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PRES: William M. Thordsen FULL MEMBERSHIP \$17 PER YEAR.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

1104 Broadway  
Albany, New York

SUBSCRIPTION TO TVIC JOURNAL

Helen  
and

PHONE: (518) 434-8806

\$12 PER YEAR

Wilma Thordsen

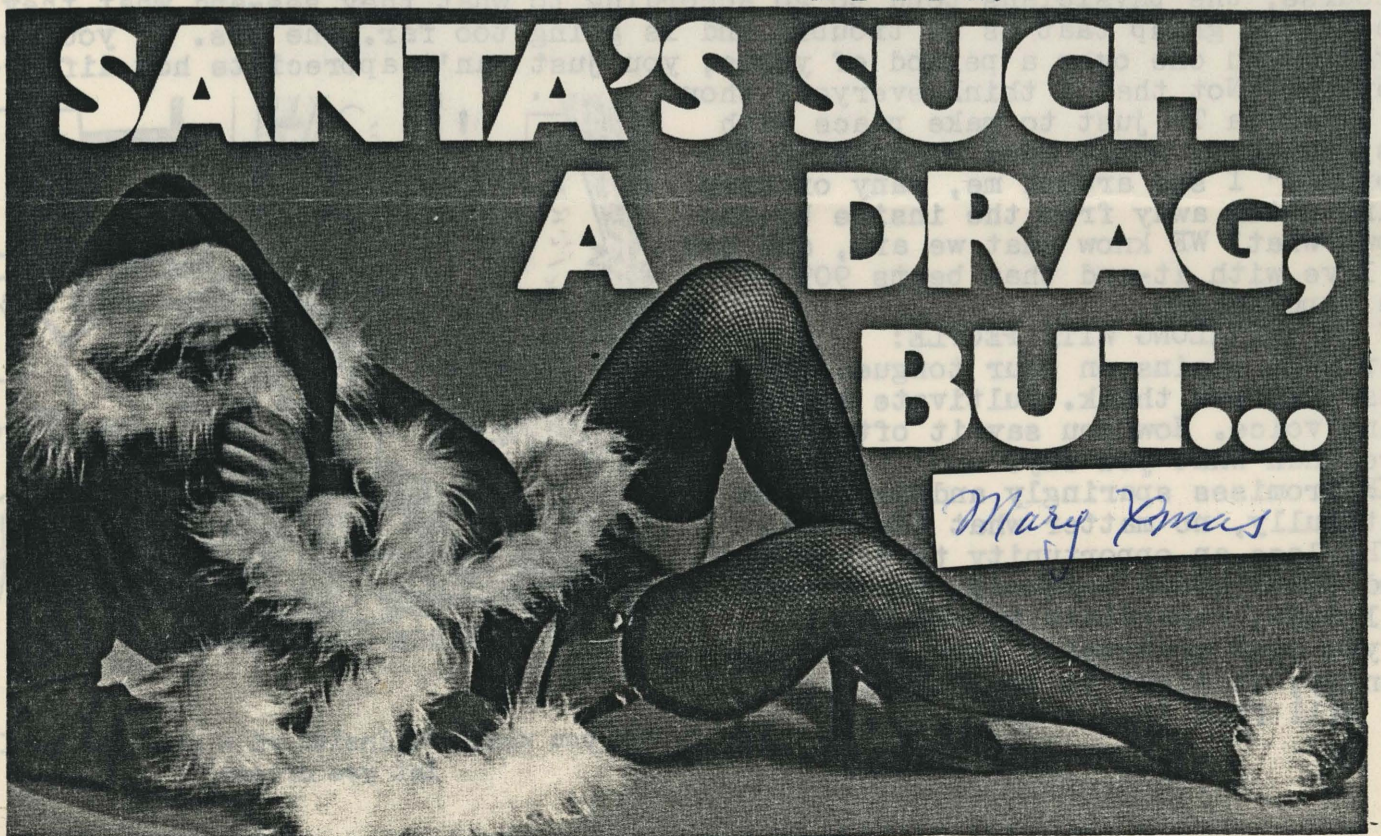
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Hi Folks:

