

CrossPort InnerView

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FEBRUARY, 1996

The next meeting is February 15, 7:30 PM at Holiday Inn, I-275 & U.S. 42

New Year Opens With a Crowd !



Transvestite Sardines!

The first meeting of '96 certainly was impressive. With 25 ladies dining and about a dozen others joining us for social and support needs, the *CrossPort* 12th floor conference room was packed! Considering how horrible the weather was that evening, the overflow crowd is even more impressive. Following dinner, Pat Gagne from University of Louisville presented a synopsis of her paper on transgenderism for which she interviewed many of you. Also traveling from out of town, were three ladies from *IXE* in Indianapolis. If this is the type of turnout we can expect when the meteorological conditions are threatening, well, we'll need a much larger room when the weather improves!

of funds. Kristine, Ms. B.A. herself, always fashionably tardy, squeezed in the room but went without dinner (we'd sold it to someone else). Making this even sadder than having to look into her starving eyes, is the fact that Ms. Jones is one of the few to consistently and promptly make a reservation! Please, girls, call the *CrossPort* line before Monday evening and let us know you wish to eat. The cost for dinner, tip, and meeting is only \$15.00. That's hard to beat. I'll be coming around to each of you as salads are served to collect the \$15.00 (try to have the exact funds - change is hard to predict). Those who are only present for the meeting should expect to pay only \$3.00. That cost hasn't risen in over 10 years! We think we're worth much more!

Wednesday, February 21st on
CineMax: "Just Like a Woman."
One of the best, most positive
portrayals of a hetero TV re-
lationship! Tape it! Share it!



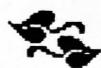
TV TV

One of our closeted friends from Dayton called me recently to inform of an upcoming airing of the feature film, *Just Like a Woman*. Released two years ago (only to compete with *Ed Wood* and *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*) this film enjoyed a limited audience. Now it's scheduled on a mainstream cable network. Wednesday, February 21st at 8:00 pm *Just Like a Woman*, one of the best, most positive portrayals of a hetero TV relationship will be shown on CineMax. Tape it! Share it!.



Put your money where your...!

As we are still in our transition infancy, we can expect some rough spots in our meeting continuity. One of the first we need to address is the making of dinner reservations and collection



cont'd 

In the News...

Of course the best article in the news recently was the one about US! The January 18-24 issue of *City Beat* presented Roger Naylor's long awaited article about *CrossPort's* Be All '95 ("It's A Guy Thing..."). Though considerably shorter than what he had intended for publication in *Cincinnati Magazine*, the piece remained faithful to his promise of a light-hearted but flattering summary. With several of Mariette Pathy-Allen's photos accompanying the text, the column painted a very positive image of our lifestyle. Thanks to Roger for fine writing and to *City Beat* for having the stones to publish it.

Details, Details, Details!

Browsing through my personal library (that's the styling salon to the rest of you) I came across several interesting pics in the February issue of *Details* magazine. In a pictorial titled "Fallen Angels" you can catch Heidi Fleiss, Mickey Rourke, and Rose McGowan in some sexy, trendy fashions. But what qualifies this 'zine for inclusion in my usual fluff are the photos of (Prince-look-alike) Rick Navarro, and George Hamilton's son, Ashley. In two shots of Rick N., we find him sporting (TV fashion faux pas #1) blue eye shadow! Not only that but he crouches in a pair of red, fishnet pantyhose. Dear Ashley finds black toenail polish to be the perfect compliment to his lace top and red fingernail polish. Trust me, even the most tragic crossdresser comes across more alluring than these two.



Finally this month, a little editorial commentary. Am I nuts or is there a revolution in sports casting? It appears that the national trend of having GG's doing sports reporting has taken a twisted turn somewhere. Otherwise attractive and demure ladies suddenly turn into Stanley Kowalski when they pickup the stat sheets. My first awareness came about a year ago while watching Betsy Ross switch from her royal cuteness to a testosterone wannabe. Then, Cami Derking, and now, Dee Lynam. Gawd, my guess is, that if we could look under their *Jones of New York* we'd find them wearing *Bike* coaches shorts. I mean, if the stations want feminine, attractive female types with the ability to appreciate the Neanderthal sports world, the perfect solution would be a Transvestite! As one of the TVs on *The John Larroquette Show* once said in praise of our sisters, "...and after sex, we can talk about sports!"

So sue me if I'm wrong!

Stay Healthy. Stay Beautiful. Avoid Runners.



