



GIRL TALK

Powder Puffs of California — Serving the California Gender Community Since 1987

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California Dreamin '99

AirTel Plaza Hotel

Van Nuys, CA

April 22 - 25!

Speech! Speech!

Good as Gold - Ms. Lynn Gold,
Speech Therapist, to Speak

You walk into the Dorothy Chandler
— crossdressed.

The hair?

Exquisite.

The makeup?

Impeccable.

The dress?

To die for.

But then the usher says, "Excuse me,
Miss, may I help you?"

You open your mouth and speak.

Busted!

Been there? Done that?

Well, if you ever wondered what it
would take to learn to speak in a more
feminine manner, now is the time to
come and join us at Powder Puffs'
January meeting.

To kick off 1999, Prez Di (aka "the
Drakester") has invited Orange County
speech therapist Ms Lynn Gold to speak
(what else?) to us about voice in general
and attaining a more feminine voice in
particular. Ms. Gold has worked with
many of us in the transgender community
and knows the difference between male
speech and female speech.

More importantly, she knows based
on experience what it takes to get from
the former to the latter. Then, if you ever
wondered what it would take to achieve a
more feminine voice — or just as
importantly, how much it would cost —
join us this Saturday at the PLACENTIA

HOLIDAY INN, 7:30PM.

So, break out that holiday finery you
never had a chance to wear or that new
sweater you just picked up in an after-
Christmas sale and come to Powder
Puffs. And don't forget to bring your
questions about attaining a female voice!
The more questions the better.

Let's start 1999 off on the right foot.
Or should I say, the right note?

Date: Sat, January 16th, 1999

Time: 7:30 pm PST

Place: Placentia Holiday Inn, 118 E.
Orangethorpe Ave, Placentia, CA.
Take 57 Fwy to Orangethorpe exit.
Head east.

California Dreamin '99

Just a reminder to all of you. While I
realize everyone is still digging their way
out of the mound of credit-card debt,
please note that California Dreamin '99 is
just around the corner in April.

Joan tells me that the reservation are
starting to roll in. I forget at the moment
the exact number of reservations already
received. But it's not too late to start
planning. ☺

As a case point, I just bought two
killer outfits at Robinson-May - one for
Friday night, the other for Saturday night
- at 50% off. So, make your reservations
early and don't forget to shop early. For
some reason the larger sizes seem to go
first.

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California Dreamin '98

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PPOC:

<http://www.ren.org/ppoc.html>

CA Dreamin:

<http://www.flash.net/~dhome/cadreamin>

In the News

UPDATES IN TCF NEWS

For those of you who don't recall, Tyra Hunter was the TG woman who died in August 1995 in the District of Columbia following an automobile accident. The local community was galvanized by reports that emergency medical technicians, upon discovering Tyra's male genitals, used derogatory epithets, backed away, and ceased treating her.

Tyra's mother has brought a wrongful death and survivors action against D.C., the supervising ER physician, and the EMT who allegedly uttered the slurs. Along with the Brandon Teena rape and murder, the Tyra Hunter case - in my opinion - has led to the modern Transgender Movement.

\$2.8 Million Award in Tyra Hunter Wrongful Death Suit A Victory for Transgendered People Everywhere

Sarah D. Fox, Ph.D. Communications Director, It's Time, Ohio! [QUILL]

On August 7, 1995, Tyra Hunter, a preoperative transsexual woman and highly successful hair stylist, was critically wounded in an automobile accident when a motorist ran a stop sign and broadsided her car. Finding today that she died in part because of negligence by the DC Fire Department and malpractice by the DC General Hospital, a jury awarded \$2.8 million in damages to Margie Hunter, Tyra's mother.

When three DC Fire Department EMTs, including Adrian Williams, removed Ms. Hunter's slacks to assess her bleeding at the 1995 accident scene, they discovered her male genitalia. One of them exclaimed, "This ain't no bitch. It's a nigger. He's got a [phallus] and balls." Treatment was immediately discontinued. The EMTs ridiculed the still-conscious Ms. Hunter, allowing her to bleed profusely on the pavement while

horrified onlookers begged them to render aid. Treatment was resumed only after Fire Chief Otis Latin arrived at the scene.

Still conscious upon her arrival at DC General Hospital, Ms. Hunter was given a medication to paralyze her. She died about an hour later from blood loss. According to expert testimony, Ms. Hunter would have experienced "sheer terror" from feelings of intense suffocation. That, combined with drug-induced paralysis and the probable memory of the EMTs hateful remarks, paints a macabre picture of Ms. Hunter's final moments.

