



The radiant Miss ETVC finalists posed for a group shot at the end of show. From left are Laura, Jennifer, Cecile, Terri and Shauanna.

Cecile Crowned Miss ETVC at 1991 Cotillion

As a glittering crowd of more than 200 roared its approval, Cecile was selected as Miss ETVC 1991 at the Seventh Annual Crossdressers Cotillion.

She succeeds Tiffany, our hardworking Miss ETVC 1990, and now has the honor of representing ETVC during the Gay Freedom Day Parade and in other official appearances for the club.

Cecile was actually a double winner having taken honors for best activewear presentation earlier in the competition. Great going Cecile, you earned it!

Held on January 12 at the California Club in San Francisco, the Cotillion featured 11 lovely and talented contestants: Robin, Cynthia, Purina, Paulette, Lucy Ann, Dale, Laura, Shauanna, Teri, Jennifer and Cecile.

The judges, Wilhelmina Beins, Sandy [redacted], Janine of Foxy Lady and Emperor Simeon of San Francisco, had tough decisions all night, but from this group chose five finalists - Cecile, Teri (1st runner up), Jennifer (2nd runner up), Laura and Shauanna.

The Joanna Caron Award for Contribution to the Cotillion was awarded to Assistant Director Diane Richwine, whose long experience with putting the show together really made things work again.

Other awards went to Dale, who won the talent segment of the Cotillion with a lovely original composition on flute. No Cotillion would be complete without its Miss Congeniality and this year the contestants could only have picked the effervescent Purina.

Directed by Stephanie [redacted], the show was delightfully emceed by Tommi Rose, whose terrific wit kept things going even when the California Club's ancient electrical system got cranky. Eva Davis, Cher, Tiffany, Kristyn, Diahanna and Jane Kamper Bentley kept us all entertained between segments of the show.

Many, many dignitaries from the various courts around the Bay Area and Northern California came to the show. We thank all of you for your support and all of you who worked behind the scenes. It was the best show yet!

See additional Cotillion items on pages 8 & 9.

Editor's Notes

San Francisco's Board of Supervisors recently introduced an ordinance that would make the city a sanctuary for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transvestites and transsexuals. While really only a symbolic gesture, if this ordinance is enacted it will apparently be the first time our community has formally been recognized as a legitimate sexual minority by this city.

The ordinance itself merely states that the city won't help other jurisdictions in apprehending people wanted for violations of sodomy laws. It also means that it will not assist federal agencies like the Immigration and Naturalization Service who may be after illegal immigrant sexual minorities.

What really counts, as far as our community is concerned, is that we have been included with other sexual minorities as worthy of protection and respect.

The best part of this is that it could set a precedent for having our community included in other city laws that protect sexual minorities. In Seattle, this happened when the city amended its code to include TV's and TS's in the definition of sexual minorities that was part of a law regarding discrimination in public facilities.

I wish I could say that ETVC had a hand in putting together this ordinance, but it was really the work of Queer Nation, a gay activist group that welcomes transgender people.

The little I know about Queer Nation is all positive, at least as far as our community is concerned. They do fairly standard left-wing stuff like participating in gay-related demonstrations and have also been involved in "liberating" straight bars by going in and making it plain what their orientation is.

I also know that this is a group that is gaining in visibility and clout and they do include TV's and TS's as active members. I think that is great and I hope that QN continues in their political activism.

Our own community's political record is pretty meager, with the exception of Seattle and Philadelphia (where a TV is on a mayor's sexual minorities advisory council), but Cynthia Howard's Gender Alternatives League looks like a step forward (see story elsewhere in this newsletter). I wish her well.

I also want to thank Queer Nation and the Board of Supervisors, especially board president Harry Britt, for recognizing us as the legitimate sexual minority that we are.

Onward: Didn't you just love the Cotillion? I sure did, despite the electrical screw-ups. Besides the show, which was great, I really enjoy seeing people I hadn't seen in years. I particularly enjoyed seeing former contestant Michelle who is now in Stanford's two year program for transsexuals. Good luck, Michelle, you still have the best legs in town.

Best name at the Cotillion had to be Purina Pussy. It's rude, but I can get into it...

A bunch of people said they were kind of surprised to see me presented as a debutante at the Cotillion, considering I've been with the group going on four years. Hey, you think I'm too old??

The Cotillion is always a great time, except for the @#&!ing parking. I hadn't worn 4-inch heels in years, and I remembered why that night after walking downhill four blocks.

To Jane Kamper Bentley for wisecracks about her editor during her Cotillion comedy routine: you're fired.

You may have noticed the large number of advertisers in the Cotillion program including several who have never been in our publications before. Please patronize them and tell 'em where you saw their ad. These are our friends. Many thanks particularly to Jessica, Zia and the others I don't know who went out and got the ads. Super job.

We have received a report of a violent incident in the parking lot near the Daybreak in Mountain View. Neither a crossdresser nor one of our lesbian friends was involved in this, I gather, though I could not confirm details of the event. Just remember to always use common sense in any poorly lit area at night. Observe who is around you and keep keys handy. Be safe.

In National News: The Renaissance (Phila) News gave kudos to a Fox Network show called Good Grief that carried a lot of positive material about a transvestite whose dying wish was to be buried en femme. At the funeral home, the wife tells her surprised children, "He was faithful. He believed in God. Who cares how he dressed in private - he was all man to me. Any woman would have been proud to let him wear her bra. My husband was a transvestite. Saying it for the first time, I feel 50 pounds lighter!"

The Cross-Talk newsletter reports that Renaissance founder JoAnn Roberts and Tri-Ess co-founder Virginia Prince have formally agreed to stop public arguments about closed vs. open groups. Seems the two came to an agreement that their argument was unproductive and that their energies were better focused on increasing public knowledge and understanding of the transgender community.

- Cindy R. Martin

ETVC NEWSLETTER

ETVC is a non-sexual, membership based organization with the purpose of serving the educational, social, and recreational needs of gender-challenged people, their spouses, significant others, family members, friends, and professionals in the helping services.

For details about ETVC programs, membership, newsletter subscriptions, and classified ads, please write to: ETVC Secretary, PO Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101.

OFFICERS

President	Martina
Vice President	Kristyn
Secretary	Cheryl
Treasurer	Nancy Ann
Education	Jessica & Paulette
Outreach	Kim & Telzey
Social	Jo Anne & Diahanna

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership (as of 1/31/91)	393
1990 Membership	388
New members this year	83

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on 12/1/90	\$5,745.58
December income	2,106.20
December expenses	1,700.93

Balance on 12/31/90	6,150.85
January income	5,344.00
January expenses	5,257.13

Balance on 1/31/91	6,237.72
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The ETVC Newsletter is published in February, April, June, August, October and December. Newsletter contents reflect the opinions of the contributors and the editor, and are not necessarily those of ETVC.

Other organizations may reprint or reproduce portions of the newsletter for their members, provided ETVC is acknowledged.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor:	Cindy
Design & Layout:	Gloria
Photographer:	David Swanson
Production:	Cheryl

RATES

	per issue	per year
Business Card	\$20	\$100
4" x 5"	\$50	\$250
8" x 5"	\$80	\$400
8" x 10"	\$160	\$800

PERSONAL ADS

ETVC will accept personal ads from ETVC members at the rate of \$1 per 3 lines. We will not accept ads with a purely sexual objective.

