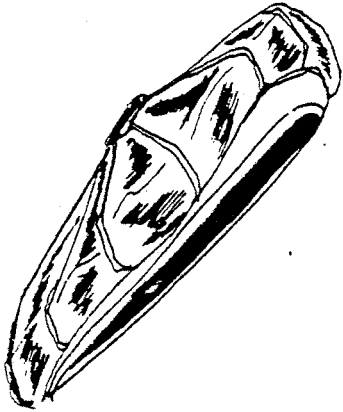


TRANSVESTITES A MONTREAL



TAMs & tissues

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 1 No. 3 April/may 80

EDITORIAL :

This editorial is written by me , David Cassidy the Co-ordinator in the place of our Editor because Beverley was not available this time. We hope she will return by our next issue.

We at TAMs have done much since the last issue- created a formal membership both a regular and an associate membership; we have created a questionnaire which is part of this newsletter and we hope that you will fill it out and return it to us with comments; got the help of Christine to help us with our French-speaking members. On the whole we have improved our organization a great deal. However, we still need alot of help so if more people would like to volunteer to take certain chores we would be oblizedged. Also we would like to have " foreign correspondence" in various places to send us in news of interest to our sisters everywhere - like Micheline in Ottawa.

If anyone out there comes across any articles etc. that you think would be of interest please send them along- like Dee Dee thanks.

Several of our members will be off on vacation - Ruth to England ; I went to New York ; Anna Maria to Germany ; we are a cosmopolitan crowd.

Someday we In Canada should have a big convention of all TVs in Canada at some respectable place as we have many common concerns but little interaction between us. We need to share our experiences and learn from them. I hope the groups that exist will give this some serious concern - If you are not part of a group lets try to create one. We need each other.....

JOTS BY JAN :

In this issue , we are going to talk about shadows for the cheeks and eyes for the average TV. You must try to remember that you are trying to portray a Normal woman on the street. You shouldn't want to attract attention but to be able to mingle with the crowd and just be one of the many. Your make-up must be good enough to pass the occasional scrutinizing eye and yet simple enough not to attract too many eyes. Also , you must remember that the older a woman is , the less eye make-up she should wear. So we will start at the mature ages and digress from there.....

BETWEEN THE AGES OF 70 years to 50 years: Little if any eye make-up unless you are going to a long gown" event. And even then , very pale shade to match or compliment your attire. Your blusher should be very light pinl to pink rose. Always put on blush as seen in diagram "A".

BETWEEN THE AGES OF 50 - 40 YEARS: Depending on your dress style, the eye make-up should be a little saring but not enough for you to stand out like a sore thumb.

BETWEEN THE AGES OF 40 - 30 YEARS: These years are your middle years wheree a person can be almost anything (within taste) and get away with it. Depending on hair colour and make-up tones , eye shadow can vary from charcoal to reds - but again, everything must be brush on and pale. Eyeliner is a real out but mascara is very in if you can do it right. False lashes are OK but but a natural look not too long on top. You are not going on stage.

UNDER THIRTY: Under 30 years its really how you dress that determines how you put your face on. And usually the crowd you are hanging around in or where you're going determines what you wear etc.

The blush should start very lightly from the mark "A" in diagram "B" . Just above the cheek-bone below the corner of the eye is wear the colour should be made noticeable. Always brush upwards. Another way of measuring is to pretend to draw a line from the corner of your mouth to the top of your ear. The blush should be put on in an oval shape but NO definite lines. Everting should blend.

Until the next issue , girls take care of yourselves.

Jan



JOTS BY JANSHOW REVIEW FOR CLUB C02ALISHA ALI & CO.

This group has a Las Vegas look. Exceptional gowns and enough feathers to make a lot of pillows. A very good revue and worth your time to go and see.

JOAN TREVOR

Very few performers can compare to this versatile entertainer. Although we have both worked together many years ago, (when we were child stars) this professional seems ageless. A class "A" act.

BLACK EMMANUELLE

Very professional!.
She has the ability to play her audiences and milk every drop of applause out of them. A five star rating for this young entertainer.

EMMANUELLE KENT

NEVER BEFORE HAVE I EVER SEEN SUCH AN ILLUSION SUCH AS THIS!
Her name should become a very big name on the mime circuit. One of the best.

TWILIGHT

A New York import that many Montreal performers could benefit from watching and pick up some good pointers. This young lady is an exception in every case. She has poise, personality and the charm of a young Diana Ross. Besides being a beautiful woman, she also does an impeccable job at entertaining you. Worth every penny she earns.

