

	<h2 style="text-align: center;"><u>Cactus Needles</u></h2> <p style="text-align: center;">19.04 - April</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 Events

Not much lately



A Review of Some Colored Hair Sprays

It's St. Patrick's Day-- Why Isn't My Hair Green?

by Mahala Sweebe

It all started when I read an ad with a coupon for L'Oreal products. "DISCOVER THE NEW COLOR OF THE YEAR: SILVER CHIC". I don't want to sound like a paid advertisement but I do want to pass on what I discovered, along with my slightly biased opinions, based on results and price.

One product listed was Colorista Silver Blue, 1-day color for tips & strands. "1-day color" sounded perfect, no long term commitment. I was hooked. I reasoned that if they had silver, they should green. So I went to my local grocery store where they had the products in multiple colors, but alas, no green. I then went to Walmart, same selection of colors.

L'Oreal Colorista has three varieties, hair spray and hair makeup, both are one day color that washes out with shampoo. The third is a permanent hair color which, if I read it correctly, adds color but does not bleach out your existing color. Apparently blondes really do have more fun

because most of their colors are recommended for platinum and light blondes. Not recommended for medium blonde or darker hair because the colors don't show up well. There are a couple of exceptions which I will mention later. If you want to lighten your tips or strands to a light blonde and then color them, the colors will show up better. This is probably true for all the other brands out there. I saw two or three other brands of permanent hair dye in wild colors like purple, red, orange, blue, green and black, but not temporary.

The Colorista hairspray comes in lilac, (dark) blue, pastel blue, pink, silver and rose gold. They didn't have silver blue. I've forgotten the colors for the hair makeup except blue, neon green, neon pink, and I think purple and silver. The two neon green and neon pink shades glow under black light but not the other colors. One word of caution, the hair makeup is only for your hair, not your eyebrows, eyelashes or face or any other skin.

I didn't want to make a long term commitment, so I bought three hair sprays and one color makeup. They were both the same price, under \$10, and the permanent color was about \$2 more. I bought pastel blue, silver and rose gold hairsprays which showed pictures of brunettes and blondes with what the colors looked like. And, of course, I bought the neon green hair makeup, the only one that was green.

When I tried the blue and silver, I probably didn't use enough hairspray. I sprayed the back of my head where I couldn't see clearly. The blue was pretty dark and just blended into my brown hair, I thought it would be a lighter pastel. The silver was mostly gray and not metallic enough. I needed a second coat which I didn't have time for.

The rose gold was another story. Really nice! I put it on the front of my head where I am going gray and could see better what I was doing. The first coat mostly covered the gray and turned it brown-pink with shiny gold over it. I put on a second coat and it looked even better. I was so pleased that I waited a couple of days before washing it out. The only change was that the pink started to look a little more orange, but both days it looked mostly like amber gold.

I spent so much time playing with the rose gold hairspray that I did not have time to try the neon green hair makeup before our guild meeting. I decided I should wait until I was somewhere with a black light. However, I did have another brand of green hairspray. The brand I had was Goodmark and it is a hairspray sold at Halloween in all the stores in a rainbow of colors for a few dollars. It is also a spray on-wash out hair color. There the similarities end.

Goodmark is made for a once-a-year usage. It feels like colored baby powder or flour. It goes on thick and does well on coverage if you follow the directions. But there is a lot of powder that flies into the air like damp dust and will stick to your clothes if you do not cover up with a towel. Be sure to thoroughly comb or brush your hair before you spray. After you spray, wait until it is completely dry before doing a minimum of combing. It does not stick to your hair as well as you think it will, and after time, will start to powder off onto your clothes, upholstery, the floor, whatever.

The Colorista hairspray has a finer powder, does not shed as much, and lasts longer in your hair. The downsides are that it is more expensive, has fewer colors, and you don't know how long the manufacturer will make the product before they decide it is a fad and discontinue it. Goodmark (and

there are probably other brands like it) has been available for many years at Halloween and also might be found at costume shops and Party City-type stores throughout the year.

