

# Chi Chapter Tribune

Vol# XXXVII July, 1998  
Issue # 7

## MEET US IN THE “GARDEN”



### Presidents Podium

#### July Meeting:

The Garden Party is well into it's second planning stage. Christine and I met with CGS on June 23rd and continued our in depth discussions regarding plastic cups and tents. Yes, we will have tents, and open bar with wine, beer and pop, catered food and two DJ's providing music and the atmosphere for dancing. There is ample parking on the +8 acres of land, changing rooms will be available on a first come basis after 3pm, with the Party starting at 4pm.

A map and exact location in West Chicago will be found on page 4. Tickets are available at Transformations and Rachel's Wigs or by reservation on the chapter hotline (630)262-8707. Tickets will not be sold at the door, and are \$30 per person which includes wine, beer and pop at no extra cost. Liqueur will not be available due to liability issues.

#### August Meeting...

The August meeting will feature an Ice Cream Social, complete with various ice creams, cones, toppings and maybe even bananas. It is a warm month and the ice cream will be served right after a short business meeting. More in the next *TRIBUNE*.

#### Room Rates

Several months ago I spoke to the manager of the Holiday Inn questioning the increase of room rates from \$69 to \$79. He stated that this was due to increased costs and that this cost was guaranteed to our members. I have heard from some that they were charged \$90 or so for their room. The manager has told

me that if you were charged more than \$79 +tax for your room, please let me know at the next meeting or mail me a copy of the bill.

#### Moved...

Recently Barbara Diane B. ran in the local MS walk for her wife Barbara B. who has MS. Chi Chapter contributed \$50 towards the walk. Barbara B. is also recuperating from a minor surgery but was back to help out at the food table last meeting.

#### Misc...

There seems to be some misunderstanding regarding food at the meetings. Several years ago, the board met to cut costs and keep the meeting fee of \$10 from going up. One of the decisions was a budget for the food costs. Instead of providing a full meal complete with cooked food and desserts we would only have snacks such as hot dogs, sandwiches and munchies along with soda pop and coffee. Of course, if we are having a special event (Thanksgiving etc) we may deviate from this course.

ALSO, other than munchies and pop, all food is available AFTER the program portion of the meeting. The food people have a lot of work on their hands setting up the tables and it would be appreciated if you don't make repeated requested for food before it is ready to be served.

If anyone would like to bring a desert or other dish to the meeting, that also would be appreciated.

#### Elections...

Are approaching, nominations in October, only three months away. If you want to serve the group or are just interested in what the various positions are, please see next months *TRIBUNE* for a list of the positions and various duties involved.

Denise



## 50 reasons you might be a crossdresser. (Part 1)

By Naomi

- If your hair-do has ever stopped a ceiling fan.
- If your nightgown is made of camouflage fabric
- If you know how to use an eye lash curler
- If you think a Volvo is part of a woman's anatomy
- If your hair remover is "Easy Off"
- If you change clothes 4 to 6 times a day.
- If you believe good make-up, like good paint, requires a primer coat.
- If your favorite fragrance is "Janitor in a Drum"
- If you have to ask the sales lady: "Do you have this in a size 52?"
- If your feet have ever been sent to an Intensive Care Unit.
- If you have ever worn a garter belt under fishing waders.
- If you think the worst thing about having bags under your eyes is trying to find shoes to match.
- If your beard cover is called "Spackle"
- If your barber's name is Mr. Roxanne.
- If your gold card is from Lane Bryant.
- If every day is a bad hair day.
- If you receive more than 100 women's wear mail order catalogues per year.
- If you look in the mirror and see your mother.
- If you have ever used jumper cables as bra straps.
- If spandex and lycra have become your fabrics of choice.
- If you're not afraid to pump gas in rhinestones and chiffon.
- If your right shoe and your left shoe came in separate boxes.
- If you have ever used the word "darling".
- If you think a Bikini Wax is fun.

*By Naomi Owen, as given at the 1998 Be-All  
Part 2 next month.*

# Couples Group

The next couples group meeting will be at Kim & Denise's home on August 22nd at 6 p.m. For more information, please contact Kim at the meeting or drop a note via the PO Box.

Remember, there is no cross dressing at the couple's group.