Send ad copy and a check for the appropriate amount to: ETVC, PO Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101.

Ad deadlines are the first weekend of the month of publication (June, August, October, December, February and April).

HOTLINE

415

OUTREACH

"And then we went to..." People often ask me where to go en femme in SF besides the Chez Mollet. They could start with the Imperial Court, which besides the Coronation in February, has many shows and events through the year. Try Caresse's Hotline, [REDACTED] (Caresse will be the next Empress, if she gets 51% of the vote.)

On January 19, ETVC had ten people at the California Club as spectators and coat-checkers for the Court "Gala", the introduction of the court, the Emperor and Empress candidates. Afterwards, most of us went around the corner to Polk Street and a bar called the "Cinch." A very friendly place with a western theme and pool tables. Then down to Kimo's, Polk and Pine, where a charity drag show was on, a frequent event. Wonderful, tall Tatiana, and company, are there every first Saturday of the month. 10 p.m., only \$5. Call Kimo's for info, 885-4535. Finally, we went to the new-to-me Club Deco, 510 Larkin (at Turk) for their Saturday show. Sort of "Tacky Drag" but better, with great variety in the presentations. Friday night they have the "Glamazons" at 10:30 p.m. for \$5. Info, call 441-4007. Rough area, ETVC takes no responsibility, in or out of the club. Then there's the Black Rose, 335 Jones, where I went with an escort, late on a Friday night in January. This is sort of a street-TS hang out place, usually very dreary. But late, after 11 p.m., on Friday and Saturday, the place is jammed with an exotic crowd, just having a party with friends. Occasionally, erratically, there is formal entertainment. Watch your step here, too! Info: 441-3585.

Unpaid advertisement...Cross-Talk, a sponsor of California Dreamin' 91, is the former newsletter of the Valley Girls in Southern California. Kymberleigh Richards, workaholic, has taken it independent, and expanded it into one of the best publications in the transgender community. Nineteen dense set pages of the best items from other newsletters, her own columnists, news pieces picked up around the world, opinions and reviews. \$18/year, \$1 for a sample, to Kymberleigh Richards, "Cross-Talk", PO Box 944, Woodland Hills, CA 91365.

One of her news items in December, which has appeared elsewhere and might even be true, concerned a Swedish hospital patient who wanted abdominal surgery and got a sex reassignment operation instead. A doctor on the staff, whose ex-wife was romantically involved with the patient, was investigated and released for lack of hard evidence. Since patient records were switched, what did the would-be TS receive instead of her intended SRS? Perhaps we should just try to avoid Swedish hospitals.

Finally...Having trouble getting clothes that really fit? One of our recent educational speakers was Jacqui Jewels, drag performer extraordinaire, as well as modeling and make-up instructor and dress maker. She'll design and make your own creations or work from patterns or do simple, inexpensive alterations. My on-sale size 18 dress quickly became a perfect 14 in her hands. Jacqui Jewels, 109 Fillmore, SF. 626-6551.

Next Outreach Committee meetings: March 4 in San Jose and April 1 in San Lorenzo. For information, call Kim (408) [REDACTED] or Telzey (415) [REDACTED] for more information.

Back issues of the newsletter are still available from Jan/Feb '85. \$1 each. Send orders to the club PO Box.

IFGE "Coming Together, Working Together" Convention in Denver, April 8 through 14. Write IFGE, PO Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778 or call 617- [REDACTED] Brochures at all our social events. Seminars, workshops, lectures, hundreds of fascinating people, many of whom ignore all the work aspects and just enjoy a five-day party. Come early for an organized ski trip.

California Dreamin' 91. Powder Puffs of Orange County and Cross-Talk of LA invite all gender-benders, May 1-5 to beautiful Burbank for an event heavy on touring and entertainment with lectures, seminars, Fredericks of Hollywood, the Queen Mary (all 3 of them). Call or write: Powder Puffs of Orange County (PPOC), PO Box 9091, Anaheim, CA 92812. 714- [REDACTED] We have brochures available.

The 9th Annual "Be All You Want To Be" convenes in Cleveland this year, June 5 through 9. Generally 300 people rock the town. Write to Cleveland Paradise Club, PO Box 29564, Parma, OH 44129.



JONI EVELING ISRAEL COUNSELOR & DIRECTOR

GENDER & SELF
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POB 4447, SF. CA 94101

(415) [REDACTED]
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Letter to the Editor

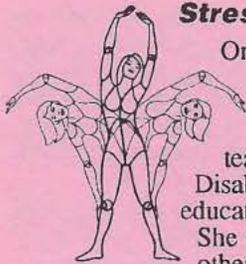
Dear Editor,

On Saturday, January 12, 1991, several of us attended the 7th Annual Cotillion. Along with others, we enjoyed watching the contestants demonstrate their talents and model their activewear and later beautiful evening gowns. We could tell much hard work went into making the evening enjoyable for all. Out of town guests were touted; hostesses made sure everyone had drinks and there were plenty of hors d'oeuvres for everyone. BUT, as usual, there were smokers everywhere. Those of us who do not smoke were subject to splitting headaches, runny noses, watering eyes, tightness in the chest, etc. Even some who try to be tolerant found the smoke excessive. Is there not a way for a compromise? Could we not limit smoking to the sitting room or outside as theaters and movie houses do? Crossdressers want mainstream society members to be fair and understanding. Well, smokers, how about the same consideration for those of us who do not smoke? Thank you.

- A Non-smoker

SPECIAL EVENTS

Stress Reduction



On Saturday, March 9, at the Chez Mollet from 2 to 4 p.m., a seminar on stress reduction will be given by Pat Armstrong. Pat is a gerontologist who teaches Adaptive Physical Education for the Disabled at Skyline College and is a health education instructor for seniors and the disabled. She will define stress and teach exercises and other methods of relieving it.

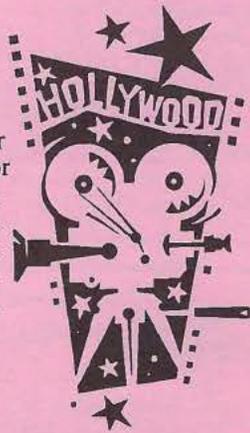
A Visit with the Society of Janus

The Society of Janus is a San Francisco-based organization that explores safe, non-exploitive and consensual forms of power play (i.e. S/M, B&D, D&S, etc.). On Wednesday, March 20, at 8 p.m. at the Chez, the Society of Janus returns with a panel discussion. If you are personally interested, or even just remotely curious, about this apparent paradox of pleasure/pain, then come, ask and learn. A \$3 donation is asked to cover costs.

Bazaar of the Hollywood Stars

Come to the Chez Mollet as your favorite Hollywood actress or personality. Personally, I cannot decide between Carmen Miranda and Candice Bergen, but I'll bet you're more creative than that. Don't miss it at the Chez Mollet, Thursday, March 28, 8 p.m.

Members \$3, Guests \$5.



ETVC/RGA Rap Group

The most exciting rap group in the Bay Area meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at the New Community of Faith Church in San Jose. The address is 6350 Rainbow Drive in San Jose. The next two meetings will be on Monday, March 11 and Monday, April 8 from 8-10 pm. There are only two rules: no one dominates the discussion and no discussing the rap group outside the group. If you know the way to San Jose, join us. If not contact Kim (408) [redacted] or Martina at (408) [redacted] for more information.