Happy to say we had a fantastic time Sat. night with all the girls who made the meeting which was our Christmas Party. The girls all looked wonderful in their long gowns-some in long skirts and tops, a gleam in their eyes they were ready for a night of fun. We had 28 people. they were *Chrys + Jillian*  
Helen & Wilma, Albany, N.Y. - Michelle & Dennie B., Somerville, Mass. - Dee De & Vie W., HARTFORD, Conn. - Alice & Dot C., Coline, N.Y. - Eileen & Prescilla J.- Poughkeepsie, N.Y. - Evon & Vickie P., Poughkeepsie, N.Y. - Steve & Debbi A., N.Y.C., NY. - Jean & Sally B., Binghamton, N.Y. - Karen G., Saratoga, N.Y. Sue M., Nassau, N.Y. - Prbailla W., Scotia, N.Y. - Cheryl M., Albany, N.Y. - Elanda M., Rome, N.Y. - Winnie B., Schenectady, N.Y. - Jamie M., Long Island, N.Y. - Joanne H., Deep River, Conn. - Renne C., Stratford, Conn. - Joan H., Colonie, N.Y... Its nice to see that we had 9 wives at this party.  
For the girls I had made - Rost Fresh Ham - Mashed Potatoes - Gravy - Baked Spinach - Corn - Yellow Beans Almondin - Squash - Home Made Bread and Butter-Rum Cake & Coffee. My thanks to all the girls who helped to serve and then clean up so we could do our Christmas bag game. Michele Ann was Ms Santa Clau calling off the numbers for our grab bag. It was fun while it lasted. We were all glad to see Jean & Sally here after their long absence. They broufht me some good home made cookies. Thanks Girls. Dennie also made some cookies and Chrys made a rum cake. There was so much rich dessert that I asked Chrys if she would like to take her cake home, as too much sweets spoil the waist line. Hello Connie and Jeanette - Joan passed on a message to us from you. Jeanette I hope you are feeling better. I know what you must be going thru with your legs. So far I am holding out good. Hope to get too see you someday soon.  
KATHY - what has happened that we haven't seen you in so long? Are you ill? Don't you like us anymore? All the girls keep asking for you. I want to say THANKS to RENEE & PRICILLA for the Christmas presents. ELANDA told us a story of her medical check up she had, seems they put disc's all over her chest for a heart check. The disc's had bumps in the center. When Elanda got Thru she felt all over to see that everything was alright, but as she felt her breast, she felt something just below the bust and she thought her nipples had dropped but only to find that 2 disc's were left on just below the bust,. I know the girls had a good laugh out of it, as when I was in the kitchen Elanda was in the living room with some of the girls and they sure were havin a good laugh. Want to thank DEE DEE & JOANIE for the entertaining they gave us with music for dancing all night.

Want to take this time to WISH all our girls a MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY HEALTHY & PROPEROUS NEW YEAR.

All our thanks for all the beautiful CHRISTMAS CARDS that keep coming in.  
LOVE TO ALL

HELEN.





COMPLAINT DEPARTMENT:

I really don't mind getting your letters of complaint because communication is a two-way street and it will always remain that way with me. However, time is a most precious commodity around here, so if you don't hear me right away or some times at all, please don't think I don't care. If I can't answer you directly and the subject seems to be important, I will try to get it into the JOURNAL which will benefit some others as well. But, most often and especially of late, there seems to be some questions about getting information on other members. More specifically, "If I give out my name and Address and other information to others, I feel that I am entitled to know all about them also" type of thing. Now I can appreciate this problem because I have had many members in my home as guest and thus they have learned quite a bit about my personal information. Also, in a normal relationship when two people become friends they know a great deal about each other. But ladies... in TVIC things are quite different. We don't have many rules, but the ones we do have are important for everyone concerned. These rules all center around "security" and for very good reasons. One of these rules is that everyone submit his real name, address, etc. when joining TVIC. Now once this member is enrolled, she is never required again to give out her actual address or anything else about herself unless she so chooses. She can use her femme name or a last name of her choosing and any mailing address that she wishes. The reason for this is simple: we all have very different marital, economic, social and occupational situations which means some of us can be much more free with our personal information than others. Also, what you don't know of a person can't hurt either you or them. I will never give any information out ~~anyone~~ about anyone and feel that our whole security program is built around this fact. So what effects you directly is your business and the same goes for everyone else. We hope that you would never be hurt because you told someone about yourself and they declined to share everything about themselves with you. It is most important that we maintain the freedom to express and develop our femme-selves without fear or pressure to tell about the part of our lives that we are trying to escape from in the few precious moments that we have. Lets not set up any more obstacles than absolutely necessary for them to share what we have tried to find... friendship and peace of mind. There is not a week goes by that I don't receive a phone call by a person who would like to join TVIC but refuses to give their name to me. When this does happen I tell them that TVIC is not for them. Then they will ask can I have some names and addresses of some TVs I can contact. If I could not be trusted TVIC would not have been here all of these 27 years.....

