

"IMPERIALLY YOURS"

Vol. 29
I.Q.K.

Vol. 29 ★ #4 "EASTA Issue" *Imperial Queens & Kings*

of Greater New York

Manhattan, NY 10011

(day)

(LI)

(eve)

(NJ)



QUEEN ALLYSON ALLANTE DAZZLES NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

Herstorically pictured above are: Queen CINDY CHAN, the 1st Chinese-American T/G person elected as a Transgender NY club officer; former NYS Senator and Judge KAREN S. BURSTEIN, the 1st nationwide openly Gay candidate for state office as 1994 Attorney General in NY; and Queen ALLYSON ANNE at City Hall.

Representing the entire Transgender community, the legendary Queen ALLYSON ANNE ALLANTE, the elected President of the IMPERIAL QUEENS & KINGS, testified before the New York City Council in support of the "Domestic Partnership Bill" on January 23, 1997. She was the only transgendered person to do so.

IMPERIAL ADVERTISERS

* A D * R A T E S *

Biz. card (1/8 page) \$ 25.

Special 5 issues ad \$100.

ALLANTE
Personnel Agency

"Home of Proofreaders Unlimited"

(212) 229-0600

(212) 627-1969 (Auxiliary)

TEMPORARY

PERMANENT

* ELECTROLYSIS * HAIRCUTTING *

RANDEE ELAINE *Salon*

FOR MEN & WOMEN

* BODY WAXING * MANICURES * T/G *

180 7th AVENUE SOUTH
NEW YORK, NY 10014

(212) 229-0399

Sexy, Chic or Dramatic

WIGS by Sandie

Custom fittings in a relaxed and friendly setting.

- 100's of contemporary styles & colors
- Professional hair guidance in a private setting
- Pass or theatrical image

YOUR Coif Candy Store

(718) 884-6024 • in Riverdale

Free Consultation with this Ad!

COOKIE'S

Cleaning Service

Hospitality Service

We Don't Leave A Crumb!!!

References Upon Request

Call 212-677-5803



TROIS CANARDS

- Lunch
- Pre-Theatre
- Weekend Brunch
- Dinner

184 Eighth Ave. (Bet. 19th & 20th Sts.) New York, NY 10011

Phone: (212) 929-4320

The Message Center

80 Eighth Avenue, Suite 303, New York
Telephone: 212-242-3900

Mail & Tel. Svc. 24 hours/7 days

MITCHELL P. HEANEY
ATTORNEY AT LAW

FISCHMAN & HEANEY
124 WEST 24TH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10011

(212) 242-0500
FACSIMILE
(212) 242-0518

Countess Clovoria's

Cultivations, Connections and Communications Column for Cross-Dressing and Transgendered Citizens

a supplement to "Imperially Yours" newz-letta published by Imperial Queens & Kings of NY

Greater New York Gender Alliance

In January, the Greater New York Gender Alliance held its annual elections and we are proud to say that IQKNY's own Queen Allyson Ann Allante was unanimously re-elected for the second year in a row for the position of Treasurer of that organization. Carole Ann Lee was re-elected President. Sue Solomon won Secretary. The GNYGA is an association of Transgendered organizations in the metropolitan area and IQKNY is one of its many members.

The Greater NY Gender Alliance already has a date set for its annual Ball called "Moonlight Over Manhattan" so we can mark our calendars early. It takes place on Saturday, September 20, 1997. The location has not yet been confirmed but we will keep you informed.

Imperial Queens on Television

Hedda Lettuce, a local celebrity Drag Queen, cable television show hostess, advice columnist, amongst many other things, invited members of IQKNY to appear on her hilarious entertainment talk show. Imperial Queen Allyson, Kontessa Kitt Holiday and Countess Clovoria had a great time when the show was taped on 1/14 at Champs in NYC. The episode was shown on 1/22. If you missed the show it will be rerun again. The Hedda Lettuce Show is televised on Wed. nights on Manhattan Cable's channel 35 at 9:30 pm.

The show's theme was Royalty and "The Queen of Mean", Leona herself, made a surprise appearance. Hedda had a Royal competition staged between the Imperial Queens & Kings of NY and the Imperial Court, although the Court people were only able to get one person to show up. The competition included a quiz show type question and answer game, a spelling bee and musical chairs. The Imperial Queens & Kings won all three of the competitions!!!

We all Imperially thank Hedda and the staff of her tv show for giving us the opportunity to promote our organization and to have a great time. Big wet ones to Hedda!

