

Our Special JOY



CHI DELTA MU Chapter

Vol. I, No. 3

December, 1981

Chapter Promotion and Activities

...Best wishes to all ladies during this most happy time of year.

...I think that Carol has done another outstanding job with the latest Femme Mirror. Yes, the issue was late, but you girls have to remember that Carol produces this and other publications by herself, along with her full time regular "job". The Directory is on its way at this writing, and there should be another Femme Mirror out shortly. So, have patience, and try to think how you could help Carol!

...Enclosed with this issue of OUR SPECIAL JOY -- to Chapter members only are three "library cards". I understand that this is a most effective way to promote our cause, as someone who knows nothing or very little about "transvestism", and who does want to learn, will most likely visit the local library for information. Just deposit the card in the appropriate section of the library's card catalog, and consider yourself as having done an important task for your organization.

...I have spoken with Dr. Leslie Borck of the Westchester Self-Help Clearinghouse and who is very anxious to help our Chapter get organized. She has offered to help in however she can, and is presently working with me in finding a meeting place. The site would be somewhere in Westchester County at a church, community meeting room, etc. Dr. Borck is aware of our "special needs", and is confident that something can be worked out. To that end I am suggesting that those interested sisters set aside Saturday, January 30 as a tentative meeting date. Please let me know A.S.A.P. if you would attend. Details will follow as soon as they are developed.

...Two suggestions have been made concerning Chapter promotion, and before any action is taken on them, I want your input, as the spending of Treasury \$\$\$ is required. The first suggestion is taking out an ad in the Village Voice, briefly stating that there is an organization for heterosexual crossdressers in the area, and giving Carol's P.O. to contact. Approximate cost would be \$20 - \$30. The second concerns the Chapter purchase of two important books: The TV and His Wife, and Understanding Crossdressing. They would be part of the Chapter's library, to be lent to members and other interested parties. Cost: \$18. These actions would be a substantial drain on our limited Treasury, but yet they could be very productive and essential for our Chapter. Your comment, girls. And, while I'm at it, how about you folks who have not yet joined the local Chapter, CHI DELTA MU ???

...As reported in last month's O.S.J., Barbara (NY-217-Mc), has undertaken a very important project which would benefit us all: developing a local "shopping list" of stores where we are welcome. Barbara is doing this at

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her own expense (postage, copying, etc.), and she is concentrating in the Queens-Manhattan areas. Now I know that some of you gals know of places where you shop and you no longer use the "...for my sister" routine. Share the wealth with Barbara, and while you are at it, help her out as the Metropolitan area certainly includes New Jersey, Westchester/Rockland/Connecticut, Long Island, etc. Remember, the product is for you!!! Write Barbara (see p. 5).

...Aside from the January 30th meeting, I think it would be very beneficial for us to gather -- with wives/girlfriends -- in a no en femme setting to meet new members and their mates. This would be a great way to get to know one another with "no pressure". My wife and I have done this and have found it very beneficial for both of us. Any volunteers to organize a FIRST, ANNUAL, ICE-BREAKER meeting? (Held in the winter, of course.)

...I hope that all sisters respond to the questionnaire which Carol sent with the Femme Mirror. Let us set the record straight (literally and figuratively) as to where the sorority places its goals, objectives, and values.

...Carol suggests that a further step in promoting TRI-ESS would be the donation of books (see p. 7), to local libraries. She recommends that someone take on the assignment to write libraries, asking them if they will accept these books. For this purpose, the books will cost the Chapter $\frac{1}{2}$ of the usual price. Any volunteers for yet another important project for

...Last month several members and non-members got together with our wives and had a lovely, dressed, evening. It was the first time for my wife, and that for another who joined us. Everyone enjoyed themselves, and our hostesses Suzie and Joyce, were most congenial. They had prepared a most delicious supper, to which Nora Helene had a delightful version of shrimp scampi. We gabbed till the wee hours, and I think that I can honestly sum up my wife's reaction, and (perhaps), that of the other wife who was "new" to it all by saying that yes, there was a certain and understandable amount of uncomfortableness at first, but after we all got to know one another, it did not really matter who was wearing what. We were inter-relating to one another as persons, not in some pre-cast mold. The conversations were delightful, funny, and sometimes sad. However, we communicated, and for that, we all benefited. We've gained what we hope life-long friendships with people we enjoy, and who could ask for a better gift?

