



EON (EXPRESSING OUR NATURE)

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THE AUGUST 1990 NEWSLETTER

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Secretary/Treasurer...Molly L.
Programs Director...Jackie A.
Membership Director...Audrey M.
President...Charliss D.

OUR SECOND FIRST MEETING The first open general meeting for EON was held in June at the Quality Inn, Syracuse. Were we ever excited about achieving this small step (not small because it required little effort, but as we consider our whole vision for EON here in the Syracuse area)

Our second open general meeting was held July 21st at the location where, from now on, we will be meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Our new "home" came our way courtesy of Jerry Amerando of the AIDS TASK FORCE OF CENTRAL NY. The TASK FORCE has given us use of a suite of rooms, consisting of a large conference room, kitchen, and- get this!- four restrooms, each with its own large mirror. As Angela S. puts it: God must love crossdressers

The address of our new meeting place is: 627 W. Genesee St, Syracuse. Remember...the 3rd Saturday of each month, meeting time 8:00 PM, early arrival starts at 6:00 PM for makeup and dressing.

Newcomers: if you need assistance with makeup, hair styling, whatever, including extra time to just talk with someone, plan an early arrival. There is help available, whether it be skill, personal experience or emotional support. And if you can, stay late. Sometimes the best meeting is the meeting after the meeting.

AN ADDITIONAL MEETING Originally, it was thought that the 1st Thursday of the month was to be available for an additional meeting, and this was mentioned in the July Newsletter. We were wrong about this. We know that other Saturdays are available, should we want to meet here more than once a month, and a Friday might be available also. We need to consider this, and membership input would be valuable regarding this.

Also, RYAN'S, a local downtown nightspot which some of the girls visit occasionally, has welcomed us with the use of its space for any kind of get-together we might want to put together for any Tuesday night- say, from 7:30 to 9:30, during which time we would probably have the place pretty much to ourselves. Of course, we are welcome to stay later if we wanted. RYAN'S is a rather large nightclub with a stage and a good-sized dance floor. (EON members might want to note that Thursday night, beginning at midnight, is female impersonator showtime at RYAN'S)

THE DRIVE IS ON: VOICEMAIL AND A NEW LISTING EON is now listed in the weekly MEETINGS section of the SYRACUSE NEW TIMES newspaper. The reader is told to call our new Telephone number for information. The way we follow up on such a request is to arrange for a screening interview.

Our new telephone number is: (716) 251-2316. You will note that this is not a Syracuse area number, that it is a Rochester area code. For the time being, at least, we decided to use a VOICEMAIL arrangement and New York Telephone does not have this available in Syracuse at this time. Thus, Rochester Telephone. For about fifty cents, the caller will hear our pre-recorded message about EON and be invited to leave her message for contact.

Our newspaper listing is clear that we are a Syracuse group.

Also, this number can be recorded in our informative EON pamphlet.

OUR GROUP...by Angela S. In the future there will be many ideas expressed about the way our group should best serve the community. Let me emphasize a few things right here and now.

This group will not go on without your support. That means more than just dues. The scenario goes like this:

Group gets started by a few energetic crossdressers. Group advertises for members. Members join group for various individual reasons. Growth of group looks great.

STOP!!!! From this point on, the group can go one of two ways:

1. Group has well attended meetings. Others step forward to help out and contribute. Services, parties and rap groups become things of value and salvation to the members, their families and friends. The group gains respect within the community. Everyone benefits. Or,

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2. group has poorly attended meetings. No one is around to help the group leaders with the work. The group leaders get burned out trying to do all the work and wondering what they are doing wrong. The newsletter stops coming to your mailbox. You wonder what has happened. Again, you feel alone, deserted. You look in the mirror and ask the many questions that you asked before EON was there in your life. Everyone loses.

As a member, you made up your mind to join this group and pay your dues. You must participate for one simple reason: we must know what is important to you and how we can best help you. In turn, we need you to help others.

The only issue is, will you allow yourself to enjoy the security, friendship, fun, and, most of all, the love of your sisters in the group around you?

Will you allow yourself to be touched at the depth of your inner Self and for the first time feel free to express your nature?

Will you become emotionally overwhelmed when you have seen the joy in the eyes of someone who has discovered that they have found others who understand how they feel?

