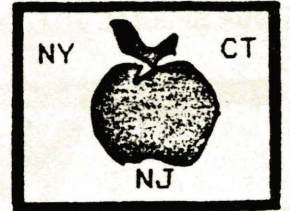


# our Special JOY



Tri-Ess Sorority



Metropolitan

\*\*\*\*\* CHI DELTA MU \*\*\*\*\*

Vol. V, No. 4

CHAPTER

October, 1984

WELCOME  
BACK !



Attending September's meeting were (seated, L-R): Dorothy, Karen, Lynda, Janice, Edie, and Fran; (standing): JoAnne, Brandy, Eve, Mary Jane, Arlene, Robin Ann, Eileen, Barbara, and Phil (Marlene). See page 2 & 3 for more details. (photo: Karen and Patricia)

MISSED  
YOU

SPECIAL

In Case You Missed It  
\*\*\*\*\*

FEATURE

**CALL ME RONA . . . He's  
the world's most unusual  
husband — and proud of it!**

(see pages 4 & 5)





# WHAT'S GOING ON

...Our President, Patricia, could not make the meeting so our Vice President, Karen, conducted the business matters of the chapter. A number of items discussed were the result of the leadership meeting held in late August, most of the details of which were provided in last month's newsletter. Rather than repeating these items, I'll embellish as needed.

...New members were welcomed by Karen and all attending...Edie provided name tags...Eileen (Publicity Chairperson), related her skirted experiences cross-country to the Artic Circle this summer. Folks either didn't notice, were too afraid to ask questions, or gruffed...Karen related that Portland, OR., has an ordinance which specifically permits crossdressing...Karen will chair our Program Committee and will be helped by Doreen and Fran. In October (Westchester), we will have our first Pink Elephant (see related item in the newsletter); for November (New Jersey, same spot as the September meeting), the program is somewhat open as of now but perhaps we will have Alexis' Wiggery back as she was very helpful at a meeting last year and since a number of members have used her services and were quite pleased at the cost and the advice she provided. For December (to be held in Westchester and NOT New Jersey as incorrectly reported in September's O.S.J.), our formal holiday party.

...As reported last month, Lynda is installing (at her own expense), a HOTLINE in her home which will be in operation during the evening hours. The phone number is:

(201) - 663 - 0772

Ads will be placed in the local papers. Sisters still very much under the "rock" should take advantage of this opportunity to make contact. Lynda (and wife Marilyn), are to be thanked for this effort.

...You should remember that we have a very helpful group of wives (Marilyn & Bev, to name a few), who are ready to help other wives/girlfriends or just to talk.

...Much praise was expressed for Carol Beecroft's effort in producing the new Directory. A FINE JOB !!

...For the November meeting we will be trying a new dinner menu provided by Eileen! Yurika foods - a hot, delicious meal with a variety of choices. More next month...Karen will be collecting the special member donation in the memory of Eileen (NJ). If you wish to donate, see Karen at the October meeting or send your donation to her. Karen will see to it that it is sent on as our chapter's remembrance of Eileen.

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## A N N I V E R S A R Y I S S U E

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...Our recruitment efforts and promotion among professionals will commence this Fall. The GALs are a very important part of this effort, especially in meeting potential members. A suggested screening list will be provided to the GALs by Edie in GALGUIDE. Patricia will be assisting Renata in covering the Ct./West./Bronx area.

...A hearty thanks was expressed to Doug (who was, unfortunately, not Doreen at the meeting), for finding our new, New Jersey site. We were all quite pleased as to the conveniences (two bathrooms in the conference room - both will be marked "ladies" for the November meeting), space and privacy. No problems with the management, and as usual the room was left in perfect condition as is our reputation. All-in-all, a very nice opportunity to get acquainted and re-acquainted and especially, ENJOY !





