

Cactus Needles

23.02 February

The Southwest Costumers Guild
PO box 39504, Phoenix AZ 85069

<http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org>

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Recent Events

From Ye Editor - SCA War of the Phoenix



Clockwise from upper left –three of our household fighters – who, after a long day fighting have a long night of carousing (no wonder some people say war is our own version of Valhalla). That is ye editor in the bottom right with her youngest grandchild (eldest is the middle fighter) – who already wants to hold a sword. Third generation fighter! But – as the final photo shows, no everyone is so martial. That's a choir performance in the town square, with merchants in the background.

From Randall – Tempe FanCon

Here is a phone panoramic picture of the contestants at the Tempe FanCon costume contest on January 28, 2023. I have some other pictures and Paula has many more that can be shared at our later get-togethers.

Paula and I walked the event, watched the costume contest, then retreated to Haji Baba for supper and to practice a bit with Paula's new camera and computer equipment. Mahala joined us for dessert and a bit of jamming over her patterns and costume ideas.

The con seemed a bit bigger than previous years with many more artist and author booths.

The weather cooperated well, bright and sunny and just warm enough I was comfortable in my Star Trek: Lower Decs uniform.





Briefs

SEND ME MORE!

Lifetime Achievement Award Nominations Open

It is that time of year again, so I want to send out a reminder that any ICG member, chapter, or SIG in good standing may submit nominations for the ICG Lifetime Achievement Award. Nominations may be submitted at any time (see below) to

laa-nomination@costume.org

Nomination criteria are posted on our website at <http://costume.org/wp/icg-lifetime-achievement-award/>

While nominations may be submitted at any time, the deadline to be considered for a given year is no later than 60 days before our annual members meeting. That is scheduled for April 21, 2023 (at Costume-Con 39) which would make the 2021 nomination deadline Monday, February 20, 2023 at 11:59PM Pacific Time.

I look forward to reviewing your nominations, and thank you to those who have already submitted one!

Kevin Roche
ICG President

"Cosplay: A History."

This past Sunday, January 29, 2023 I (virtually) attended a Zoom presentation by Andrew Liptak about his book, "Cosplay: A History." I enjoyed the experience very much. Mr. Liptak came into cosplay as a member of the 501st Legion, building and marching in Star Wars stormtrooper armor. He has gone on to create many other characters within his favorite media franchises.

The presentation gives a cogent history of cosplay from its distant origins in 19th century themed balls for the wealthy through the early days of WorldCon and the explosions of opportunity brought on by Star Trek, Star Wars and anime.

The online seminar was hosted by Silicon Web Costumers' Guild and Phil Gust has placed a video recording on the SiW website at <http://www.siwcostumers.org/webinars.html#webinar-2023-01-29>. It is definitely worth a watch.

Their next webinar, "Making and Styling Wigs for Costumers" is on March 12. General registration will open on February 6.

Randall

Note from Silicon Web:

A recording of the the Silicon Web Costumers' Guild webinar "Cosplay: A History" with Andrew Liptak. with automatically generated closed captioning is available on the "Webinars and Workshops" page of the SiW website. Here is a link to the entry on the page where you can access the recording.

<http://www.siwcostumers.org/webinars.html#webinar-2023-01-29>

Please visit our "[Calendar](#)" page for information about upcoming webinars and workshops. Our next webinar, "Making and Styling Wigs for Costumers" is on March 12. General registration will open on February 6.

Welcome to the *International Costumer* blog!


Maintaining the editorial staff to produce our formal bimonthly newsletter has proved unworkable, so in 2023 we now bring to you the *International Costumer* blog, an online collection of officer and staff columns, and occasional articles of interest to our membership. Got something to contribute? email newsletter-editor@costume.org


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Philip Gust, Chair, ICG Publications Committee philgust@siweb.costume.org

Visit the "[International Costumer Newsletter and Blog](#)" web page for the latest posts.

The following blog posts appeared in January, 2023.

