

# Cross-Port InnerView

P.O. Box 12701, Cincinnati, OH 45212

The next meeting is November 19 at 8:00pm

## A New View

By Elaine

Well there were 42 ladies and S.O.'s at the **Cross-Port** meeting last month.

Last month was a busy month for me as I started to leave my apartment dressed now. So I showed my typical restraint. I went to Christopher's on a Friday and talked to Dee. I also saw a girl I work with there but needless to say she did not recognize me. I went to the Dock and talked to Stanley the bartender. I left the Dock and went to this bar called Professor Plums. I bought my first and last drink the last being coffee. But the five in the middle were bought for me by three gentlemen on the other side of the bar. I was pretty inebriated by this time and I had to go to the rest room really bad but the ladies room had a long line. So I went into the mens room as it was empty at the time. I did what I went in there for and was getting ready to come out when there was a knock at the door I opened the door and this cute blond ask me if I was finished as some men wanted to use the rest room. I politely told her that I was finished and that they could use the

rest room now. I then went and sat down to drink my coffee. After I finished my coffee I went home. I have not told you what I wearing I probably really stood out at the bar as none of the other ladies at the bar were wearing dresses. I was wearing the same outfit I wore to the **Oregon District** Two weeks later.

Joyce, Belinda, Cindy and myself went to the **Oregon District** where we meet Linda, Kristine, Jill, and Bobbi. We also meet several members of the **Crystal Club**. It was a very good time. I danced with this lady on the second floor of the bar. In front of God and everybody. As the night wore on and the people got more alcohol in them they seemed to loosen up more. I had some interesting conversations with some of the other patrons of the bar. If you've never gone to the **Oregon District** it has to be experienced at least once.

## Tall Stacks

How many of you took time to attend the "Tall Stacks" celebration Oct 15-18th? Those that did witnessed a grand event. I know Joyce sure had a great time. I



spent three days out of the four day event (Friday being to rainy and nasty), viewing the seventeen old paddle wheelers, the pageantry and the multitude of privately owned boats that filled the river from shore to shore. All the action was relegated to the river however, as each day there were large crowd. Many people came dressed in costumes from the turn of the century. There were bands and chorus groups to add to the festivities. On occasion, spontaneous entertainment was provided by the general public. I taped one such display. Several boys and girls, ranging in age from eight to thirteen were dancing in the chorus line to "Can-Can" and other show tunes.

Of course, the main attractions were the old steam boats. There

were excursion rides on many of them and if you purchased a "Pass-Ports" you could have taken a guided tour of the different vessels. And of course there were the boat racing, both official and non-sanctioned. Two of the largest boats went head to head with the "Mississippi Queen" besting the "Belle of St. Louis" handily. Her sister ship, the "Delta Queen" lost to the "Belle of Louisville" in a very close race.

Those of you who missed this years event, may wish to make plans for the next one. Plans are already under way for either 1995 or 1996.

Love  
Joyce

## A REVIEW

by: Bobbi L.

I have been "out of the closet" for such a short time and, aware of the "gender community" for only just a bit longer, that I am still having trouble dealing with all of the terminology and jargon. "S.O., G.G., T.V., T.S., T.G., F.I., and Drag Queen," have not yet become totally clear to me. So, when I came across an article on DRAG in the November, 1992 issue of VANITY FAIR, I thought that a review of it might make for an interesting addition to INNERVIEW.

The two-page article is entitled, "Wigging Out" and was written by VANITY FAIR staff writer, Michael Musto. His basic premise is that within the past year, DRAG has "...popped out of the box." Beginning with a reference to

the eighth "Wigstock" event in New York City, Mr. Musto continues to explain that DRAG has evolved way beyond mere social acceptance until it has now become comparable to a majorette leading the Macy's parade.