A deposition by attending physician Joseph Bastian states that while Ms. Hunter lay dying in the ER, the EMTs continued ridiculing her in a nearby visiting area. They became so disruptive that the hospital staff reported them to the police.

The jury attributed Ms. Hunter's death in part to the EMTs' refusal to administer critical first-response aid and in part to the malpractice of Dr. Bastian. According to expert testimony, Ms. Hunter would have had a 71-88% chance of survival with prompt, competent attention.

The trial was riddled with unlikely testimony and missing evidence: EMT Adrian Williams testified he assumed Ms. Hunter was a man as he approached her and rendered aid, failing to notice that she had breasts, makeup, women's clothing, a woman's hairstyle, and white nail polish. One subpoenaed DC General employee disappeared to Africa until late December. Important patient records were physically altered. Blood gas results and X-ray films were all lost. Ms. Hunter's treatment has so incensed the American transgender population that activists have discussed it prominently when lobbying the US Congress for hate crimes protection. Tyra's story is surprisingly commonplace and speaks to the fears of most transsexuals, who sometimes feel pressured to undergo expensive sexual reassignment surgery and to alter their

Please see Lawsuit, Page 5



You've Got Mail:

The latest in Powder Puffs E-mail Box

From Our Friends in San Diego

Hi Dee!

Just wanted to say "Hi" and say I miss seeing you and Diane at the Neutral Corner meetings. I am planning on getting up to one of your meetings in early 1999. I do not have a vehicle anymore and when I get up the coast, I have to come with a friend from Neutral Corner.

In case you don't know yet, our group is no longer meeting at the Kings Inn. We are meeting at the Wyndham Garden Hotel (as of January 1999) which is located at 5975 Lusk Boulevard, San Diego, CA 92121-2781. The hotel's phone is (619) 558-1818. We will have a dressing room and a decent meal selection again (I don't know what happened to the service at Kings Inn). If any of your members plan on coming down, they will need to know that we have changed our venue.

I will be out of state for most of January. I am going to Washington DC to visit a friend, who is utilizing me to design her web page. I am working again and getting the Marines behind me. I am happier than I have been in a real long time! Anyway, hope you had a great holiday season and hope to see you soon.

If you have any other questions, feel free to contact me at Neutral Corner's e-mail:

Love,

Caroline Joy [REDACTED]

* * *

Looking for Help

Hi,

My name is Tina, I am a closeted crossdresser, from the Palm Springs area. I found your e-mail on the web and wanted to ask if you had any members who lived near me who would be willing to help me. I am married and my wife does not know about my crossdressing. I would love to have someone help me to perfect my feminine image.. or at least someone to talk to.. who is not interested in sex. I would appreciate any help your group could offer. Unfortunately I can not attend your regular meetings. Please e-mail me a reply.

Thanks,

Tina

(Anyone interested? - Ed.)

* * *

Pen Pal?

Hi,

It was nice to get through to you. I'm sorry I won't be able to make your next meeting. Excuse me if I sounded a little nervous. I was wondering if there is anybody in your group I could e-mail just to talk.

Thanks for any help,

Diane

(Any pen pals out there?, -Ed.)

I ran across the following Associated Press story in Riverside's Press-Enterprise and thought it might be illuminating - Ed)

Sorority may close over anti-gay float

Taken from the Press-Enterprise, October 15, 1998

The Associated Press

FORT COLLINS, Colo.

The Colorado State University chapter of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority could close its doors over its sponsorship of a homecoming float that carried a scarecrow that mocked homosexuals.

The float, sponsored by Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and the sorority, appeared in Saturday's CSU homecoming parade. The scarecrow was painted with the words "I am Gay" and an anti-gay epithet.

On Wednesday, sorority members voted to surrender their charter and the national board voted to accept the charter.

The float showed up as University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard lay dying in a hospital across town. Shepard was lured from a Laramie, Wyo., campus hangout, beaten and lashed to a fence. The bicyclists who found him at first mistook him for a scarecrow.

The university said Tuesday that 11 students were scheduled for disciplinary hearings next week, and CSU's Greek Judicial Board also was set to meet next week to consider sanctions against the fraternity and sorority.