CHANGING THE SUBJECT:::

Perhaps at this time of the year you can stand a little philosophizing, so here's something to brood over during those long, dark months. As I've watched tvs develop over the past years, there seems to be a pattern. It is NOT the one cited by the physicians of progressive feminization, but quite another form of growth. As the girl within gets, through TVIC what she has wanted for all those lonely years, the result that she becomes more cooperative rather than more dominant. The net result is a more effective person, able to carry out his role in life without the constant nagging of the one who knows his every weakness and can hit where it hurts the most. She learns, without too much delay, that she doesn't have to fight for her turn, that it will come sooner if she pitches in and helps get the work done. And so, this is the picture of the maturing TV-a sort of partnership, in which he and she work harmoniously together. If this were based only on the changes I myself have gone through these past years, I would lay it to self-deception.

Of course, the physicians tend to go according to what they see-and what they see is the group that is in trouble and is going too far..the TSSs. If you've never known one over a period of years, you just can't appreciate how different they are! Not that I think everyone should become a TV just to make peace with his/her-self, but I feel no envy of the "normals" I see around me, many of them being eaten away from the inside by-who knows what? WE know what we are, and how to live with it-and that beats 90% of the population.

HOW TO GET ALONG WITH PEOPLE:

- Keep skid chains on your tongue. Say less than you think. Cultivate a soothing voice. How you say it often means more than what you say.
- MAKE promises sparingly and keep them faithfully, no matter what the cost.
- NEVER lose an opportunity to say a kind word to or about somebody. Praise work well done, regardless of who did it.
- IF you seek gratitude; look in the dictionary, it might be the only place you will find it.



"If you wouldn't insist on a mini-skirt, I'd let you dress!"



PARTY DATES :

see that we had a great turn out for our CHRISTMAS PARTY this month. We had 28 people in all. It was sure nice to see the wives taking interest in our group. We had 8 wives this month. Our next 3 party dates will be JAN. 16th - FEB. 20th & MARCH 20th. After checking the records I find that for 1981 we had a total of 207 people at our parties. This is what the records show for the past 3 years for attendance...1979: 220....1980: 175....1981: 207....

NEW MEMBERS :

I am pleased to announce the enrollment of two new members this month.

ANICE H....MEDWAY....MASS.....STEPHAINE A.... NEW YORK CITY....N.Y.

It's a real pleasure to have you among us and we hope that you will get to meet many of our members. I am happy to say that we had an enrollment of 13 new members for 1981....New members for 1979 - 27.... 1980 - 29, 1981 -43. Looks like we are getting bigger and better.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TOO

ROBERT [REDACTED].....JAN 1	PERCILLA [REDACTED]..... JAN 15
STEPHAINE [REDACTED]..... " 5	JAMIE [REDACTED]..... " 15
NICK [REDACTED]....." 5	Eugene [REDACTED]..... " 18
HEELAND [REDACTED]..... " 6	Allen [REDACTED]..... " 21
BETTY [REDACTED]..... " 9	GERALD [REDACTED]..... " 22
ELAYNE [REDACTED]..... " 10	Liz [REDACTED]..... " 27
PATTY [REDACTED]..... "12	Raymond [REDACTED]..... " 27
WLEN [REDACTED]..... " 14	William [REDACTED]..... " 15

Well I see that Robert Funderburk will not only be celebrating NEW YEARS but his birthday also. How does it feel to be born on NEW YEARS DAY?

SPECIAL THANKS

- Too Freida Heiland - Jean Early - Jackie Foster & Evon Peo for the extra \$ sent in to help along with the postage.
- Too Freida Heiland - Michell Bolis - Renne Caroll - Ana Montiel - Kathy Hivish & Joana Page for all the lovely pictures they sent in this month for our club album.
- Too Renne Caroll & Perceilla Welch for the books donated to the club.
- Too Freida Heiland - Marilyn Kelderhouse & joyce Dolon for the cartoons and news articles.
- Too Renne Caroll for the shoes & clothing she donated to the club.
- Too Michell Bolis for printing the new supplement to our TVIC Directory which all paid up members must have received last month. If you have not received one please let me know.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

The question of the month was sent in by JANET from LYNBROOK N.J. QUESTION.: Could a person (male) who is in fact a TV with TS tendencies or possibly a TS who is married still live a normal life in a male role..... OK now get your answers in and lets see if we can help JANET.