...When you receive the Directory, I do hope that you would make a special effort to write those sisters who live outside the country. As you will see, their number is small, but their need for contact with other sisters is, perhaps, even greater than ours due to isolation. Make a New Year's resolution to do this; you will make someone happy by your letter, and that in turn will make you happy! There are too few things in our world that can provide happiness; go to it!!!

...As you can see, it takes a lot of work to make a good organization. Yet we need help to make this a good organization, YOUR help. To deposit library cards, volunteer on assignments, etc. As I have stated in the past, this is OUR Chapter, and we make of it what we want. If CHI DELTA MU proves to be a disappointment in December, 1982, then we have only ourselves to blame. Let us hope that that will not happen!



*Dear
Wendy
+ often!*



Publication Policy

...When the first issue of OUR SPECIAL JOY was sent out in October, it was requested that those sisters who were interested in joining the newly-forming local Chapter, CHI DELTA MU (Crossdressers Metro), contribute \$10.00 as an initiation charge. The proceeds are primarily designated for the cost of a meeting facility; hopefully, we will spend those \$ on that soon! However, as you can see from the current and previous month's Treasurer's Report, all expenses have been for postage for the newsletter. These expenses would have been much greater had it not been for Nora Helene (NJ-202-C), who copies the original proof for us and mails the newsletter to you. Nora Helene is experimenting with two-sided reproduction which would cut our postage cost approximately in half, but this remains to be developed. All other expenses associated with the newsletter are donated by us in our interest to see the Chapter established. O.S.J. has been sent out to 30 + area sisters, including Carol in California and Donna in Chicago. With the intent of preserving an adequate reserve in the Treasury for a meeting, the newsletter will no longer be sent to those sisters who have not joined CHI DELTA MU. Thusfar, less than 1/3rd of the sisters on our mailing list have joined. Through the CLARION published by Carol, those sisters who belong to the National Organization in our area and who have not joined us will be kept up-to-date on our activities. Beginning in January, the CLARION is to be issued monthly, devoted to Chapter activity on a National basis. It is hoped that those sisters who do not yet belong to CHI DELTA MU will soon be one of us. The newsletter will be sent (one copy), to prospective members and other interested parties.

Our Readers Write

..."I am very interested in becoming a member of a Chapter in our area even if for the moment I am abroad. For this reason write me and let me know everything concerning it." (Josephine, NY-302-C, who is currently living in Spain.)

..."Certainly want to see your efforts made worth while, and this is my only way of helping out." (Connie, NY-25-N. Very happy to see Connie a Chapter sister! Those of you who know Connie are aware that she is a faithful correspondent, always with good advice; she always answers a letter. Connie will probably not be able to make a meeting as she lives several hundred miles away, but she is most certainly welcomed in our Chapter, and a definite asset! Ed.)

..."Nora Helene's 'My Feminine Creed' sums up my feelings precisely." (Joyce, NJ-206-M; see November issue.)

..."I'm glad you forwarded our questionnaire on to Ms. Beecroft. We have received it and will be delighted to list the Society for the Second Self in both our confidential telephone information and referral resource file and our updated Directory of Self-Help Groups in Westchester County." (Dr. Leslie Borck, Ph.D., Director, Westchester Self-Help Clearinghouse.)

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(Our readers write, continued)

..."Now, your newsletter is simply GREAT!!...I am especially pleased that you are adhering to the principles of the sorority. AMEN to that! ...I appreciate your concern about your sisters; I am enclosing \$20.00 for your expenses." (Carol Beecroft, National Leader of TRI-ESS. Carol says that Betty Ann Lind has not done long-term damage to the Chapter in Washington, D.C., for there is a strong core of sisters there who want to stay with the strict principles of our Organization. Thank you Carol!)

..."I think you are correct about a stipend for Carol." (Laura, NY-304-F)

..."I am a member of... (other organizations which will not be named, Ed.) however, TRI-ESS seems to be more of what I am looking for. The pictures seen in (- - - -), make it seem more like a costume party...I'm not interested in costume parties. I'm interested in wearing regular dresses and skirts...what the average girl wears." (prospective member, Sharon, NY. We do hope that Sharon decides to join the National Organization and its local Chapter, and share the same special joy which we share with her. Ed.)