	<h2>An Unusual Masquerade Stage</h2> <p>by Byron Connell Jan 28, 2023 articles, International Costumer</p> <p>The masquerade at the Astronomicon 13 science fiction convention, Henrietta NY, November 4-6, 2022, was scheduled for 8:00 PM on the Saturday of the convention. Scheduled in the same room for 9:00 PM was a Cosplay Ball, with a dance floor and DJ. For weeks we wrestled with a schedule that would let the hotel reset the room for the ball. That required removing the rows of audience seating, laying down a 16-foot by 16-foot dance floor in the middle of the room, setting up seating at the sides of...</p> <p>read more</p>
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<h2>From the Publications Committee — January 2023</h2> <p>by Philip Gust Jan 28, 2023 International Costumer, Publications Committee</p> <p>As ICG President Kevin Roche said in his January 2023 "From the President's Desk," The International Costumer is now publishing individual articles as blog posts on the "International Costumer" page of the ICG website. This change came about out of necessity because we are still working without an editor. This was one of the options that the ICG Publications Committee presented in a report to the ICG Board of Directors in November 2022, based on input from a member survey that we conducted... read more</p>	
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From The President's Desk — January 2023

by Kevin Roche | Jan 28, 2023 | From the President's Desk, International Costumer

As of today, January 27, 2023, we still do not have an editor for the International Costumer, so as I intimated in my November column, we are for now switching to a simple series of occasional blog posts on the ICG website rather than attempting to hold a formal, scheduled newsletter together any longer with baling wire and chewing gum and toil by a massively overworked guest editor (thank you again, Phil Gust). This is the first of my President's columns to be posted this way, and will not be...

[read more](#)

From Randall –

Silicon Web is hosting another author presentation, this time from Kendra Van Cleave regarding her book on hair and wig styling. {Sunday, 12 March 1-3pm PT}

I have corresponded with Kendra for many years on ICG and GBACG business and have met her a couple of times at Costume-Cons.

Perhaps some SWCG members would like to get together to view the presentation?

From AZ Hunters

The Tucson Chapter of AZ Hunters is starting to gain momentum. That means more meetups for hunters in AZ!

The plan right now is for the Tucson chapter to schedule events on the second Saturday of each month, and the Phoenix chapter will remain on the third Saturday of each month.

Minutes

None

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.*

At the bottom of the list is the Grater Bay Area Costumers' Guild schedule. Some are virtual events.

February 4-April 2, 2023 (Weekends plus Presidents Day) - Arizona Renaissance Festival in Gold Canyon, Arizona. <https://arizona.renfestinfo.com/>

February 18, 2023*. Walk the **Arizona Renaissance Faire together**. Coordinate shared rides and arrival time soon.

February 27th – March 5th 2023 - End of Trail

Hosted by Arizona Territorial Company of Rough Riders

SASS World Championship of Cowboy Action & Wild Bunch Shooting

Ben Avery Shooting Facility

4044 W. Black Canyon Blvd.

Phoenix, Arizona 85086

623 582-8313

March 4, 2023* Walk the **End of Trail** cowboy shooting event at Ben Avery Shooting Facility at I-17 and Carefree Highway. This is the successor event to "Winter Range." With luck, the new event will still have the cool Sutler's Row with lots of items suitable for wild west/Victorian/steampunk. Again, coordinate arrival times and shared rides. The End of Trail website at <https://endoftrail.org/> is still fuzzy about scheduling, but it looks like there will be a costume contest early on Saturday evening. We might wish to choose our arrival time accordingly. Stay tuned.

March 9-12, 2023 - **Wild Wild West Steampunk Convention** at the Westward Look Hotel in Tucson, Arizona. <https://www.wildwestcon.com/>

March 11 – Saturday – 10AM – Haunted Tiki Torches

Join Elizabeth and Jenny at 10:00 AM Saturday, MARCH 11, at the site of the Tomb Town Haunt for the Tucson chapter's first Make & Take! 8343 N Wanda Road in Tucson
There are 10 kits available for \$5 each when you register at <https://guestli.st/738894>
Torches come with the oil, and it will be explained how to convert to the solar light used. Torch, solar light and skull is included. Bring your own decorations to add to your torch!
There will be some additional material available but you are encouraged to bring your own stuff and ideas!