### E-Mail Address List:

Amanda Lynn	mandy@mcs.net
Amy Andrea	AmyKath01@aol.com
Ann Nicole	Niki383044@aol.com
Athena	Athena13@usa.net
Carole L.	Carol2u@geocities.com
Chi Chapter	Chitriess@aol.com
Christine Adams	Cheesemtn@aol.com
Debbie B.	Dbender@starnetinc.com
Denise Peters	DenisePete@aol.com
Donna Martin	DJMTris@aol.com
Gloria Wright	GeeWright@aol.com
Jenee	JeneeMe@aol.com
Jeri Hall	jmax@pla-net.net
Julie Lang	Julieag343@aol.com
Kiki	Kikicar@aol.com
Linda N	Lincd99@aol.com
Lowla V.	Laowlatv@aol.com
Pamela A.	PamelaTV@aol.com (AOL users only) PamelaCDTV@hotmail.com(All others)
Paula K.	Paulatg54@aol.com
Rachel James	Racheljame@aol.com
TriEss Directory	Direct3S@aol.com



# What a Byte!

By Athena

## Websites of the Month:

Looking for a local computer club? Try **Digital Chicago** at:  
<http://www.digitalchi.com/>

If you enjoy a little cynicism with your morning coffee, try out **The Devil's Dictionary** by **Ambrose Bierce**:  
<http://herb.sdsmt.edu/~svass/devdict0.html>

## TechnoStress Quiz

It's Christmastime and someone actually buys you a computerized appliance such as a coffeemaker or mixer. What do you feel would be your reaction:

- A. Thrilled, excited, eager. You just can't wait to get to the thing and get it to work.
- B. Hesitant. Do you need this extra complexity in your life?
- C. No Thanks. You think that it's time to give the Returns department a call. Just what you need is a new fangled thing you can't even operate.

You just LOVE vacuous conversation when you watch TV but you can't watch RuPaul because you have to attend the opera. Therefore, it's time to break out the ole VCR. And you:

- A. Quickly program the show and actually watch the recording.
- B. Ask a family member to do the programming and hang around to see how they do it.
- C. Let a family member do the programming but if there is none available you don't bother. After all RuPaul is just a bit too good-looking to watch anyway.

Denise, the local computer-head called and she wants to show you her new MegaScream 600 MHz Pentium III MMMX-based computer which she bought at CompOverpriced. You:

- A. Drop your previous plans for a wild weekend at the Museum and rush over to her place and quickly crash her system because it's the fun thing to do.
- B. Murmur words of congratulations and promise to come over just as soon as the paint dries on your Titanic model.
- C. Pretend to listen to her blatherings about how much faster solitaire can be played on her new machine all the while you are searching for ways to evade her request.

I give you a call and I start blathering about a website I have just accessed through the World Wide Web. You:

- A. Get out your laptop and immediately key in the Http address.
- B. Have read somewhere or other about the World Wide Web but are more interested in the prices of the stocks than the addresses of the sites.
- C. Warn me that certain spiders can be poisonous and that I should get some bug killer.

If you answered A to these questions, congratulations, you are an Eager Adopter. You believe that the computer revolution is the best thing that has happened to personkind and you are definitely in the minority, making up only 10 to 15 percent of the population. And you are mostly male.

If you are a B person, you are a Hesitant Adopter. You need reasons to buy new technology and often that new technology winds up gathering dust in the corner or is under-used. Most people fall in this class (50 to 60 percent). You know that humankind must advance technologically but you are not sure that the benefits are worth it.

If you are C person, you are a Resister. You adopt the 'Just Say No' approach to new technology. And when you try new technology and you can't get it to work, you take it personally. You are often too embarrassed to get help when you fail in your often pathetic attempts to get the gizmo to work and as often as not the gizmo winds up being a planter or a book-end.

Let's face it...the computer revolution is here to stay and computers will manifest themselves in your life whether you like it or not. Next month I will make a suggestion or two to try to assist you Hesitants and especially you Resisters in trying to make live with the changes which will pervade your lives (whether you are ready or not)

Any suggestions for future articles? Drop me a line at:  
Athena13@usa.net

## ***TELLING YOUR CHILDREN***

By Jane Ellen and Frances Fairfax

The first principle about telling your children of your gender gift is that there is no principle. To our knowledge, no one has done prospective studies on the consequences of telling, or not telling, children. It does not appear that telling children about crossdressing encourages them to take up the practice. For many years, we have worked with families struggling with this issue. A few observations have occurred:

1. The very worst time to tell a child is adolescence. When a child is struggling with his/her own emerging sexuality and gender expression, the last thing he or she needs is to have a parent's sex and gender issues thrust on him/her.
2. Most people decide to tell their children on a 'need to know' basis. If you are going to be involved extensively in the transgender community, and be out and about, it is probably best to tell your child. In this way, you will have control over what he or she is told, and how. If someone else tells him/her first, you will not only have the cross dressing issue, but also the thornier issue of trust to deal with.
3. Much of the child's reaction depends on whether the parents present a united front. If your wife is encouraging and supportive, this factor will work for you in a big way. Children want first the secure knowledge that any given factor will not disturb the stability of their family. When the father tells them about the crossdressing, their first thought will be, "What does Mom think about this?" Just as with other aspects of parenting, mother and father must present a united front.
4. You may be surprised if you get some sort of non-committal reaction from the child. The news may be overwhelming. You should not push too hard, but you should reexpose him/her in low doses so that she/he does not go into denial.
5. If the child has another supportive relative with whom to talk over these, issues, that is all to the good.
6. How the child does in the long run will depend on the fruits crossdressing bears in his/her life. She/he will need his/her father for a masculine model. Crossdressing should not interfere with her/his social life. The crossdresser's desire to "be everything he is" should not prevent the child from bringing friends and peers home. Nor should the crossdresser try to force his values on his children's friends.
7. If you have any security considerations, we would advise meeting them by stressing to your child the impropriety of "telling other people your business". One doesn't tell peers, teachers, or even other family members, what salary Daddy makes, or what he occasionally likes to wear.
8. Depending on his or her age, a child may or may not have fears that he/she will lose you as a father. If she or he does, reassure the child if you can truthfully do so. You are the child's father, regardless of what you are wearing.
9. Love. Where children get plenty of this commodity, they do not tend to blot it out because of crossdressing.
10. As always, you do well to stress self-expression rather than the superficial clothing.

*From the Tri-Ess "Sweetheart Connection Newsletter"*

# LETTERS

CHI Chapter Tri-Ess

Dear Candace,

I'm writing this letter to inform you that I will be moving to the Los Angeles, CA area next month. I will be arriving there on or around the 31st. I will be working for Jim Bridges at his Boutique doing makeovers.

Since I will be too far away to attend any future meetings of CHI Chapter, I am sad to say that I will no longer be able to be a member of CHI. Therefore I ask that instead of sending any of the membership dues that I already paid out back to me, use that money to help any of the current members who need assistance in paying their dues or add it to the CHI Chapter treasury bank account.

I have enjoyed being a member of CHI over the past ten years (my first meeting was September 17, 1988) even though I have attended only a few dozen meetings, if that is correct. I've met some wonderful and interesting people at those meetings, people that I probably never would have met any other way. I hope that the people who know and met me as Linda have good memories of me and those who know and met me as Steve, also have good memories of those times. I would just love to be able to attend the meeting in May before I leave for L.A., but I need every penny I can save to make my move. I think the news about CHI Chapter purchasing the Ramada O'Hare Hotel is just SUPER!! I remember attending two "Puttin' on the Ritz" Christmas parties there.

I think Naomi has a photo or two of me from that first meeting I attended and I was the covergirl for the August 89 issue of the "Femme Mirror". I'm including a photo taken at my first meeting and two from last year when I was at Southern Comfort in Atlanta and the other when I went to L.A. In both of those photos my good friend Teeje is with me.

Well, that's all, as they say. I wish the very best for all the members of CHI Chapter and I hope to see you all again when the Be All comes to Chicago, I'll be at the Jim Bridges booth doing makeovers.

Love & warm wishes,

Linda Lewis

*Linda Lewis*

**P.O.Box 40  
Wood Dale, IL 60191-0040**

## **Officers**

**President: Denise Peters  
VP/Program: Rachel James  
VP/Membership: Candace Mahne  
Secretary: Kiki Carmichael  
Treasurer: Christine Adams**

## **Committees**

**Newcomers: Amanda Lynn  
Dee Dee Bolden  
P.A.L.S.: Dawn & Kate  
Couples: Denise  
Hospitality: Kim, Laurie Ann, Barbara  
& Barbara**

Chi Chapter is a not-for-profit social and educational support group of Tri-Ess members and their spouses, partners and friends. Meetings are normally held on the third Saturday of each month.

**Chi Chapter Telephone Helpline:  
(630) 262-8707**

**E-Mail: [Chitriess@aol.com](mailto:Chitriess@aol.com)**

**Home Page:**

**[HTTP://users.aol.com/chitriess/triss/  
chimain.htm](http://users.aol.com/chitriess/triss/chimain.htm)**

Articles are welcome in all formats. Via E-mail or Snail mail.. Please note that snail mail articles must be on PC disk, or scannable.