Chez Mollet
PRIME RIB

527 Bryant St. • [redacted]
(BTWN. 3rd & 4th STS. • 2 BLOCKS SOUTH OF MOSCONE CENTER)

OUR 22nd YEAR
SERVING
SAN FRANCISCO

CONTINENTAL
CUISINE

COCKTAIL
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DINNER 5:30 - 11 PM
7 DAYS A WEEK

BRUNCH SAT., SUN.
& HOLIDAYS
10:30 AM - 3:30 PM

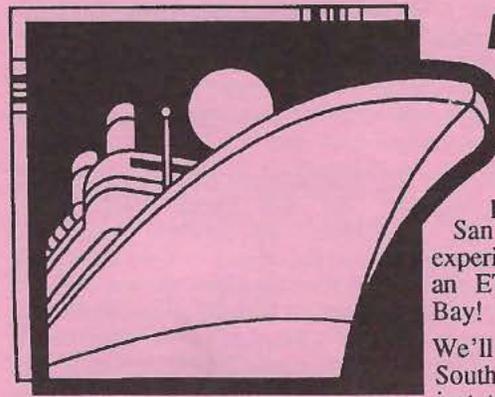
Where dinner is a pleasure and parking is a blessing.

SUN., MON., TUE.

Prime Rib
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\$10.95

Brunch Special
Ham, Bacon or Sausage
2 eggs & toast
\$4.25
Plus our regular brunch menu.

PARTIES ACCOMMODATED
IN OUR BANQUET ROOM



BAY CRUISE!

March 16

Want a new perspective on the San Francisco experience? How about an ETVC Day on the Bay!

We'll all meet at the South Marina (the one just to the south of the

SF end of the Bay Bridge) on Saturday, March 16, between Noon and 1 p.m. Look for a 46-foot blue/white yacht (sailboat) at the guest dock. Name of the boat is Menage-A-Trois and the hail port is Carson City, NV. And look for four small signal flags flying from the starboard spreader (that is the yardarm on the right side for you landlubbers).

Wear sneakers or boat shoes, pack a lunch and dress warmly. We intend to sail to Pier 39, lower the sails and motor in to look at the sea lions up close, then up with the sails, past Fisherman's Wharf (see the tourists...wave at them) all the way to the Golden Gate Bridge and possibly to Angel Island, returning by 5-6 p.m.

Susan, the skipper, says she has 10-15 lifesavers so if you have one please bring it in case there is an overflow crowd. The boat is fully equipped with all safety equipment.

Remember, dress any way you want, but dress warmly. See you on the 16th, Maytee!!

Major Court System Events

San Jose Coronation

Saturday March 2, 7 p.m. sharp, doors open at 6 p.m. Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose. \$20 at the door. Out of town show (performances by visiting monarchs, roast of Emperor and Empress) Friday, March 1, 8 p.m., \$5 cover, The Savoy Club, 3546 Flora Vista, Santa Clara. 408-[redacted]

Stockton Coronation

Saturday, March 23, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Stockton Ballroom, 9650 Thornton Road, Stockton. \$20 at the door. Out of town show Friday, March 22, 8:30 p.m., Plum Tree Plaza Hotel, 111 E. March Lane, Stockton. \$5.



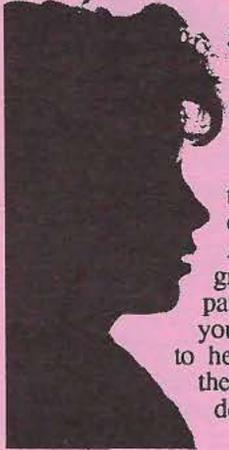
RGA Poker Social

RGA is inaugurating a south Bay poker social, to be held on the fourth Friday of each month in Sunnyvale at 8pm. Call 408-[redacted] for more information.



SPECIAL EVENTS

For Your Information



Significant Others Speak Out

April 13 at 2 p.m

The Significant Others Support Group has made a tremendous contribution to ETVC and has given much needed support to those who are generally overlooked by other such organizations. On Saturday, April 13 at 2 p.m. at the Chez, the SOS group steps forward to speak their mind. A panel discussion will be headed by Julie. If you have an SO yourself or are just interested to hear what the ...er, well...other side thinks, then come to this lively presentation. A donation of \$3 to cover costs is appreciated.

Significant Other Support Group

The Significant Other Support Group wants to invite all Significant Others to attend our SOS group meetings. Group members define Significant Others as wives, lovers, friends, children and others close to TV/TS persons but are themselves not TV/TS. We encourage you to ask the SO in your own life to come to these meetings, particularly if the SO feels they need support from their peers in dealing with their feelings about the TV/TS in their lives. It is important to emphasize that all meetings are kept STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. This is to help insure that a safe, supportive environment is created in which all attendees will feel secure enough too really be able to share and talk about their feelings. We are frequently assisted by a helping professional with a specialty in our area of concern.

The SOS group meets the second Thursday of each month from 8 to 10 p.m. Our next meetings are scheduled for March 14 and April 11. You are all welcome with open arms. For more information call Ginny at [REDACTED]

NEW RGA Computer Bulletin Board

RGA is now sponsoring a computer bulletin board service (BBS) with message areas dedicated to the TV/TS/TG community. (supporting 300, 1200, and 2400 baud with auto detecting parity and stop bits.)

The number is 408 [REDACTED]

April in Paris April 25



Come celebrate spring with a visit to Gay Paree - where else but la belle Chez Mollet. This will be on Thursday, April 25, oui?

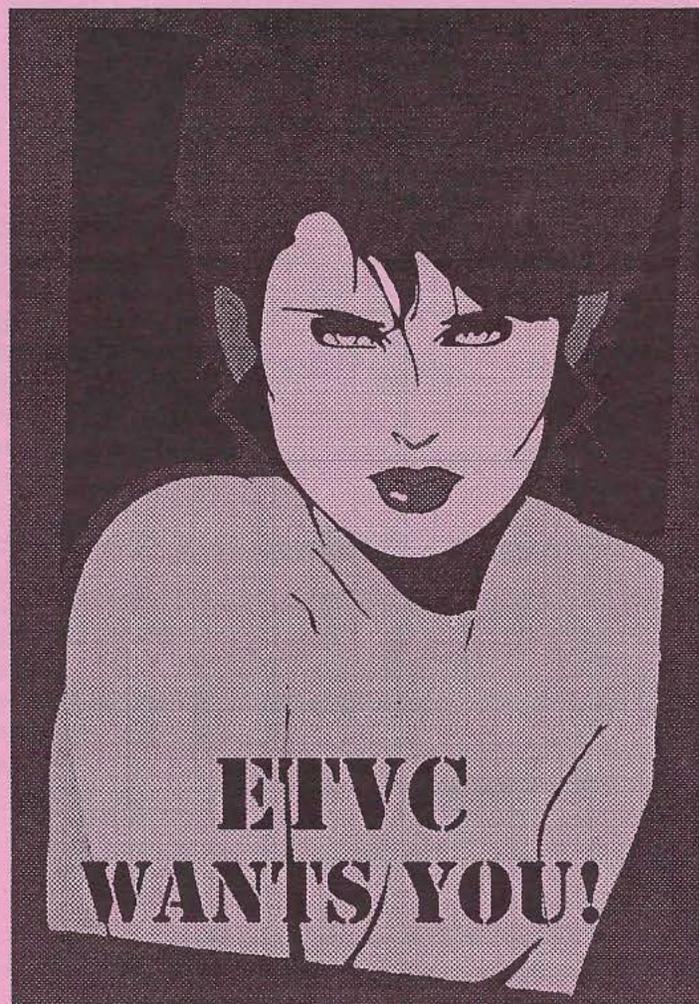
Une extra-speciale sociale pour tout les femmes d'ETVC. Et cheepe too.