March 12, 2023 – Sun 1-3pm PT, 4-6pm ET

Register for the Silicon Web Costumers' Guild

Making and Styling Wigs for Costumers author talk webinar

Wigs play an important part in many types of costuming, including historical, sci-fi, fantasy, re-creation, cosplay, and anime. Kendra Van Cleave will discuss how costumers can learn to make and style wigs for their costumes. She will also talk about her book, [18th Century Hair & Wig Styling](#), which includes an entire section with step-by-step guides for working with natural and synthetic wigs and hairpieces, from simple designs to the most elaborate creations. (The second printing is available for [preorder](#).)

Kendra Van Cleave is a fashion historian, academic librarian, and award-winning costumer. She has served on the board of the Costume Society of America Western Region, and is a past president of the Greater Bay Area Costumers' Guild. She reviews historical costumes in movies and television at [Frock Flicks](#), blogs on her website [Démodé](#), creates tutorials, and publishes articles. See "Accessorizing 18th C. Wigs and Hairstyles" in the [August 2016 issue](#) of *The Virtual Costumer* magazine.

Registration is open now. There is no fee for this event but the number of attendees is limited, so be sure register soon. Please feel free to share this announcement and registration link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vcuyrrD4uHtHfJ4FgM91-Sw57fa6sm-mF>

The chapter acknowledges the International Costumers' Guild Marty Gear Costuming Arts and Sciences Fund for a grant award in support of developing this webinar series. The chapter also acknowledges the ICG for making its Zoom platform available to chapters and special interest groups.

September 1-4, 2023 - **CoKoCon** at Doubletree by Hilton Phoenix, 2100 South Priest Drive, Tempe AZ. Author guest of honor is Seanan McGuire. <http://www.cokocon.org/>

Below are some on-going events by different groups –

Con-fusion is a series of mini cons Phoenix Public Library is hosting this spring. UFP should be participating in the May 6 one.

CON-FUSION
2023

April 22 The Hero's Journey
Adventure and Fantasy genres run amock at Cesar Chavez Library and Park

April 29 A Dark & Stormy Night
Horror and Mystery genres lurking in every corner of the Agave Library

May 06 The Final Frontier
Space and Science Fiction genres beam into the Mesquite Library

May 13 A Spring Fling
Romance and Poetry genres bloom in the Cholla Library

May 20 Weird & Wild West
Westerns and Steampunk genres mosey around the Ironwood Library

Grater Bay Area Costumers' Guild 2023 schedule

February

19th - Field Trip: Alexander McQueen at Crocker Museum, Sacramento

Come to see this exhibit together, wear your best interpretation of McQueen or the perfect museum going outfit.

March

26th - Costume Academy, Berkeley

Celebrate learning new techniques with this one day, multi-class event.

April

16th - Costumer's Bazaar, East Bay

Members will have the opportunity to sell to the public and costumers alike! Great way to pass along your costumes, fabric, notions, and gear you no longer need to others in the community.

Must be a member to reserve a table to sell. More information coming soon.

May

7th - Workshop, TBA

20th - Lady Astor's Fancy Dress Luncheon, East Bay

When more is more, dress in your most whimsical look for a fancy dress luncheon at Camron-Stanford house.

Dress: Victorian fancy dress costume, Bustle era, Victorian, Steampunk

June

4th - Workshop, TBA

24th - Top of the Mountains: The Lands of Gods and Goddesses, South Bay

From Mt Olympus to Mount Elburz to Ta Lo to Ōmeyōcān, dress to impress for a picnic with deities from all across the universe.

Dress: Fantasy, Historical, Mythological, Folklore, Cosplay

August

6th - Workshop, TBA

26th -Treasure Planet, North Bay

Raise a tankard together at this picnic of pirates from history, media, and all the way to space.

Dress: Historical, Cosplay

September

3rd - Workshop, TBA

23rd - Luncheons & Dragons, Peninsula

Journey with your adventure party to luncheon with elves, fairies, dwarves, wizards, and more fantastical characters.

Dress: Historical, Fantasy, cosplay

October

15th - Workshop, TBA

November

11th - Global Renaissance, East Bay

Celebrate the Renaissance throughout the globe and the arts and fashions that came from these periods.

Dress: Historical, fantasy

*We are working hard for more details to share closer to events, workshops, and all dates and events are subject to change.

Ye editor does not have much data further out

PLEASE SEND ME MORE!

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Details and a signup form can be found at <http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org/>.

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.