VICKY DAVID

This young novice has potential if given the right coaching and teaching. She looks like a young Eartha Kitt and hopefully will take the many suggestions to impersonate that famous lady. This entertainer has not got a swelled head as she take advice seriously.

STELLA STEVENS

Z-z-z-z-z. If ever a person should not do anything on stage besides dance for her own pleasure, this is it.
The C02 unfortunately has closed and it will be sorely missed. Seemed the weeks crowd did not support itself and the weekend crowd could not support the club.

If you ever get the chance to see "Jene Chandler and Les Fantasies" take the chance. It will be worth every inconvenience that you may have to take to go and see them. This is a New York group that has made Montreal their home and the last number of the entire show is a breather and a surefire standing ovation.

REFLECTIONS

Women are allowed in during the week and this has to be one of the most beautiful clubs I have ever seen. Purely disco but still a lot of fun.

ANNABELLES

Very tête-a-tête club and should be with a person you wish to get to know a lot better, or perhaps for a little "coffee" later at your apt. routine. Tastefully done, piano bar, and as I said, very romantic.

TAMS ON TS'S

In every issue I will write something for transexuals and as you will notice, this issue has a write-up on W.O.M.E.N. which is a new group that I have started for the transexual and/or mate.

If there is anyone out there who would like to talk to me personally or come to the group, by all means get in touch with David and he will arrange everything. I am at your disposal for help or just having someone who understands around. I know if it wasn't for another post-op friend, I would never have made it through the eternal crisis of unanswered questions that I had piling up in my head.

*****W.O.M.E.N*****

This is the new group made for transexuals who might just want to be with other TS's or have a few answers to any unsurmountable questions that will always be there. To get in contact with us, call [REDACTED] ask for David and he will give you the necessary information.

More information on the new group after our first meeting.

luv to you all.....

Jan

A deux , on se promène sur la Ste. Catherine,
A deux , on étale nos beautiés
A deux , on fait les folles et les gamines ,
On n'est deux travestis descendant la Ste Catherine

Liz

You wouldn't know
You couldn't tell,
that two girls
aren't what they sell.

You see her now
With her high heels
But don't be fooled
By what you feel.

They aren't real??? Tefanie

JOYCE DEWHURST
P.O. Box 1105
Woodside, New York 11377

Exclusive distributor of "JOYCE" Cosmetics -- created and designed specifically for Transvestites and Transexuals.

PRICE LIST

EYES

<u>Mascara:</u>	<u>\$3.50</u>
Black/Brown	
Little Beauties [Short Thick Pencils] -- can be used as Shadow or Liner:	<u>\$4.50</u>
Lt. Navy/Turquoise	
<u>False Eye Lashes:</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
Black/Brown	
<u>Super Long Eye Liner/Brow Pencils:</u>	<u>\$1.50</u>
Lt. Brown/Dk. Brown/Grey	
<u>The Latest Rage - Eye Shadow Dust:</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
Hot Pink/Lt. Green/Red Yellow/Peacock Blue Burnt Copper/Red Blue/Gold Bronze/Copper Champagne/Pink Champagne/Purple Passion	

CHEEKS

<u>Cake Powder Rouge:</u>	<u>\$3.75</u>
Raspberry Frost/Terracotta/Bronze Frost	

LIPS

<u>Little Beauties [Short Thick Pencil] -- for lips:</u>	
Cinnamon	<u>\$4.50</u>
<u>Standard Tube Lipstick:</u>	<u>\$3.25</u>
Mahogany/Red Russet/Henna/Cognac	
<u>Liquid Type Lipstick with Applicator:</u>	<u>\$3.75</u>
Clear/Burgundy/Sherry/Bordeaux	

NAIL POLISH \$3.00

Plum/Slightly Brown/
Show Off Red/TV Red

FOUNDATION

<u>Plastic Liquid Container:</u>	<u>\$3.50</u>
[For Light Beards]	

Claire Light/Rose Glo [Med. Dark]
Copper [Darkest]

<u>Jar Creme Foundation:</u>	<u>\$5.95</u>
[This will hide a Heavy Beard]	

Porcelain [Light]/Sun Glory [Med. Dark]
Sun Gold [Dark]

<u>Under & Around Eye Foundation:</u>	<u>\$3.50</u>
Light/Dark	

<u>Translucent Powder Compacts:</u>	<u>\$3.95</u>
[For Touch-Ups]	

<u>Honey Royale Moisturizer:</u>	<u>\$4.95</u>
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<u>Super Large Jar Creme Float:</u>	<u>\$5.95</u>
[Cleansing Cream]	
[A must for removing make up]	