\$3 members et
\$5 guests.

C'est magnifique!

Couples Group

The Couples Group will be meeting again on Thursday, March 21 and April 18. This is a great opportunity for you and your significant other to get together with other couples from our club. Call Ginny at (415) [REDACTED] for more information or to volunteer as a hostess for this special event.



contact any ETVC officer for information about running for office.

TV/TS/TQ GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

A Calendar of Events for March & April



MARCH

1	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408)
4	ETVC	Outreach Committee	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408)
5	Foxy Lady Social	7:30 - 9:30 PM	San Francisco	(415)
6	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(415)
8	ETVC	Poker Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Francisco	(415)
9	ETVC	Education Committee	Meets at 12:30	Chez Mollet	(415)
9	ETVC	Stress Reduction	Starts at 2 PM	Chez Mollet	(415)
9	ETVC	Executive Committee	Starts at 8 PM	Sunnyvale	(408)
9	ETVC/RGA	Daybreak	Starts at 8 PM	Mountain View	(408)
11	ETVC/RGA	Rap Group	Meets 8-10 PM	San Jose	(408)
13	ETVC	Social Committee	Starts at 8 PM	Richmond	(415)
14	ETVC	Significant Others Support	Meets 8-10 PM	San Francisco	(415)
15	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408)
16	ETVC	Bay Cruise	12 Noon	South Marina	(See page 4)
20	ETVC	Society of Janus	Starts at 8 PM	Chez Mollet	(415)
20	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(415)
21	ETVC	Couples Social	Starts at 8 PM	TBA	(415)
22	RGA	Poker Social	Starts at 8 PM	Sunnyvale	(408)
23	SGA	Dinner/Social	Starts at 7 PM	Sacramento	(916)
28	ETVC	Hollywood Bazaar	Starts at 8 PM	Chez Mollet	(415)
29	Pac Ctr	Open Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(415)

APRIL

1	ETVC	Outreach Committee	Starts at 8 PM	San Lorenzo	(415)
2	Foxy Lady Social	7:30 - 9:30 PM	San Francisco	(415)
3	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(415)
5	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408)
6	ETVC	Executive Committee	Starts at 8 PM	Richmond	(408)
8	ETVC/RGA	Rap Group	Meets 8-10 PM	San Jose	(408)
10	ETVC	Social Committee	Starts at 8 PM	San Francisco	(415)
11	ETVC	Significant Others Support	Meets 8-10 PM	Pleasant Hill	(415)
12	ETVC	Poker Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Francisco	(415)
13	ETVC	Education Committee	Meets at 12:30	Chez Mollet	(415)
13	ETVC	SOS Speaks Out	Starts at 2 PM	Chez Mollet	(415)
13	ETVC/RGA	Daybreak	Starts at 8 PM	Mountain View	(408)
17	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(415)
18	ETVC	Couples Social	Starts at 8 PM	TBA	(415)
19	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408)
25	ETVC	April in Paris	Starts at 8 PM	Chez Mollet	(415)
22	RGA	Poker Social	Starts at 8 PM	Sunnyvale	(408)
26	Pac Ctr	Open Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(415)
27	SGA	Dinner/Social	Starts at 7 PM	Sacramento	(916)

OTHER GROUPS

Pacific Center for Human Growth, a counseling-oriented growth center, sponsors all-inclusive gender support groups on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, and last Friday of the month at 8:00 PM. The Center is located at 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. Call (415) [REDACTED] for more information.

Rainbow Gender Association (RGA) meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at 8:00 PM at the New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose. RGA can be contacted by writing: Rainbow Gender Association, PO Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170.

Sacramento Gender Association (SGA) meets at 7PM on the fourth Saturday of each month upstairs at the Town & Country Inn's restaurant 2060 Auburn Blvd. Sacramento; call (916) [REDACTED] for directions. Write Jennifer Richards, PO Box 417701, Sacramento, CA 95841 for more information.

The Tenderloin Self Help Centre meets every Wednesday from 4-6 PM at 191 Golden Gate (at Leavenworth), San Francisco, CA. This is a project of the Central City Community Hospitality House funded by the Community Mental Health Services. Call (415) [REDACTED] for details.

Let's Talk

Two months have passed already? Where does the time fly? Within these two months we have experienced some very impressive seminars.

On December 8, Bill Henkin and Sybil Holiday of Partners in Process came to present their ideas on alternate personas with a discussion, question and slide session. It's almost fashionable these days to talk about "the child within." Bill and Sybil have taken this concept further. There can be many "selves." Many of us are familiar with a masculine and feminine self, and that many people may act and think very differently when crossdressed. This seminar was extremely educational.

Jamie Green and Loren Cameron of the Female to Male community came on December 19, to speak and answer questions about themselves. Perhaps no other seminar was so difficult for the presenters as they spoke about their personal histories in front of an audience. That takes courage. Thank you both again for sharing your lives with us.

Many of their experiences were similar to ours. Their ideas on the fluidity of gender and the need to be the expression of who we are inside were discussed. And, of course, the bathroom is a major issue for both FTM and MTF. Jamie's worst experience of being a man was to feel a woman's fear just by being a man. From their perspective, genetic men are generally more isolated and afraid than they look or act. They aren't so socialized as women and it is harder for them to feel the pains experienced in life, from separation, divorce or even the death of loved ones. This seminar was truly one of the finest. I was extremely impressed by the quality of the thoughtful and thought provoking questions.

Luanna Rodgers, a professional psychotherapy counselor, spoke to us on January 23. As she sees the gender issue, the real patient is society. Self-acceptance will enable a successful discussion with others about your issues. It's important to be positive about your position and supportive to your significant other.

Therapy needs to be a nurturing process. Be careful with labels and boxes. Make your own journey and expect real joy from this aspect of yourself and life in general.

"Where can I find all the educational materials that ETVC offers, in one location and time?" is a question heard often. Look no further: in June, the Education Committee has plans to bring everything to the Chez for its education event.

You will be able to see the books of the circulating library, the newspaper clippings, and the articles we can offer you.

- Jessica

A Visit with Margie Boyle

Make-up expert Margie Boyle started by introducing Jean Eagan, one of her representatives. After giving a before and now history of Avon (started by a man), she began to prepare our model, Billie Jo, by discussing and instructing how to cleanse, tone and moisturize the skin using the Avon skin test to find skin type. There were questions and suggestions about beard cover; then Margie had everyone use the color guides to find their color base - pink or peach - warm or cool. After discussing and demonstrating applying and blending foundation, powder and blush, the eyes came next. Eyeliner, shadow and mascara were discussed in detail.