Will you pass over the emotional edge and feel comfortable enough to finally relax and just enjoy the wonderful feeling of femininity you have always sought?

If you want a group like EON to be there for you, there are times when you must be there for EON.

OUR MEETING PLACE...by Angela S. Please, if you have any fears about attending a meeting or a rap session at our new meeting place, don't arrive dressed the first time or two, or get dressed and made up after you arrive. You may need to be reassured that you can feel comfortable. If you don't feel comfortable, let us know why.

I know that this is one of the best and most secure meeting places I have ever seen, and, as some of you know, I have seen a few in my time. Do not let your fears persuade you without first seeing just how secure this meeting place is. Even the **most** careful of us will feel at ease.

For those of you who have not attended a meeting because you are from Syracuse and the meetings are in Syracuse, please understand something about our meeting place. It is very private. It has off-road parking for 100 cars. When you pull in to park your car in the back, you can not be seen from the street. The entrance to the building can not be seen from the street. When we are in the building, it is

only us. Even in the summer, when it is light outside until 9:30 PM, this is still a secure site for our meetings. This meeting place is the most secure one for coming and going that I have ever seen in a major metropolitan area. It has ample space to change in private(four large rest rooms with good-sized mirrors!) It is a miracle that we found it. God must love crossdressers!

NOT QUITE THAT DEEP INTO AUGUST, YET AUTUMN IS NOT THAT FAR AWAY A new song by our own Jackie Alexander? Not quite that either...but she is well aware that time passes so quickly when there is so much to accomplish.

Jackie picked up our EON AUTUMN ACCORD challenge, held it to the light and, turning it this way and that, noticed that there were indeed several facets to this gem...and many complexities. While she is still arranging some of the particulars, Jackie has done much to establish the AUTUMN ACCORD as a real event. We are now ready to print our AUTUMN ACCORD announcement and send it out to the other groups for inclusion with their membership newsletters. Here's how it looks:

AUTUMN ACCORD Friday evening, November 2nd...Special guest room rates at the Quality Inn North..\$ 65 per night, single or double...rooms available as a "block," same floor, close together. Reception and registration suite on same floor, includes room for makeup and dressing for those who need it. Optional dinner has been arranged at Candy's restaurant, near downtown Syracuse. This is a wonderful place with great ambience and an excellent menu...reserved seating for EON from 9:00-9:30.....\$ 12.95

Saturday luncheon, Quality Inn, Evergreen Room, a great buffet from 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM. Following the Luncheon, participants can avail themselves of the services and products offered by vendors/professionals...including makeup, makeup instruction, hair and wig styling, nail care, wig purchase, a display of literature of interest to crossdressers including periodicals, instructional books, various newsletters, catalogs, and academic literature. We are also trying to arrange for feminine attire displays from local retailers, and perhaps a fashion show. There will also be a photographer available to take those special pictures for you.

For those participants who wish to spend their time outside of the hotel, we will provide a list of suggested places to visit, or shop, and things to do in Syracuse.

Saturday evening...Quality Inn, Hawthorne Room...our banquet, with music, a dance floor, speakers, and entertainment. This is preceded by a cocktail hour.

Sunday...Quality Inn, Evergreen Room...Brunch served from 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM.

Cost for Saturday Luncheon, evening banquet, and Sunday brunch.....\$ 40

THE ABOVE ARRANGEMENTS AND PRICES ARE BASED ON A MINIMUM ATTENDANCE OF THIRTY PEOPLE. Our current EON membership is twenty one crossdressers, plus many of us have significant others who would enjoy attending this event. Significant others include wives, girlfriends, and, for some, family and other friends. It is important that this event be supported by our members...in fact, it is absolutely necessary.

Two other sources are expected to support this event by their attendance: the new EON members who will be joining us between now and November, and our friends from other, out of town groups.

WE WILL BE NEEDING COMMITMENTS FROM AS MANY AS POSSIBLE...AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.



MY JOURNEY As the editor of our fledgling newsletter I have a unique opportunity for introspection on a regular and scheduled basis as I review the facts and the hopes of each month past. Inevitably, my mind ranges well past the month just preceding, and also into the future beyond the current month I am dealing with on paper.