CORRESPONDENCE WANTED

FRED [REDACTED] P.A. [REDACTED] Liz [REDACTED]  
RT. 6 [REDACTED] x [REDACTED]  
TOPEKA [REDACTED] Heritage [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 7  
After 7 please. Will exchange photos Photography,electronics,cars

BEAUTY HINTS:

1. When tweezing eyebrows to help ease the hurt use a small amount of baby teething jell such as N U M I T. Just a drop helps numb the area until you are finished.
2. GERMAINE MONTELL'S truly marvelous mascara is the answer TVs who want a lash-building mascara that won't smudge. Powered silk in the formula clings to your lashes, making them appear fuller. At the same time, this unique mascara repels water and oil so it won't flake or run. Available in 3 popular shades. Can be bought at better cosmetic counters everywhere.
3. Removing nail polish can be a bother, especially if you only want to re-do one, or two nails without messing up all of them. Now, Pretty Nails can change all that. It's an ingenious little jar with a built-sponge saturated with remover. Simply insert your fingertip, swirl it around for a few seconds and out comes a sparkling clean fingernail. It's so simple you can clean all ten fingernails within 30 seconds, or do just one in a jiffy. A handy dauber is included for whisking polish from toenails, too.
4. When you want a little color, and a lot of shine try Sheer & Glossy Lip Glos from L'Erin. With built-in moisturizers, and a special sunscreen for added protection, it comes in a slim case with a slanted tip to make application even easier. Sold in supper-markets, and drug stores.



Dear Wilma: I am a 26-yr.-old male. When I say male, I mean in a physical sense of the word. Deep down I know I'm a woman...For 12 years I've struggled with my transsexuality. I've been married twice. The first wife could handle it, but my present wife says she understands and will support any decision I make...I've decided I want a sex change operation but I don't know how to about it. We live in a small Canadian city and the only information I have about such surgery is what I've read in the papers. Can you tell me where to go and what to do? JACK A. MANITOBA CANADA...

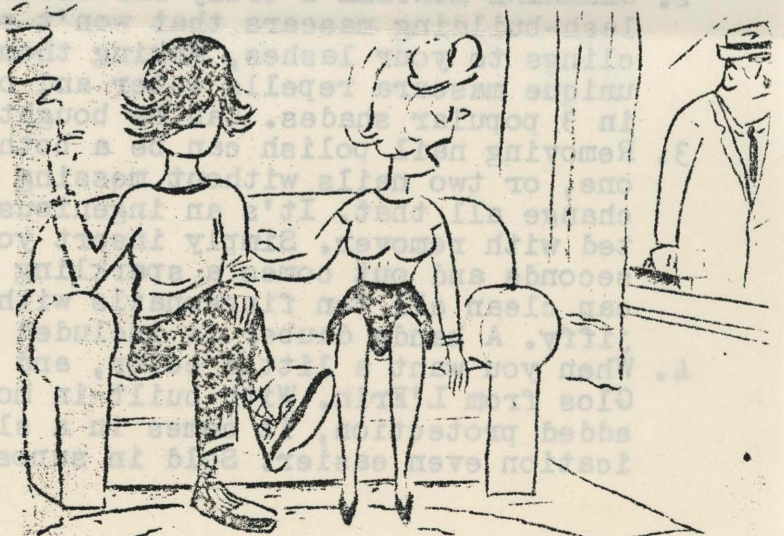
Dear Jack; A sex change operation is not like an apendectomy. Before this of surgery, the patient undergoes a long period of psychiatric counseling - sometimes several years - and many months of hormone therapy...Because a sex change often creates more problems in an individual than it solves, few doctors will go ahead with surgery unless they're convinced it is best for the patient. Discuss your wishes with your doctor and ask him to recommend a specialist whom you can consult for details. Keep in mind that sex surgery is not always the right solution and it's irreversible. Good Luck...Wilma....

Dear Wilma: I am a transvestite and do not desire to be otherwise. I live alone, have two wardrobes, and change into my feminine clothes as soon as I get home...I have a great desire to become a woman...I understand that when a person goes through the change that his penis and testicles are removed by an operation. I wonder whether, after such an operation, the desire for transvestism is lost. Is it likely that, if my male organs were removed, I would lose the desire to be a woman and just be a castrated male? Which is advisable: That I dress as a woman all the time, even though I still have my male organs, or that I undergo an operation to remove my male organs? I intend to do one or the other, but prefer the later if it would not cause me to lose my desire to be a woman...Transvestites are a lonely group of people. Wearing feminine clothing, we are not flashy dressers; we try to dress like ordinary women. I like dresses better than skirts and blouses; I also wear high-heeled shoes. ARNOLD A. PHILADELPHIA PA.