In March, Queen Cindy Chan and Marquessa Michelle Lynch appeared on the cable television show, Prime Time Life, a talk show that celebrates City life. The show gave IQKNY a huge compliment by airing a tribute to the Imperial Queens & Kings and their contributions to our great City. IQKNY was said to add festivity, uniqueness and spiritual and artistic diversity to New York.

Note: Like all cable t.v. shows,
look to see this show rerun!!
The show was televised on March 25th and will be

repeated. Prime Time Life is shown on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 pm on Manhattan Cable's channel 69. We send our gratitude to the folks at Prime Time Life.

In January, The Barry Z Show, an entertainment and interview program, once again showcased IQKNY. Imperial Queen Allyson spoke to Barry about many activities that IQKNY recently has been occupied with. This includes consulting with and appearing in the documentary movie "Stonewall", IQKNY members being the first and only transgendered invitees to be royally received at the historic Beaux Arts Society Ball and IQKNY once again leading the annual Greenwich Village Halloween Parade in the historic blue 1969 Cabillac "Stonewall Car".

The Barry Z Show can be seen on Manhattan Cable's channel 35 on Sundays at 9 pm and on channel 17 at 2 am on Fridays. Big wigs to Barry!

Imperial Queens & King in Print

In February, the editors and photographers of the most respected Transgender magazine, "Transgender Tapestry" held photo shoots and interviews with IQKNY members to highlight our organization in an up-coming issue of its nationally distributed periodical.

Photographs were taken of Imperial Queen Allyson, King Farrell Armstrong, Queen Cindy Chan, Queen Christy Lynne Belle, Kontessa Kitt Holiday, Countess Clovoria and Baroness Beth-Hellen. Queen Allyson was interviewed at length about the impressive history of IQKNY and the social and political community services it provides today.

In a past issue, Queen Allyson wrote a commentary on the movie "The Birdcage," starring Robin Williams and Nathan Lane, which was one of the biggest box office hits of the year and is newly released on video. She praised the movie for its positive images of Transgendered people. Also printed in Tapestry was a flattering photo of Queen Allyson and the name, address and phone number of IQKNY. She already received many calls and letters from admiring readers of the magazine.

"Transgender Tapestry" can be found at certain newsstands or Transgender and Gay bookstores or can be ordered by mail by sending your name and address plus \$36 for one year to IFGE, PO Box 229, Waltham, MA 02254-0229. Tell them you heard about their 'zine from IQKNY.

Imperial blessings and thanks goes to the fine folks at "Transgender Tapestry."

Imperial Queens on the Town

Countess Clovoria and Baroness Beth-Hellen have been adding an imperial touch to the dances at The Center by being regular volunteer juice-barmaids. Other IQKNY members and Transgender people have been attending the dances and adding that special touch of royal glamour and fun. The dances take place at The Center, 208 W.13th St., NYC, call (212) 620-7310 for more information. The "Last Dance" of the season will take place on May 10th and will have the theme of "Prom Night". IQKNY has been talking with The Center Dance Committee about co-producing the event. If we do, it surely will be one "Prom Night" to remember!

Kontessa Kitt Holiday proved how talented and glamorous she is by winning the "Miss Lips" contest not once but twice!! "Miss Lips" is a drag contest that is featured at Lips, a cross-dresser theme club-restaurant. On Wednesday nights at 9 pm there are beauty pageant type contests for Drag Queens called "Musical Chairs in the Lower Lip Lounge" with hostess Yvon Lamé, who was also the hostess of IQKNY's recent "28th Anniversary Party" at Rome Club. The contestants are judged on talent, glamour and are asked questions to evaluate intelligence. Kontessa Kitt won on Dec.11, 1996 after she dazzled the audience with her live voice singing "Them There Eyes". On Jan. 8, 1997 Kitt stunned the audience with her beauty, glamour and her fabulous voice belting out "Honeysuckle Rose." Lips is located in historic Greenwich Village. Kitt also performed at our "28th Anniversary Party"

You can experience all the talent and splendor that Princess Brenda Bergman has to offer by stopping by her shows at Nuts & Bolts Lounge (101 7 Ave. South, near Grove St., in NYC) on Wednesday nights at 9:30 pm. Princess Brenda can easily make a Wednesday night as exciting as a Saturday night as she entertains the Greenwich Village crowd with her royal artistry. And there is no cover charge!