Some of her basic points included:

1. After using cleanser to remove makeup, cleanse again.
2. An appropriate diet will promote healthy skin.
3. Apply foundation sparingly.
4. Use a brush to apply powder to prevent wiping.
5. Use blush to bring out other facial features.
6. Use brow pencil to fill in missing hairs, but not to create the entire eyebrow.
7. Use a natural color eyeliner to highlight or define pale eyes.
8. Use eyeshadow to lighten deep-set eyes and to darken flat eyes.
9. Mascara is used to thicken and lengthen eyelashes.
10. Use lipliner darker than chosen lipstick color.
11. Fragrance identifies you or you identify with it.

Margie did a wonderful job, considering this was her first time with crossdressers. She is interested in providing us with Avon representatives in our areas and also a preferred customer account through Margie where Avon ships direct to your house. Anyone who is interested may call me at 415- [REDACTED]

- Paulette

Library Available to You

Among the services being developed by ETVC is that of a lending library. There is a roster of books and magazines to please many tastes and interests.

Listed in the fiction category, for example, is *Miss High-Heels*, a classic crossdressing book privately printed in 1931. *Miss High-Heels* tell the story of a spoiled young man of 18, born into upper English society. Written in the first person, the narrator describes how he is transformed into Denise by his step-sister who takes over his estate. Eventually he realizes that he loves his life as a young girl, and he abandons his male future to live his life as a girl, under the continued strict supervision of his step-sister.

Another striking book, this time in the non-fiction category, which may interest many TV's and TS's is *Hollywood and History, Costume Design in Film*. It shows many lovely pictures and sketches from all the movie studios. Social and economic conditions are examined, as shown by the changing tastes of the cinema; there is a section on make-up and hair styles, as well as information about the historical film and influences of retail fashion. Costumes in hundreds of period films are described with nearly 300 illustrations.

The entire library will be brought to the June social at the Chez. You can also contact members of the education committee for an application to borrow a book. There is a \$10 deposit for all loaned materials.

CA LIC. #M8288

LIN FRASER, M.A./MFCC
PSYCHOTHERAPIST
SEX RELATED PROBLEMS-GENDER COUNSELING

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SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94115

BY APPOINTMENT
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CROSSDRESSERS COTILLION 1991



Diahanna, cleverly disguised, welcomes the crowd to kick off Cotillion '91.

Dear ETVC members,

Please allow me this opportunity to thank everyone who attended Cotillion 1991 and to congratulate Cecile, Miss ETVC 1991. I also congratulate all of the contestants for first, being a contestant, and second, for being outstanding representatives of ETVC. I would also like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make Cotillion '91 a night to remember.

To Cecile, I wish you all the best this year and please know that I will be there whenever you need me.

For those of you who are interested, I will still be performing at various shows with the Courts and I encourage you all to come. Don't worry, kids, you haven't gotten rid of me yet, even though Bridgette is determined to teach me the difference between "have to" and "want to" attend.

It has been an honor and a privilege to be Miss ETVC 1990 and I would like to remind each and every one of you that you do not need to be Miss ETVC to represent the club. We are all representatives of ourselves, ETVC and the gender community. Please be a representative with class, dignity and grace so that others may learn and understand.

With love,
Tiffany, Miss ETVC 1990.



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DRESSERS'

LLION

01

Showdown at the California Club

How many times has this happened to you? Dressed nicely, you show up at the Chez for the November meeting and you run into a recruiter. Be all that you can be. We're looking for a few good, ahem, men. Right, I think as I smooth a wrinkle in my skirt. I'll just be on my way over to the bar.

"Not so fast," says the sly recruiter, "Wouldn't you like to run for Miss ETVC?"

"Right. Look, I really must be on my way. I hate to keep a drink waiting."

"OK, suit yourself. But why sit it out when you could be wearing 'The Dress'", the persistent recruiter propositioned.

"You mean the one in black and gold that will make me look like Ginger?"

"Oh yes," says the crafty recruiter.

"Eat your heart out Gilligan. Sign me up."

Well, the first thing you know, Laura's doing up my hair. Pack up my outfits and some underwear. California Club's the place I gotta be, so I throw on The Dress and take a look at me (sing to theme from the Beverly Hillbillies).

Well one thing the foxy recruiter didn't tell me was how fierce the competition was going to be. I was shouted out every inning. Beaten to every punch. But I guess it's just as well. I never was fast on my feet and I was really sweating having to answer the "DREADED FINALIST QUESTION."

Imagine this exchange:

Judge: "What do you like best about crossdressing?"

Me: "D. All of the above."

Judge: "What? This isn't multiple choice. It's more like an essay. Now answer the question."

Me: "It's a great way to meet girls!"

Judge: "Right Next!"

No, really. Why just the other day I was browsing around the lingerie department for a new bra at a major unnamed department store when a cute, young salesgirl came up to me and asked, "Are we having fun?"

"Oh yes," I replied happily. "We're having lots of fun. As a matter of fact, we're having a really good time!" What a swell way to meet girls.

But anyway, I lost. If you want to compete to be Miss ETVC, you've got to be good. But don't let me discourage you 'cause who knows which of you girls out there has the right stuff. You could be next year's Miss ETVC.

- Cynthia



Backstage, Louise helps Robin prepare for the big event.

Images

We had a small cast party after the Cotillion and sat around watching videos of the Gay Continental pageant, which is an incredibly beautiful and very professional, world class female impersonator show. We watched the beautiful figures dance and sing on the screen and dreamed of becoming like them.

When I got up the next morning, I had the urge to put my hair up the way someone had suggested, and with skillful makeup and dangling earrings, in my black slip and textured stockings, I looked incredibly beautiful, like the images I had seen. But then I had nowhere to go. I didn't even dare to step out the door. I took it all off, still excited by the image, but not able to endure the pain of being unable to make use of it.

At the party, as we watched the images, the cocktail conversations drifted to mention a video fantasy in which a man liked watching a woman so much he wanted to become her, and through some magic he was able to take her place and become her, but he had to murder her in the process. I think many of us, in our own quiet way commit similar murders periodically. We steal the physical appearance, but we lose the soul.

- Rhonda

Edited by Ronda Schneider

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Part 2

(The following is the second excerpt from a talk given by Fraser in August 1990)

How did you get this way? What kinds of things happened in your childhood that may have been a contributing factor? What I say is based on listening to lots of life stories of lots of different people. There are basically two paths; well, there are three, but two that are very different.

One is the gender dysphoria secondary to homosexuality. That's the sissy boy. There's a lot of work being done by Susan Coates in New York now and Ken Zucer in Canada and Richard Green at UCLA working with crossgender identified boys. That's not most of you, in terms of what I see in practice when we talk about your history, and when I interact with you here.

There's usually been a very close family system, very close to the mother. If you ever read some of the psychodynamic literature by Robert Stoller, he talks a lot about this group. He calls this "primary transsexualism." This child never really has any conflict, and the theory is that he never separates from Mom in the separation, individuation stages of development, which is between ages two and four.

This also may be the person who has a biologic basis to the crossgender behavior. We don't know. The biologic studies are inconclusive, but we do have some. Louis Gooren is doing some really good work in the Netherlands, and Eicher and Doerner in Germany. With these extremely effeminate boys, there may have been some "in utero" effect on development of the brain. Joe Gonzalez (over here in the audience) hopefully is going to find out with his PET scans and other biologic research, and perhaps some day working on the biologic end of gender disorders, we will know more.

