep up with all comics/anime enough to be sure of who's being represented, but some were really, really nice.

From: Brenner, Jill <Jill\_Brenner@tempe.gov>  
To: Brenner, Jill <Jill\_Brenner@tempe.gov>  
Sent: Tue, Jan 29, 2019 12:17 pm  
Subject: Thank you from Tempe FanCon

Hello,

Thank you for participating in our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Tempe FanCon on Saturday at the Tempe Public Library. The weather cooperated and the guests had a lot of fun. I hope you did too.

I appreciate you taking the time to exhibit and/or participate in the event this year. We had 65 exhibitors, panels, food trucks, and estimate that we had over 4000 attendees! This event was successful because of YOU!

FYI, next year's event will be on Saturday, January 25, 2020. I'll send out the online Exhibitor form to this year's vendors in summer 2019. The FanCon 2020 webpage with more information will be available in summer 2019 as well.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Thank you again!

Regards,  
Jill

**Briefs**



**(SEND ME MORE!!! – Always)**

**Software Patch**

By Randall Whitlock

While we were sitting the SWCG meet & greet table at Tempe LibraryCon, my faithful man-purse gave up the ghost with a blown zipper. This bag, which I carry to work with clipboards, camera, binoculars, laboratory forms, reading glasses, pens & pencils etc. had been on the fade for some time. I found its replacement a few days later and decided to personalize it for my career.



I drew a rock hammer in my favorite graphics software, added my name and job title over a background matching the bag color and exported it to printable fabric with a laser printer. I then sprayed the fabric with clear varnish to improve its moisture resistance and sewed it onto the flap of the bag. Here is the result.

I worked out the technique last year when making patches for my MST3K costume for WesterCon, one of these patches is seen resting on the bag.

Would this be a good workshop class for a guild meeting?

**Minutes**

SWCG Outing January 5, 2019.  
Reported by VP Randall

Present were Jean, Sharan, Paula, Mahala and Randall.

We assembled at the Subway restaurant at 58th Avenue & Glendale Avenue for a relaxed soup & sandwich, then walked the public park surrounding the Velma Teague library and Glendale City Hall to enjoy the "Glendale Glitters" light display. This was one of the unscheduled weekends, so there was no music or other scheduled activity. There were enjoyable lighted trees and some street vendors with lighted toys and food treats. No business meeting was convened, but some potential meeting ideas were kicked about.

SWCG Meeting February 3, 2019  
Recorded by Randall

We gathered at Tasha's place on February 3, 2019 to enjoy conversation, some fine munchies including Tasha's inimitable cheese tray, Mahala's Moroccan sweet potatoes, Randalemonade and Mahala's layered dip adorned with candles for Paula's recent birthday. We also caught up on some business.

Present were Tasha, Paula, Sharan, Jean, Randall and Mahala. We convened at 1:33 pm.

Minutes from the December meeting were read out and discussed from Randall's notes.

Treasurer Tasha reports we have money in the bank but no current plans for a major fundraiser, though she will take some hats and other guild handicrafts to the AlterYears pavilion at Estrella War later this month.

Tasha volunteered to continue editing the newsletter and to pay close attention to distribution of hard copies.

Webmonster/Postmonster Randall Reports that our PO Box rental for 2019 has been paid and our southwestscostumersguild.org domain has been renewed for another year. We have received the usual advertising from Arizona Renaissance Festival and a credit card company, but no big important mail.

In Old Business President Paula reports that no reservation is required to picnic at McCormick Railroad Park unless we want a ramada. We can just turn up for the proposed costume photo shoot. Potential days and times were discussed but no firm plans were made. Paula reminds us the photo shoot does not have to be on one of our regularly scheduled meeting days.

We discussed our experiences running the SWCG meet and greet table at the recent Tempe Library FanCon. A good time was had by all attendees. Tasha reports about 12 persons signed up for further contact and she shot some pictures for the newsletter. The cosplay was excellent, with one person making a fine impression with a gigantic model of a SpaceX rocket as a jet pack. We received a thank-you e-mail from organizer Jill Brenner via the webmaster's address. All were in favor of participating again next year.

In new business, nominations for the ICG lifetime achievement award are open.

We received an invitation to sponsor the costuming guest of honor at LepreCon 45. A motion to accept the offer failed with no ayes, four nays, one abstention and one not present.

Randall spoke with David "Blackfeather" Ramirez at the recent Dark Ones February party. Blackfeather is still storing some fabric, including much synthetic fur, for SWCG and has made an offer to purchase a sewing machine donated to SWCG several years ago. Randall will contact him again to learn more details of the offer.

Possible venues to sell SWCG handicrafts for fundraising were discussed. Tasha will bring some hats and other items to the Estrella War. Paula may try bringing cloaks to upcoming dance performances. Randall will likely participate in the AZ Haunters swap meet in the fall and is looking into participating in a proposed craft fair at the local Bookman's store.

Possibilities were discussed to make useful things out of the quilt squares and other small pieces of fabric donated to SWCG over the last few years. Totes and other bags are a good possibility. Tasha and Jean showed examples of suitable bags they carry around in everyday life.

Annual elections were held in our usual informal manner. The new slate is:

President Paula Lary  
Treasurer Tasha Cady  
Secretary Randall Whitlock

The VP election (Randall vs. Sharan) was a tie and settled by coin toss. Randall Whitlock will continue as vice president.

