

	<h2 style="text-align: center;"><u>Cactus Needles</u></h2> <p style="text-align: center;">26.03 March 2026</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Southwest Costumers Guild 2320 West Seldon Lane, Phoenix AZ 85021 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;">southwestcostumers@gmail.com</p>

Recent Events

End of Trial

This annual Single Action Shooting Society event was held at Ben Avery Shooting range February 22nd – March 1st.

Ye editor and her family went on one day, Randal and Paula went on another day. They both take much better pictures than ye editor does, I hope to have some for next month.

Everyone was dressed in 1880s garb, but not as elaborate as it might have been. Temperatures were in the 80s. Ye editor and family were a little disappointed in sutlers' row – it wasn't as large or as varied as has been in years past. Still, for a free event with a minimal parking fee, it was a pleasant morning.

Silicon Web Webinar recording

The Silicon Web Costumers' Guild Presents webinar, "Miss Lizzy's Traveling Historical Fashion Show" with Miss Lizzy's Special Interest Group chair Lisa Ashton took place on March 1, 2026. A recording is now available on the "Webinars" page of the Silicon Web Costumers' Guild website:

<https://www.siwcostumers.org/webinars.html#webinar-2026-03-01>



Briefs

SEND ME MORE!

On Saturday, February 28, 2026, 7:03 PM, Philip Gust - International Costumers' Guild <philgust@siweb.costume.org> wrote:

Hi,

Here is an update on upcoming ICG Press releases.

Kathe Gust has been working on a new book that will publish in March 2026. The title is Jules Verne and the First Science Fiction Masquerade. It is about a costume masquerade that Jules Verne and his wife put on in April, 1877 where over 200 of the attendees costumed as characters or from locations inspired by Verne's "scientific fiction" novels. The book is complete and is just going into final production. It should release in the second half of March if everything goes as planned.

I have already put up an "Upcoming Publications" entry for the book on the "ICG Press" page of the ICG website. Once it is available, I will add controls for ordering the book from the ICG Press and other sellers. It will be available in paperback, hardcover, and ebook formats in the U.S., Canada, the EU, and Australia. Book stores can also order the book from our distributor, IngramSpark.

Kathe also just turned in a draft of a companion book that is a reproduction "Costumes for a Fancy Dress Ball" that was published in France in 1870 and has been out of print for over a century. The book includes 24 color plates with descriptive text by theatrical costume designer Alfred Grevin. Kathe ran across the book during her research on the Jules Verne book. It is currently waiting to go into production, and should be out in late April or early May.

I'd appreciate your help in identifying potential authors and/or titles for future releases, either books or shorter monographs.

Philip Gust
International Costumers' Guild
Silicon Web Costumers' Guild
(650) 367-7652
philgust@siweb.costume.org

From Kevin Roche for the ICG

Just a reminder that with the annual meeting (April 18) comes our annual election of Officers, which means nominations are open.

Drop a note to icg-president@costume.org with nominations or if you are an existing officer willing to stand for re-election.

Leslie Johnston has accepted nomination for the role of ICG President

This means that there is no incumbent nominee for Vice President as has been common in recent years.

Please put on your (sequined, spangled, tasselled, plumed, checked or plain) thinking caps and consider who you might nominate for the position!

Send advance nominations to icg-president@costume.org through March 18. (If you miss that deadline you can still inform me in advance of your intention to nominate during the meeting, but they won't be on any pre-published slate of nominees)

Yours in Costuming

Kevin Roche
ICG President

Facebook Finds

Gothic market in June in Mesa <https://www.facebook.com/share/1HAj3Ghc9G/>

Shop fabric direct from the manufacturer <https://www.facebook.com/share/1FAq3Xj43A/>

Book on Nalbinding <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1D7zmDEyFX/>

Minutes

We seem to be terrible at taking minutes – so here are some terrible jokes to waste a minute of your time

So, Here is a minute of humor

What is the difference between an Indian restaurant and a Vietnamese restaurant? - Vietnamese restaurants are pho profit, Indian restaurants are naan profit.

What is made out from leather and sounds like a sneeze? - A Shoe!

Why does Winnie the Pooh carry an EpiPen? Bee-cause he is always breaking into hives.

Why did the cow want to divorce the bull? She did not feel herd in the relationship.

COVID, AIDS, and the Flu walk into a bar. The bartender takes one look at them and asks, “What is this, some kind of a sick joke?”