These boys are always very effeminate. They are like a girl from the word go. They are only attracted to men and have always been. They are apparently at a very early age trying to repair some kind of damage to their Mom by becoming the Mom; Susan Coates' work on this is absolutely fascinating. They often come from homophobic backgrounds, a lot of Catholicism or other religious backgrounds.

This is also the phenomenon that we see when we look at crossgender identity in non-eastern preliterate and cross cultural studies. Many cultures have a place for this population, a third gender if you will. There's the berdache in Native American studies, the Acault in Burma, the Kahunain in the South Pacific, the hijras in India.

What you tend to find there are people who are somewhere in between the spirit and the flesh. They are often priest-like people or shamans. They will often live in the female gender and marry men. The majority of people in our culture who start out that way develop homosexual orientations as adults and seldom take the extreme path of transsexuals.

Everyone else that I work with comes from a background where they are not particularly effeminate as children. Transsexuals in this group usually, but not always, experience an earlier onset of crossgender identity than crossdressers. The early onset transsexuals seldom fetishize. They have very little sexuality associated with crossdressing and very little sexuality at all. Their relationship to their penis is neutral or negative. Except for those things, everything else is similar in terms of history for both the crossdressers and transsexuals in this group.

Both seem to come from a background where there is very little touching. This may not apply to you, but I have found it common among most clients. They didn't get a lot of touching and they didn't have much discussion growing up in their family system about sex or sexuality. So when the child is developing, he develops his sexuality in private, and then he may reinforce his crossdressing with masturbation.

He doesn't tell anybody about his crossdressing. He never learned anything about it, or that anyone might ever condone such a thing. Often they come from a working class background. Lots of people I work with are not themselves working class, but are professionals

who have come from such a background, where male identity and female identity were polarized.

There was a big difference between who men were and who women were. Usually mother was not available all the time. She was there, but it was not the close kind of thing I was talking about with the sissy boys. She's not there all the time, and she is often withholding, particularly when it comes to touching. The father is either inconsequential, absent, or he is disliked. He is a negative, or at best a neutral. Even so, the father is sometimes perceived as more nurturing than the mother.

Women have the power in this kind of family, or that is what it looks like to the child. It is often an extended family and there are a lot of women around, so the child is often in the company of women, and he likes that. These are mother's sons rather than father's sons. Possibly in this family a girl was wanted; this happens sometimes. Somewhere along the line the child decided it was better to be a girl.

Occasionally you run into sexual child abuse; and in the cases where that happen, often the crossgender identity is developed as a response to that. That's when you get into dissociative states and multiple personalities.

Once in a while, I will talk to someone who was forced to be crossdressed, but that is rare. You see that in the literature, but in my practice most people remember that they crossdressed themselves. It was something internal. Some people recognize it was a transitional object for Mom. Mom was gone and they put the clothes on to be close to Mom. They felt with the clothing there was a safety and comfort and security, kind of like holding, the feeling of being held.

As adolescents, most of my clients were introverted and shy, and their social and sexual skills were not well developed. There wasn't a lot of dating or a history of many different women – very little contact with real girls. So there was a lot of opportunity to develop the image of the feminine in private.

From a Jungian perspective, people I see are usually introverted, thinking, sensation types. What that means is that a lot of the psychological material is going on internally. It's a very rich internal world. That's one of the reasons I like working with this community. There's usually a tremendous amount of internal stuff going on.

The thinking orientation comes out in the kinds of jobs that are picked – large numbers of engineers, and computer people, and people who are comfortable with things and manipulating the environment. They are interested in details, concreteness. Sensations types concretize experience. They concretize the image of the feminine to make it real. And it feels good and gives them security.

One of the things that I find very interesting is that I have only found this kind of phenomenon in the West and Japan. I am only aware of it in the U.S. and Canada, Northern Europe, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Japan. The other kind I was talking about earlier, the sissy boy and the effeminate homosexual is what you see more often in less technological cultures, including Southern Europe.

What I think might be going on is that as we become industrialized, we have a nuclear family where we don't have much contact with the father. The father is out in the world, and there is not much available role modeling there. Also when we look at the cultures where the non-homosexual type is prevalent, and now I'm getting into Jungian theory, they are cold and untouching cultures and there is little connection with the goddess. The cultures are not warm and spontaneous and connected with the earth.

In the Southern European cultures, at least you do have the Madonna – I'm not saying that's great – and there are a lot of cultures in the East with a wide variety of goddess images, where the image of good is not patriarchal, not male identified. I think you're hooking into the lack of that in this culture at a very early age. The culture needs to do it. We need a lot more female images out there.

Crossdressing within a Relationship

Part 3: Partner's Feelings

When you share with your partner that you crossdress or have crossgender feelings, you are sharing something very important about yourself; and you are demonstrating that you love and trust your partner and believe in the strength of your relationship and future together. You are also asking your partner to embark on uncharted waters without a map, and with no shelf of marital guides to show the way. You are challenging your partner's vision of you and asking your partner to examine a multitude of beliefs held and taught by society at large. You are asking your partner to grapple with issues of how and from whom to find support and community. You may be asking your partner to reconsider long-held ideas about gender, sexuality, and partnership. In short, discussing and working out gender-related issues within a partnership is challenging, but can be rewarding. You must expect a period of readjustment, however, requiring patience and communication. Think of the period of adjustment you and your partner may have gone through just moving to a new house - well, this is bigger!

Initially, upon disclosure of your crossdressing your partner may be extremely surprised. After all, you are unquestionably male and function in the world successfully as a male. No wonder your partner finds it hard to believe or understand your interest in things feminine.

It is important to remember that you have had a very long time to grapple with the issue of your crossdressing. It's been a part of you since childhood or early adolescence, but this is new for your partner. Your partner has not had the benefit of years of re-examining society's attitudes toward this phenomenon, working on overcoming prejudices, and building an attitude of acceptance. Confronted with the news of being in a relationship with a crossdressing or crossgendered person, your partner may well experience many of the feelings that you once did: shame, confusion, a sense of being different, the burden of carrying a secret, fear of discovery, feeling there is no one to talk to who would understand, anger and a feeling of "Why me?" You may have already dealt with these issues, but for your partner they may seem large and overwhelming.

Your partner may go through a range of feelings: denial that this

can really be so, anger and a sense of betrayal, fear of losing you, confusion over who you really are, or concern over discovery by others, such as neighbors, friends, or family, especially children. It is normal to have these feelings, especially initially. What you can offer at this time is your love and caring, patience, factual information, and a willingness to communicate without being rigid or defensive. Let your partner know that you understand the feelings she is experiencing and that it has been a difficult road toward self-acceptance for you too. Offer the realistic and hope-giving information that many couples have found ways to handle the issue of crossdressing or crossgender feelings within their relationship and that you are not alone. This can also be a good time for the two of you to consult a gender therapist who is familiar with couples' issues.

- Luanna Rodgers, MFCC

Luanna Rodgers is a therapist specializing in work with the gender community. She has offices in San Francisco and the East Bay.