JOY'S Greatest Hits

\*\*\*\*\*



prime



Side I:

1. Where The Girls Are (Meeting Opening Theme)
2. The Masquerade Is Over (Meeting Closing Theme)
3. Hooked On A Feeling
4. Enjoy Yourself (You're Straighter Than You Think)
5. I Don't Want To Set The Fashion World On Fire
6. The Girl That I Carry

Side II:

1. Sweet And Gentle
2. Send In The Gowns
3. Its A Grand Night For Dressing
4. Return To Linda
5. You're The Devil In Disguise
6. I Don't Know Why I Just Do

*Thanks,  
Lionel,  
(N.Y.)*

Editorial

\*\*\*\*\*

...This issue of the newsletter marks the beginning of our fourth year of publication. Hard to believe! Many folks have told me how pleased they are with OUR SPECIAL JOY. Thank you! Yes, effort is required, but it is well worth it. And, I'll be the first to say that if it were not for the help of many others, the newsletter would not be what it is. I want to personally thank all of you for the help you have given me.

...For many sisters the only contact they have with others is through the newsletter. That is unfortunate, but a fact. Of course we would like to change that; this is one of our goals, an important reason for our existence as a chapter.

...We should remember that we are members of a sorority! sisters help sisters. Like any organization we're not perfect, but at least we are together. Back in early 1981 we had nothing. I truly believe that we now share something precious. Let's cherish our treasure, protect it, and work for its - yours and mine - betterment.

Etc.

...In the following pages you'll see a "Dear Meg" item (page 6), which was in the N. Y. POST the first week of September. Thus far we've received 14 inquiries as a result, and expect more. Each was sent the national brochure by Carol, and we provided the chapter's brochure plus a note. Respective GALs were contacted for added follow-up and for this effort a warm thanks...On the last page of the newsletter part of a memo from the Westchester Self-Help clearing house is reproduced. We've updated our listing as this is a very good source of contact for new folks. Suggest other areas be checked if similar organizations exist (we know about the one in New Jersey). Publicity price is right.

...Members (especially new), should take advantage of our extensive chapter library. Contact Edith Marie, chapter librarian, as follows: Don Williams, Draw R, Valley Cottage, New York 10989; she'll send you a list...Remember we have a \$15 discount at the Westchester site if you are planning to stay over. Ask the management for the "TRI-ESS rate". The more rooms we rent, the less expensive for the conference and regular room.

Attending September's meeting were: Phil (Marlene, NY-1335-B), Fran (NY-1610-B), Dierdre (D-NY), Lynda (NJ-1303-F) and wife Marilyn, Edie (NY-1558-G), Dorothy (NJ-1286-G) and wife Bev, Eve (NY-1676-H) and wife Valerie, Brandy (NY-1677-H) and girlfriend Carol, Eileen (NY-1317-J) and wife Priscilla, Karen (NJ-1305-K), Arlene (NY-L), Mary Jane (NY-1322-M), Janice (NJ-M), Doug (Doreen; NJ-1608-P) and girlfriend Cindy, Angela (formerly Joan, NY-1681-P) and wife Sue, Robin Ann (NY-1675-S) and girlfriend Linda, JoAnne (NY-Y), and Barbara (NY-F). A warm welcome to new attendees and mates! Dierdre, Brandy and Carol, Angela and Sue; we hope that you enjoyed yourselves and that we'll see you again. Hope to see more members in October at our Westchester site!

our Special

JOY





....BIZARRE ?.....UNUSUAL ? ?..

*When I have a bad day as a man, I like to  
kick off my shoes, slip into something  
comfortable and tell my dear wife...*

# Call me Rona!



RONA feels 'content and happy' as a woman.



...hardly, considering the many TRI-ESS and CDM sisters and loving mates...

By **SUSAN JIMISON**

**Retiree Ray Mitchell has a bizarre way of escaping the pressures of masculinity — he puts on his high heels, a dress and his fluffy red wig and goes out on the town with his wife.**

The distinguished-looking father of three grown sons says that dressing like a lady makes him happy. And his understanding wife Vera goes along with it.

"I have a husband who loves me and I love him," Vera, 65, told **The NEWS**. "Many people have peculiarities and I try to understand people with oddities. Considering that some people have husbands who are wife beaters or alcoholics, I have it pretty good."