Dear Arnold: Trying to persuade a transvestite to give up his dressing is usually a waste of time. Transvestites dwell on certain articles of feminine attire, just as some children linger long over a favorite piece of candy or an icecream cone...Certain transvestites are more intelligent than others. Some are discreet in their practices. They do not molest other persons. Their practices are fetishistic. In some cases their behavior may be regarded as harmlessly eccentric...Transvestites deserve understanding, but their practices should not be condoned. What they do in the strict privacy of their homes is their own private affair and individual right...You ask whether you should leave your male organs intact and continue dressing like a woman or should you have your organs surgically removed. I recommend that you see your doctor and let him recommend you to a specialist to see if a surgical operation is needed. In the mean time keep dressing as a woman....

Dear Wilma: I am an American male, white, 6' "2" tall and weigh 188 pounds. I was a high school football player. I have done all types of heavy work and am presently self-employed in the oil business with a very good income. I have a college degree and served in the Army during the last war...The point I want to make is this: Next to making love to my beautiful wife and closing a good deal in the field, there is nothing that I would rather do when I get home at night than to doff all of my masculine clothing, bathe and don the silken underwear of the female sex. I wear these in my wife's presence and have for the past 14 years. It is an unusual day that goes by when I am not completely dressed as a woman at some time during the day. I have only one qualm about it and that is that this desire to dress as a female shall not interfere with my making a living...I see no wrong in a man dressing as a woman in his own house. In fact wasn't it men who first wore silken hose and lacy cuffs? I have no desire to have relations with men. My wife is my only love. I just prefer silks and satins to broadcloth. Am I a transvestite or do I just have a quirk? Whatever it is, I plan to continue wearing my undies forever, ROBERT, TEXAS.

Dear Robert: Do to lack of space I am writing you a long letter. But I will say here now that you are a true transvestite and very lucky to have a very understanding wife. Also when men wore silken hose & lacy cuffs they were known as men. They did not try to disguise themselves to pass as women.



"Run put on a dress, Homer....here comes my DAD!"



Dear Wilma:

I appreciate the letter you wrote me. I know you are very busy and have a lot of letters to answer, plus getting the newsletter out and I know that this is no easy task but I know it is a token of love and I for one am very glad for the newsletter and the help you have given me as well as what you have done for others. love PAULA JEAN D...LODI...CALIF.

Dear Wilma.

Imagine, as of Dec. 1 I will have been a TVIC member for 4 full years. God, I'll never forget my feelings the first time I walked into your home, it was "This is where I belong." And the friends I've met and made. Too numerous to mention but, never so numerous as to be forgotten. Helen, you dear creature, I owe you more than I can ever repay, your being a friend to Vi has meant much to me. If I could only get her off the mashed potato kick, she's a tater junkie...DEE DEE [REDACTED] HARTFORD ...CONN...

Dear Wilma:

I have struck upon a method of breaking the compulsion to cross-dress. I tried unsuccessfully for dozens of years to "cure" myself. Nothing worked UNTIL NOW. I stopped cross-dressing on October 28. (why my birthday) Stopped totally, completely and permanently. It's so simple, I wish I had done it 30 years ago. All you have to do is convince yourself that you ARE A WOMAN. When that is done, it becomes only natural that you would wear women's clothes. That certainly can't be called cross-dressing. The drawback is that it only works for transsexuals. There is a different method for transvestites. It's called ACCEPTANCE OF ONE'S SELF. It's effective as a cure. It does not stop the cross-dressing, but it does cure the hang-up about it. A TV may need a dress, but NO ONR needs a hang-up. Too many people have wasted too much investment in discarded wardrobes as self-cures only to acquire a new wardrobe and start a new cycle. Too many people have wasted too many years of a brief life in a state of needless guilt. There is no place in a healthy mind for shame and guilt. The cure is so simple. Just say out loud I AM WHO I AM. IF I AM NOT THE IDEAL PERSON IN THE EYES OF SOCIETY, THAT IS SOCIETYS HANGUP NOT MINE. I AM PLEASED WITH THE PERSON WHO IS ME. I AM HAPPY BEING ME. and keep on saying it until you believe it. Don't forget, your not trying to cure the transvestism but rather the guilt about it. I look down upon people who waste their time and money at the baseball stadium, but the ball fan is not guilty or ashamed at how he spends his time and money. Let the TV take a lesson from the sports fan. JOYCE D...HARTFORD...CONN....