My personal life as well as the growth of EON unfolds itself and presents the story as though the process of writing this newsletter were the examination of my own journal.

What is it that presents itself to me, page after page, as it were? What has happened? What have I learned? What new lessons and challenges appear as I honestly review this material? In what ways does this history point to the future- my own, and that of EON?

I would like to share- briefly, I hope, and in a general way- what has emerged for me so far, what has revealed itself, or even reaffirmed itself for me, during this process. Please understand that this is all very subjective; however, it is my hope that it may be useful to some of my sisters - really, it is the only valid reason for doing this at all.

First of all, I believe that there are two principles that are connected. They are principles because they are universal- that is, they are not unique to me and they benefit everyone.

The individual makes a difference, and nothing happens by accident. This is often difficult to accept, there seems to be so much evidence to the contrary- and yet in my heart of hearts, not just in my experience as a crossdresser and a member of EON, but in **all** my life experience, I believe this to be so.

My own history has many chapters wherein life was mostly painful, confusing, precarious and lived out from a deep and long-standing sense of isolation. Secretly, and sometimes not so secretly, I believed I was separated from the Creator(you can call it Life Force, Order, God, Truth...whatever you're comfortable with) and the rest of humankind. As an individual, I found it difficult, at best, to believe that I could make a difference in the world- not to mention my own personal life. I believed that you and I were living out our lives as effects- as accidents of nature, or society, or of family influence, or whatever, for good or for bad. We had little say in the matter. "They" or "It" were in control: you can't fight city hall; there will always be prejudice; if only my parents had been different, or my teachers; if only my wife, or girlfriend, were different, or my job; if only this or that had not happened; on and on....

Is any of this at all familiar? Truly, sometimes I shudder, always I am amazed somewhat when I look back and see the belief system that I had unconsciously created, when I take an honest look at the content of my mind in those days.

In that time past I did not experience individuality. I experienced myself and others as effect. Dreams were not realized; not only that, they were mostly false- not being born of my individuality.

So how did this all begin to change for me? Two things: pain and intimacy. There is an old saying: "I got sick and

tired of being sick and tired." My unhappiness was such that finally I had to admit that my way (my belief system) could not get me out of the unhappiness that it itself had created. I had to surrender and ask for help.

Asking for help is an act of intimacy. It means that you tell someone else who is obviously better off than you are that you do not have your stuff together. In other words, they don't arrive at that conclusion after being around you for awhile. You come right out and tell them directly, out of your necessity.

Turns out, what I thought was intimacy, wasn't. In my past, as people got to know me, really know me, that was to their credit not mine. I never really shared, never really took a risk in any relationship, never really stood naked in any relationship. I always wore the emotional equivalent of a three piece suit...and high boots, a topcoat, a scarf, gloves, a hat- a hat with earmuffs and a visor- sunglasses, mirrored ones...

So...how did I come across the right person(s) to ask for help? Well, I almost hesitate to share this part- could it be that I'm still wearing some of that emotional wardrobe that I described earlier...

In my darkest moment- and even in subsequent moments when there was more light and less darkness- when I had no idea who the right person might be- I surrendered and performed the original act of intimacy that got it all moving forward like a feat of dominoes. I asked the Creator to please help me. In that same breath, I hoped that It existed. If I were wrong about this, then this crossdresser, this human being, this whatever else I am, was up the you-know-what-creek without a paddle. Truly, I was in earnest. I mean, I really had a sense of urgency about changing the quality of my life.

The rest is history, and I am pretty sure about the **quality** of my future if I remember where I came from and **how** the changes were wrought.

The right people began to appear in my life, as though they were part of a new plan for my life. They were my helpers, qualified by their own similar experiences to be my guides. They appeared in the light of their own individuality as I needed them for each phase of the unfolding of my own individuality. Each person, man or woman, was always ahead of me in whatever phase of development I was about to enter for myself. I have, now, every reason to believe that this process will continue into

my own particular future- as long as I continue to fulfill my own responsibility: that is, ask for the help I need and be willing to be available for the help that I can give. Forgetting the later, the offering of help, interrupts the process. I have no doubt about this- I have experienced it those times I have deviated from the path. However, the Creator is forgiving and the principles, the laws, can be re-activated: the individual makes a difference, and nothing happens by accident.