Mitchell, who lives by the sea in Highcliff, England, calls himself Rona when he's being a girl. Then he's a fluttery, bright and cheery creature who adores pretty dresses and makeup.

"I'm very attractive as a woman and I feel content and happy," Mitchell, 62, confessed. "I behave in a feminine way and try to emulate the graces of truly attractive women."

"I speak more quietly and raise the pitch of my voice, of course. I pass as a woman completely."

The gray-haired, 5-foot-9 transvestite first discovered his passion for passing as a female back in 1974 when he was still employed by Britain's Ministry of Defense. He kept his strange behavior a secret, however, for fear of losing his job.

But after his retirement in 1982, he went public with his dressing up and recently starred in a BBC documentary on transvestites.

"Now that I'm retired I can be myself," said Mitchell, who used to work as an accountant at a nuclear weapons research establishment. "But if they had known what I was, I would not have been allowed to work there."

"They take the view that I might have been blackmailed to hand over secrets. That's an insult to me — I'm a loyal citizen."

Mitchell says he puts on his girlish getup two or three times a week when he wants to get away from the burden of being a man. He insists that transvestism is not perverted and that it has nothing to do with sex.

"Basically, one wants to get away from the pressures on men," he explained. "Cross dressing lets me reject the male role. I want to be gen-



**RETIREE** Ray Mitchell, top, becomes Rona, above left, when he dons dress and wig and becomes a pal to his very tolerant wife Vera.

...*"I feel content and happy"*...

# **Tolerant mate goes along with hubby's bizarre life-style**

...tler, more caring, give free rein to my emotions. I want to dress beautifully."

To clothe himself as Rona, Mitchell sews his own dresses. And when he's in his feminine frocks, he looks so realistically female that even people who know him well do not suspect his disguise.

"I think of Rona as a friend who

comes to see me once or twice a week," said Vera. "She looks very nice — much more glamorous than me. She takes trouble with her makeup and clothes."

"I was a bit flabbergasted at first, but we manage all right. There's no way I would let this wreck my marriage. I've decided to go along with it."

...and that is WHAT TRI-ESS IS ALL ABOUT !!!



**DEAR MEG:** Since my divorce two year ago, my son and I have been living with Ron.

I adore Ron, but I can't handle him. You see, he likes to wear female clothes at home, and sometimes in public.

The pressures on me are enormous because unless I accept his "dressing up," he won't get married.

I have no social life and female friends where we live, except for my son's baby sitter who knows about Ron.

Ron says that "dressing up" comes first in his life. I've told him there's no way he looks passable in public.

He goes to a nightclub full of gays and transvestites, but he doesn't ask me to go with him anymore. (Ron's not gay as far as I know.)

Since we've been together, everyone asks when we're getting married, even my mother.

I don't dare tell her of his little quirk for fear she'll disown me and her grandchild. What should I do?

— **NORMAL**

**DEAR NORMAL:** Why do you want to hook up with a man who admits that cross-dressing comes first in his life?

Even when fashion is increasingly androgynous, Ron's penchant for cross-dressing is still the exception rather than the rule.

Most cross-dressers are heterosexual. But I wouldn't consider marriage unless 1) You are sure Ron is not homosexual and, 2) You can live with the knowledge that cross-dressing will always come first in his life.

For information, write the HQ of a cross-dressing self-help and advocacy group: Society for The Second Self, P.O. Box 194, Tulare, Cal. 93275.

It has chapters nationwide and members' spouses are always welcome.

## Mugger picks on the wrong 'lady'

A purse snatcher got the surprise of his life when the "ladies" he attacked on the street turned out to be transvestites — burly men dressed up like women.

The gussied-up guys cornered the hood, battled him with their fists and chunks of concrete and then kept him

around until police finally showed.

The fracas began when two thugs tried to steal Michael "Leslie" Williams' purse on a St. Petersburg, Fla., street.

The 6-foot Williams wrestled free of the two muggers and ran, still clinging to his purse.

One robber dropped out of the chase but the second took



off after Williams. Before long, Williams came across two dress-wearing pals and they nabbed the mugger.