**Chi Chapter  
Tri Ess**

## 10 TIPS for EMOTIONAL HEALTH

- Know that being good to yourself is being responsible and not selfish.
- Give yourself quiet time and breathing room. Learn to get centered and grounded. This may be through prayer, meditation, quiet time or anything that gives you peace of mind. Make time for yourself. You're worth it.
- Develop a support system with people you can trust. Remember, trust means that the other person cares about your needs as well as theirs and wouldn't do anything for their gain at your expense.
- Think and act, rather than re-act. Take time to respond. When people "put us on the spot" and we respond with a knee jerk reaction, we are not using our best judgement. Don't respond until you're ready.
- Learn to be assertive. Focus on being direct and honest. Being passive gives us a false sense of safety and security and aggressiveness makes true friendship and intimacy impossible.
- No one makes us feel guilty. Guilt is a result of not living up to our own expectations of our self.
- Know that you can't have a boundary, and be responsible for the other person's feelings at the same time.
- Know that how you take care of your body, will affect your mental energy. Exercise, eat consciously, and give your body the sleep it requires.
- Be aware of and appreciate what we have, rather than always focusing on what we don't have.
- Don't worry about failure, worry about the opportunities you miss when you don't even try.

*Written By: Denise O'Doherty LPC, LWT, LCDC, MSN*

*Ms. O'Doherty is a psychotherapist, and has worked with the transgendered population for 17 years in Houston. She is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. (from June 98 "Femme Forum")*

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# Great Lakes Gender Leadership Council Activities Calendar July-Aug 1998

## July 1998

Sat 7/11 7:00 p.m. Gemini Gender Group Meeting in Milwaukee. 414-297-9328  
Tue 7/14 8:00 p.m. CGS Business Meeting, Stardust...  
July 15-19 S.P.I.C.E. Atlanta E-Mail: spice@tri-ess.com  
July 18 4:00 p.m. Chi Chapter/CGS Formal Garden Party, West Chicago

## August 1998

Sat 8/8 Gemini Gender Group meeting  
Tue 8/11 8:00 p.m. CGS Business Meeting, Stardust  
Sat 8/15 Chi-Chapter "Ice Cream Social" at the hotel (630-262-8707)  
Sat 8/22 6:00 p.m. Chi Chapter Couples Group

## PLAN AHEAD

Sept 24-27th Paradise in the Poconos, Poconos PA E-Mail poco@cdspub.com  
Oct 2-5th Southern Comfort, Atlanta GA  
Oct 19-26th Fantasia Fair, Provincetown, MA  
Nov 5-8 Fall Harvest, Minneapolis  
Nov 8-13 Holiday at Sea, Dignity Cruise #10, Cruises, Inc 1-800-621-6699  
  
1999 Holiday Enfemme, Houston, TX  
1999 Fall Harvest, Milwaukee, WI

# *A Summer Place*

## **An Outdoor Garden Party**

brought to you by  
**Chi Chapter & CGS**

**'The Elegance of a country garden party'**

**July 18th 1998 Regular Meeting Night**

**Rain or Shine**

**At Julie Ann's home in West Chicago**

Located 1 mile East of Rt 59 on Geneva Road (Washington St.) in West Chicago

**Catered Buffet - Tents - Changing facilities**  
**2 DJ's - Secure - Private location - Parking**  
**Beer & Wine available**

**All Tickets are reserved and must be purchased or reserved by phone by July 17**

**There will be NO 'at the door' tickets sold**

**Tickets available at Rachel's Wigs and Transformations**

**Total cost per person \$30.00**

TO: Chi-Chapter Tri-Ess  
PO Box 40  
Wood Dale IL 60191-0040

**DON'T MAIL AFTER July 10th, IT MAY NOT ARRIVE IN TIME. In that case, please call in your reservation to the hotline 630-262-8707, leave your name and number of tickets desired.**

Enclosed is my paid reservation for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s), for the 'Summer Place Garden Party' on Saturday evening, July 18 1998. I am enclosing a check or money order payable to Chi/Tri-Ess in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ Tickets will be retained at the door.

Please print your femme name and last initial \_\_\_\_\_

Member #(If a member) \_\_\_\_\_

**COST: Per Person \$30.00**

# 1998 Tri-Ess Membership Directory

Publisher  
Denise Peters  
IL-3493-P

Profile editor  
Kiki Carmichael  
IL-

Shipping:  
Tau Chi Chapter  
Houston

Set-up and Printing  
Preferred Graphics  
Houston

Dear Sister:

I am happy to present to you the 1998 Tri-Ess Membership directory. It has been a while since we issued a full directory, 3 years to be exact. During this time I have filed, digitized, scanned and sorted all the data numerous times. Data which keeps changing each month. Some of you who were late in paying your dues will find you are not included as I did set the cut off date as of 12/31/97. If you expired before this date and only recently sent in your reinstatement dues, you may not be included here.