<u>Body Sparkles - The Latest Disco</u>	<u>\$6.00</u>
Rage -- apply to any part of body except eye area	

Gold/Silver/Pink

<u>Sponges:</u>	<u>\$.60</u>
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<u>Big Brush for Powder & Rouge:</u>	<u>\$4.00</u>
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<u>Metal Lip Brush:</u>	<u>\$3.00</u>
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<u>Fluff Brush for Rouge:</u>	<u>\$2.50</u>
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<u>Sharpener for Eye Pencils & Little Beauties:</u>	<u>\$.35</u>
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PLEASE NOTE: Circle the items you wish to order and add One Dollar for shipping charges.
There are no strange, weird or oddball colors or items in the JOYCE COLLECTION.
You can buy with confidence knowing that you are getting a quality product.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: To become an Associate Member of TAMS all you have to do is send in a cheque or mail order payable to D Cassidy and we will send you a questionnaire and a surscription to TAMS AND TISSUES. You can attend meetings if you are in the area and take part in the group from afar.

We would like to formally WELCOME Suzanne (Ottawa) , Sonia (Ottawa) , Laura (Ottawa) , Linda(Boston) , Dee Dee (Hartford) , Sally (Binghamton NY) , and Rose Marie (Sept Isles). We really appreciate your becoming a part of a growing group and hope you will take as active a part as possible.

CORRESPONDENCE CLUB: Those that want to correspond with other members or non-members can send in thier names and addresses given permission to publish them in this section - no charge for members , \$2.00 for non-members.

Brenda [REDACTED]
PO Box 2208
Dorval , Quebec , Canada H9S 5J4

Bobbie [REDACTED]
PO Box 36
Sedalia N.C. , USA 27342

(Dee Dee) DCW.
PO Box 10361
Elmwood Stn.,
W. Hartford CT. 06110 USA

NOTE OF SYMPATHY: Dee Dee wrote and told us that the T.V.I.C. Hartford was gutted by fire. Some gorgeous clothing etc. was destroyed. Our sincere regrets are extended to our sisters in Hartford. We hope that new accomodations for the group will be found soon. Letters can b be sent to P.M. [REDACTED] PO Box 180 W. Hartfrod CT 06107.

SERVICES:

Shopping Service for TVs in New York City contact Ms Robin Knight 201-568-1539. Call for appointment re clothing , cosmetics , hairstyle advice , lunch or dinner. LET US KNOW HOW IT GOES.....

OSSI - gay Inn in New York City - TVs welcome. 358 West 30th Street New York 10001 212-695-5393. It is an excellent place , clean friedly and SAFE.

Custom Shoe Co. PO Box DH dept. S , Westminster CA 92683 for brochure.

D E E D E E s P A G E

A pretty young tv named Gloria,
 One day in a fit of euphoria,
 In an excellent manner
 Sang The Star Spangled Banner
 Stark naked at a game in Peoria.

In the days of Knights, Sir Lancelot
 Would oft cross-dress and prance a lot.
 Tho, In Merrie Olde England no one could say
 Whether he was or wasn't a gay.
 (But, he certainly visited France a lot.)

A tv I know named Louise
 Has a thing that she does with great ease.
 In a manner uncanny
 She can wiggle her fanny
 One hundred and eighty degrees

A tv named Mini O'Graff
 One day ran a mile and a half
 In four minutes flat.
 (And in hi heels at that)
 Asked why, she replied, " For a laff."

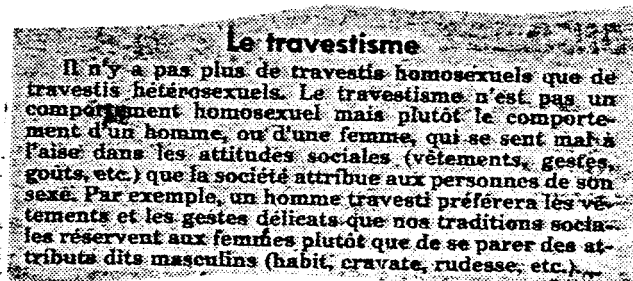
A tv whose name I'll not mention,
 One Sunday attracted attention
 When she did a strip tease
 In church, if you please,
 Which explains why she's now in detention.

