

	<h1 style="text-align: center;"><u>Cactus Needles</u></h1> <p style="text-align: center;">23.05 May</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

### ICG News

(Announced April 21, 2023 at Costume-Con 39 in San Jose, California)

The 2023 ICG President's Award was presented April 21, 2023 to Jeanine Swick for her untiring efforts as ICG Treasurer by Kevin Roche, President of the International Costumers' Guild.

"The work required to keep the non-profit machinery of the International Costumers Guild is not glamorous, but is vital the organization. Since 2009, Jeanine Swick has been herding the cats of our various chapters, especially in regards to maintaining the financial and membership records required to maintain our status as a tax-exempt entity. I am privileged to be able to recognize her hard work on behalf of our community with this award."

ICG Lifetime Achievement Award, On April 22, 2023, ICG President Kevin Roche presented the ICG's highest honor, the to Christina and John O'Halloran. The award was presented after the Science Fiction and Fantasy masquerade at Costume-Con 39 in San Jose, California.

*"The history of Costume-Con and the International Costumers' Guild are inextricably linked; the ICG came into existence because of people who met each other at and/or worked on the first three Costume-Cons (Thank you, Karen Schnaubelt!)."*

*It is because of that close relationship that we hold our Annual Meeting at Costume-Con, and announce our major awards to the public this weekend. Tonight it is my privilege to present the ICG Lifetime Achievement Award. This Award recognizes a body of achievement in the costuming art and service to the costuming community. Candidates for the award:..*

*... We love those moments of awe and wonder – both large and small – as a splendid costume appears on the stage, makes a grand entrance, or swans gracefully through a crowd, but just as important to our art is all the work going on behind the scenes making the magic possible, wrangling contestants and judges, or recording our ephemeral craft for posterity. Tonight's award goes to two people who not only love to play in costume, but for many years have been the friendly faces backstage or behind the lens making sure the rest of us get to shine.*

*It is my great privilege and honor to announce that the recipients of the 2023 International Costumers Guild Lifetime Achievement Award are **John O'Halloran and Christina O'Halloran**"*

Christina and John are best known for their work behind the scenes, helping masquerades at all levels run smoothly and efficiently, and keeping costumers calm and encouraged. They have served as stage directors for multiple international masquerades including Costume-Con and Worldcon.

John is a well-known West Coast masquerade photographer and was the official photographer at Worldcon 74. He is also noted for running the Fan Photo Area at various conventions. Christina frequently helps to staff exhibits, information desks, or the Green Room when she is not backstage.

They sometimes also appear on stage, including at Worldcon 61 in the best-in show entry, "Trumps of Amber," as well as at other Worldcons and Costume-Cons. Christina occasionally costumes shows for her local community theater, and is a hall costumer, re-creating such characters as "Dolores Umbridge" from the Harry Potter series.

Christina and John are probably most familiar to Con-goers as the duo in tie-dye/aloha shirts, which pretty much qualifies these days as "historical" costuming.

Congratulations Christina and John!



Thanks John A –

SPIRIT is advertising A **NEW life-size Ghostbusters Proton Pack!**

3 Activation modes. Includes gloves and logo patch. Light and Sound Features, detachable particle thrower, adjustable straps (based on 1984 film design)

Ye editor web surfing

<https://greekreporter.com/2023/04/09/1500-year-old-sandals-greek/>

A pair of 1,500-year-old lady's sandals with a sweet message in Greek were discovered during a dig in Istanbul and have become one of the major attractions of the city's archaeological museum.

The sandals have a message in Greek which reads: "Use in health, lady, wear in beauty and happiness."

Our Nola posted on Facebook



Here, a cheater course on caring for natural fibers!

1. Wool. Treat it like it has the delicate constitution of a Victorian lady and the conviction that baths are evil of a 17th century noble. (If I get in WATER my PORES will OPEN and I will CATCH ILL AND DIE.)

2. Cotton; easygoing. Will shrink a bit if washed and dried hot.

3. Silk; people think it's like wool and has the constitution of a fashionably dying of consumption Victorian lady, but actually it's quite tough. Can be washed in an ordinary washer, and either tumbled dry without heat or hung to dry.

4. Linen; it doesn't give a shit. Beat the hell out of it. Historically was laundered by dousing it in lye and beating the shit out of it with wooden paddles, which only makes it look *better*. The masochist of the natural fiber world. Beat the fuck out of it linen doesn't care. Considerably stronger than cotton. Linen sheet sets can last literal decades in more or less pristine shape because of that strength. The most likely natural fiber to own a ball gag.