Actor Gary Merrill says "anyplace it's hot you'll find men with skirts on," and that's why he doesn't mind the stares and catcalls he drew during a stroll through Portland, Me., Thursday.

Merrill, the 69-year-old former husband of Bette Davis, says he began wearing skirts in public about 10 years ago because he was tired of roasting on the golf course.

Merrill says he wears a skirt only when it's hot and humid, and would prefer to go nude, but "this is as close as you can get to it in public."


Dressed in a Panama hat, sunglasses, loose-fitting white shirt with a button saying "God loves me just the way I am," and his skirt, Merrill said he could care less about what people think of his attire.



Merrill  
...in skirt

*Contributions  
always  
welcomed!  
-Ed.*

**CINDY  
ADAMS**



## Life with Clerow

**FLIP WILSON'S** doing his autobio. "It's a flashback, beginning with my arrest, ending with my vindication by the Supreme Court," Flip told me. "The title's *My Hero, Clerow*—Clerow's my real first name."

The book, which Flip's been writing for four years with sports writer Mickey Herzkowitz, explains his famous female character.

"A Geraldine was my first love," says Flip. "See, I was very poor. Geraldine said she'd be my girl if I got her a birthday present. So I stole some false fingernails from the 5 & 10. Then she wanted more of them. The third time

I was caught. After that, Geraldine wouldn't have anything to do with me. So, my character 'Geraldine' is a symbol of the girl I could never have."

Flip Wilson and Geraldine open at Westbury tomorrow.



FLIP as GERALDINE



Society says....

"Very fashionable, just great"

"Perverted, really not normal"

### SAVAGE SHIRT, BIKINIS



Athletic shirt and bikini sets take a hint from some traditional men's looks. Man-tailored styling's so comfortable. Bikinis have double fabric shield, knit elastic waist. All combed cotton, assorted colors. Athletic shirt, S,M,L, reg. 4.50 ... sale 3.37  
Bikini, sizes 5 to 7, reg. \$3. .... sale 2.25  
String bikini, 5 to 7, reg. 2.50.... sale. 1.87

### CAREER SUITS



Sale 33.75 to \$75. Suits now at a price you can't resist to invest in. Our collection features all lined suits in refined, classic styles or with new longer or double breasted jackets. Mostly in woven polyesters or polyester/wool. Assorted solids, patterns. Selection may vary by store. Misses' 8 to 18, juniors' 5 to 13, petites 6 to 16. Reg. \$45 to \$100

WELL, ladies of TRI-ESS (in an unlady like fashion), say!

**"BULLSHIT"**

let's work to change "society", - Ed.

#### Our Readers Write

\*\*\*\*\*

..."I want you to know that I am most impressed with the progress of the chapter, the newsletter and all work being done by the officers. The growth in membership these past three years is outstanding! (Marion, NY-1325-G)

*Thanks,  
Eileen.*

"Mother only wanted to help when she gave all the dresses she found in my closet that didn't fit me to the Salvation Army."