Princess Venise Charles, a long-time IQKNY member, performed and acted as hostess at the grand opening of a beautiful new club in Bohemia, Long Island called "The Birdcage". The enterprise will cater to the Gay and Transgender crowd including any admirers or friends. The event took place on Jan. 10, 1997.

Countess Clovoria gave psychic palm readings and Baroness Beth-Hellen composed astrology charts at a charity psychic fair that took place on Jan. 11th, '97 at Earth General on 8th Ave. (Gay Blvd.) in NYC. The proceeds from the psychic fair went to Earth charities and a Faerie Land project.

Liza Minnelli returned to Broadway as a Queen

Liza Minnelli, the lady who is one of the females that more female impersonators impersonate than any others, gets a chance to get even by playing the part of a female who impersonates a male who is a female impersonator. Just in

case you're newly arrived from another planet and don't realize what we're talking about - The Grand Diva Liza Minnelli returned to Broadway, after a 13 year absence, to take over the lead role in the hit Broadway Musical "Victor / Victoria". The show, with the book by and directed by Blake Edwards, cleverly deals with the subjects of gender identity, sexual orientation and being in and coming out of the closet. On January 7th, a star-studded audience warmly welcomed Minnelli back to Broadway in her first night of 32 performances. She was filling the shoes of Julie Andrews who was taking a much needed rest from the show she starred in since it opened in October of '95. Local papers called Liza's comeback "a triumphant return" and "dazzling" and reported that from the moment she first appeared on stage, the audience cheered like a home-team crowd in the NFL playoffs. Fans hope that someday Liza will join the show for good. Racquel Welch is scheduled to take over the lead role when Julie Andrews leaves the show in June. We certainly hope Liza will be back. After all, 32 performances is just not enough! And every Queen knows that you can't have too much of a good thing.

One wonderful piece of news is that Liza has been filmed and photographed in her Drag King "Victor" costume with NYC's Mayor Rudolph Guliani for promotional material for our great City. They were shown in various poses with "Victor" sitting on the Mayor's lap, joking around and flirting. Victor and Rudy? Sounds good to The Imperial Queens & Kings!!

The premise of "V/V" is that of Victoria, a destitute singer-entertainer who finds huge show-biz success by pretending to be a Gay man who is a Drag Queen named Victor. The plot becomes more complicated when a gangster nightclub owner becomes confused over his sexual orientation when he finds himself falling for "Victor". Julie Andrews plays "Victor" with a cool, aloof, androgynous chic. But Liza Minnelli played "him" with in a macho manner that included crotch-grabbing. The beautiful score of the show has music by Henry Mancini, lyrics by Leslie Bricusse and additional lyrics by Frank Wildhorn. The Broadway musical is based on the 1982 Hollywood movie of the same name, also starring Julie Andrews ("Mary Poppins").

Drama Queens may have enjoyed the tension and scandal that "V/V" helped to create at the '96 Tony Awards. When the list of nominated musicals of the season was released, "V/V" was not among the nominated. The only nomination from the show was Julie Andrews for best lead actress in a musical. To make matters worse among the nominated musicals were some shows that were not acclaimed and less successful. Theater industry insiders speculate that the reason that "V/V" was not nominated was because the committee wanted the Tony to go to a new show that was originally produced for the theater and not to a big-budget, lavishly produced take on a Hollywood musical and if "V/V" were on the ballot it would get enough votes to win. Julie Andrews announced that she and others from the show were



hurt and took this as a personal snub and would be boycotting the awards. She also asked to be removed from the list of nominated actresses, a request that the Tony Awards committee refused to honor. No one from "V/V" attended the awards and they gave up a chance to do a musical number from the show at the nationally televised awards ceremony.

The host of the Tony Awards show, Nathan Lane, who earlier this year played a Drag Queen in the hit movie "The Birdcage", joked about the scandal throughout at the broadcast calling the awards ceremony the "Tabloid Tonys". Nathan Lane also tried to trick the audience by coming out in a costume dress that looked like a dress worn in "V/V". Everyone roared in laughter when the dress was removed and he revealed that it was himself and not Ms. Andrews and said "Come on....Did you really think she'd show up?" The Tony Award for best musical went to the show "Rent". Nathan Lane received the award for best actor in a musical for his work in "A Funny Thing Happened on The Way to The Forum". The award for best actress in a Musical was announced by Liza Minnelli and went to the actress from "The King and I". We were all wondering if Ms. Andrews would win and what she would do with the award if she got it! In our hearts, she won.