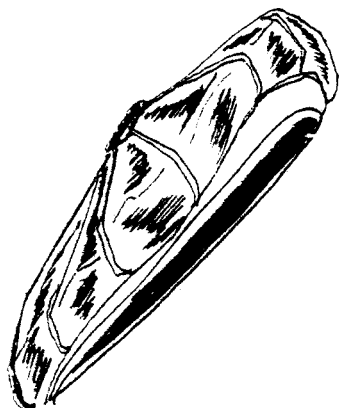
This tv, a beautiful lass,
 Decided to step up in class.
 Applied for employment
 At a "house of enjoyment,"
 Where they ~~then~~ threw her right out on her ***.
 threw

Transvestites, like many others,
leave some strange wills. Here
are a few excerpts from some of them.

- 1:- Bury my clothes and give my body to The Salvation Army
- 2:- Put some clothes hangers in my coffin. They were my company in the closet during my lifetime and will make me feel more at home in death.
- 3:- To the Traffic Officer who pulled me over while dressed en femme to tell me that the tail light was out, checked my license and said, " Have a good day," I bequeath the sum of \$99,999.00. To my wife who thought that I was a fag , I leave ONE DOLLAR.
- 4:- To the nosey sonofabitch next door who tried in vain to see through the curtains of my bedroom, I leave the curtains and hope she chokes.
- 5:- To the bastard that dreamt up the phrase, " One size fits all," DROP DEAD.

By Lee Lee





TAMs

TAM would like to know some of your preferences. and expectations.

WHY?

Because in order to create a better organization, we need to know what you want. So, please answer the following questions with care and omit the ones you don't want to answer out.

GIRL NAME:

YEAR OF BIRTH:

Do you dress frequently:

Not at all	....	often	....
Rarely	....	always	....
As much as possible	....		
Since how long have you been dressing?		years	

When you dress, do you:

Stay at home	.....
Rent a room	.....
Go out in public(stores, metro,etc)	.....
Go out at night only	.....
Go to clubs only disco, etc	.....

About your dressing:

1. Can you pass in public:

easily	.....
fine	.....
hardly	.....

2. If you live with someone else is it male..... or female.....

Do they know	yes.....	no.....
Do they agree	.....	.....
Collaborate	.....	.....

2..

How do you look when dressed?

Do you get recognized every time

yes.....

no.....

Are you good

.....

.....

Are you fairly good

.....

.....

Are you very good

.....

.....

Are your Sexual preferences

Gay

As he.....

As she.....

Hetero

.....

.....

Bisexual

.....

.....

None

.....

.....

Toys

.....

.....

Transsexual

.....

.....

How can TAMS help you?

What are the things you don't like about TAMS?

What are the things that you do like about TAMS?

Where did you hear about TAMS?

Are you a member of another organization?

yes...

no....

If yes, which one?

Where do you buy your clothes?

Dept. stores

Catalogue

Thrift stores

Somebody else buys for you

Would you like to become a member of TAMS?

yes.....

no.....

Would you like to become an associate member (\$10.00 per annum) yes.... no.....

REMARKS

For more Information cantact us at P.O.Box 153, Station Victoria Montreal H3Z 2V5
or phone 486-4404 Thursday and Friday only.

The OTTAWA NON-SCENE with MICHELINE

Not been to many clubs lately. But if you like dancing, and are over 30, the scene here does not look too bright. Not only is disco dying, but even the new wave crowd is shrinking.

Of the gay clubs, which previously had the best disco music to dance to, L'Intendante has closed its doors, Le Trou du Diable, never really got opened properly due to liquor licence problems. La Chatte is having financial problems. It originally opened as a women's (only) club, but then because of insufficient customer support, decided to open its doors on Saturday nights to both men and women. Recently I went on a Saturday night to check it out, and found it closed on that night of all nights ! The only gay club in Ottawa, the Coral Reef, is said to be having attendance problems, and is threatening to close soon. Sacs, which was the most popular gay club in Hull, is now said to attract more straights than gays. Disco Reflections (which I previously reported in this column as being one of the area gay clubs) never was gay according to the bar-man there that I spoke to.

Most of the straight clubs that previously specialized in disco are changing to live music. Examples of these are Shannons and the Playboy club. Disco 340 on Elgin St. which I really liked, has closed completely to make way for a large fashionable cafe. L'Auberge de la Chaudiere's La Boite has changed its disco style live music to other types, e.g. Mexican ! (The night I was there, the Mexican band did try to play one disco number, but they had the beat hopelessly wrong !)

Recently the new wave scene looked promising here, and a second competing club, the "80's Club", opened. But all too soon, even that closed in favour of "Minsky's Burlesque" strip-tease club ! There now only remains the original new wave club : "Rotters", but even that does not have bands booked every weekend night.

Where is everybody ? Are they all staying home for lack of money ? Or are they all outdoors enjoying the new spring weather ?