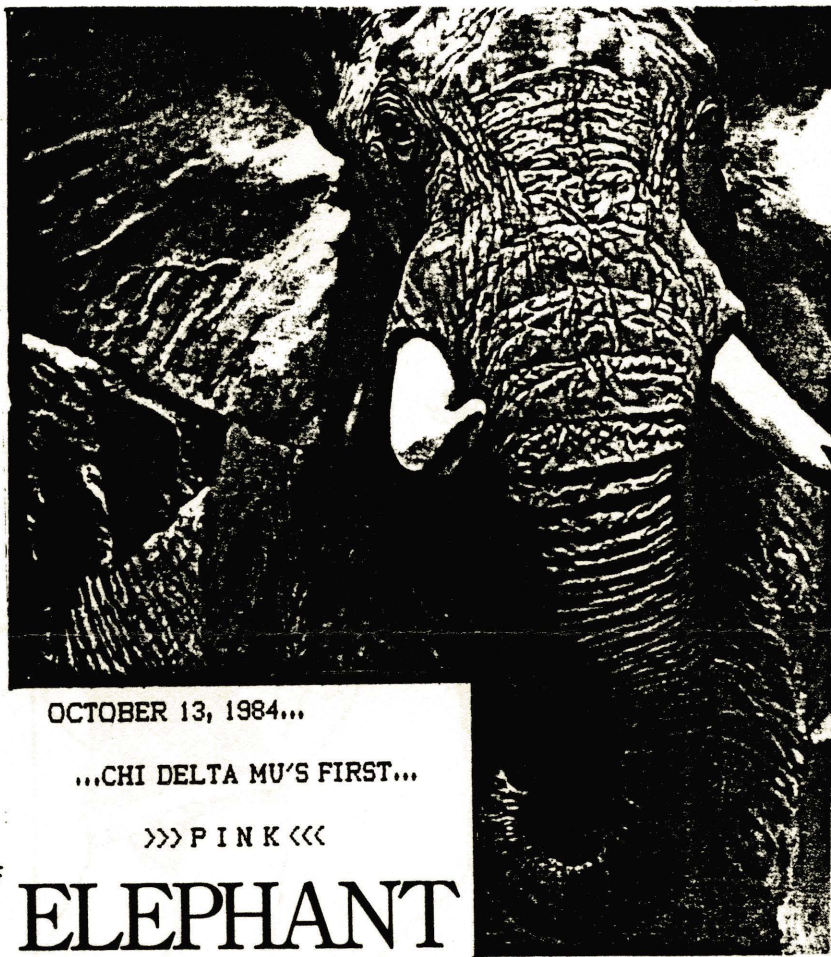


Pink Elephant  
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You've heard of white elephant sales, well we're about to hold our first pink (of course) elephant sale at our October meeting in Westchester.

Here is how it works. We all have some femme items that we really don't need (the junior sized dress that you just love but will never fit into, old earrings you never wear, skirts bought way too big, books that are imbedded in your mind, etc.). Well, here's your chance to clean out your closet or trunk. Bring these items to the meeting. We will have several tables set up and lay out items by category. You can browse for a while, and we anticipate opening up shop around 9 PM. All members will be entitled to pick out any item they would like (try-on facilities available). You pay the chapter a 50 cent surcharge for any item selected; this way you not only help support the chapter's finances, but you may find something that you've been looking for at a BARGAIN price! Remember the motto of yard sales' folks: "Someone's castaways are someone's treasures".

So, please participate in our first pink elephant. It should be great fun.



OCTOBER 13, 1984...

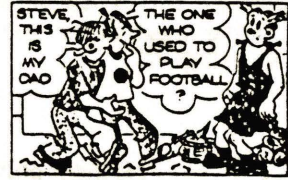
...CHI DELTA MU'S FIRST...

>>> P I N K <<<

# ELEPHANT

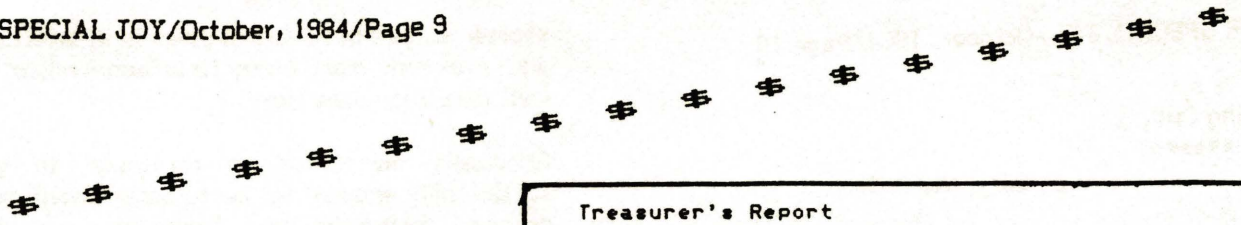
**2 For \$1**

# SALE

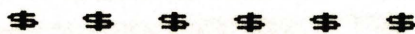


*Thanks,  
Dorothy.*





New members joining us are Angela, Judy Ann (PA-1397-L), and Pamela (NH-1607-O); a warm welcome to your sisters. Renewing with us are Janice (NJ), Eileen (NY), Edie (NY), and Karen (NJ). Your renewal is testimony to the chapter's success. The support of this success is dependant on your continued financial contribution to the chapter, through dues payment, meeting fees, and other ways. Thanks. Dues payable in October are for: Terri (NJ), Camile (NY), Carole (NY), and Mary Jane (NY); for November: Frances (NJ) and JoAnne (Long Island). We still are not 100% current on our membership records, but expect to be so shortly. Please, if you are late with your annual chapter dues of \$15, send in to Lynda. Thanks JoAnne (Stony Pt.), for your donation.



