

	<h2 style="text-align: center;"><u>Cactus Needles</u></h2> <p style="text-align: center;">22.09 September</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

CoKoCon was back!!!

CoKoCon 2022 Review
From Randall Whitlock

After being canceled in 2020 and pushed into virtual space in 2021 by the pandemic, CoKoCon was back as a real in-person event over the 2022 Labor Day weekend at the Doubletree in Tempe, Arizona.

SWCG had a meet & greet fan table at the event, tended whenever cross-programming allowed by myself, Paula and Mahala (sorry, no picture of us together). Besides our usual layout of banners, cards, flyers, newsletter out-takes and my iPad slideshow, we tried a new thing – a drawing.

Every person who filled out our contact sheet received a ticket for prizes. The prizes were two capes from our stash -- a basic black hooded cape we made at a sweatshop a while back and the velvet brocade 1960s antique with matching clutch purse Jean donated several years ago. This promo strategy gave us a page and a half of contact e-mails, some from old friends and some from new.

Will Holt won the black cape and Cyn Shepard won the brocade. We were lucky with prize delivery since Will's dad stopped by to check on the results and Cyn was tending her table in the dealer room. Coincidentally, Cyn donated a nifty renaissance gown pattern with cincher to the guild when she signed up the previous day. I will show it around next meeting.

As a rebuilding year, the con was sparsely attended without very much in the way of hall costumes. There was a professional drag show Saturday evening. (I did not see it, but heard good reviews.) Paula will tell us about the "neck corset" and other crafting workshops. No masquerade.

The new hotel had some mechanical issues, but the space is very good for our purposes and the food at the restaurant is good. I hope the con has found a home for many years to come.

I premiered my upgraded "Old Ben Kenobi" hall costume and some minor improvements to my "Star Trek: Lower Decks" uniform. You will recall I have been showing the Jedi costume elements one by one at meetings as I have finished making or purchasing them. These costumes were coordinated with my appearances on Star Wars, Star Trek and Marvel fan panels. The new 3D-printed lightsaber looks great, but proved very delicate. It broke into four pieces during Saturday dinner. Unlike Luke's hand, this plastic has a high affinity for superglue.

For safety, masks were mandated. I leaned into this by making up several new masks for the con from my favorite University of Florida pattern. One is a simple felt affair with Star Trek delta badges, the second has an image of the "zenite filter mask" from the Trek episode, "The Cloud Minders." The third has an image of the underwater breather used by Qui-Gon and Obi-Wan in "The Phantom Menace." I have many other ideas for fabric-printed masks. Perhaps this would make a good guild workshop?

Photos

Cyn poses with her prizes.

Ronnie Duran shows us the miniature pirate costume she made for her Groot figurine.

Randall's newly-made masks.

Randall in a mask - He says "I intend to premiere my upgraded Obi-Wan Kenobi hall costume at this event, so I got to thinking about appropriate masks. I found an image online of the "A99 Aquata Breather" Obi-Wan used to visit the underwater Gungan city in "The Phantom Menace." I imported the image into my favorite graphics software, pasted it into my mask pattern, and printed it onto fabric."





Briefs



SEND ME MORE!

Interesting fabric note from Facebook

<https://www.ancient-origins.net/artifacts-other-artifacts/world-s-rarest-textile-made-silk-one-million-spiders-009010>

This is a golden silk vest/capelet made from the silk of the red-legged golden orb-web spider. It was exhibited at the American Museum of Natural History in New York and at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London . The project took five years to complete and cost over \$395000. The result of this endeavor was a piece of fabric 11.2 ft by 3.9 ft.. The creators used a machine to 'milk' 24 spiders at once.

Minutes

No formal SWCG minutes. Welcome to everyone who showed interest at CoKoCon!

And some funny minutes - [Thanks to **Think & Laugh Daily** (laugh@think-laugh-daily-365.com)]

How do fish watch TV shows? They stream them.

What do you do for an injured lemon? Lemon-first-aid

How does a dog describe a bod day? Ruff.