When I have needed help **in any area of my life** the right individuals have appeared. In one way or another, they have led me **back** to my own individuality and my life began to move forward again.

My hope is that all my sisters in EON truly experience their own individuality in **all** aspects of their lives and that we share it with each other- that we not empower the fear of that kind of intimacy that is creative, that instead we empower each other with our sharing of our strengths **and** our difficulties as we move along and ahead within our experience of this group of ours called EON.

Remember the song IMAGINE...? Out of my own experience of Love, I ask you to set aside a quiet moment for yourself, to empty your mind as best you can, and imagine this. ...A group of people called EON. ...Comprised of individuals with the ability and the willingness to empower each other.... Each one conscious of two things: individuals can make a difference...there are no accidents.... This group called EON has the ability and the willingness to attract and empower those who need and want what we have...it is as though the arms we hold out to each other are turned toward the world...

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TGIC, Albany ...meetings are as follows: socials- 2nd Saturday, 145 Club, 8PM...4th Friday, Club room, 8PM. August 17 & 18...field trip, Provincetown & Boston. August 25...Barbecue.

ROCHESTER CD NETWORK...meets the 2nd Friday of each month. Call hotline for all information (716) 251-2132. August 21, special makeup and hair clinic. September 14...50's style party with music & entertainment, dinner.

EON...meets the 3rd Saturday each month in Syracuse, 8PM.
Call hotline for information (716) 251-2316. AUTUMN
ACCORD...Nov. 2,3,4...Quality Inn, Syracuse.

AUGUST...24,25,26...MARDI GRAS, sponsored by Fantasyland,
Box 682, Owen Sound, Ontario, N4K-5R4, Canada.

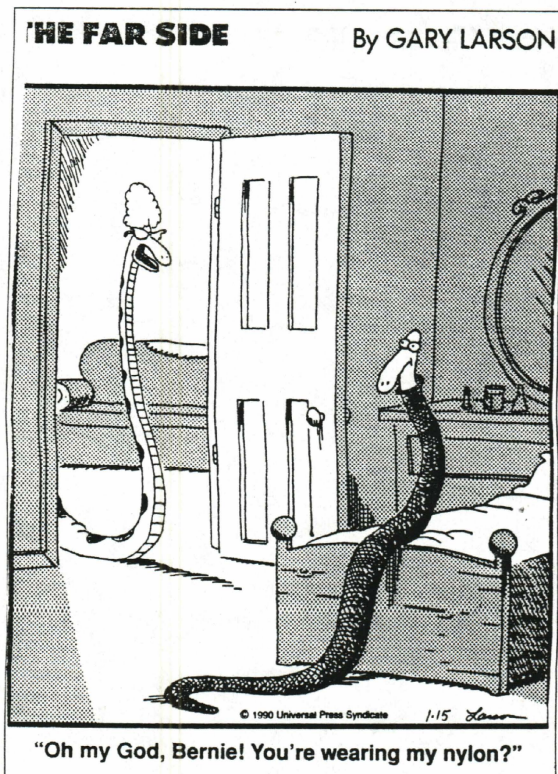
SEPTEMBER...6-9 ...Muriel Olive's Poconos Outing...call Fem
Fashion, (212) 624-5750

20-23...Paradise In The Poconos...Creative Design Services,
PO Box 1263, King Of Prussia, Pa 19406 (215) 640-9449

OCTOBER...12-21...16th Annual Fantasia Fair(Provincetown)

19-20...Dressing For Pleasure Gala...New York City

NOVEMBER...14-18...TRI-ESS National Convention, San
Francisco.



YOU CAN
AVOID THIS . . .
← ATTEND AN
EVENT . . .

CALLING ALL EON GIRLS.....



IMPORTANT MEETING!

august 17

8 pm

our meeting place, 627 west
genesee st, syracuse

FOUNDERS MEETING NEWCOMERS

plus...the meeting after the
meeting...going out on the
town, if you wish...

←-----IS THIS YOU, ALL
WRAPPED UP IN YOUR
HEART'S DESIRE?

NO EXCUSES...WE'RE
AIR CONDITIONED.....

SEE YOU THERE.....