Treasurer's Report *****		
Item Description	August	September
Beginning cash balance	418.51	464.81
<b>Receipts</b>		
Dues (new)	-	50.00
Dues (renewal)	-	60.00
Special Events	155.75	-
50/50	-	11.00
Donations	-	10.00
Meeting Fees	-	180.00
<b>Total Resources For Use</b>	<b>574.26</b>	<b>775.81</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Special Events	33.33	-
Newsletter	49.00	-
Postage	27.12	-
Refreshments	-	60.00
Motel	-	127.20
<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>(109.45)</b>	<b>(187.20)</b>
<b>Ending cash balance</b>	<b>464.81</b>	<b>588.61</b>

(all receipts and expenses for Family Day are recorded under the account title "Special Events")



Quarterly Budget Status Report (July-September, 1984) *****			
Item Description	Budget Amount	\$ Realized/ Spent	% Realized/ Spent
<b>Revenues</b>			
Dues (renewal)	870.00	60.00	6.9
Dues (new)	675.00	85.00	12.6
Donations	250.00	10.00	4.0
Meeting Fees	2,100.00	180.00	8.6
Book Auction	30.00	-	-
Interest	10.00	-	-
Sp. Events	1,250.00	155.75	8.6
50/50	100.00	11.00	11.0
Meeting noshow	60.00	-	-
Pink Elephant	75.00	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,420.00</b>	<b>501.75</b>	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Authorizations</b>			
Postage	600.00	27.12	4.5
Newsletter	200.00	160.70	80.4
Refreshments	600.00	60.00	10.0
Motel	1,300.00	127.20	9.8
Advertising	300.00	-	-
Hostess gift	20.00	-	-
Sp. Events	1,250.00	283.33	22.7
Book purchase	150.00	-	-
Office sup.	50.00	-	-
Printing	200.00	-	-
Programs	150.00	-	-
Trans. res.	400.00	-	-
Contingency	200.00	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,420.00</b>	<b>658.35</b>	<b>12.1</b>

Suggested Authorization adjustments are: increase newsletter to \$750 and decrease postage to \$50 to reflect cost of newsletter. Revenue changes are: decrease interest (\$10), meeting noshow (\$60), and book auction (\$30) for a total decrease of \$100; increase pink elephant by \$100 to \$175. No "bottom line" change; these considerations will be discussed at the October meeting.





Going Out

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by Suzy (NJ - G)

For many of us the desire to go out "en femme" is a strong one. After weeks, months, or in many cases years of remaining indoors, the urge to venture into the real world becomes more and more intense. Even though I've been going out for five years now, I can still vividly recall those initial fears. Fears of ridicule, fears of detection and arrest...loss of a job...embarrassment to one's family. Yes, these are very real concerns that warrant careful consideration. You should fully evaluate the plusses and minuses for your individual situation.

In my early stages of dressing, my fears won an easy victory and in the house I remained except for an occasional breath of fresh air in my backyard. In retrospect, I'm glad I did not rush out the front door back then because to be honest I WASN'T READY. My clothing was out of style and inappropriate, my wig unfortunately looked like a wig and, most importantly, I did not possess the inner confidence that is so very, very important.

Back then I did not believe that I could pass as a "real girl".

In time and with lots of help and consultation with my wife Joyce, my feminine self began to blossom. With her advice Suzy developed a new look and increasingly gained self confidence. Naturally, only a short time elapsed before I wanted to escape from the house. After perfecting (as best I could), my make-up technique, acquiring a suitable wig and practicing the acts of standing, walking, and sitting like a lady, I was ready.