Dear Wilma:

In answer to your question about pierced ears: I had mine pierced about three years ago at Fantasia. As far as I know nobody has ever picked it up that they are pierced. At any rate, nobody has ever mentioned it. The actual piercing was nothing. The stud gun used was used, and before you are ready for it to begin the ear is pierced and the stud is in place. No pain, No nothing. WHY DID I DO IT? Because I wanted Cynthia to be a part of me. Bracelets come and go, panty hose comes and goes, but pierced ears are always with me. A note of caution: Make sure your pierced ears have no earrings on when you go out straight. It's easy to forget. Love..CYNTHIA M..NORWALK..CONN....

Dear Wilma:

In so short a time I have discovered people who are human..and painfully so ..who are hurting each and everyday because of how their "ways" effect their lives. Some TV's & TS's are more fortunate than others, some don't get as much hassle. Some have mates who understand & care, others are alone (in more ways than one) & some don't know what to think about their OWN selves!! I surely don't have all the answers but I do feel for my fellow-being. KHALIL [REDACTED] BLACKSTONE..VA...

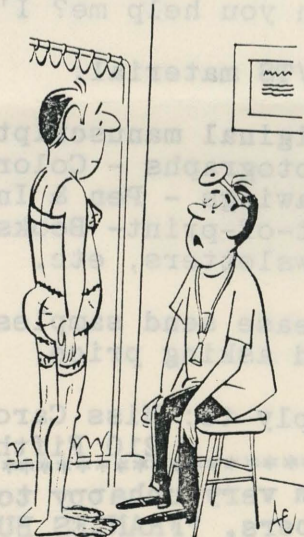
*Fantasies In Lace, INC.*



The New Fantasies catalog has more lingerie than you've ever seen. Everything from Bras, Girdles, Garter belts, Teddies, Slips, Panties, Corsets, to the most sensual, and they are all at your fingertips.

Just \$4.00 refunded First order.  
Send check or money order to

*Fantasies In Lace, inc.*  
P.O. Box 100279  
Ft. Lauderdale, Fl. 33310



MR. JONES, I CANT EXAMINE YOU, IF YOU DONT REMOVE YOUR PANTIES!

TERRY has been in the lingerie business over ten yrs. that I know off. Ten years ago she was up to one of our TV parties on our island and at the time she brought up some beautiful clothes. At that time she was doing business in Ossening, N.Y. She now has moved to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. and opened a shop for business. I have seen one of her catalogs and the clothes are beautiful and reasonable. She is a member of TVIC once again. WILMA



Nov. 20, 1981

Dear Wilma,

Just a few things to get off my mind tonight.

First, those girls who write in and say that they wish to correspond, well why don't they make a sincere effort to answer? I have written to some and after several weeks have heard nothing. At least they could acknowledge receipt of the letter and if they are busy or otherwise tied up, let the other party know and not leave them hanging.

Second, now that I've had my say on slow answers, put my name on the list of those who wish to correspond with the hope of eventually meeting.

The best I've saved for last. A few months ago a new shoppe opened here that specializes in "X-Rated" sleepware and other interesting items. At the present time the stock of larger sizes is limited, but I've talked to the girl that owns the store, and she is going to be getting in a wider stock of foundations and other goodies for the larger girls. She is very tolerant of TV's, and has been very accomodating whenever I've gone in, which is quite often. If any of the girls go in, ask for Maryanne, and let her know that the purchase is for yourself. The name of the store is: Next to Nothing Intimate Apparel, located at 4 West Main St, Middletown N.Y. 10940 (914) 343-5855 hours, 10am to 5:30, Fri til 7:30, Sat 10am to 4pm.

One more thing, when are we going to get an updated membership list? Hope the hoildays treat you and Helen well. Thanks for listening to my complaints

Jack [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] evenings after 7 please

*Jackie*

DR. B. WOLF OF MARRIAGE COUNSELLOR



SEE BILL, EVEN THE DOC SAYS TVs CANT GET PREGNANT



THE WISH OF EVERY TV IS TO HAVE A SET LIKE THESE.

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Dear Wilma,

I hope this letter finds you in the best of health.

I've put the following advertisement together and I hope you will be able to include it in your next edition:

NOTICE:- I NEED A HELPING HAND

Dear TVIC Subscribers,

Can you help me? I'm looking to secure the following

TV/TS material:

- Original manuscripts-Full length or short stories (Fiction)
- Photographs - Color or black & white
- Drawings - Pen & Ink or watercolor/oils
- Out-of-print- Books, magazines, novels, tabloids, newsletters, etc.

Please send samples or lists of what you have available and asking price.

Reply to: Miss Carol Avery, Executive Imports Int'l, 210 Fifth Ave. (Suite 1102) New York, NY 10010

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I am very unhappy to hear the passing of one of our older members. "FRANCES BUDDE" of Trezevant, Tenn. She was 53. In life she was a U.S.N.-ret-and worked for the INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.....