Whatever brand you buy, a reminder: wash your combs and brushes before and especially after, right away because it may stain them. My hairbrush bristles are now amber instead of clear. However, I think it was worth it. I had a lot of fun for a couple of days. Like I said in the beginning, I didn't want a long term commitment and I didn't have to. Although the rose gold was very seductive. . . lol

Phish Story Not to be Believed

Webmaster Randall warns SWCG officers to beware of a particularly loathsome e-mail scam. It recently hit our Archivist e-mail link and is likely to be tried on the other @southwestcostumersguild.org addresses in the near future. Randall has received dozens of copies of this scam e-mail through his e-mail addresses on other nonprofit organization domains.

The scammer sends the potential victim an e-mail with routing information spoofed to look as though it came from their own @southwestcostumersguild.org address and claims to have hacked your device, taken control of it, and recorded video from adults-only sites you are supposed to have visited, using your own camera. The actual language of the e-mail is much cruder and meant to be offensive. The scammer provides a bitcoin account link and demands money or they will send the videos to all of your social media contacts.

This is nonsense, of course.

Our guild e-mail addresses are just "aliases" that automatically forward e-mails to your real account through our host's e-mail server. The scammer does not know your real e-mail address, what kind of device you use, or anything else. They only know your guild address, probably from reading our web page. You can safely ignore the scheme.

Minutes

SWCG Gathering - "Potluck of the Irish"
March 17, 2019 at Tasha's place
Recorded by Randall

Present were Tasha, Chuck, Jean, Paula, Mahala and Randall. This was an informal get-together to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with friends and food. Tasha made Fish & Chips. Mahala brought a potato and sausage dish. Randall brought mint cupcakes and lemonade mercifully free of green food dye. No business meeting, but there was some show & tell.

BTW - There are pictures somewhere

SWCG Activity April 7, 2019 at Tasha's Place
Reported by Randall

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

We gathered in the game room to blow through a couple of boxes of small pieces of donated fabric and the leftovers from the LibCon West hat demo. There was enough black felt to assemble five simple witch/wizard hats suitable for Hogwarts firsties. Much of the donated fabric was found to be damaged with holes and glue, so proved un-usable. The good stuff consisted mainly of joyful holiday prints in odd shapes. Some of this was converted into drawstring bags. Tasha formulated a challenge project for our December social and distributed the Christmas-themed material with the instruction to make something of it - wearable or otherwise.

Randall show-and-telled a black cape with brocade lining discovered among other donated items. This was someone's abandoned project from many years ago. Randall completed it by detaching and re-fitting the collar, finishing the hem, and installing a button closure. This too will go into the fundraiser collection.

No business meeting was called.



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.*

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

May 3 – Cosplay at Reynolds Advanced Materials 1pm -3pm - see below

Reynolds Materials is just west off Hayden/McClintock Road just south of BIG SURF that is across the street to the north.

John A sent this in: Any event of theirs is very interesting. They always have great ideas, demos using their products, and how to solve your particular problems with costumes, shields, props, and making items more durable and people proof. Also their showroom shows examples of what you can make or use each product for..... be it a clear fang casting, a tough "skin" over a foam object, making duplicates, making a knights shield, or casting/replacing a missing piece from your armor (or a rubber dragon ... on your pouch ..that turned hard/brittle and died thru the ages).

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

***June 2 Guild meeting** – Topic to be announced at 35th 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 30th -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

***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 25th – 27th 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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Trivia note of the month – Since Medieval Times will be opening a castle in Scottsdale this summer.

Did you know that Medieval Times is North America's largest breeder of Andalusian Stallions?

Located in Sanger, TX, Chapel Creek Ranch is 230 acres of sprawling fields and beautiful horses. Here, our pure Spanish horses are born and begin their path to stardom!

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