(An amazing story. I wouldn't have believed it had I not read it. And some say there is too much political correctness on campus! - Ed)

Crossdressing and Bathrooms, a Dangerous Combination

By Diane [REDACTED]

Taken from Reflections, December, 1998,
Neutral Corner's newsletter

Venturing out into public while crossdressed already has a certain amount of inherent risk, but that risk can increase dramatically when nature calls. If you pass flawlessly or are going through a RLT (real life test) bathrooms are not that big of an issue, if they are an issue at all. For most of us however, the women's bathroom can be a scary place and even dangerous place.

There still are many crossdressers out there that feel, or don't think, the bathroom is an issue. They believe that if they are dressed as a female they can freely use the lady's room. What's the big deal, right? If that describes your attitude then perhaps you should consider the following. Just this past month (October), in New Jersey, a transgendered person was arrested and charged with lewdness for using the women's rest room while crossdressed.

You can rest assured she wasn't doing anything lewd, in fact all she did was go into the rest room stall, do her business, wash her hands, and promptly leave. Two women spotted her entering the rest room, they followed her inside to make sure she was a crossdressed male and then called the police. The police arrested her and at the station she had to post \$500 bail. The next day the local paper reported the incident using her male name.

If that doesn't demonstrate to you that this is a serious then I suggest you read no further. Here are my guidelines and common sense tips for bathroom use while crossdressed.

Bathroom Basics for Crossdressers

No. 1 Try to avoid drinking too many liquids before you go out crossdressed and keep a tab on your drink consumption while out. There is nothing worse than arriving at your destination needing to go and to find no safe bathrooms or huge crowds of people around.

No. 2 Unless it is Halloween do not venture into the men's bathroom while crossdressed. The risk for confrontation is just too high. If confronted you are alone, possibly trapped and probably out of earshot of aid. Also, if there was any doubt as to your gender

before you entered the men's room, there don't be after.

No. 3 Many places these days offer separate bathrooms for the handicapped or for families. these are often ideal because they are unisex and usually have locks on the doors so that only one person or family can use it at a time. Almost always these are the first best options if available.

No 4 If there is a waiting line for the women's room it is best to avoid it at that time. the longer you are in line the more likely you are to be read and with larger crowds the chance that someone will object is greater. Generally, you should always seek out the least crowded rest rooms available.

No 5 If you wish to monitor the rest room traffic before entering the lady's room then do it from a non-conspicuous location. If you are spotted this could seem like lurking and taken the wrong way, so be careful.

No 6 If you are out with female friends ask them to scout the bathroom for you and accompany you when you go. A female companion will help in smoothing possible objections or problems.

No 7 When you are out with several crossdressers the odds are greatly increased that someone in the group will be read. That being the case it is best to ask the manager what the policy concerning the rest rooms is. Another way to handle this situation is to take turns standing outside the door while each of you go. Be quick and courteous taking care not to have your group hog the rest room.

No 8 Remember that you are in the women's rest room for one reason and it's not to hang out, primp your makeup, or engage in "girl" talk. Do your business and then leave. You can check your makeup and your hair elsewhere. The idea is to limit your exposure to potential problems. Not "hanging out" will go a long way towards this goal.

No 9 If you are using the lady's room please act like a lady. This means sitting down, not standing when you are standing and at the very least it sounds different enough to possibly raise suspicion.

No 10 Even if you are at a support group meeting, or transgender friendly event, don't assume that you can use the lady's room. I know of support groups where the group's lease specifically states that they will not use the lady's room.

No 11 As an emergency measure keep a "pee

bottle" (wide mouth plastic juice bottle works well) in your car. Not pleasant, but if all else fails you at least have an option. Though we may look like ladies we still have the advantage of male anatomy and might as well use it. If you have to resort to this option please be sure you are parked in a spot far away from anyone.

No 12 Even by following my guidelines you can still run into trouble, or have it hunt you down, as was the recent case with a New Jersey crossdresser. If you do encounter a problem it is best to be honest. Lying is only going to make your motives appear questionable and hurt in the long run. A rational, well-spoken explanation may be all it takes to get you out of a close situation.

By following the guidelines I have presented here you should be able to minimize the potential for bathroom "issues" while you are crossdressed. Each situation is different however, so always use your common sense and trust your instincts.