Rudy / Rudia

We are sure that by now you all know who that title refers to. On March 1, 1997, history was made when Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani stepped out in full drag in front of the 2,000 audience members at the Inner Circle parody show that took place in the New York Hilton. Mayor Giuliani temporarily rid himself of his tough-guy, strong leader image to wear a full length pink gown with spangles and feather trim, false eyelashes and a platinum blonde wig. As Mayoress Rudia, who stated to the press that she was inspired by the "Imperial Queens of New York City", she daintily waved at the crowd and sang a falsetto version of "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" = a la Marilyn Monroe. She later danced a tango with Julie Andrews in her "Victor" drag. It was perhaps the most astounding mayoral appearance since Mayor Ed Koch appeared at the 1984 show in a gold lame stretch bodysuit with a mechanical pigeon on his head.

In a demonstration of their overcredulous loyalty to their boss, most of the Mayor's top staff members also appeared in drag, with Deputy Mayors Fran Reiter and Ninfa Segarra wearing ties, tails and top hats and Deputy Mayor Randy M. Mastro and Bruce Teitelbaum, the acting chief of staff, in rhinestone trimmed dresses and flamboyant wigs. Deputy Mayor Rudy Washington (bore that he is) stated that he refused to cross-dress. (The coward!)

The crowd at the \$400-a-plate dinner show, from which charity receives a portion of the proceeds were definitely shocked but roared with laughter. Rudia said that she was a Republican pretending to be a Democrat pretending to be a Republican. IQKNY, of course, proudly reproduces the pix of Mayoress Rudia and includes them in our every mailing ever since!

Room at the Inn?

A Super Bowl Sunday Holiday Inn television ad featuring a transexual woman has recieved mixed reaction from the Transgender community. It was pulled from the air on January 28th. In the ad, a tall blonde female walks through a class reunion, drawing sexual glances and gaping mouths from onlookers as a narrator recounts how much she paid for her new lips, nose and breasts. She runs into a former classmate who says that he never forgets a face. After realizing that she is a transexual and was known as Bob Johnson during their school years together, his face turns from friendly stunned and finally horrified as he says, "Bob? Bob, is that you?" However, throughout his extreme reaction the transexual woman looks confident. A voiceover then says = "It's amazing the changes you can make for a few thousand dollars," refering to Holiday Inn's billion-plus renovation campaign. The ad was unique and effective.

Many find it encouraging that Holiday Inn saw the realization of a transsexual's physical gender transformation as positive and worthy of comparison to the betterment of the Holiday Inn hotel chain. Also, the confidence the transexual woman exhibits is noteworthy. Even the very recognition that transexuals are part of society is positive in the visibility it lends to transgender issues. However, many find the reaction of the man to be appalling, insensitive and mean. Would the Inn advertise with a person who is appalled to be in the company of a person of a racial or religious minority? After receiving complaints, Holiday Inn quickly pulled the ad. (What cowards!!)

Whatever you felt about the ad, you may want to write to Holiday Inn and encourage them to continue to strive to sensitively represent the diversity of their customers. You can send your comments to Craig Smith, Public Relations Director, Holiday Inn Worldwide, 3 Rivina Drive, Suite 2000, Atlanta, GA 30346.

Ancient Egyptian Queens at The Met

An exhibition celebrating the royal feminine influences in ancient Egyptian art, culture and religion was presented at The Metropolitan Museum of Art called "Queen Nefertiti and the Royal Women: Images of Beauty from Ancient Egypt" on October 8, 1996 through February 2, 1997. The exhibition opened with a gala reception with members of IQKNY in attendance including Baroness Beth-Hellen and Countess Clovoria, wearing beautiful Egyptian style dresses. On display were some of the most exquisite images of royal women that have been preserved from ancient Egypt, focusing on sculptures representing Queen Nefertiti, her daughters and other women of the royal family from childhood to old age. The showing had images from artists and sculptors of the Amarna Dynasty 18 (c.1345 b.c.) with many of the pieces by artists from the workshop of the master sculptor Thutmose. The exhibition was in the Lila Acheson Wallace Galleries at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Avenue, NYC.



Pictured at
City Hall
are Imperial
Queen Allyson
with Republican
Councilman
Andrew Eristoff
in the
City Hall Rotunda

Queen Allyson
"Testifies" at
New York City
Council Hearing
re: "Domestic
Partnership Law"



**Imperial
Queens**
Pose for
Tapestry
Magazine

(Pictured L-2-R
are Kontessa
Kitt Holiday,
Queen Allyson
and Queen
Christy Lynne)

Please attend the next
Social & Business
Meeting
of the
**Imperial Queens
& Kings of NY**

on
Friday, April 4th, 1997

@ 8:15 p.m.