# Sex Change Couple Say New Lives Have Brought Happiness

They became targets of scorn. They were driven out of town. But two years after going public with their decision to switch sexes, husband and wife Harry and Jean Reynolds couldn't be happier in their new roles.

Harry, 37, changed his name to Sheila Marie Reynolds and now is a 6-foot-8-inch "Mommy" to daughters Barbie, 9, and Kathy, 3.

"My body has been corrected. Body and soul I'm a female. I'm a real woman now," she exclaims in the wake of sex-change surgery.

Jean, 28, changed her name to Thomas Eugene Reynolds and now is a 5-foot-4-inch "Daddy," with a wispy mustache and beard — the result of male hormone shots.

Thomas is awaiting the operation that will complete his transformation.

Their shocking decision to exchange sexes made national headlines in 1979, when they gave exclusive interviews to The ENQUIRER. Appearances on TV followed — along with their ouster from the small Arizona town of Benson.

"We were evicted from apartments twice for no reason," said Sheila. "Word got around town that no one should rent to us."

"Thomas and the kids and I

"Barbie had a birthday one day and invited all of her school friends over — but nobody showed up.

"Their parents wouldn't let their children get near us."



**BEFORE:** Thomas (left) was Jean, a petite blonde and mother of their two children, Barbie and baby Kathy. Sheila was then a bearded father named Harry.

had to spend two months in our car in the desert. Finally we found someone who rented us a place to live. But the harassment continued, and we moved out because of the way some people treated our children.

The Reynolds family fled to Copperas Cove, Tex., near Fort Hood, where Sheila served as an Army communications specialist years ago when she was still a man.

"The soldier has returned," she said, her brown eyes twinkling, "but in my case the Army fell short of its promise: 'We build good men.'"

Sheila had her sex-change surgery a year ago. Her skin is now soft and no longer shows traces of the heavy brown beard she wore as a man. Her Adam's apple, once big as a child's fist, is hardly noticeable.

She loves to exhibit her long, long legs in shorts and skirts. She likes to wear frilly blouses, and halter tops that bare her smooth, flat midriff.

She's proud of her bosom. "I've finally gone from a bee-sting size A cup to a respectable size C," she boasted.

As man of the house now, Thomas brings home the bacon by mowing lawns.

"I make anywhere from \$3 to \$20 mowing a lawn," he said. "I can bring home more than \$100 some weeks. It feels

good to be able to help support my family as the father."

Thomas must still undergo a mastectomy and hysterectomy to complete his sex change. He wears a binding under his shirts to flatten his breasts.

"They're already small, but he doesn't want to be embarrassed," said Sheila. "He wants people to believe in him (as a man), and he's afraid they won't. But he has been accepted by other guys."

"He has made friends with several men here in town. He already has his nights out with the boys."

Said Thomas: "I've always felt like one of the guys. And as soon as we can get the money together for my surgery, then I'll feel a lot better about being a man."

They've had more than a few bizarre moments in their sexual transitions — like the time Sheila suffered a minor emergency at the Dallas/Ft.

Worth Airport and rushed to the ladies' room; Thomas followed her inside. And when they emerged, a security guard nabbed him.

"The guard thought Thomas was a real pervert," Sheila recalled.

The Reynolds family lives in an \$80-a-month, tiny apartment in Copperas Cove.

"Everyone here has shown us courtesy," said Sheila. "Barbie likes her new school and has passed to the fourth grade. She's making straight As in school."

"Tom is out working every day, and little Kathy is talking more and more and growing prettier and prettier."

"A lot of people here know who we are. Some of Tom's friends know who he is. But we've been accepted."

"All we want is to be accepted as human beings."

— BELINDA HARE

NATIONAL ENQUIRER

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**PROUD** of her new bosom, Sheila is shown in her tiny kitchen with Kathy, now three years old.



**TODAY:** Sheila towers over Thomas but she's happy that he's now the man of the house.



# Sex Change Ends Life of Agony for Minister Who Says . . . Now I'm a Real Woman

He was a fiery, respected Southern Baptist minister known to his flock as "Little Elvis." Friends knew him as a loving husband and a devoted father.

But Andre DeBejare is no longer a husband — no longer even a man!

And if his outraged fellow ministers have their way, soon "Little Elvis" will no longer be a preacher.

Earlier this year Andre underwent a sex-change operation — ending a lifetime of agony during which he says he was "a woman in a man's body." He divorced his wife and legally changed his name to Priscilla Ann Rene.