What do you call a fish on a hot day? A tuna melt.

What does an escalator say when it stops working? Nothing, it just stairs.

Why did the baby blueberry start to cry? It's parents were in a jam.

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.*

Saturday, September 17, 2022 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (AZ Haunters' event) [Return of the Demented Dolls!](#) Where: HeatSync Labs

108 W Main St, Mesa, AZ 85201

How Much? \$10 per doll for materials

Theeeeeey're BAAaaack! - One of the most popular of the AZ Haunters events has returned - Demented Dolls!

Once thought lost forever in the detritus of 2020, this workshop has crawled out into the light once again. This make and take will cover some of the basics touched on in previous years, PLUS we will be talking about some techniques not previously shown.

We want this to be accessible to everyone so here's the deal:

For \$10 per doll, you get a doll and all the materials to corrupt it. \$20 for two dolls, you get the picture.

The money goes to pay for the supplies and to give some to he Lab for their support.

If you want to just show up and listen, that's cool.

If you pay for a doll and cannot make it to the event, you will have two weeks to arrange to come pick up the unaltered doll. There is no guarantee what kind of doll it will be and no additional supplies can be provided.

<https://azhaunters.com/showthread.php?273-Return-of-the-Demented-Dolls!&p=1109#post1109>

September 24th - 11:00am to 5:00pm

The Haunted Swap Meet is back as the Halloween Marketplace

Where: The Horny Toad Glendale – 6729 N 57th Dr, Glendale, AZ 85301.

Vendors will be set up in the courtyard area adjacent to the restaurant.

Exhibitor Floor will be open for business from Saturday, and 11:00am to 4:00pm Sunday

Admission is FREE

10x10 vendor spaces \$50 for both days.

<https://azhalloweenmarketplace.com/exhibitors/registration/>

Costumes OK, no weapons, please. Trained service animals allowed.

To volunteer to help, go [HERE](#).

***Guild in October – contact one of us**

October 8-10, 2022 - Apocalypse Later International Fantastic Film Festival at the Phoenix Center for the Arts, 1202 North 3rd Street, Phoenix AZ. <https://www.alfilmfest.com/> Full event \$60.

October 29, 2022, 5PM - Halloween Event at Flatiron Park in Apache Junction, AZ. <https://www.apachejunctionaz.gov/calendar.aspx?PREVIEW=YES&EID=1520>

There will be lots of activities throughout the night for the whole family including a costume contest, Howl-o-ween K9 Costume Contest, pumpkin carving contest, bounce houses, fun kid's games, a petting zoo

and much more! Our Annual Costume Contest will begin at 6pm sharp and will be divided by age groups. All ages are welcome to enter.

November 11th – 13th, 2022 TusCon 49

Hello, fellow fans. Welcome to TusCon, Arizona! More specifically, welcome to TusCon 49, our 49th annual Sci-Fi, Fantasy, and Horror convention in Tuscon... ah, we mean rather Tucson, Arizona. Attendees of TusCon are among the most dedicated fans of science fiction, fantasy, and horror and many attendees are professional writers, film producers, artists, and reporters who keep others informed about the goings-on in the industry. TusCon is an annual science fiction convention sponsored by the Baja Arizona Science Fiction Association (BASFA), a Southern Arizona section 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization. The primary focus of TusCon is science fiction, fantasy and horror, but we also pay attention to art, animation, science, media and gaming.

Sheraton Tucson Hotel & Suites
5151 East Grant Road, Tucson, Arizona 85712

NOVEMBER 25TH -27TH, 2022 – LOSCAON 48

<https://loscon.org/48/> MARRIOTT LOS ANGELES AIRPORT HOTEL

December 3, 2022 - LibCon West at Glendale Velma Teague Public Library.

January 28, 2023, 10-4 - Tempe FanCon at the Tempe Public Library (SWC Rural Road & Southern Avenue) <https://www.tempepubliclibrary.org/event-calendar/tempe-fancon>

Ye editor does not have much data further out

PLEASE SEND ME MORE!

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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.