These initial experiences consisted of an occasional evening stroll through the less populated portion of the town's shopping area (I choose nights when most of the stores were closed and only the window shoppers were out). Later, as my confidence grew, I visited the same area during a regular shopping night. I still, however, did not enter any store but carefully tried to evaluate people's reactions. One very good technique to employ is to casually browse around and have your wife or a girlfriend gauge people's reactions to you.

My next plateau was to actually enter a store that I was familiar with and knew wouldn't be extremely crowded. I made it a practice to frequent the larger department stores. Small

stores should be avoided since in a small store you are much more likely to be approached by a well meaning sales clerk.

Gradually, my confidence continued to grow sufficiently enough for me to occasionally go out dressed during the day. These trips are always exciting, fun and with careful dressing and good judgment, usually not dangerous. Most people are so interested in themselves that they hardly notice us unless we draw attention to ourselves.

Before ending this article, I wanted to share with you two highlights.

Three years ago I ventured into Hyannis, Ma. and entered a large department store accompanied by a sister, Judy, both en femme. Since we were far from home we walked up to a make-up counter and received a complimentary make over. There was no doubt that people realized we were men (especially after our make-up was removed), but no one really gawked. Judy and I explained ourselves, educated the three make-up consultants, and hopefully made three converts to our cause.



This past year I finally made it into a ladies room. On a few recent shopping trips and last week during a visit to a nearby cocktail lounge, Mother Nature called and I had little choice but to run for the nearest ladies room. My heart was in my mouth, but somehow I found the courage and went in. In fact, I even freshed up my lipstick in the bathroom before heading out the door. Needless to say, this was quite exciting but something I would not recommend.

(continued on next page)



Food For Thought  
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Thanks,  
Lynda.



IDEAS



Men's lib: Dancing at last week's National Conference on Men and Masculinity

### The New Man's Lament

Four frequently asked questions concerning the New Man:

**Q. Where does this heralded New Man live?**

**A.** In a world populated not by men and women, but by people.

**Q. What does the New Man do after work?**

**A.** He cooks expertly, exercises relentlessly and cries whenever he feels like it.

**Q. What does the New Man say he wants from a woman?**

**A.** A mutually supportive, nurturing relationship.

**Q. What is the New Man's favorite question?**

**A.** "What about my needs?"

Lately, the sensitive New Man of the '80s has tumbled upon tough times. His insensitive enemy, the non-quische-eating Real Man, has branded him a wimp. His once trusted ally, the feminist ideologue, now considers him a hypocritical yuppie versed in the shik of sexual sincerity. Laughed at by the hard guys, debunked by the New Woman, the New Man struggles on, worrying over his wardrobe, perfecting his pure, rationalizing his relationships.

**Sandals:** However, against this backdrop of middle-class mind games, a small, sincere movement has emerged. Last week a crowd of 500 men dedicated to the notion of male liberation gathered in Washington for the National Conference on Men and Masculinity. The preppy New Man of the coffee-table magazines was not in evidence; sartorial tastes ran more toward beads, sandals and, every now and then, a ponytail.

The conference was sponsored by the three-year-old National Organization for Changing Men (NOCM). For three days the group rapped, hugged, cried, then

rapped some more. Critiquing society and themselves through the telescope of feminism, the men rejected—then dissected—what they consider the enslaving macho code of honor. The participants, mostly college-educated and in their 30s or 40s, anticipated how mainstream society would characterize any man who would attend this kind of jamboree. Said Michael Scher, a drug-clinic director and happily married father of two, "I think the people who call these men wimps are the ones who refuse to face the anxieties they're experiencing as a result of being a typical macho male."

Much time was spent examining the male impulse. Is there a tough-guy gene that directs men to clam up their feelings and put up their dukes? Or is it a cultural response taught by the likes of Clint Eastwood and G.I. Joe dolls? Eventually, most of the participants came to agree with Steve Schapiro, an education teacher at the University of Massachusetts. "The macho image," he contends, "was simply a cultural evolution from patriarchal times when men had to be strong to survive and to defend their turf. We don't have to do that anymore."