At the airport today, a teacher, was arrested trying to board a flight while in possession of a compass, a protractor, and a graphical calculator. Authorities believe that he is a member of the notorious Al-Gebra movement, which has struck terror into the lives of many for generations.

He is being charged with carrying weapons of math instruction.

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.*

Greater Bay Area Costumers' Guild – proposed 2026 calendar

As usual, we hope to stick to this schedule, but events may change dates or themes based on availability of venues. More details will be coming soon! Additional events may also be added later. Watch for announcements in the newsletter and on our Facebook page.

- March 22 - Costume Academy
- April 18 - Goes to BAERS Mary Anning's Plesiosaur Ball
- May 2 - Flower Fairy Frolic - A Picnic
- May 16 - Goes to Monet at the de Young Museum
- June 7 - Gods and Heroes Celebration
- August 30 - Cable Car Day in San Francisco
- September 27 - Count of Monte Cristo
- October 25 - Steampunk/Gaslamp Zoo Safari

Local events

Saturday, March 21, 2026 - Try Everything! How-To Festival 11am – 3pm
The City of Glendale Main Library (5959 W Brown St)

This is a signature event to kick-off the Library of Things collection, made possible by grant funds from the Arizona State Library and Institute of Museum and Library Services; a brand-new collection which will feature all manner of “Things,” from power tools and embroidery machines, to drawing tablets and musical instruments...and we need you to help make the festival an engaging learning experience!

We’re looking for local experts and seasoned hobbyists to share their crafts, through 15-60 min. long demonstrations or hands-on workshop activities, covering a broad variety of topics; anything and everything from how to make wine, to how to do basic car maintenance, how to start a podcast, and so on—if you have a skill to share with the community, we want to provide the platform to do it

If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact me (Eric Cfraig) at ecraig@glendaleaz.com or by phone at 623-930-3541.

This newsletter is going out too late for any of us to volunteer, but it looks like a fun event to go to.

March 19-22, 2026 Wild Wild West Steampunk Convention 14 • <https://www.wildwestcon.com/>

WWWC14 is taking place at the Westward Look Resort!. The WWWC14 adventure starts mid-day Thursday, and ends early afternoon Sunday.

May 2, from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM. Free Comic Book Day @ the Library
[Velma Teague Library](#) (7010 N. 58th Ave.) on Saturday,

Hello Cosplayers!

We’d love for you to be a part of this popular annual event for all ages, held in collaboration with [Drawn to Comics](#) (5801 W. Glendale Ave.), downtown Glendale's source for comic books, gaming and collectibles. Feel free to drop by for the entire duration of the event or even fifteen minutes – we appreciate any and all support! Last year's event attracted 1400 participants!

Attendees will be able to choose from an assortment of free comics, meet local comic book artists, shop with cool vendors, pose with cosplayers and enjoy fun games and crafts. Activities will take place both inside the Velma Teague Library and at the Drawn to Comics store located across the street.

Due to construction in the park surrounding the library, most of the lawn area in front of the library will not be accessible. There is only a small area of open park space directly in front of the library's entrance, but this might be enough space for mock combat practice from Syndicate Saber and the Kingdom of Umbria. If any of you would like to do something special during the event besides photo ops/hanging out (a performance, game, etc.), please let me know. Costumes should be age-appropriate for an audience including kids and teens. Prop weapons are permitted as part of your costume but may be tagged by security. No real weapons are allowed.

June 5-7 Pheonix fan Fusion <https://www.phoenixfanfusion.com>

Phoenix Convention Center 100 N Third Street Phoenix, AZ 85004

July 10-12, 2026 – Mad Monster Party <https://madmonster.com/arizona-2026/>

RENAISSANCE PHOENIX GLENDALE HOTEL FRI 6PM-11PM SAT 11AM-7PM SUN 11AM-5PM

9/4 - 9/7 2026 Saboten Con 2026 info@sabotencon.com

Anime con – the year of transformation Sheraton Phoenix Downtown 340 N 3rd Street Phoenix AZ 85004

9/5-9/6 Tucson Comic Con - <https://tucsoncomic-con.com/>

Tucson Convention Center 260 S Church Avenue, Tucson, Az

11/13-11/25 TUSCON -The longest-running science fiction, fantasy, and horror convention in Arizona

DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Tucson Airport 7051 S Tucson Blvd, Tucson, AZ 8575

Ye editor does not have much data further out

PLEASE SEND ME MORE!

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