THE NEWSLETTER NAME

The opinions expressed here are those of the author, and are not necessarily those of TAM, its members, or those of the editors.

Who ever thought of the newsletter name "TAMs and Tissues" ? I do not like it. Maybe "TAM Issues". Why not just "TAM Journal" or the less pretentious "TAM Newsletter." How about "TAM Talk", or "TAM News and Views " ? Any strong views on the subject ?

MICHELINE.

A FASHION SHOW WITH A DIFFERENCE

Fashion shows are not unusual, especially in spring-time, even if they are held in the swank Chateau Laurier in Ottawa, they are nothing especial to write home about. But this one was special. It was held to a packed house of your typical snobbish straights in the posh but decaying ballroom of that hotel. They had come to see the most fabulous and outrageously beautiful gowns being modelled by a man, a female-impersonator and entertainer, our mistress of ceremonies and fashion commentator for the evening, Peaches Latour. And your Ottawa reporter, Micheline, was there.

This was the fashion show and review "Anything Goes", produced by Theresa Caron, and directed and choreographed by Jean Yves, presented by the Bytown Civitan Club of Ottawa, the proceeds of the show to help fund a group home for mentally retarded children in Ottawa. It was held on Sunday evening, March 30th.

Your reporter wore a new spring Cambridge blue skirt suit. She was escorted by a handsome young man by the name of Glen Paul, suitably formally dressed. (Glen turned out to be my fashion advisor for the evening.) The ladies were each given a daffodil upon entering. In response to a reference to discrimination, they offered to give Glen one as well, but he declined. We thought we would enter early, 20 minutes before the show was due to start, so as to get a good seat; but a couple of hundred other people had had the same idea - before us !

Unfortunately, due to a technical delay, the show started $\frac{1}{2}$ hour late, and even then there were obviously some sound problems. Jean Yves made the introduction in a white formal suit, and introduced some amateurs modelling the costumes used in the various productions of the local Orpheus Society over the past few years, some very pretty period costumes. This was accompanied by painfully out-of-tune live music played by the Ottawa Schrammel Quartet of the Austrian Society. The stage and runway was tricky for the models to negotiate, there being steps up to the stage at the entrance, and then steps down from the stage to the runway. One of the amateur models tripped and fell on her way back to the stage.

However, after this inauspicious start, the show became very professional. The music changed from live to tape. Peaches made her entrance to a wild reception from the expectant audience, complete with audience imitations of the well known "Peaches' bark".

Fashion parades alternated with dancing acts, with a magic act and a singing act thrown in for good measure. The dancers were excellent, both as a group and as soloists. The group's opening number was to the soundtrack of the opening scene of the film "All that Jazz."

The magician, Jacques Dextraze, was weak; but Peaches was something else. The sound troubles were not yet over. She kept her cool when the radio mike failed, though she looked daggers at the sound man (and if looks could kill) It looked as though we were going to be in for a silent fashion show, like the old silent movies, until someone produced a regular cable microphone. The dead radio mic later came in handy for the lip sync (mime) act of Louise Butterfly doing a Genette Reno number.

In the sea of straights, there was one noisy table of conspicuous gays. They were the ones taking all the pictures of Peaches, encouraging her on, and exchanging comments. Also spotted in the audience were two or three of the "street TSs" all done up in their finest for the show.

The mens' fashions were from Classy Formal Wear, and from a new (gay owned) mens boutique on Somerset St. called Des Jardins. The male models appeared to be rather amateurish, and picked for their appeal to (gay) men rather than for their modelling ability. (But then, if you want to sell clothes to men, it could be argued that there is no point in using models that appeal mainly to women.)

The women's fashions were from Flash Cadillac and The Hour Glass, with shoes from Le Chateau. The female models were completely professional. Some of them wore pretty new wave hairstyles and make-up. There were 8 women and 7 men.

Between each act, Peaches changed into a new outfit, as did the models. As an example of what she wore, one outfit was a stunningly beautiful white gown and Marilyn Monroe wig, with two white feather boas.

Flash Cadillac has a reputation here for beautiful clothes and sexy outfits. Their display of sexy bathing costumes was no exception.

Two of the lead dancers from the dance troupe did a spectacular number to Manhattan Transfer.

Peaches appeared in a glittering turquoise gown with white boa, and then proceeded to ruin the image by describing the ensemble --- hair:- dyne; lashes:- plastic; tits:- birdseed; hips:- Canadian Tire; but she did admit to having her own nails, and proceeded to acknowledge the manicurist.

Theresa Caron then drew for the door prizes, none of which Micheline (to her relief) won.