"Now I'm a real woman!" sighed Priscilla, currently living in Winter Haven, Fla.

"I plan to marry a strong man, settle down and adopt a child. I can finally be the woman I always was but could not be."

The startling transformation of "Little Elvis" has sent shock waves through the Southern Baptist Church. Rev. George Horton, pastor of the church in Fontana, Calif., that licensed Andre as a minister, vowed:

"We are going to revoke that license! We do not believe in sex-change operations. It's a perversion.

"Furthermore, we don't even have woman ministers in our church."

Priscilla says she'll fight to keep her license. "God called me to the ministry," she



**BEFORE**  
Andre DeBejare  
in Army uniform.

***'I picked my wife out because she wore the same size dress that I did'***

declares, "and only He can take it away from me."

In an exclusive ENQUIRER interview, 25-year-old Priscilla talked about her traumatic childhood as Andre — a time of horrible confusion, she says, because she was outwardly a boy but felt and acted like a girl:

"At home my mother tried to make me play with trucks instead of my older sister's dolls, but I would throw them out. When she tried to make me wear boys' clothes, she'd find them in the trash can.

"Finally my mother gave in and let me wear girls' clothes at home. I'd have to wear boys' clothing at school, but when I came home I'd change into a dress and then go out and play with the girls.

"This caused my mother a lot of problems. The parents of the other kids would complain. We moved a lot when I was young."

When Andre reached his teen years, he was treated as an outcast by both boys and girls.

"I cried a lot . . . I felt as though I was a freak. I suffered true agony inside.

"In the eighth grade I ran away from home and climbed up on a mountain. I put my hands upward to the sky and screamed in all my pain: 'God, what is the matter with me? Please tell me! I never wanted to be a boy. I know I'm a girl!'

"A quiet voice came to me and said that one day I would be healed. 'It will be all right one day,' the voice said."

Andre finally became popular in high school when he won an Elvis look-alike contest. He was dubbed "Little Elvis," and girls flocked to date him — but he was still lonely and miserable.

In spite of his inner turmoil, Andre married at age 19.

"Incredibly, I picked my wife out because she wore the same size dress that I did — exactly," Priscilla recalled.

The marriage immediately ran into trouble, Priscilla says, because as Andre she couldn't repress an impulse to dress and act like a woman. That really upset Andre's wife.

"Then, in 1978, I read about sex change operations. I realized there was help for me.

"But I screamed and cried when I realized what becoming my true self, a woman, would mean. I would have to divorce my wife and give up the love — however painful — that we had together."

Despite his heartache — and de-

spite the fact that he and his wife had a baby daughter in May of 1979 — Andre began taking hormone therapy in preparation for his sex-change operation.

Because of the therapy which enlarged his breasts, Andre was granted an honorable discharge from the Army Reserve, which he'd joined in 1976 at the urging of his father.

In January of 1981, Andre had sex-change surgery and became Priscilla Ann Rene.

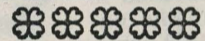
After divorcing her husband, the transsexual's wife moved with their child to California.

Now Priscilla is planning to start a church to help "the poor, the outcast, the lonely, homosexuals

and transsexuals." And she's excitedly looking forward to a new life as a wife.

"I'm still a virgin in my new life and I intend to stay that way until marriage!" she vows. "But I'm dating a lot and making up for the past. It's great to be treated like a lady."

— REGINALD FITZ



*If you destroy a free market, you create a black market. If you have ten thousand regulations, you destroy all respect for law.*

— Winston Churchill

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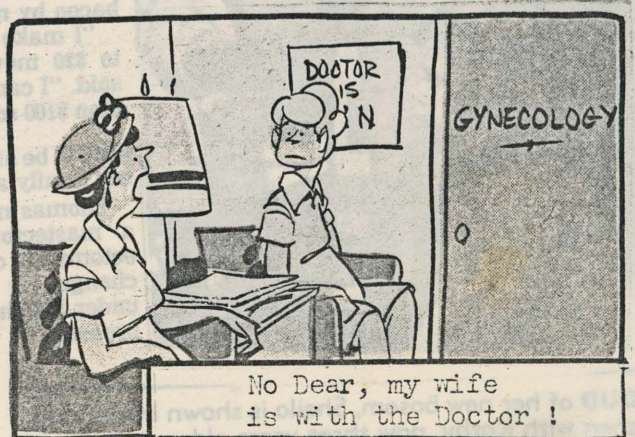
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**WEARING DRESS** is something Priscilla no longer has to do in privacy.



"Gertrude is coming 'straight' this meeting."



No Dear, my wife is with the Doctor!