He credits this rise in popularity, to a degree, to Madonna and her use of brassiere-bedecked male dancers in her videos and stage shows. But, he doesn't ignore the incorporation of drags into those by other very popular artists. "DRAG," he claims, "was...ready for mass consumption." Further, Musto quotes one drag performer who believes that the increased popularity of transvestism is actually a political reaction to the outdated concept of "family" as defined by the White House for the past 12 years. This reaction has grown into the vision that drag r e p r e s e n t s "...defiance,...freedom,...pride." Too, those who perform in drag generate a "...positive, likable energy," and rise above the numerous prejudices espoused by the current administration.

Claiming that the "boob tube" is "...definitely drags's new medium," Mr. Musto supports that claim by listing several cable cross-dressing shows and by dropping the names of several celebrity drag queens, including Lypsinka and, of course, Dame Edna Everage. Live drag shows abound in the Big Apple and have evolved from the stereo-typical Copacabana spectacles to the very tweedy Tavern-on-the-Green floor shows. The shows themselves range from a "channeling" of the "lady who sang the blues," to a C&W "Shee-Haw." There seem to enough

around town that a visit to New York City need not include the Statue of Liberty, at all.

Linking all this together, Musto returns to the Wigstock phenomenon, and how, even the president of the Manhattan borough presents the event organizers with a proclamation from the city's fathers (or is it sisters?).

I was extremely excited and pleased to have discovered this article and, I hope, that you, too, will find it uplifting and encouraging.

## Up Coming Events

For all you gals who like to dress up and have some spare time on your hands, here are a few events you may wish to consider.

- Third annual Fall Harvest Kansas City, MO Nov 19-22
- Riverside Gala weekend Cambridge Springs, PA Nov 20-22
- Tiffany Club 11th Annual Awards Natick, MA Jan 27-5/11
- ETVC Annual Cottillion San Fran., CA Jan 23
- Mardi Gras N.Y. Woodside, NY Feb 20-24
- 5th Annual Texas-T-Party San Antonio, TX Feb 26-28
- I.F.G.E. 7th Annual Coming Together Wayland, MA March 14-21
- Lambda Ball Pittsburg, PA TBA
- California Dreaming Burbank, CA April 28-5/2
- Peggy Rudd's Dignity Cruise Bahamas May 21-24

This is only a partial listing. For more information on these and other events, call the Cross-Port

line (513) 474-9557

And of course don't forget the most important event of all, "Cross-Ports" Christmas party on the 17th of December. Food and Desserts will be provided by Cross-Port once again. Of course those who have special Culinary skills may wish to share a special dish with your sisters may do so. Make your plans now to dress your prettiest and join us for a good time. See you there.

Love  
Joyce

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## The Baron Speaks

Hi Girls! This is the baron speaking. October is a busy month for nature, painting all those beautiful colors on the trees and shrubs

must be awfully hard work but she does it over and over each passing year. Of course, the colors are a warning to us to get physically, mentally and spiritually ready for her next venture - winter.

Winter can be cruel but also beautiful. How eagerly we wait for the first beautiful snow! Ice skating - skiing - wearing all those carefully chosen woolens in cheery bright colors - wishing all happy holidays waiting for 1993 to arrive. Yes winter is a new start for us all. It is also the best time of the year for us to renew old and to make new acquaintances. Also a time when we blend in with crowds of shoppers. When most people are in their best frames of mind.

Let us all make up our minds to respect, and yes LOVE all people, straight, gay, crossdressers,

lesbians and any other category into which we toss people. Let us make this winter the best time of our lives by being tolerant of all, let us show the whole world that we love, yes love all people regardless. Yes let us love those who "bash" us verbally as well as physically. Love can over come!!

The Barony bounces right along. We held a "drag" show at the Dock 'night club' Oct 25. It was well received and we made some money which will be donated to our charities, St. Elizabeth Homecare/Hospith of Covington, Ky. and to P.F.L.A.G. of Cincinnati.

Baroness Joyce, Elaine, Kelli, Jamie and I went out to dinner and dancing one Thursday. We had good dining at G.J.'s restaurant, after dinner drink at the Golden Lion, then dancing at the Dock. A great time was had by all.