Ralph Judd Collection

Happy Saint Patrick's Day

Cliff Arquette, Pat Brady

"The Roy Rogers and Dale Evans Show" ABC October 13, 1962

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DAZZLE 'EM!

Beauty Hints

Think of your face as a canvas that has to be properly prepared before you start putting your colors on.

Most crossdressers know that you have to use moisturizer, foundation and powder to ready your face, but if you are only rubbing and spreading and not blotting and pressing you may not be getting the best results.

After you've cleared your beard hair, always begin by putting on moisturizer. This keeps your skin's moisture in and helps protect the skin from irritants in cosmetics. Don't make the mistake of simply spreading moisturizer on and letting it dry. Apply and then after a minute or two get rid of the excess by either pressing it into the skin with your fingers or by blotting with a tissue and blot all excess. If you don't clear the excess your makeup will slip around on your face.

Put on your beard cover, if any, and your foundation by dabbing it into the skin with a sponge, or by using your fingers. Smearing a cream base all over and then smoothing it out may be the quick way to get it on, but you will get a much nicer look (and use far less gunk) if you spot the base around your face and spread it thinly. Take your time and you'll end up with great coverage that is extremely sheer. I use a product called Daydew, better known as Anita's of Hollywood, that goes on superbly with this method. This is premium stuff and it is pricey, but it has zinc oxide in it so your skin actually feels better after you use it! It's available through the Beauty Store and More chain.

The next step is really a matter of preference. You can do your highlighting and contouring and then powder or you can powder first, as I do, highlight and contour and then polish off with touch-up powder later.

Whichever way you prefer, after lightly brushing on powder you FUSE it to the foundation by pressing it into the skin with your fingers or a cotton ball. This is very important. If you do it right (and it's hard not to do it right) you'll have a beautiful matte look without the "snowgirl" appearance you can get from having too much powder just laying on the skin. Let it sit for a couple of minutes before doing anything else. This is a good time to get on your first coat of mascara.

If you prefer a "dewy" look to a matte finish, wet a cotton ball or tissue with an mild astringent (or just dampen it with water) and tap very lightly against your face. This will take the matte look away without removing anything.

From here you can go on to your eyes, cheeks and lips confident that your canvas is all ready for your personal artistry.

(Much of this information was condensed from "Making Up by Rex," an excellent reference guide to advanced make-up artistry).



Video Library Listings

Lauren, our video librarian, tells us that these are the latest additions to our holdings. For information on getting copies contact her through our PO Box.

FI-21 Sally Jesse Raphael/Beauty pageant for FI's/1 hr/1990

Brandi Alexander, Lady Baronessa, and Lauren Colby, three former pageant winners, appear. Brandi performs. A Baptist minister, who is very predictable, offers his opinions. Good show.

TVTS39 Sally Jesse Raphael/Various TS's/40 mins

Patricia, articulate and feminine TS. Catherine, a young and pretty TS. Jerri, an older TS. Dr. Terence Malloy thinks TS is an emotional or behavior problem. Sarah, a TS in audience.

TVTS40 Sally Jesse Raphael/Various TVTS/45 mins

Frank, F to M TS won't have final surgery. Sherri is Sean. Sean's daughter is very supportive, cousin Jennifer is Sean's best friend. Therapist Lynn Hubscam, ACSW has up to date view.

TVTS41 Sally Jesse Raphael/TG's/1 hr

Billy Tipton's story with wife, Kit, and son, Billy Jr., Maria TG. Renee from ETVC and her girl friend Deborah. Leah Schafer, psychologist knows her stuff. First show I've seen about TG's.

TVTS42 Geraldo/TS Regrets/1 hr

Jerri became a man and then became a woman again. Jerri's daughter is on too. Brian was Natalie a well known N.Y. singer. Kate, lesbian TS, very pretty and together. Jayne Thomas, TS and psychologist. Dr. Richard Friend, psychologist.

TVTS43 Sally Jesse Raphael/Seniors Who Dress/1 hr

Lee, 70 yr old married TV. Roni, 60 yr old TV. Jane, 63 yr old TV with three grand kids. Janice, 61 yr old TV married, 13 grand kids. Julie, daughter of Roni. Rachel, daughter of Janice, very accepting. Paula Sinclair, TV beauty and fashion consultant, writes column for "Lady Like."

TVTS44 Sally Jesse Raphael/Various TV's/1 hr

Miss Terri, TS who ran for mayor of Yountville, CA. Grace Phillips, with help of wife became a woman to get singing jobs, nice femme voice, not a TV. Eddie becomes Jeanie and Hazel stays in the relationship. Miss Terri surprisingly is not very understanding of their decision.

TVTS45 Entertainment Tonight/5 mins/1990

Tula, a TS that becomes a European model and appears in a James Bond movie. She's 6 feet tall and gorgeous. Also Elgin Kenna, Cher impersonator.

TVTS46 A Current Affair/10 mins

In London, Stephanie Lloyd, a TS, started a store and hotel for TV's called Transformations. She's married to David and is very pretty and has a good voice.

ETVC14 Miss ETVC Cotillion 1991/3 hrs/1991

Available on one tape. An edited version will be available in the future. It will be less than two hours and contain only the contest itself.

LIBRARY DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS ACCEPTED

ETVC is accepting books, magazines and tapes for the ETVC book library. Make room for more dresses in your closet by donating some books or magazines to ETVC, P.O. Box 6486, San Francisco 94101

Martina's Klostent

How many of us enjoyed the Cotillion? We had a superb turnout from the gay community with notables from Stockton, Modesto, and San Jose. Not overlooking Alameda and San Francisco who had a table each. Estimated attendance was over 200 and outside of a few power outages, this was one of the best events yet. How can we improve? A larger hall with better facilities would help, but may not be practical unless someone finds the ideal solution. Do you have any complaints? Unless you are a new member, you have only one person to blame. How could you have helped to improve the event? That's right - volunteer! My praise is truly insufficient to properly acknowledge the work that Stephanie and Diane undertook to make this the event it was.

Nominations for ETVC offices will be finalized in less than one month. Candidates must get their biography in for publication in the May newsletter and that means they must turn them in by the March social. Last month I offered a list of qualifications for President. Remember I said that I qualified on no more than half. Well, the newsletter has been out for a week already and I have yet to hear anyone expressing a desire to take office. Contact me at 408-██████████ or call anyone listed in the calendar and leave your name (whom to ask for) and number if you believe you would like to run.

I had been considering ignoring world events and I have successfully done so until now. Whether you are a hawk or a dove, I suggest you pray for peace! Support our military and the president! If you must protest, do so peaceably; some of the recent protests in SF have been outright war against the city, the state and the nation. Do not call that treason! By the time you read this, I may have changed my mind and actually be in favor of campaigning for peace.

Jane Kamper Bentley

A Better Way

This is being written January 20. The war with Iraq is not yet one week old. No one knows when the war will end or how it will end.

As we must have learned by now, there is no such thing as a war to end wars. Even "total" victory is not the beginning of peace, but of a new series of conflicts which may, and often do, result in new wars.

Yet the need for peace - and peaceful resolution of conflicts - is a palpable necessity. War, in addition to failing as a problem solver, has become too expensive, diverting attention and resources from the most urgent business of our time, saving the world from ecological catastrophe.