The antidote for the dangerous macho submersion of emotion, it was argued, lies in the "feminine" side of all men. Without tapping that female

case. They will speak to their wives only through their psych checks; their love for male buddies will be most deeply expressed through locker-room towel-snapping contests. "The fear of the feminine role," lectured psychologist Robert D. Hertz, "is very damaging. It restricts emotionality on the part of men, and the interaction of men with men, or women with men." Past that fear, it was decided, lies a world of feeling and sharing, lightly sprinkled with tears.

**Hurt:** A number of the gathered grew conscious of their New Manliness after a jarring wake-up call from last decade's feminists. "Many of those in the men's movement," says Harold Wells, one of 1984's NOCM cochairmen, "came to it because of the breakup of a relationship with the significant woman in their lives. There's a lot of hurt going on in men that is the result of the women's movement. But I don't think that's bad." Conference seminars dealt with such topics as "Masculinity, Foreign Policy and Survival" and "Stale Roles and Tight Buns: Images of Men in America." A discussion on abortion concluded that men are treated insensitively in clinic waiting rooms. Conferees also learned that pornography exploits men, and were invited to "freely explore and recall how they [men] have contributed to creating our rape culture."

Meanwhile, across the hotel lobby, an Amway convention was in full swing. Amway attendees, guessing that the men embracing down the hall must be part of a gay-rights conference, began speculating in their auditorium on the abomination of homosexuality. But their guess on the orientation of those at the men's meeting was generally wrong. At one of the NOCM workshops, two-thirds of the participants said male-female love relationships were their most pressing problem.

Beyond dogma, NOCM offers the feminist man the security of knowing that he is not alone in his quest. "The biggest struggle for the New Male is to find other men with whom he can communicate," says Michael Scher. "The typical male thinks you're crazy." As does, sometimes, the typical child of the feminist man. In a workshop on parenting, a father who discourages competitive sports in his family rued his 11-year-old son's decision to go out for football. What made the kid do it? "He says," admitted the morose dad, "he wants to kick ass."



Hug: Transcending macho?

NEAL KARLEN WITH NIKKI PINKE GREENBERG in Washington

If you don't have the urge to go out, stay home. If you have the urge, I've put together a list of the key do's and don'ts. Please be careful and have fun.

- \* Do invest in a good wig.
- \* Do dress appropriately for the season, the time of day, and the purpose.
- \* Do get someone's HONEST appraisal of your "passability".
- \* Do go slowly at first. Remember that a bad experience will remain with you for a long time.
- \* Do be confident. If you can't look a man or woman in the eyes, stay home.

\* Do be a lady. Act appropriately for the clothing that you are wearing.

\* Don't take silly chances. Discretion is the better part of valor.

\* Don't frequent stores catering to teenage crowds. Young girls are very adept at reading TVs.

\* Don't panic if you get read. Just continue what you were doing and exit gracefully.

(Thanks again Suzy. Repeated from Sept-Oct '82 O. S. J.)

*your experiences most welcomed. - Ed.*



## WESTCHESTER SELF-HELP CLEARINGHOUSE

Publicity  
\*\*\*\*\*

Westchester Community College  
Academic/Arts Building  
75 Grasslands Road  
Valhalla, New York 10595

Leslie Borck, Ph.D., *Director*

(914) 347-3620

To: Self-Help Group Leaders  
From: Leslie Borck, Ph.D., Director *L.B.*  
Westchester Self-Help Clearinghouse  
Re: 1985 DIRECTORY OF SELF-HELP GROUPS

The Westchester Self-Help Clearinghouse is updating its DIRECTORY OF SELF-HELP GROUPS. The DIRECTORY, a major referral source for self-help groups in the county, offers immediate visibility and constant local exposure to groups listed. It is distributed to hospitals, employee assistance programs, schools, libraries, social agencies, mental health clinics, additional interested agencies and individuals. The DIRECTORY is a free and time proven mechanism that increases group membership.

# The Great Pumpkin



## Anniversary

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### NEWSLETTER

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★ *Best Regards,  
Your Sister,  
Mary Jane*