Following an intermission, the seven dancers, this time in brightly coloured costumes, opened the second half of the show. There were models on bicycles, models carried miniature "toy" dogs, walked dogs on leash, and Peaches appeared on stage on roller skates and did a little number. There was new wave fashion - a dress in pink and turquoise with matching hat.

A couple of young dancers, Serge (looked about 12 years old) and Lynn (she looked about 10) Leblanc did a stock tap dance routine.

Peaches came on in an antique (1920) black "widow" coat (velvetine, full sleeves, with high fur collar) on loan from Michelle Antique.

More female fashion. One of the prettiest was a beautiful flowing see-through mauve dress with red horizontal stripe around the hem and on the belt, with matching shoes. The dress was worn by an otherwise nude model. Other dresses had high side slits as is now commonly seen in Montreal.

The dancers again, this time with taps, sticks and top hats etc., all in black, dancing to what sounded like an original version of the Lennon Sisters.

And then the finale with all performers on stage. Peaches made her final entrance in a silver glittering gown, with white boa again, and the Marilyn Monroe wig, giving an impression very reminiscent of the Supremes.

The show had lasted over two hours. It was ambitious, a good try, but with mixed results.

CLUBS OF INTEREST TO TVs-TSs

Visiting the NE United States ?

When in Boston, visit the Green Apple, located on Route 1 in Peabody, Mass.

Female impersonator shows seven nights a week at 9.30 pm and midnight.

Manager: McKarl Hieston

Phone: (617) 535-9840

(Source: TVIC Journal, Dec. 1979)

When in New York City or Long Island, visit Temptations Disco ("a place you can be yourself."), located at 2090 Jericho Turnpike, East Northport, New York (mailing address: PO Box 2673, Huntington Stn., NY, 11746.) According to their flyer: "Owned and operated by and for TVs, TSs, and friends. In a relaxed, friendly atmosphere, meet others who enjoy the finer things in life. Private secluded parking and our comfortable, discreet dressing room for your convenience. For information call Christene or Kim at (516) 543-9018"

In her letter to TVIC Journal (Feb. 1980, page 5), Susan [REDACTED] writes: "Temptations - Let me put in a quick plug for that new TV bar/lounge on Long Island called the "Temptations". It is run by absolutely super people."

WANT TO BE ASKED TO A PARTY ?

Have your name and phone no. included in the new TAM Membership Telephone Directory.

Include your mailing address as well if you wish.

Call David Cassidy Thur. or Fri. ev. at GAY INFO at (514) 486-4404, and leave the information you would like to have listed.

OTTAWA ADVERTISES FOR TVs, TSs

The following ad appeared in the Ottawa Citizen 80-04-05: "TRANVESTISM, TRANSSEXUALISM The unigenderist society for androgony (sic) works to advance the lifestyle, interests and unity of transgendered persons everywhere through the creation of a unigenderist counterculture alternative. Telephone: 233-5505."

1980-04-09

Dear Editors,

I have two requests for the members of TAM.

Firstly, if enough of us want it, I would like to see a general membership list published and circulated to members (as opposed to the complete mailing list of the TAM journal/newsletter, some of whom presumably are not members.) Naturally, only those who want to be listed would be included. I suggest a telephone survey of members to determine who are willing to be included, and what and how much they would like listed. A minimum listing might include just first (femme) name and telephone number. Depending on the individual's situation, they may or may not want anything up to a complete "open" listing, with full name, mailing or home address, and phone number. I feel that such a list in the hands of all of us is desirable so that we can socialize and make friends outside the bounds of the regular 3-weekly TAM meetings. Sometimes we have problems, and just need some understanding body to talk to over the phone. Othertimes we might feel like celebrating, and want to hold a party. It would certainly make such a party easier to organize if we knew how to contact those other girls that you would have liked to have come along. To this effect, I have submitted an advertisement to the editors, which hopefully they will accept and include in the newsletter.

Secondly, from time to time we get asked why we are a TV. Not what is the cause of the phenomena, but rather why we continue to exhibit these characteristics. Obviously, we continue because we enjoy it, we like doing it. But what is there about transvestism that makes it enjoyable? Some will say that you have to be a TV to understand that feeling. But how do we explain it to outsiders? Is it just the clothes that become part of a sexual fetishism, or are they just a minor part of an external expression of an inner feminine feeling etc. etc.? Is our genderal identity part masculine and part feminine, both of which at times have to be expressed, in order to relax the inner tensions built up as a result of the conflict?