(Caroline's Addendum. I am a transitioning male-to-female transsexual, so I use the ladies room when I am out doing things. These additional rules will help enhance those that Diane Hutchinson just gave you:

No 13 When you are in the women's stall and you are through, always use toilet paper. This is because after a woman pees, she needs to clean herself up. The male anatomy is "somewhat cleaner" and you need to make it appear that you are anatomically correct. So wipe after peeing. Trust me!

No 14 If a woman talks to you while standing in line, talk to her. Women talk to each other in the rest rooms, even from stall to stall. If you are unsure of your feminine voice, act like you have a scratchy throat. It should help. If you do not, at least say "hi", you could betray yourself.

No 15 And finally, act like you are supposed to be in that rest room. If you go into the rest room and there is a line of women waiting, and you cower, you WILL be read.

LAWSUIT

Continued from Page 5

legal documents specifically to avoid such nightmares. It is disappointing that criminal action was not taken and that the offending EMTs were neither disciplined nor reprimanded, despite widespread complaint from

Washington citizens. Still, the victory today is a milestone. Today a jury ruled that a transgendered person's life is worth protecting. Today the transgendered population became a bit more human in the eyes of the public. In the words of transgender activist Jessica Xavier, "I think they came to see Tyra as an ordinary human being, just trying to make her life work, when it was taken from her by the proven negligence of city health care professionals whose duty it was to treat her. This is a victory for transpeople everywhere."

Other Clubs

Taken from Reflections,
Neutral Corner's newsletter

Neutral Corner

Meets fourth Saturday of each month.

Website:

www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Village/4718.

Case-sensitive address. Please be sure to capitalize appropriate letters. Offered are articles on transgender issues, club information, and events happening in the Southern California area.

Traditional Mail: PO box 19008, San Diego, Ca 92159

Voicemail: (619) 685-3696. Cleared twice a week.

Born Free in Riverside, CA.

Meets the second Saturday of the month. For more information call (909) 875-2687, or write: PO Box 52829, Riverside, CA . E-mail: gerus@msn.com

Transfamily

Meets in San Diego the third Wednesday of the month. More info: 1-800-666-8158. E-mail: JustEvelyn@earthlink.com.

Website: www.justevelyn.com

Tri-Ess Alpha Chapter in L.A.

For more information call: (818) 352-9448, or write: PO Box 30691, Los Angeles, CA 90036.

The following is a listing of products and services available to the Southern California gender community compiled from information furnished by the individual advertisers. Powder Puffs is providing this listing as a service and assumes no responsibility for ad content, nor does it endorse any particular business concern or product.

CLOTHING AND FASHION

Jim Bridges Boutique, 12457 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 103, Studio City, CA, 818-761-6650

Shana's: Shirely & Faye's designer clothing and fashion accessories. Discount prices. Call 714-854-4562

Lydia's T.V. Fashions, "Where Your Feminine Experience Begins," 13837 Ventura Blvd. Ste. 2, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423, 818-995-7195, M-W 12-7, Th-Sat 11-8

My Secret Place, "A Specialty Consignment Store for Size 14+ Women Only," 188662 Beach Blvd., #116, Huntington Beach, CA 92646 (between Ellis & Garfield), 714-963-4743.

Albert's Hosiery Stores, Full-fashioned stockings — special occasion hosiery, 6336 Hollywood Blvd. (Hollywood & Vine) Hollywood, CA 90028, 213-465-2834, mail orders accepted.

Second Time Around, "Distinctive Consignment Apparel for the Upscale Shopper," Jonella Tescone 298 E. 17th St., #B, Costa Mesa, CA 92627, 714-642-4700.

De 'An Drew Designs, Stockings & Pantyhose, 8884 Warner Ave., Suite 172, Fountain Valley, CA 92708.

Sizes Unlimited, specializing in sizes 14 and up, 5187 Lakewood Blvd. (next to Chucky Cheese) in Lakewood across from the Lakewood Mall, 310 634-2054. Ask for Rey between 9 to 3.

JEWELRY

Jewels by Parklane, Specializing in the highest quality ladies fashion jewelry — unconditionally guaranteed (ask about our \$100 free shopping spree for \$10), Jeani Adams, 714-533-4662.

Cookie Lee, Fine fashion jewelry — home & office shows, Genie Lalama, 818-246-2197 (by appointment).

