	<h2 style="text-align: center;"><u>Cactus Needles</u></h2> <p style="text-align: center;">24.03 Mar</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Southwest Costumers Guild PO box 39504, Phoenix AZ 85069 http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org</p>
<p>President Paula Lary Vice President Randall Whitlock Secretary Randall Whitlock Webmaster Randall Whitlock Treasurer, Editor Tasha Cady</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Officer Contacts</u></p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Currently changing platforms – please contact us through our website</p>

Recent Events

In Memorium

Our old friend Gary Swaty from local Science Fiction fandom has passed away passed away

Our February Event

Paula, Mahala and Randall spent the afternoon of Sat Feb 10, 2024 at "Butterfly Wonderland" east of Scottsdale, enjoying nature's colorful costuming.

This experience, part of the Arizona Boardwalk group of educational parks and mini museums, starts with viewing a well-produced 3-D documentary about the three-generation annual migration of the Monarch butterfly across North America, returning to their winter home on an isolated mountain in Mexico. Attendees are then guided through a hatchery exhibit where we see the butterfly emerge from their chrysalis, to an open conservatory with thousands of butterflies fluttering around an indoor garden with rainforest plants, some chickens and a coi pond. It was saturday, so there was a live musician playing guitar and flute.

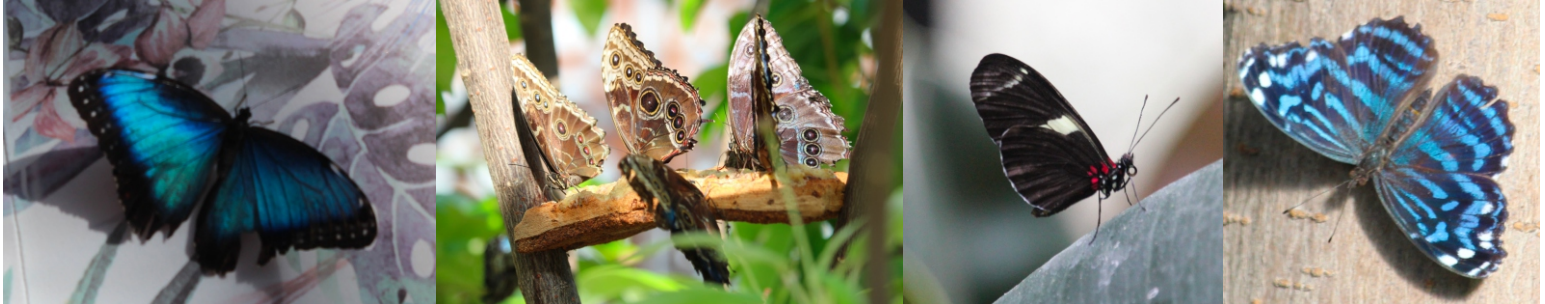
As dedicated amateur nature photographers, Paula and Randall were in hog heaven. Take a look at the layout of just a few of Randall's pictures on the next page. Paula can show hers at an upcoming guild socia.

Butterfly Wonderland also features an aquarium display with tropical fish and an open stingray petting pond, as well as some colorful South American birds.

They had to run us out at 5 PM. We repaired to Spinato's Pizza across the freeway for some tasty pasta and conversation.



SWCG at Butterfly Wonderland Feb 10, 2024



Photos by Randall

Our March Event

End of Trail
March 2, 2024
Reported by Randall

Representing the guild, Paula and Randall visited the Single-Action Shooting Society's annual "End of Trail" tournament at the Arizona Game & Fish Ben Avery shooting facility at I-17 and Carefree Highway on March 2, 2024. The weather was perfect for a day out.

The Single-Action Shooting Society (SASS) is a club of folks who compete in "cowboy action shooting" competitions using single-action revolvers, lever-action rifles, double-barreled shotguns and other firearms of the American frontier, or how it was portrayed in films and television. Much like the SCA does with the Middle Ages, SASS members develop an "alias" unique to each and inspired by historical archetypes or film characters.