Up
the
Street...
and
Around
the
Corner



Heather

Last month I wrote about the opportunities 1996 presented us, well someone else felt the same way. The year was just barely six days old and he seized the opportunity to hold me up at gun point.

It was shortly after midnight on Saturday morning January 6th, I was coming home from working at Fairfield Center. As I got out of my car he walked up to me stuck a very big gun in my face and demanded my purse. Those of you that know me, know that I am very rarely at a loss for words. That night I couldn't say a word. I just froze. I only had a dollar and seventy-five cents in my purse. I tried to tell him that but my tongue was frozen. I could only stand helplessly and watch him take my purse.

There were a number of feelings that occurred during and after the theft. For those of you who get *New Visions*, *New Spirit* MCC's newsletter, and read my column know what those feelings were. That column was written two hours after the robbery. I knew that, with the passing of time, I couldn't express my feelings as well and capture all the emotions I was feeling.

Since then, I have had some experiences I would like to share. First, I tried to get a new driver's license. Guess what...the License Bureau wanted proof of social security. The preferred proof is your social security card. Of course the Social Security office won't issue a Social Security card without a valid driver license. Catch 22. Fortunately, I had a letter from IRS that had my Social Security number on it and the License Bureau accepted that letter as proof. The lesson I learned: make a copy of your Social Security card.

Then opportunity struck for me. As I applied for a new social security card, I was given a computer printout with my vital statistics to verify. As I read name, address, date of birth and so forth, I noticed that the "sex" designation had that nasty "M" in it. I then politely stated to the clerk that both my driver's license and my birth certificate list my sex as female. She said no problem and with a stroke of a key my social security records now carries my sex as female. Every cloud has a silver lining.

Having lived through this, some tips to pass on - what not to say to the victim. "What did you do, or did you give him your purse." Think about it, if someone sticks a nine millimeter gun in your face, that is not the time to open a discussion. You give them your purse and anything else they want. "Well he didn't get much." I beg your pardon, he got bits and pieces or my life. That's a whole lot of something. "Be grateful he didn't kill you."

cont'd

Yes, he spared my life, but he stole my feeling of security, He killed that feeling of safety. Don't tell me what you would have done. Unless you have been through it, you don't know. Staring down the barrel of a revolver, it is really frightening. Your mind goes blank. You forget every thing that was ever taught to you about what to do when robbed.

What have I learned? I need to be aware of people and situations around me. I need to watch my back. I need to be less trusting.

I hope none of you ever experience what I did. If you do, stay calm. Give him whatever he wants, your life is worth more.

Until next time, this is Heather, up the street and around the corner of Greater Cincinnati. May God bless and keep you in His love.



Accessories:

"Living on Earth has always been a dangerous way to spend your time."

XXOX

Anne Lamott

Jill's Ambrosia

by:

Jill Ambrose

My written contribution this month will be short, in lieu of the space used for the crossword that I have created. The puzzle includes a variety of transgendered items and names of those involved with CrossPort. I hope that you have a little fun with it.

Word comes from Kymberleigh Richard, via the Internet, that *Cross-Talk*, the Transgender Community News and Information Monthly, will no longer be available at retail outlets after the February issue. Kimber also stated that the number of pages will be reduced to 32 and the cover price will be lowered to \$5.00.

I have subscribed to *Cross-Talk* since last fall, mostly because of my inability to find a copy on sale at local retail outlets. I enjoy reading *Cross-Talk* and look forward to its appearance in my mailbox each month.

It is with great sorrow that I mention that a dear friend of mine has decided to return to his closet because of personal and family reasons. Few of you knew Tanya. While out of

the closet for a very brief time, he did attend one CrossPort meeting and talked with several of the girls.

For the foreseeable future, our only contact will be through the electronic media. Tanya, I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers. May God be with you and your family.

A few weeks ago, I did something that I thought that I would never do. It all started when the white stuff started falling from the sky. Well, actually it started long before that in my mind, but the (fluff)y snow brought it to a head.

While getting dressed to go out for a bite to eat and do some shopping, I realized that 3 inch heels and a mini were not appropriate attire for sub freezing temps and multiple inches of snow.

It had always been my belief that when I am able to dress in public, I should be decked out in my finest. This premise has been shattered on many outings, as I observe others and it hit me that very few women wear dresses anymore, except perhaps to work and church. Oh, I realize that this is probably an exaggeration, but I also understand the need to fit in and not be overdressed.