MEDICAL SERVICES

Shirely Lampert, M.A., MFC, Professor of Human Sexuality, Psychotherapist, ASPECT AND AMERICAN BOARD OF SEXOLOGY. Certified Sex Therapist. Specializing in working with the TS & TV community. (714) 833-7810, 1151 Dove St., Ste 105, Newport Beach, CA 92660

Brad Taylor, M.A., MFCC, 360 N. Bedford Drive, Suite 215, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, sliding scale. (310) 247-9955

Transgender Counseling & Research Center, 4545 Park Blvd., Ste. 207, San Diego, CA 92116, 619-929-2721, Jan Eder, Psy. D., Educator & Research Director.

Patricia Wojdowski, M.S.W. Licensed Clinical Social Worker, 4926 La Cuenta Drive, Ste. 200, San Diego, CA 92124, 619-292-0492 (by appointment).

Dr. Richard F. Docter, Ph.D., 17162 Sunburst St, Northridge CA 91325, 818-349-9709

Regal Opticians, 2402 W. 6th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90057, 231-382-7606.

Dr. T. Adam Coteson, M.D., Psychiatrist Providing Therapy, Medications, 116 roberston Blvd., Suite 702, Los Angeles, CA 90048, 310-659-8640, FAX 310-659-8642 (by appointment)

ELECTROLYSIS & SKIN CARE

Kathryn Robbins Electrolysis & Skin Care, located in Yorba Linda, 714-692-2747.

Beach Electrolysis by Gwen & Judy, 350 N. Sepulveda, Manhattan Beach, 310-318-9747.

Dana Point Electrology, 34213 Pacific Coast Hwy, Ste. G, Dana Point, CA 92629, 714-240-7709.

Layla's Electrolysis & Artistic Beauty, Westwood CA, 310-236-1010

Electrolysis & Permanent Makeup by Champa, R.N., R.E., Torrance, CA, 310-373-5682 (call after 3:30 pm)

HAIR & COSMETICS

World of Wigs, A Full Service Salon, 2305 E. 17th St, Santa Ana CA, 92701, 714-547-4461

Ricardo M. Hair Salon, 11620 Barrington Court, Brentwood. CA 90049. 310-472-4002

Sylvia's Wigs, 2612 S. Bristol St., Corner of Bristol & Central, Santa Ana, CA 714-545-1307

Jenny's Wigs, 384 S. Tustin Ave, Eldorado Plaza, Orange CA 714-771-3883

Judy's Creative Hair Design, 1815 W. Orangethorpe, Fullerton, CA 92633, 714-773-0200

Fantastic Hair & Nail Design, 11851 Gilbert St., #105, Garden Grove, CA 92641 (corner of Gilbert & Costco St.), 714-539-8020, Nancy Rodriguez is available on Wednesdays & Saturdays only.

Mary Kay, Terri Davis — Independent Professional Beauty Consultant, 4607 Ostrom Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713, 310-420-9933.

SPECIALTY SERVICES & PRODUCTS

Melody Products International, Melody Products International has added a full line of breast form products from a leading US. manufacturer at competitive prices in addition to the flagship Melody Breast Forms. (Master Card/Visa Card accepted) (Check them out along with our other products at Website <http://www.melpro.com>) PO. Box 2142, Yorba Linda, CA 92885 (Fax) 714-693-9165.

Classic Curves, "Get the Maximum Curvature with a minimum of Effort," foundations by Espy Lopez, 2620 Carson St., Ste 55, 310-549-8787.

Waist and Stays Cosetry, The Goddess Shoppe, "Serving the Needs of the Craft," Erin Rado and Paul Rado — Owners, Phone: (800) 777-1185 Office), (714) 579-7514 (FAX), P.O. Box 6399, Fullerton, CA 92634-6399, <http://www.primenet.com/~goddess>, e-mail goddess@goddess.com

Victoria's Institute Hair, Skin, Body Non-Surgical Corrective Treatment 7360 Center Ave Huntington Beach, CA 92647 714-379-6156

Nighty's and Naughty's, 16112 Harbor Blvd., Fountain Valley, CA 92708. E-Mail @ Naughty@wdc.net

Income tax & bookkeeping - LOREN WINGERT, CPA (310) 925-8035

PUBLICATIONS

P. M. Publisher, mail order books & videos. for a list contact P.O. Box 5304, Katy, TX 77491-5304

NIGHT SPOTS

OZZ Supperclub, Restaurant, Hi-tech Danceclub, Cabaret Lounge, 6231 Manchester Blvd. Buena Park CA 714-522-1512