The basic competition involves walking a course of steel targets set into stages resembling sets from a western movie. Besides the main tournament, there are other competitions including quick-draw (wax bullets fired at metal targets equipped with timing devices) and mounted shooting in which each rider must navigate a stake-racing course and break a dozen balloons using a pair of six-shooters loaded with blanks. All of these contests are fun to watch and spectators are welcome.

End of Trail was recently combined with the "Winter Range" event that has been held at Ben Avery for many years. For us costumer types, it is a shopping experience as well. Besides shooting supplies, there is a double row of "sutlers" with all manner of clothing items you might want to fill out your Victorian/wild west/steampunk outfit. Paula found some pin-tucked cotton blouses. Randall picked up a Union blue kepi (it needs some kind of steampunkish badge to replace the infantry crossed rifles.) There is a picnic area in the middle of the encampment featuring food booths with barbecue, Mexican, ice cream and even hand-crafted sasparilla.

Randall and Paula showed up armed for shooting. -- Cameras, that is. Check out some of Randall's photos on the next page.

Phrase of the day: "Frills and Furbelows"

Furbelow: (noun)

1. A gathered strip or pleated border of a skirt or petticoat.
2. (Furbelows) Showy ornaments or trimmings.

Furbelow: (verb)

1. Adorn with trimmings.

Events we missed -

Sunday, February 18, 7-8 p.m., late Sunday night/early Monday morning, Feb. 19, 1-2 a.m., early Friday morning, Feb.23, 3-4 a.m.PBS Channel 8. TALES FROM THE ROYAL WARDROBE. Dr. Lucy Worsley explores the significance of the wardrobes of English monarchs from the last 400 years. (Note: this may be the same show that has run several times over the past several years. Well worth watching and recording.) **look for this to be repeated –**

Matsuri Festival – Feb 24th – **maybe next year**



Randall & Paula pose with a lot of bull.



Paula watches the quick-draw competition.



Bustin' balloons from horseback.

SWCG Visits Single-Action Shooting Society End of Trail March 2, 2024



Photos by Randall



The iron targets ranges are styled to look like western movie sets



Briefs

SEND ME MORE!

On Saturday, February 10, 2024, 1:27 PM, Philip Gust <philgust@siweb.costume.org> wrote:

It would be great if chapters and SIGs would write a post about themselves or some activity that they have recently done as an *International Costumer* blog post to help chapters and SIGs feel more connected.

One idea is to write about a special award that your chapter or SIG presents at masquerades. The post could include the name and an image of the award, its history, the criteria for presenting the award, a humorous anecdote about the award, and maybe something about a few of the more recent (or more memorable) recipients.

Especially for groups who meet regularly, perhaps they could even come up with a draft as a fun group meeting activity that a scribe could then write down and submit.

Feel free to contact me for helpful hints or suggestions about writing the post, or for information on how to submit the post to the International Costumer blog.

So – Any volunteers? Something to discuss the next time we get together.

From Mahala

Shogun is being made into a mini-series on TV again. I've been seeing previews for this and finally tracked down the dates. I thought it would be worthwhile to include it in the calendar of events. While searching for it on the internet, I also found a number of reviews which I have combined into one, which I thought would make a good story for the newsletter.

Tuesday, February 27, SHOGUN. Cable channel FX, 10 p.m. Eastern/9 p.m. Central time. Also streaming on HULU, The first two of 10 episodes will premiere on Hulu and FX on Feb. 27, with subsequent episodes each Tuesday night. The miniseries is an adaptation of James Clavell's novel. Set in 1600's feudal Japan as a civil war is breaking out.

+++++

SHOGUN - A New Mini-Series

A new version of *Shogun* has been released as a mini-series. Like the 1980 mini-series starring Richard Chamberlain, it is an adaptation of James Clavell's novel of the same name. The series, like the book, is set in 1600 in feudal Japan as a century-defining civil war is breaking out.

Lord Yoshii Toranaga is fighting for his life as his enemies on the Council of Regents unite against his leadership. But when a ship maroons in a nearby fishing village, its pilot, an English sailor named John Blackthorne, may be the unexpected person to help Toranaga regain his power. Blackthorne has secrets that could tip things in Toranaga's favor and hurt the influence of Blackthorne's own enemies — Jesuit priests and Portuguese merchants. To communicate, they must rely on Toda Mariko, a translator and Christian noblewoman who is the last of a disgraced line. While serving Toranaga, Mariko must reconcile her newfound companionship with Blackthorne, her commitment to her faith and her duty to her late father.