Some recent research indicates that many gender identity problems may be largely physical in nature, i.e. the identity related behaviour may be caused by actual differences in the brain as compared to the norm, caused by hormone level or type abnormality during brain development in the fetus or in the child just after birth. This subject is apparently covered in Science Magazine (AAAS), 7 September, 1979, p.985; and is reported in a 4 page article in the latest Journal of Male Feminism (1980, No. 1, published by the International Alliance.)

If we want to gain acceptance from society as a whole, it would seem desirable that we be able to explain to them what it is all about (not the chemical or physical causes, but what we feel, and why etc.). We have members in the media. What if they want to write up an effective and supportive article explaining our point of view, one that would gain us public acceptance. What would we say if one of us were interviewed? I think one of TAM's resources should be a pool of background information and ideas on this general subject area. I suggest that we start a forum in this Letters to the Editor column on this subject. Any ideas?

Micheline Johnson, PO Box 9155, Ottawa, ON, K1G 3T9. (613) [REDACTED]

Micheline.

1980-04-07

Dear Editors,

Some members of TAM have expressed an interest in knowing where to buy clothes, in which ladies wear stores are sympathetic to TVs. In the summer of 1975, I did a survey of some 103 boutiques and 15 departmental stores in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, and Peterborough. (It was a great summer, and lots of fun, trying on all those clothes in all those stores!). The survey showed at that time that 67% were officially in favour of allowing males presenting themselves as men to try on female clothing before purchase. Those same stores that had declined to allow men, presented no problem when the potential purchaser presented herself as a woman to the first assistant that asked to help, i.e. if you go "en femme", the positive result is 100%. (For further details, see Aquarian Age, Toronto, Fall 1975; and Journal of Male Feminism, 1977 Nos.4/5, published by the International Alliance, page 12.) I have noticed nothing since to indicate any change in these statistics. The main barrier to TVs buying openly at ordinary boutiques is not the public or the stores themselves, but fear and apprehension in the mind of the purchaser.

In 1977, the International Alliance for Male Women, in Washington, DC, did a telephone survey of all the boutiques in the Yellow Pages for that area, asking firstly if they minded men buying women's clothes, and secondly if there was any objection to these men trying on the garments before purchase. All the stores responded positively to both questions. As a result of this survey, the International Alliance cancelled its plan to publish a "Business Directory" for TV shopping. If this can happen in a major US metropolitan area, what have we to fear in the more liberal environment here in Canada.

However, what prompted me to write this letter, was a series of particularly encouraging experiences. Have you ever had trouble finding clothes that are long enough in the sleeve? I certainly have. When clothes start becoming important enough to you, and you wear them often enough that it is worth investing in a bit of quality, in clothes that fit properly and therefore look good on you, then it is probably worth spending a few more dollars on a coat or top which has sleeves of adequate length. Such a store is one of the Tall Girl Shops. These are a Calgary based chain of stores stretching from Victoria in the west to (unfortunately only) Ottawa in the east.

Apart from the advantage of fit, they would seem to be particularly sympathetic to TVs. I have now shopped there on a number of occasions. Whether I arrived at the store as Mike or as Micheline, I was encouraged to try on not just the clothes I fancied but also items which they thought would particularly suit me. Usually their advice turns out to be correct. Instead of embarrassed tolerance, one is welcomed by manageress and staff alike with what would seem to be genuine friendliness (I think more than just saleswomanship). They do not hurry you out of the store at closing time. One evening I inadvertently arrived just after they were due to close. Instead of saying "Sorry, we are closed" as most stores would do, they unhurriedly served me for at least $\frac{1}{2}$ -hour.

They really try hard to help. They are willing to alter hemlines to suit. If they do not have your size of a particular style that you like in stock, they are willing to search the stock of their nine other stores and order your size from the one that has it. If you are embarrassed by the presence of other women in the store, they suggest to you that you come on a Thursday evening when the store is least crowded.

The main disadvantage to these stores so far as I am concerned is that they do not take major credit cards. However, they do have their own credit card, and there is one advantage to this in that the credit check is done locally by the store manageress who after she is satisfied that your credit is good, approves the application which is then sent to Head Office. Head Office sees the application in the name of Micheline (and hopefully will provide a card in her name). The local credit check is done in

SEX AND GENDER, GAY OR STRAIGHT ?

The following thoughts were brought out into the open again by the sexual orientation question in the questionnaire presented at the last TAM meeting. Specifically "Are you gay, hetero, bi ... etc. as he, and as she ?"

We should be asking are we hetero- or homo-sexual separately from are we hetero- or homo-genderal.