By appointment, Tasha Cady will continue as newsletter editor, Sharan Hoyle will continue as event coordinator and Randall Whitlock will continue as webmaster and BOD representative on behalf of President Paula.

The meeting officially closed at 2:40, but discussion of upcoming events continued. Meeting topics decided are as follows:

March 17 at Tasha's place, 12 PM – Potluck of the Irish St. Patrick's Day social. Irish-themed costume encouraged.

April 7 at Tasha's place, 11 AM - Make stuff. Use up some of the donated fabrics. Likely to focus on bags but ideas are welcome. Bring your machine and sewing kit.

May 5 – Personal Projects (stitch and something) at Jean and Nola's place.

June 2 – Topic to be announced at 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue Sew & Vac, assuming the venue is available.

July 14 at Cady Creedance Classic – Pool party with fantastic sea creatures theme (Tasha wants to get some use out of her mermaid tail)

September 1 at Randall's (if venue is available) – Brass etching.

October 6 at Paula's – Dyeing. Maybe silk dyeing, maybe another technique.

## 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.*

**Feb 17-25<sup>th</sup> SCA Estrella War** - Schneff Farms, Queen Creek

**Feb 18-24 SASS Winter Range** – Ben Avery Range, I-17 and Carefree Highway

**Feb 23-24 10am-5pm Matsuri Festival** 115 N 6<sup>th</sup> St, Phoenix

**Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> – Myscreation Blood Fest Valentine Day haunted attraction** 6pm - 9pm 2935 W Libby St  
Phoenix

**March 8-10 Chandler Ostrich Festival** – Tumbleweed Park, Chandler

**\*March 17th - Guild meeting at Tasha's.** – St Patrick's day party – please come in related costume.

**March 22-25, 2019 - Costume-Con 37** Salem, MA

Attending Memberships are \$60 through at least 12/31/2016. \$45 for those that voted in the site-selection. Supporting Memberships are \$25, \$15 for voters. We hope to have online registration in place soon, even if it'll just be a paypal button, so please be patient. Or you can send a check (payable to Costume-Con 37) to MCFI PO Box 1010 Framingham, MA 01701 I'll be posting more information on a semi-regular basis. If there is something you would like to do for CC37, please email Aurora and myself. Sharon Sbarsky [sbarsky@gmail.com](mailto:sbarsky@gmail.com) or Aurora Celeste [auroraceleste@gmail.com](mailto:auroraceleste@gmail.com)

**March 30 2019 – Tucson Time Traveler’s Masquerade.** 12pm – 11pm – 160 S Scott Ave, Tucson – theme is Heaven and Hell. 21 and over.

**\*April 7 Guild meeting at Tasha’s** place, 11 AM - Make stuff. Use up some of the donated fabrics. Likely to focus on bags but ideas are welcome. Bring your machine and sewing kit.

**APRIL 18-21, 2019 - LepreCon 45 –**

Doubletree by Hilton Phoenix North, 10220 N Metro Parkway E, Phoenix AZ. Rooms \$92, Suites \$102. There will be a charity auction and we welcome donations. Please contact our Charity Auction Director thru the website. More info at [www.leprecon.org](http://www.leprecon.org)

**\*May 5 Guild Meeting at Jean and Nola’s place** – Personal Projects (stitch and something).

**\*June 2 Guild meeting** – Topic to be announced at 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue Sew & Vac, assuming the venue is available.

**July 4-7 Westercon, Layton Utah.** Combined with the 2019 North American Science Fiction Convention (NASFiC) and 1632 MiniCon under the convention name “SpikeCon”

**\*July 14 Guild meeting at Cady Creedance Classic** – Pool party with fantastic sea creatures theme (Tasha wants to get some use out of her mermaid tail)

**July 20-21 2019 – Ittty Bitty Fur Con** 11am – 5pm Mesa Convention Center

**July 20 & 21, 2019 Arizona Highland Celtic Festival** – Ft. Tuthill, Flagstaff\_ 9am-6pm/9am-4pm  
<http://www.nachs.info/>

**August 15 – 19, 2019 Worldcon** - Convention Centre Dublin -

**Aug 30<sup>th</sup> -Sept 2nd 2019 CoKoCon**

Doubletree by Hilton Phoenix North, 10220 N Metro Parkway E, Phoenix AZ. Rooms \$92, Suites \$102. **Memberships limited to 500.** There will be a charity auction and we welcome donations. Please contact our Charity Auction Director thru the website. More info at [www.cokocon.org](http://www.cokocon.org)

**\*September 1 Guild meeting at Randall’s** (if venue is available) – Brass etching.

**\*October 6 Guild meeting at Paula’s** – Dyeing. Maybe silk dyeing, maybe another technique.

**October 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> 2019 – Music Furstival** – 11am – 6pm Arizona Furcon 200 N Centennial way, Mesa

**Westercon 73, July 2-5, 2020,** Seattle (SeaTac) WA

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Better yet, send us some content for the next issue. We're always open to costuming news, how to and other feature articles, reviews of events, books, film, television and web, and calendar items of interest to Arizona costumers. Send your submissions to [editor@southwestcostumersguild.org](mailto:editor@southwestcostumersguild.org).



Purple furry, Harely, Reading Monster, Mary Poppins (who IS a Time Lord – there is a tardis on the back of her dress), Rainbow furry, Lady Fuana (editor's title), Pumpkin head villain, Riddler and ??? (Poison Ivy – we should have asked), furry with blue horns, ghost buster, hawk furry and key holder (from a video game), Space X (note the red roadster in her hand)