Although fictionalized quite a bit, *Shōgun* is based on true events and heavily inspired by real historical figures. John Blackthorne is a fictional character, but he's modeled off of [William Adams](#), who in real-life was the first Englishman to reach Japan, eventually becoming a samurai and serving as an advisor to the *shōgun* Tokugawa Ieyasu, who the book and show's Lord Yoshii Toranaga is based on. The time period in which the series is set begins at the very end of Japan's feudal period, and it deals with the start of the Edo period — a time of radical transformation of Japan under the rule of the Tokugawa shogunate.

Thanks for the input! This is what your editor needs!
(John sent me some more, but this edition is pretty full)

Thanks for registering for the Silicon Web Costumers' Guild webinar "Egyptomania: The impacts of the Discovery of Ancient Egypt on Popular Culture" with Leslie L. Johnston, which took place on Sun. Feb.25, 2024. A recording of the webinar is now available to view on the SiW website: <https://www.siwcostumers.org/webinars.html#webinar-2024-02-25>.

Minutes

None again

What's the most depressing sound on Monday? *Alarm clocks!*

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.*

February 14-July 7, 2024 -- The Phoenix Art Museum is having two exhibits running together in the Fashion-Design Mezzanine, "The Power of Pink" and "Barbie: A Cultural Icon". "The Power of Pink" explores the complex history of the popular yet controversial color and its impact on fashion and pop culture. The items shown are entirely from the museum's fashion-design collection. "Barbie: A Cultural Icon" traces the 60+ year evolution of Barbie, from child's toy to global icon. See more than 250 vintage dolls—including the original Barbie and all 22 original ensemble outfits. And much more. Phoenix Art Museum, 1625 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ, 602-257-1880. <https://phxart.org> Closed Monday & Tuesday. Open Wednesday 10 a.m.-9 p.m. (& "pay what you wish" night, 3-9 p.m.), Open Thursday-Sunday 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Closed major holidays. Adults \$28, seniors \$25, students with ID \$23, youth (6-17) \$18, children (5 & younger) free.

March 8-10 [Kikori Con](#) - Flagstaff's Premiere Anime Convention , Flagstaff, AZ

Little America Flagstaff, 2515 E Butler Ave, Flagstaff Arizona 86004

Registration Friday 9:30am to 9:30pm Saturday 9:30am to 9:30pm Sunday 9:30am to 4:30pm
Programming Friday 11:30AM to 12:00AM Saturday 11:30AM to 12:00AM Sunday 11:30AM to 5:30PM
Vendor Hall Friday 12:00PM to 7:00PM Saturday 11:30AM to 6:00PM Sunday 11:30AM to 5:00PM

Sun. Apr. 14, 2024 at 1pm PT, 4pm ET (From - Silicon Web, Webinar)
"Screen Accuracy is a Myth!" with Johanna Mead

It's only natural to strive for "screen accuracy" when building cosplays. But what if you were told that "screen accuracy" is a myth, and a shortcut to frustration and bankruptcy?

Johanna Mead will provide examples of how a costume can look completely different when it's off-screen and why. Learn from a cosplayer with 25+ years' experience about where you can most effectively expend your resources striving to duplicate the details, and when it's okay to compromise.

Register for this webinar at: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZludOisqDlpG9fC_vWn9hkjwm4ZZx39IPEY

Fri-Sun May 24-26 Phoenix Fan Fusion <https://www.phoenixfanfusion.com/>

DISCOVER YOUR INNER GEEK

MAY 24-26 2024

PHOENIX FAN FUSION

PHOENIX CONVENTION CENTER

We are your local, fan and geek driven, large scale, multi-genre, pop-culture convention... with the silly, quirky name. Spend your weekend with us and discover how much fun it is to geek out. Have questions? Email eva@phoenixfanfusion.com and she'll help you.

Ye editor does not have much data further out

PLEASE SEND ME MORE!

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