Girls we really want and need you to help us with our Barony. Baroness Joyce and I were told by our Emperor and Empress that our Barony with our mix of crossdressers, gays and straights was the Ideal for which the entire court system is striving. As you know our reign is dedicated to conciliation of all people. We are trying very hard. It is not all hard work - we have fun also. Can you imagine Joyce and Bob sitting on a stage for three hours looking like royalty. Can you imagine each member of the Barony being introduced and walking down the run way? Well it happened Oct. 25, 1992 at the Dock night club. Can you imagine, shy lil'ole me lip syncing to Bob Wills and Mel Tillis' version of "Faded Love".

Well I did and I am glad I did it.(ha) I had not been in front of an audience since my college days. (Long before some of you were born.) It was fun and I plan to do more of it in my own voice later. I understand we have at least two other performers who will be doing their "stuff" in future shows.

Baroness Joyce, Lady Linda and I, the Baron, will be in Toronto, Canada, Nov. 6,7+8 for the Coronation of their new Emperor and Empress. Five of us attended last year and had a great time.

We are expecting even more fun and frivolity this year. The Toronto Court is made up of many nice, and fun to be with people. Their hospitality (and partying) is well known.

Don't forget March 13, 1993 at the Travel Lodge in Newport we will be having our first Barony Ball. We hope to become a full royal court at that time. You are all invited. Time is 6:00pm cocktails, 7:00pm Ball begins. it will be over before midnight, with partying continuing in the bars until 2:30am Sunday.

I guess this is it for now. See you Nov 19th at Christopher's or sooner if you wish to attended our Barony Meeting Nov 11th. See any member for the time and place.

The Baron

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## Linda's Corner

By now, many of you probably think I must have dropped out of Cross-port since you haven't heard from me for a few months. But I

assure you, I'm still very active. I just can't seem to find the time to sit down and write.

In June I went to the BE ALL in Detroit. Like all the outings I attend, I came back with great memories and blistered feet. I one thing that stood out, was Saturday night.

The bar was hopping and I was mixing with all the straight people and having a good old time. What I didn't know, was that the bar was home to one of the local trouble making Lebanese gangs. Apparently they each have turf they control along with any of the women they want. (Don't get excited, they didn't want me.)

It seems that the week before, one gang member tried to hit on one of the other gang member's girl, and a scuffle broke out. Now, a week later, the rival gang has returned to settle the score. You guessed it, a fight broke out and the TVs went flying. Security guards and hotel staff got involved and the fight moved into the parking lot where gang members went for their guns. (Later, a few girls told me some stray bullets went over their car as they sped away.

After they left, they shut down the hotel because of a bomb threat. Well nothing terrible really happened that night, but I must tell you what I saw.

Keep in mind, that allot of these TVs are paranoid to start with. So when these hoods entered the bar looking for blood, a few of the girls thought they were there to do some fag bashing. You never would have dreamed these 60 year old TVs could move so fast in 5" heels. One of our girls who happened to come dressed as a Harlem girl, grabbed me in the hall

and said some guy with a gun was trying to kill her. She screamed as she ran out an emergency exit and out into the parking lot. I never did see anyone chasing her. In fact I stayed right by the action, and they didn't give us girls a second look. It just took me by surprise to see some of the girls panic like that.

I will say one thing, it was quite an exciting ending to a BE All.

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Summer was the usual ho-hum. As always, I let the hair grow back and set aside the girly clothes, because its just too hot to enjoy them. I did make the Cross-port meetings of course, but I had to force myself to dress. (lie)

In October I went down to Southern Comfort. I must tell you, those girls in the south really know how to put together a conference. They some excellent programs, especially for the Transsexuals. There must have to 10 post-ops and about 60 pre-ops, with about 15 being F to M. Not only do you get educated and get to meet some great people, but the night life in Atlanta never ends. It was almost 7am Sunday morning before I made it to bed. Those 24 hour alternative bars really get weird after 3am. The transvestites seemed like the only normal looking people. Some patrons glowed in the dark, many looked like space aliens, and they did inhumane things to their bodies to gross to mention. Everyone was dressed in black and appeared to be on cloud 9. All I kept thinking about is what do these people do in the daylight. I wonder if they shop in Krogers? Very interesting to say the least.