Sex is defined in terms of chromosomes and in secondary sexual characteristics such as to what extent and in what form the genitals have developed. In these terms, we are male or female, or even hermaphroditic.

Gender is a state of mind, an identity, a way of feeling and behaving. In these terms, we are masculine or feminine, or even androgynous.

One's attitude to a person depends very much on their attitude and behaviour towards you. If a man treats you as a woman, then you can feel a heterogenderal attraction to that person. An uninformed observer, not knowing your feelings or your genderal self identity, might well regard your behaviour as homosexual. But to the participants, the feelings are hetero and conventional "boy-girl" type.

If a woman then treated you as a man (you might be a bit mixed up at first), but you then might well feel a heterogenderal (as well as heterosexual) attraction to the woman if you are transgenderal, i.e. able to switch your genderal identity according to mood or stimulus. If the same woman were to later treat you as a woman, then a homogenderal type attraction could result between you.

Would that make it a lesbian behaviour/feeling ? I am not sure. I do not know if lesbian is a sexual or genderal term. Usually it implies both, as do male and masculine, and as female usually implies feminine etc.

Actually, I have been misusing my sex- and gender-describing nouns in the above. Male and female are both sex-descriptive adjectives and nouns. Masculine and feminine are gender-descriptive adjectives, whereas the corresponding gender-descriptive nouns are man and woman. Hence you might be a male or female man or woman, and you might be a masculine or feminine male or female. I will always remain a male, but I can be masculine or feminine (or androgynous), and I can be a man or a woman. Actually, in the sections above where I said "If a man treats you as a woman", and later: "If a woman treats you as a man....." I had in mind a male man treating you as a woman, and a female woman treating you as a man etc., but actually for the point I was making, whether they be male or female was irrelevant.

Presumably the questioner writing the questionnaire had in mind whether you and your partner had the same or different genital equipment. Surely, more important is what you feel yourself to be in relation to the other, not what is physically under the clothes. Or, if you are in bed together, what you feel in your lover's arms with your eyes closed is surely more significant.

Micheline.

the name of Mike, so as not to cause any embarrassment to him at work etc.

Back in the '60s, Ottawa's only gay club used to be (appropriately) on the corner of Elgin and Queen streets, above the old Connaught Restaurant. Today, the efforts to please and the services provided by the Tall Girl shop at 60 Queen Street, Ottawa, may again make the street name appropriate to some of the customers at that establishment.

Even though on one occasion they were trying to part me from \$150 for a winter coat, several times I have come away from their Ottawa branch store with a really warm and happy feeling knowing that there are such stores and such people available to help us.

Micheline

Micheline Johnson, PO Box 9155, Ottawa, ON, K1G 3T9. Tel: (613) [REDACTED]



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The Citizen, TGIF, Friday, March 7, 1980, Page 33

Sex angle worries 'Danny'

NEW YORK (UPI) — Danny Bonaduce worried about what his mother would say.

"I'm your basic California kid," said the former child star of TV's *The Partridge Family* while a transsexual named Sugar Sanchez did a modified strip tease and belly dance onstage. "This is all new to me."

Bonaduce, who at 20 is still red-haired and freckled, but no longer in the "cute-kid category," was tapped to read the male lead opposite a crowd of transvestites, transsexuals and female impersonators

who hope to get a part in a new movie called *Vera*.

"My mother knows nothing about this," he muttered. "She's going to be scared to death."

Vera is the heroine of what Western International Pictures dubs *The Love Story of the '80s* — boy meets transsexual, boy loses transsexual, transsexual has a sex change operation.

Searching for a bona fide transsexual to play the part, the producers have begun "a search reminiscent of the David Seiznick search for Scarlett O'Hara in 1939" to find the proper girl.

"It's a bee-you-ti-ful story," producer Jerry Zimmerman assured reporters at the tryouts on Manhattan's West 45th Street.

"I'm so excited. I'm all aflutter," twittered the mistress-master of ceremonies, who was introduced as "the multi-talented LaFleur."

"Number 623 is a transsexual who's been living as a woman for the last two years. Let's put your hands together for the fabulous Frances Spittelleri," LaFleur urged.

Rims pantomimed something called *Freakers' Ball* — "Come on baby, grease

bring your whips."

"Do you think it's peculiar that I know the words to that?" worried Bonaduce, who confided he was "from a good Roman Catholic family."

Bonaduce, who is to play the hero's best friend in the movie, looked even more worried as an adviser warned him not to smile because "a lot of those photographers out there are from transsexual magazines."

"Some of them are very attractive," he said, watching a tall transvestite in leopard skin dance to a jungle beat. "This upsets me."