War, itself, is an environmental disaster. Sixty Minutes reports that Saddam Hussein may be willing to deliberately set off calamitous oil well explosions. We already know about his threats to use nerve gas. Our own "surgical" bombing of Mr. Hussein's nuclear and chemical weapons plants is releasing unknown amounts of lethal contaminants into the air, soil and water. In the background lurks the awful possibility of a nuclear escalation.

All of this because million of people have entrusted or had thrust upon them two proud and unimaginative men with godlike powers of destruction. There must be a better way. I don't know what it is, but I am beginning to have some ideas.

They are not new ideas. They may be older than the dimmest recorded memories of our patriarchal culture. But they are exciting and full of hope, because they are based upon the possibility that once upon a time, humanity in many parts of the world was able to live without violent conflicts or crushing inequality. They are offered in a book I have recently read: *The Chalice and The Blade*, by Riane Eisler.

Ten thousand years ago and more, according to the author, Neolithic (or new Stone Age) cultures based upon agriculture and fishing thrived in Eastern Europe and Asia Minor. There is little or no physical evidence that they developed because of hierarchical or militaristic motivations. Rather the reverse. Instead of arrows and spears, archaeologists have unearthed fish hooks, farming implements, ornamental artwork and religious shrines dedicated to the Goddess. Towns were built not primarily as or near fortresses, but in beautiful (and militarily indefensible) settings. They were not "dominator" patriarchal societies, but matriarchal, "partnership," societies.

What's important to me about *The Chalice and the Blade* is that its message resonates with my own experience. When our family was ruled by a bullying male (me), we were a lot less happy than we are now as we become more and more of a partnership. By giving up my jealously guarded prerogative of power, I am discovering true power and happiness.

I am intrigued and encouraged, therefore, by the possibility that whole civilizations may once have been able to enjoy what our family is just beginning to tap. That's why I heartily recommend *The Chalice and the Blade* to everyone.

Probably there are a lot of sophisticated, realpolitik reasons why we must resort to Mr. Bush's means of bringing about a new world order. But the plain fact is that the only order to which the patriarchy and its wars are leading us is the frozen, perfect order of death.

Three guys are walking through a wood when they find a magic lamp. One rubs and out pops a genie who offers them each one wish. The first says "I'd like to be 100 times smarter" and the genie makes it so. The second says "I'd like to be 1000 times smarter" and the genie makes it so. The last says "I'd like to be a million times smarter" and the genie turns him into a woman.

Top Ten Reasons to have Male to Female Sex Change

10. Feel like a woman trapped in a man's body.
9. So you can get into an all-girls college.
8. Don't have to pay for dinner dates.
7. Guys buy all your drinks.
6. Guys hold doors for you.
5. Reducing skating admission on "Ladies Night."
4. Lounges in ladies rooms.
3. Great way to avoid creditors.
2. Annoy and confuse friends, family and neighbors.
1. Lower car insurance rates

—Author unknown

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Gender Alternatives League: Activist Group Gets Started

The Gender Alternatives League held its first board of directors meeting on January 27, and has quickly become a national activist umbrella group for the transgendered community. We are establishing an advisory council consisting of the leaders of local and national groups throughout the U.S. Soon we will be publishing the New Transgenderist.

The board of directors for the league are Ms. Cynthia Howard, Executive Director, who is also affiliated with ETVC, RGA, SGA, IMAGE, IFGE, Tri-Ess and Eclipse. Carolyn [redacted] is the vice-president and is associated with ETVC, IMAGE, SGA and Eclipse. Our secretary is Toni [redacted] (an SO) also affiliated with IMAGE, and our treasurer is Trina Martina [redacted], president of ETVC, who is also affiliated with RGA and SGA. We would also like to welcome from Northern California; Sheryl Ann [redacted], president of SGA as head of the Public Education Committee; Charla [redacted] president of IMAGE; Laura Hotchkiss of ETVC and RGA as head of public relations and media; Renee [redacted] of SGA, ETVC, Tri-Ess and IMAGE; and Roberta [redacted] and Marcia [redacted] of SGA. From Southern California, we would like to welcome to the advisory council Kymberleigh RRichards, president of the Valley Girls and publisher of Crosstalk, and Ann Blackwood, president of TAG.

Our first meeting took place in the restaurant of the Holiday Inn in Vallejo. The hotel was somewhat busy since many people came in to watch the Superbowl on the big screen TV in their bar, but we had other matters to consider. Although the hotel staff and the hostess were not aware of our group before we came in (we walked in like the regular people we are), they are now. They went out of their way to set up seating for 20 and had the cook working a little harder than usual. Were we read as a group? Yes. And, since the service was good, we all left good tips.

On the way out, I decided to take a little survey and asked the hostess what she thought of our group. "Oh, it was great. I loved serving all of you!"

I have noticed one fact about being in public as a woman: if you hang your head, hide your face, shift your eyes and sneak around corners, you are looked at with suspicion. The fact is, if you act like you are doing something wrong, someone will peg you and think you are. Let's raise our chins, brighten our smiles and be the best that we can be.

For more information, write to GAL, PO Box 3392, Napa, CA.

- Cynthia Howard



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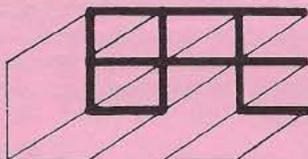
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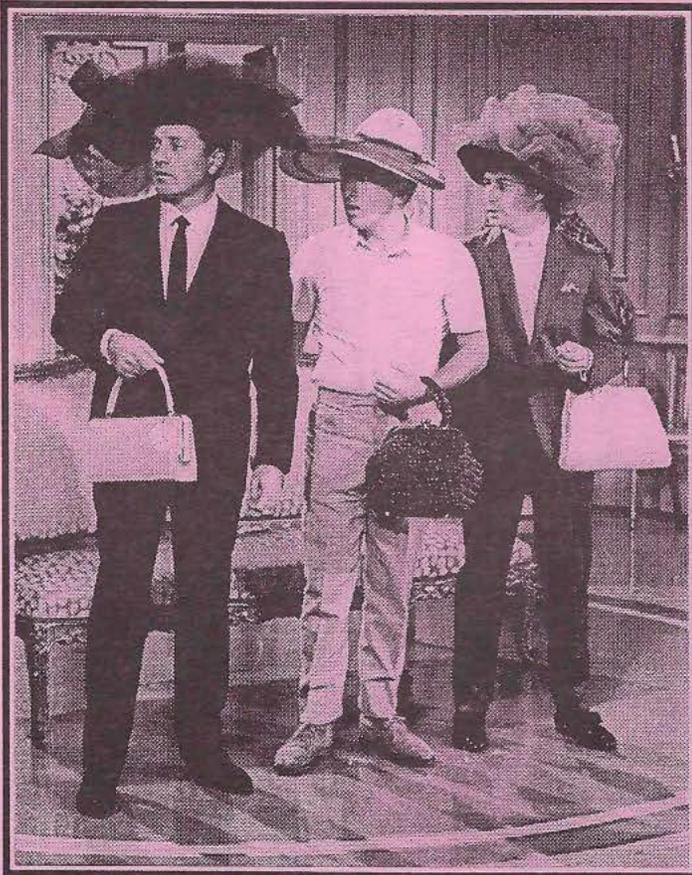
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March

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