I've already made plans to return next fall. If you haven't given Southern Comfort much though,

look in to it. I highly recommend it.

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Halloween of course is the Crossdressers Holiday. This year I joined the girls in Dayton as Little Red Riding Hood. The TV version naturally. Short leather skirt, big breasts, sexy make-up, long red nails, five inch pumps, and of course a red cape and basket of goodies.

The weather was great, and so was the company. I rode up with Jeanine and Kristine, and we managed a close, free spot to park. The street was wall to wall people. There were young and old spectators, the half drunk college kids, and those like us in costume, limited only by ones imagination.

We paraded down to the Trolley Stop slowly because Jeanine kept stabbing beer cans with her heels and we had to stop so she could pull them off.

The bar set a new record for Crossdressers that night, and unfortunately for Red Riding Hood, a new record for Wolves. We also had a near rape of one of our girls. I tell you, these straight women can be quite aggressive when given the opportunity. Although I didn't hear too much complaining.

I had five guys grab my tits, and I slapped each one. I had three girls grab my tits and I returned the aggression. I don't know about my bottom, you know all that foam rubber and stuff makes it hard to tell. Lets just say I had fun with the crowd, and they had fun with me.

This is one time of the year, that everyone likes us. I have so much fun in the straight places that I can't imagine ever going to a gay bar again for Halloween. I love going into the men's restroom and

talking with a deep voice. I always make a friend or two.

Hanging around gay guys in drag, has taught me to be bold and forward with people. Ninety-nine percent of the time you confront a person who makes a remark at you in one fashion or another, they will back away or just be friendly. You just need to learn to control the situation. For me, I have much more fun playing drag queen then just trying to go unnoticed.

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There are a few things I came across this Halloween I might mention. First, we ran into two guys dressed (not very well I might add), standing off to the side, when we were walking down the street in Dayton. They said they couldn't take the hassling, so they were hiding. It seemed odd since neither were crossdressers. Imagine if they were some of our sisters out for the first time, they would go home and find even a deeper closet to hide in.

Also, my wife was chaperoning a Halloween party for some seven & eighth graders the other night. She said one of the boys came as a dressed as a girl. Within an hour, the boy called his dad crying, begging him to come get him. Even though this boy was among his classmates, he was ridiculed and made fun of.

In both cases, I must wonder if the people they encountered were really trying to be cruel, or if the crossdresser just perceived this to be so. Maybe the heckler himself has problems, and he sees an easy target to relieve his aggressions on. Or perhaps this was just a means to start conversation, as a prelude to friendship.

Regardless, these things will never go away, and as long as

there is Crossdressers out there, there will be groups like Cross-port. A place where people can learn to except themselves for who they are, and begin to live life to the fullest.

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Everyone should be aware of Ballot Measure 9, that the Oregon Citizens' Alliance (OCA) attempted to pass in Oregon on election day. Thank goodness it was solidly voted down. They wanted to amend the Oregon Constitution to declare that homosexuality is "abnormal, wrong, unnatural and perverse" and would, among other things, require that public schools teach such antiquated, wrongheaded bigotry as fact.

The head organizers are mostly Christian Leaders who speak in the name of God, but sound and act more like Adolf Hitler. They not only quote the Bible, but feel that God wants them to enforce their interpretations. I saw a report on television the other night where these do gooder are outright killing people in the name of God. It's frightening to think that this could happen in today's society. And even more so when I see the large number of people who actually voted yes on this measure.

Their reasoning is that it's in the Bible, and the Bible can't be wrong. Yet just this past week, the Vatican has come out 359 years later to say, they were wrong to condemn Galileo because he said the earth revolved around the sun. As the story goes, Galileo was forced to repent by the Roman Inquisition and spent the last eight years of his life under house arrest, because the Bible says, the Earth is the center of the Universe, and therefore stationary. So as you can

see, I wouldn't count on the church changing it's mind to quickly on other matters.

*Publication Notice*  
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