

# Cactus Needles

23.04 April

The Southwest Costumers Guild  
PO box 39504, Phoenix AZ 85069

<http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org>

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Vice President Randall Whitlock  
Secretary Randall Whitlock  
Webmaster Randall Whitlock  
Treasurer, Editor Tasha Cady

## Recent Events

The guild has been doing walk abouts –

Left – Randall and Paula at the ren faire –  
Below - Randall walked the Single-Action Shooting Society's "End of Trail" event at the Ben Avery Shooting facility. This year it is combined with and took over the dates and venue of the former "Winter Range" event. It's a good place to pay a visit to chow down on some barbecue, watch the shooting contests and shop the "sutlers' row" for Victorian/Wild West/Steampunk costuming items. Left is the Quick Draw contest – right is the Sallon set-up





**Briefs**

**SEND ME MORE!**



Randall went to a "Silk road" themed party (hosted by the Dark Ones) Ye editor wound up babysitting, while some of her family got to go.

Left – Randall having fun

Below – if you didn't make the group viewing of Wig Working

Thank you for registering for the Silicon Web Costumers' Guild "Making and Styling Wigs for Costumer" webinar with Kendra Van Cleave that took place on Sunday March 12th. A recording of the talk with automatically-generated closed captioning is available on the "[Webinars and Workshops](#)" page of our website.

This was the final webinar for the Spring 2023 term. The chapter will announce speakers for the Fall 2023 term later this summer.

The Silicon Web Costumers' Guild is an online community of costumers at all levels. Join us for discussions, member salons, webinars, workshops, and a quarterly costuming ezine. For membership information, visit the "[Join Us](#)" page of our website.

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Philip Gust

Silicon Web Costumers' Guild webinar coordinator  
[philgust@siweb.costume.org](mailto:philgust@siweb.costume.org)

**The International Costumer Volume XXII Issue 2 – April 2023 -is now on line. Here are the contents**

- [From The President's Desk: April 2023](#) by Kevin Roche
- ["Making and Styling Wigs for Costumers" SiW Webinar Video Available](#) by Philip Gust
- [From the Publications Committee](#) by Philip Gust
- ["Cosplay: A History" SiW Webinar Video Available](#) by Philip Gust
- [DC Cosplay Photo Shoots SIG Hosts Exhibition](#) by Kathe Gust
- [Join the ICG Facebook Discussion Group](#) by Philip Gust

### **Minutes**

None

We've mostly been doing walk-about

## 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

**April 15 - 10:00 AM** HeatSync Labs in Mesa Register here - <https://guestli.st/741288> By AZHaunters  
Aging and Distressing Costumes

Nobody is afraid of a monster dressed in pristine, off-the-rack clothes! Zombies, werewolves, post apocalyptic cannibals, backwoods witches and more all need to show a little wear & tear! But, how to make that happen? This class will show you how to make clothes look old and worn. Whether it's a costume for an actor or a prop, you need to know how to do this if you are going to create creepy realism!

Each participant will receive a shirt to distress as part of the class, but everyone is encouraged to bring up to 3 articles of clothing to practice on as well.

**April 21 – 1pm – 3pm** Reynold's Materials (1727 E Weber Dr, Tempe) seminar : Make Your Own Cosplay Helmets, Armor, Props & More (\$20 fee)

### MATERIALS spotlight EVENT

Our "Materials Spotlight" series is an informal get together of people who want to know more about materials and processes. It won't take long and our goal is to educate. You will meet people just like you and we often get contributions from industry pros that add value to the conversation. We welcome any and all comments.

## COSPLAY

Let's discuss what materials are available for making props & costumes for cosplay, LARP, theater and more!

### Learn About

- Making Helmets, Armor, Props, etc. That Last
- Adding Color and Special Effects
- Coatings for Foams, 3D Prints and More
- Common Problems and How to Avoid Them

**Where**  
1727 E Weber Drive  
Tempe, AZ 85288

**When**  
Friday, April 21, 2023  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

**Cost**  
\$20.00 per person  
Receive a courtesy Trial Kit of **Mold Star<sup>TM</sup>15** platinum silicone!

**Secure Your Spot by Calling**  
**Toll Free: 888-967-7727**

**REYNOLDS ADVANCED MATERIALS** PHOENIX, AZ  
[www.reynoldsam.com](http://www.reynoldsam.com)

Silicone Costume made with **Dragon Skin<sup>SM</sup>** by Ashley Du

Hollow helmet made with **Smooth-Cast<sup>SM</sup> 57D**. ABSOLUTELY INDESTRUCTIBLE!

Prop Sword made with **Flex Foam-IT<sup>SM</sup> 25**

1: Mold  
2: Pour Resin  
3: Demold



## April 27-30 Arizona Tiki Oasis

[Arizona Tiki Oasis](http://aztikioasis.com) (aztikioasis.com) is a tiki themed convention in Phoenix, an expansion from a successful annual Tiki Oasis event in San Diego. Located at the Hotel Valley Ho in Old Town Scottsdale, it's a more intimate event, featuring not just an art show and dealers' room but a poolside luau, rooftop parties and cocktail lounge dinners, not to mention burlesque dancers and lounge acts.

Wear your most festive aloha wear, sip crafted tropical cocktails by top mixologists; browse the pop-up Art Show; relax in a cabana by the pool; learn about mid-century style, design, and lifestyle from experts; shop the outdoor marketplace with a variety of artists, makers, and traders; and, of course, enjoy the overall island-in-the-desert vibe.

*[This is a new one to your editor – but, hay, a costume event is a costume event.]*

**May 6 10 AM-2 PM-** Free Comic Book Day - Velma Teague Library (7010 N 58<sup>th</sup> Ave., Glendale)

Hello, all you fabulous cosplayers,

This is Anna from the Velma Teague Library, inviting you to stop by on Saturday, May 6, for our Free Comic Book Day event in collaboration with Drawn to Comics! All cosplayers are welcome -- you don't have to tie in with a comic book theme.

The event will run from 10 AM-2 PM inside the Velma Teague Library (7010 N 58<sup>th</sup> Ave., Glendale), and will be a smaller-scale, more low-key event than LIBCON West. Since it mostly takes place inside the library, we'll be pretty safe from any rain this time! We'll offer free comic books, select vendors, a couple of crafts, and some games. Tables for cosplay groups will not be available, but we'd love to have cosplayers stop by for photo ops and maybe even help some kids with a craft. Come for fifteen minutes or all four hours – we'd appreciate any and all support! The Drawn to Comics shop located across the street from the library (5801 W. Glendale Ave., Glendale) will also be passing out comic books, so feel free to stop by there as well. The event is listed on our calendar here: <https://glendaleaz.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=72609>

As with LIBCON West, there will be staff bathrooms available for you to change into and out of your costumes, a full-length mirror, free bottled water, and some free snacks. If you need to enter the library before 10 AM to change, please call me at 480-295-6124, starting at 9 AM.

As always, we ask that your costumes are age-appropriate for an audience including kids and teens. No real weapons will be allowed. Prop weapons are permitted as part of your costume, but may be tagged by security.

**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.

**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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