I want to mention a few people who helped, Kiki Carmichael who kept her keyboard busy recording many of the profiles I would drop on her desk, Dan at Preferred Graphics who endured having me continually change my mind (We can do that, Right?), Francis Fairfax who served as our proof reader and the members of Tau Chi Chapter who ended up mailing the directories out, and of course my wife who lost me to the computer for the last year or so.

As I mentioned, the data changes each month, it is impossible to keep current and much of the data is out of date (Please update). As you read this at least 80 new members have joined and many have left our ranks since this was sent to the printer. As the cost of this publication runs in the thousands of dollars, to print a complete directory each year is fiscally impossible. Therefore we do issue supplements when enough new or updated data is received. If your data is incorrect please fill out the coupon below and mail it to me, along with corrections or updates, you can also send in your E-mail and home page addresses.

To solve the problem of cost, I have put the entire directory on computer and placed it on a CD-ROM. This disk contains everything found here with one exception, the photos are in color. (If they were received that way). The advantage of the CD-ROM is one of cost, and allowing more recent upgrades to be issued. The downside is not everyone has a PC or a CD-ROM drive. In order to finish the CD-ROM project I do need assistance from members who are experienced in Visual Basic 4 or 5 or runtime database catalog programming and those who have knowledge for MAC database catalog programming, please e-mail. Currently I have only *ACCESS 97* and *FILE MAKER PRO* versions available for the next supplement. Another possibility is a web based directory, with secure access to members only.

Enjoy

Denise Peters  
Director, Membership Directory

**TO:** Denise Peters                      or E-mail to:                      **FROM:** Fem Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 PO Box 1138                              Direct3s@aol.com  
 Lake Zurich IL 60047-1138                      **Membership #:** \_\_\_\_\_

- My photo was missing from the directory
- My profile was missing from the directory
- My profile was incorrect or out of date
- My picture is incorrect or out of date

**Profiles:** 125 words or less  
**Photos:** Color or B&W, any size up to 8x10 or send on floppy. Suggested scan at 300 dpi and in TIF format.

- I would like to receive the directory in CD-ROM format when available. (Must have WIN 3.1 or newer)
- I would like to receive the directory in MAC CD-ROM format when available
- Please add my E-Mail and/or home page: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS ON REVERSE



# Great Lakes Gender Leadership Council

## Activities Calendar

### MAY-JUNE 1998

#### May 1998

Sat 5/2 6:30 p.m. CGS Social, ULTIMATE OZ (Upper Level) 7301 W. Roosevelt, Franklin Park

Thur 5/7 7:30p.m. ITI Meeting - Transformations

Sat 5/9 7:00 p.m. Gemini Gender Group Meeting in Milwaukee. 414-297-9328

Tue 5/12 8:00 p.m. CGS Meeting, Stardust, 5688 N. Milwaukee

#### **Sat 5/16 8:00 p.m. Chi-Chapter Sping Fling**

Tue 5/19 Femme Nite Out, Dennis Rodman's Illusion's, 157 W. Ontario Call Kelly 847-746-4707

Wed 20-24th Espirit 98, Seattle Washington

Sat 5/23 T.O.N.I. Meeting Times/location unknown please call 219-650-2142 or E-Mail: toniltd@aol.com

Tue 5/26 8:00 p.m. CGS Social, Temptations

#### **Sat 5/30 6:00 p.m. Chi Chapter Couples Group**

#### June 1998

Sun 6/7 CGS Summer Picnic (Lincoln Park)

Tue 6/9 CGS Business Meeting, Stardust...

#### **Wed 10-14th BE-ALL, Pittsburgh PA**

Fri 6/12 8:00 p.m. Rapture Dance Party

Sat 6/13 7:00 p.m. Gemini Gender Group Meeting in Milwaukee. 414-297-9328

Tue 6/16 Femme Nite Out, Founder's Hill Brewing Co, Downer's Grove call Fay, 630-972-1976

Sat 6/20 8:00 p.m. Chi Chapter Meeting Elmhurst 630-262-8707

July 15-19 S.P.I.C.E. Atlanta E-Mail: spice@tri-ess.com

July 18 Chi Chapter/CGS Formal summer picnic gala

Sept 24-27th Paradise in the Poconos, Poconos PA E-Mail poco@cdspub.com

Oct 2-5th Southern Comfort, Atlanta GA

Oct 19-26th Fantasia Fair, Provincetown, MA

Nov 5-8 Fall Harvest, Minneapolis

Nov 8-13 Holiday at Sea, Dignity Cruise #10, Cruises, Inc 1-800-621-6699

#### **PLAN AHEAD**

1999 Holiday Enfemme, Houston, TX

1999 Fall Harvest, Milwaukee, WI