"...I said it was all right for Miss Ames to wear a tank top...
I didn't say it was all right for you to wear one."

Tips

Bony hands will look softer if you:
1) leave untinted half-moon when applying polish; 2) wear bold, dramatic and bright colors of polish; 3) use small-scale adornments such as round glittering stones in rings and bracelets. Avoid unusual or large jewelry; they make your hands look more bony and unsightly.

from 200 Professional Beauty Tips, available at supermarkets, book stores, etc., for the outrageous price of .49¢; Ed.

In Case You Missed It.

DEAR ANN LANDERS: I would like to offer the following advice to the parents of the 13-year old boy who enjoys wearing ladies' undergarments. The boy has a fetish that is firmly established. He will not 'get over it'. Fortunately, this proclivity is harmless, unless he is forced to steal feminine underwear. My advice is to have a frank talk with him. If he admits a need for this kind of apparel, buy him what he wants and forget it. A few more pairs of panties in the wash won't make that much difference, but being arrested for petty theft can create a lifelong fear of embarrassment. Believe me, I know what I'm talking about. I've had the problem



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(In case you missed it, continued)

for over 30 years. I also have a beautiful family and an understanding wife. My life would have been a lot easier if my parents had understood. Even a juvenile arrest record is hard to erase. -- In the Moccasins And Know The Path Well.

DEAR MOC: Your letter may be considered shocking to some, but the advice you have offered is solid. I endorse it. (appeared about a year ago; Ed

Post Office

In an effort to speed communication between sisters, the following mailing list is provided:

<u>Femme Name / Code #</u>	<u>Address EXACTLY as indicated below</u>
Patricia CT-8-G	Ms. Patricia Gallagher P. O. Box 158 Old Greenwich, Ct. 06870
Barbara NY-217-Mc	W. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] New York, N.Y. 10036
Joyce NJ-206-M	J. E. [REDACTED] P. O. Box 392 Summit, N.J. 07901
Mary Jane NY-206-M	M. J. Moran P. O. Box 1239 White Plains, N.Y. 10602
Connie NY-25-N	C. N. Nichols P. O. Box 734 Jamestown, N.Y. 14701

If you would like to be included in the next update of this listing, and you are a member of CHI DELTA MU, please let me know; provide EXACT mailing address. We hope that this list will grow with new sisters !!!

Editorial

The best of wishes to all sisters and their loved-ones at this happy time of year. Let us make our objective a "year of progress". Progress in the sense that CHI DELTA MU becomes firmly established as a working and effective organization; progress in the sense that we, first of all, help our sisters in whatever way we can, to achieve a level of happiness with their Second Selves. And, progress in that we promote the FACTS about male, heterosexual crossdressing, to those who do not know about them or are erroneous in their opinion of them. We have made progress in the short time we've been organized. Let us believe and work so that our objectives for 1982 will be achieved !!!

Legal Considerations

(Ed. note: last month's issue contained a repeat of a DEAR ABBY letter which ended with, "Its against the law in some cities to 'masquerade' (dress), in this manner." I asked our sisters to send in any information they had on this matter. Joyce (NJ-206-M), was kind enough to provide the following piece on this subject. Thanks much, Joyce!)

..."About the legal query you raised on p. 6, there are no state laws in New York, New Jersey, or Connecticut that would apply to crossdressing directly. There are a few 'catch-all' statutes in each state, but the possibility of being charged under them is very remote unless some hot-sh prosecutor really had it in for you. The hazards to us lie in the 'catch all' laws at the municipal level. These are the codes covering everything from misrepresentation to vagrancy, impersonation, and 'creating a public disturbance'. The problem with them is that, depending on the mood of the attending police officer, many of these codes can be 'stretched' (like pantyhose), to cover most instances where you are dressed in public and have done anything to draw curious or negative attention to yourself - up to and including a traffic ticket. Various types of 'protective letters' have been suggested over the years. Personally, I think the 'protection' offered is far too thin in relation to the difficulty in obtaining them. I suggest we offer a 'bounty' of sorts to the first sister to recruit into CHI DELTA MU a police officer and a lawyer. Then we could set these sisters upon the problem with a reasonable expectation of success."