The Gay

Community Services Center

208 West 13 St.

(btw. 7th & 8th Aves.)

Greenwich Village, NY

U.S.A. 10011

Admission: \$3. for The Center

"After The Meeting Dinner"

I. Q. K. N. Y.'s
Special Guest Speaker:

**Gender
Identity Project**

Roz Blumenstein,
Project Director

- ★ T/Vs, D/Qs, T/Ss
- ★ "coming out" guidelines
- ★ special G.I.P.
Video presentation
" Safe-T-Lessons"
- ★ question & answer
session

Telephones: () (Office)
(NYC) (LI)
(NJ) (NYS)

Imperial Queens & Kings of Greater NY

Name: _____
Stage Name (if any): _____
Apt. # or P.O.B.: _____ Partner (if any): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Tel. #: _____ Biz. Tel. #: _____
Interests: _____

Birthday: _____ (Month) _____ (Day)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Mail to: Imperial Queens & Kings

Manhattan, NY 10011

I. Q. K. N. Y. Membership Application

- _____ Royal Member Dues (\$39./year)
- _____with Partner (\$40./couple)
- _____ Business Supporter (\$25./anytime)
- _____ Subscriber (\$19./annual)
- _____ Contributor (\$_____)
- Pmt.: _____ Check _____ Cash _____ M.O.

Imperial QUEENS & Kings of Greater NY.....Official IQKNY Calendar of 1997.....

JANUARY							JULY							Date	Day	Official Events	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1/3	Fri.	IQKNY election meeting	
			1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4	5	1/8	Wed.	Hedda Lettuce Show
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1/23	Thur. *	New York City Council Hearing	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	2/7	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
19	20	21	22	23	24	17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			GS: T/G photographer Mary Klein	
26	27	28	29	30	31		27	28	29	30	31			2/27	Tues.	New York Times interviews	
FEBRUARY							AUGUST							3/1	Sat. *	Tapestry Mag. Photo Session	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	3/7	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
						1							1	2		GS: Bronx Boro Prez. F. Ferrer	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3/12	Wed.	"Prime Time Life" t.v. show	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	3/17	Mon. *	Dance Committee meeting	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	4/4	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
23	24	25	26	27	28		24	25	26	27	28	29	30			GS: Gender Identity Project	
							31							4/16	Wed. *	Greater NY Gender Alliance	
MARCH							SEPTEMBER							4/19	Sat. *	IQKNY Board of Directors meeting	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	5/2	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
						1							1	2		GS: D.O.T. Christopher R. Lynn	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5/10	Sat.	Center "Prom Night" Dance	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	6/1	Sun.	Queens Pride Parade	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	6/6	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30							GS: Judge Karen S. Burstein	
30	31													6/8	Sun.	Long Island Pride Parade	
APRIL							OCTOBER							6/14	Sat.	Brooklyn Pride Parade	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	6/20	Fri.	"Stonewall Symposium XXVIII"	
			1	2	3	4					1	2	3	4	6/23	Mon.	"Garden Party" at The Center
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	6/29	Sun.	N.Y.C. Gay Pride Parade	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	7/11	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	24	17			GS: Human Rights Commissioner	
27	28	29	30				26	27	28	29	30	31		8/1	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
MAY							NOVEMBER							8/16	Sat.	Evening at Cherry Grove, F.I.	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	9/5	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
					1	2							1			GS: Councilman Antonio Pagan	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9/20	Sat.	"Moonlite Over Manhattan" Ball	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	10/3	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			GS:	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	10/13	Mon.	Copacabana Ball	
							30							10/31	Fri.	Halloween Parade	
JUNE							DECEMBER							11/7	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			GS: Surprise Guest Speaker !	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4	5	6	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11/9	Sun.	"IQK's 29th Anniversary Show"	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11/27	Thur.	IQK Thanksgiving Dinner	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	12/5	Fri.	IQKNY monthly meeting	
29	30						28	29	30	31						Nominations 1998 IQK Officials	
														12/21	Sun.	IQK Holiday Party & Dinner	
Plus.....endless unannounced events !																	
* IQKNY Officials Only																	
GS = Guest Speaker																	