## Minutes

None

We really and truly will try to have a real business meeting in May. Promise!

## 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.*

For the April Guild thingy – contact one of us

materials to make creepy monster han

**June 2-4 Phoenix Fan Fusion** <https://www.phoenixfanfusion.com/>

It's easy to attend Fan Fusion: Simply purchase one of our memberships for the Single Day (or Full Weekend) you wish to attend. **Memberships are ONLY sold online.**

Upon completion of your purchase you'll receive a barcode which you'll redeem onsite at our event for a Badge (unless you purchased the optional Badge Shipping, where your badges will be shipped to your address beginning May 8). This Badge is your access to all we offer.

*[Warning from ye editor – check their site for 'safety' restrictions. I think the venue is going nuts]*

**July 7-9 Mad Monster Party** <https://madmonster.com/madmonsterpartyarizona2023/>

[Mad Monster Party](https://madmonsterparty.com) (madmonsterparty.com) is a horror convention that's focused around signings by a strong line-up of guests. It also includes a vendor hall and a panel and event room.

RENAISSANCE PHOENIX GLENDALE HOTEL

FRI 6PM-11PM SAT 11AM-7PM SUN 11AM-5PM

[Mad Monster Party](https://madmonsterparty.com) (madmonsterparty.com) is a horror convention that's focused around signings by a strong line-up of guests. It also includes a vendor hall and a panel and event room.

**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/>

We've had a blast bringing you CoKoCon each year since 2018, except when the COVID pandemic wouldn't let us. We'd like to continue to do so, but we can't do it alone.

If a local science fiction/fantasy convention is your sort of thing, and if you're on this mailing list we can only presume that it is, then we need you to support us.

Small events are struggling after COVID, the ones that are more naturally social distanced, where you can sit down and chat with guests or panelists; enjoy the free food and conversation in our [ConSuite](#) or our sponsored Ice Cream Social; bid on art in our [Art Show](#) or on all sorts of stuff at our [Charity Auction](#).

Larger events are the ones surviving, the ones where you wait in long lines for thirty second autographs that cost more than our full membership rate. We can have fun at those too, but we like the small events better.

The best way to support us is to [buy a membership](#) to this year's convention. We expected the attendance to be down last year, with people not willing to return to events yet after COVID and others not realising that we were back in person. Clashes with other events didn't help either. We have to bring our attendance back to normal this year if we want to have a chance to continue.

Another way to help is to [book a room](#) at our host hotel, so you can stay on site and enjoy our evening room parties. The hotel is increasing how many we have to fill going forward, so this is becoming crucial too.

And, if you can't attend for whatever reason, tell your friends about us, like and follow us on social media (we're on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#)) and share some of our posts. Maybe pick up a membership for a friend. Help us to survive and allow us to bring you a personal convention experience in future years.

**September 1-4** <https://sabotencon.conmagick.com/>

**Arizona's Premiere Japanese Pop-Culture Convention**

Saboten Con is an American anime convention held in Phoenix, Arizona and organized by Monkey Paw Entertainment. The convention is held on Labor Day weekend and lasts for 4 days (Fri-Mon). It is currently hosted at the Sheraton Downtown Phoenix. Saboten Con is the largest anime convention in Arizona with attendance reaching over 23,000 (unique) / 50,000 (turnstile) for the 2021 event  
Sheraton Phoenix Downtown 340 N 3rd Street Phoenix AZ 85004

**September 1-3, 2023 Tucson Comic-con** <https://tucsoncomic-con.com/>

Tucson Convention Center in Downtown Tucson, Arizona. 260 S Church Ave, Tucson, AZ 85701

**Exhibit Floor Hours**

Friday, September 1: 3:00-8:00PM  
Saturday, September 2: 10:00AM-7:00PM  
Sunday, September 3: 10:00AM-5:00PM

**Programming Hours TBD**

**October 12-14** Vulture City Paracon, Wickenburg <https://www.vulturecityparacon.com/>

Oct 12, 6:00 PM – Oct 14, 11:00 PM 36610 355th Ave, Wickenburg, AZ 85390, USA

*[ye editor wishes she could find more details on this one – maybe next month]*

**October 27-29 Atomic Monster Weekend** <https://atomicmonsterweekend.com/>



Nov 12-12 Tus-con <http://www.tusconscificon.com/>

The primary focus of TusCon is science fiction, fantasy and horror, but we also pay attention to art, animation, science, media and gaming.

Ramada by Wyndham Viscount Suites Tucson East  
4855 East Broadway, Tucson, Arizona

**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.



**Grater Bay Area Costumers' Guild 2023 schedule**

May

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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