Treasurer's Report

Beginning cash balance (11/1/81).....	\$70.00
Receipts.....	40.00
Expenses (postage).....	(20.00)
Ending cash balance (11/30/81).....	<u>\$90.00</u>

Welcome new CHI DELTA MU sisters, Connie (NY-25-N), and Frances (NJ-10-B)!!!

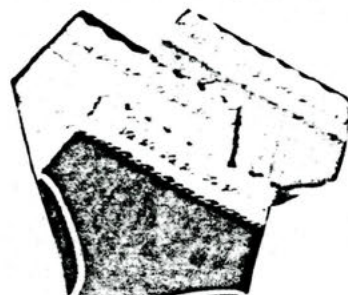
Again, a special thanks to Carol for her contribution to our sorority !!!

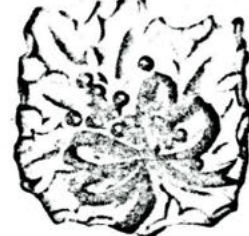
For your information, the listing of CHI DELTA MU sisters as of 11/30/81 as follows:

Frances (NJ-10-B)	Joyce (NJ-206-M)
Patricia (CT-8-G)	Mary Jane (NY-206-M)
Marion (NY-210-G)	Connie (NY-25-N)
Barbara (NY-217-Mc)	Claire (NY-208-S)

And, Nora Helene, whom I left out (NJ-202-C). Next month's issue of O.S.J. will be done on a word processing machine which will hopefully improve its appearance and the speed at which your (p.p. typist), Editor can get it out.

Fringe Benefits :





Food For Thought

Another year, a new beginning. What is it called? "Growth", perhaps. Growth. Going from point "a" to point "b". Many fears when we travel that uncertain path. Who are we? What will we become? The unknown, yes! But hope. Yes, hope and consolation in that we are not alone on this road, and that we can achieve our objectives as our Second Selves. We have each other, and we are no longer "one" in our journey. Do you remember the first time you learned that you were not the only boy or man to prefer the things feminine rather than masculine? An abrupt, but most gratifying discovery! Yes, alone we are sometimes rather desparate people, but together, we can share that important feeling which, perhaps, can not be put into words, but is attempted in "our special joy". Yes, we are growing and traveling down that road. We are learning more about ourselves through others who are like ourselves; we are becoming more self-accepting of ourselves, and in many ways, others who "are not" are becoming more understanding of us. Growth. Progress. A New Year. Let us hope that when 1983 rolls around, we can say that New Year 1981 showed really nothing for us, New Year 1982 showed great promise, and 1983, GREAT SUCCESS !!!

Publications

This is a partial listing of books and products from CHEVALIER PUBLICATIONS. Please write Carol for a more detailed listing. Add 15% for mailing.

TRANVESTIA.....	\$7.00*	IDEAL MARRIAGE.....	\$13.50 (total)
THE TRANVESTITE AND HIS WIFE...	\$7.00	TRANVESTISM.....	\$15.00
HOW TO BE A WOMAN THOUGH MALE...	\$10.00	LOOKING TERRIFIC.....	\$5.95
UNDERSTANDING CROSSDRESSING....	\$8.50	M2 JELLY KIT FOR INSERTS.....	\$9.00
FATED FOR FEMININITY.....	\$7.00	M4 INSERTS ALONE.....	\$9.00
TALES FROM A PINK MIRROR.....	\$7.50	M5 "PHANTOM PHANNY".....	\$8.00
THE BIRTH OF BARBARA.....	\$7.50	M9 HIP PADS.....	\$9.00

*per copy; old issues 20% off when any three are bought @ \$6.00

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..Again, best wishes to all for a productive and happy 1982! For those sisters who have decided not to join us, I do hope that our progress as reported in the CLARION will change your minds. I do want to remind you gals that this is YOUR newsletter, and that I REALLY NEED YOUR input for it to be interesting and informative for all of us. Articles such as Joyce's on legal considerations, Nora Helene's "My Feminine Creed", in last month's issue, are the "meat and potatoes" of O.S.J. Your Editor believes that she has some talent, but certainly not enough to produce the type of publication which best meets our needs and which we deserve. For that, I need you! Put on your bonnets and start thinking about what you'd like to see in O.S.J., and send it in !!!

Editor: Mary Jane (M. J.) Moran, P.O.Box 1239, White Plains, N.Y. 10602

Best Regards Mary Jane C

