

	<h2 style="text-align: center;"><u>Cactus Needles</u></h2> <p style="text-align: center;">20.04 - April 2020</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

The sky is falling!

I think most of us are on some kind of lockdown. I won't say anything more because I would get too political.

Since we are a sewing guild, we might consider sewing masks for those who need them. I've seen a variety of patterns on line. I'm told Jo-Ann's has kits to take home, sew and return.



Briefs

SEND ME MORE!!!

A lot of things are on hold or cancelled

Celebration of Bob LaPierre's life. – on hold, looking at late April

The Kiwanis Club of Tempe and the City of Tempe have agreed to suspend planning efforts for the popular annual July 4th Tempe Town Lake Festival because of uncertainty related to the coronavirus pandemic.

Arizona Haunters was sad to announce they have to cancel March 21st's make and take. Not only has HeatSync Closed, but of course they want to be responsible and follow CDC recommendations regarding gathering in groups.

John A sent a link to some behind the scenes info on Medieval Time's Horses and Falcons

<https://sg-mktg.com/MTU4NDcyMDcwMHxHbnl4eFZuSIJRS2E0cI9WMlIOaWc3VFRkMUhjRzVEbVYxSIJ2QTBE0VpCNjlEeFRRN0dhSDdXaGw0VzJWNGlkVV9zX1NZeEgydHhVbENjTWxhNGV6Qlg3OUFUbknFcb0UEVjMzIHZOgxSTR1VjZSc3JzZmU5QXN2c0tCRW1oRkx1LTBNWkg1bE5OQUhtSfo3YmpRT1A3cWhTOXZVQlVSZlqVFFzSGtMd0Y1SV9lckJuZU9ob0VZcXdJRVR5bF9sRGh0UTRZZFdQbC1TdEFHVnlwQ2QtVXdpdF94cEdUREV5dXk2UmxFQUlfa1hFcGF0Nk5MMzBrPXxaOCwqjgsut14b5zSNco4cTcc2UyYbdpVt3rFbA7kvng==>

Minutes

The April meeting was cancelled, in an abundance of caution.

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.*

LepreCon 46 APRIL 10-12, 2020 - CANCELLED

Many events have canceled recently due to concerns about COVID-19. Unfortunately, LepreCon has also been put in a position where it must cancel as well. The hotel saw the writing on the wall, and agreed to invoke the "force majeure" clause of the contract which basically covers natural disasters and acts of god. We will be OK financially. There needs to be a falloff in corona cases and a halt to the disruptions before we can do any planning about LepreCon's future. There is a possibility the current convention may be rescheduled later in the year. If this turns out not to be feasible, there is always next year.

All payments made to LepreCon 46 will be refunded. I have consulted with the treasurer, who has indicated that he should be able to complete that process by the end of April (sooner if possible). If the payment was made by PayPal, he will attempt to reverse the payment. Otherwise you will be mailed a check.

If you have made hotel reservations, be sure to cancel them to avoid any charges. They will not be automatically canceled for you.

Cosplay Swap Meet – Sat April 11 – 4pm - POSPONED

KEI collective, 2303 N 44th St #11, Phoenix – Spaces \$10 – no additional data at this time

***SWCG Meeting – May 3rd On hold**

Contact us for details

***SWCG Meeting – June 7th On hold**

Contact us for details

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

Seattle is the site of the 73rd Westercon. It will be held from July 2-5, 2020 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Seattle Airport. It is organized under the auspices of SWOC [the Seattle Westercon Organizing Committee]. With the year being 2020, the theme for Westercon 73 must be "Perfect Vision." Attending memberships are available for \$70, with supporting memberships at \$20.

<https://westercon73.org/>

The organizers of Westercon 73 are following the COVID-19 situation and understand the concerns of potential participants. As of now Westercon 73 is going ahead as scheduled. However, we are discussing options in the event that we have to postpone or cancel the convention. The safety and well-being of all conference participants is our top priority. We will continue to monitor updates from healthcare professionals at the WHO and the CDC as well as the safety precautions set by Governor Inslee. At this time our hotel will not allow us to cancel our contract without significant penalties unless the governor extends the ban on public gatherings into July. We ask potential authors and conference participants to check the website and our social media channels for the latest updates, or contact us with questions and concerns.

*SWCG Meeting – July 5th

Contact us for details

CoKoCon, September 4-7, 2020. - Current plans are to hold as stated

a traditional science fiction convention in Phoenix, AZ to be held We'll be hosting guests of honor, an art show, merchant room, gaming, filk, parties, you name it! Author GoH: **Steven Barnes** Local Author GoH: **Linda Addison**, Filk Guest: **S.J. Tucker** more guests to be announced! Venue: Doubletree by Hilton Phoenix Tempe, 2100 S Priest Drive, Tempe AZ **NOTE: This is a DIFFERENT Doubletree than we have been at for the past two years.** 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

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