Soooo, I bit the bullet and purchased two pair of slacks and a pair of jogging pants. Thanks to a little up front coverage help from The Thing Shop, they look decent on me. I'm now looking for Nike's or Reebok's in my size.

My money and reservations are in for the Texas "T" party. I have been corresponding with Cynthia and Linda of the Boulton & Park Society and have volunteered to help with some of the work while there. I hope to have a few of my observations about the "T" party in the next issue.

Via con Dios!



**The Perils of Paula:
a continuing saga:
"Twenty-Twenty
Hindsight"**
by: Paula Ison

Like many of us, I watched the recent ABC 20-20 news show regarding several transsexual police officers and fire fighters. The reporter, John Stoessal, did a decent job with a difficult topic. Even if he didn't understand transsexuality, at least he didn't exploit the gender community by turning it into a raunchy piece on sexuality.

Stoessal's confusion with the topic was very evident, at the end of the show he was back in the studio across from anchorman Hugh Downs where they had a brief conversation. Reading between the lines and by the looks on their faces it went something like this:

Downs: Who the hell were those transylvanians?

Stoessal: Transsexuals, Hugh.

Downs: Whatever, who were they and what are they?

Stoessal: I don't know, Hugh, it was pretty confusing.

Downs: Very confusing indeed

Stoessal: Whew, I'm glad that assignment is over with.

Later that same night our own Diane Torrance was interviewed by the local ABC affiliate. To protect Diane's privacy they shot the interview from behind her. I love Diane and respect her courage to go on the air, but I wished she had turned around and faced the camera so all of Cincinnati could have seen what a wonderful person she is and a credit to our group and to the entire city.

Diane had her reasons for not revealing herself completely but I always thought that those "behind the back" interviews sent a message to the viewers that the interviewee was hiding something. Diane was just protecting her privacy, but of 100,000 viewers, I wonder how many thought she was hiding something.



Changing subjects entirely, I was recently in San Francisco on business and attended their monthly support group meeting. Of course San Francisco is a more "open" city so I knew in advance that those girls do a lot more mainstream activities than us in Cincinnati but I was still surprised to learn that they had a transgendered bowling team that bowls in leagues and tournaments. I can see it now, the CrossPort bowling team travels to the Western Hills Bowling Alley for a tournament..

What a story it would make! If I can dance at Coyote's then why can't we bowl in Western Hills?

Speaking of Coyote's, last week a handful of dancers including myself did a very arduous and fast marathon-esque dance and as we went around the floor in a circular pattern, the crowd of five hundred cheered for me and gave all of us an ovation when we finished. Manly cowboys cheering for a cross-dressed cowgirl, what a concept!



Move Over, Snooty Fox!

Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 21 of CrossPort's regular monthly meeting which will include a "thrift store" in which we will have a number of used clothing items for sale at ridiculously low prices.

Where will we get these items you ask? From you readers, of course. The CrossPort leadership is asking everyone to go thru their closets and drawers and bring to the meeting all of the stuff that you haven't worn in years, that no longer fits or you simply don't like anymore. Bring it to the meeting. Donate it to the group and we'll put it on sale that night. Shoes, purses and jewelry are also welcomed. Nothing will be priced over \$10.

Oh yes, bring plenty of cash and your checkbook, so we can make this a successful fund raiser for CrossPort. The money will go right into our general treasury.



Accessories:

"No one's habits need
correcting so much as someone
else's."

OXOX

"Samantha" L. Clemens

Major Political Breakthrough!
(With our "Thanks" to Diane Torrance)

Resolution to implement transgendered inclusion in the Stonewall Cincinnati Bylaws and Mission Statement:

WHEREAS,
the transgendered and transsexual (hereinafter referred to as transgendered) communities confront the same system which

oppresses gays, lesbians and bisexuals, and therefore are the target of marginalization and loss of economic and civil rights;

WHEREAS,
there is lack of understanding and information on this issue;

WHEREAS,
Stonewall Cincinnati is a human rights organization dedicated to the achievement of equality for all individuals,

THEREFORE

let it be resolved that Stonewall Cincinnati insert the word "transgendered" into appropriate bylaw sections as follows:

ARTICLE II. Purpose

Stonewall Cincinnati is an organization dedicated to the achievement of equality for all individuals. Stonewall Cincinnati particularly seeks to assist the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities to achieve social change and to eliminate discrimination and violence against us through the promotion of public discussion, mass voter registration, and education of the general public.

ARTICLE VII. Committees

Section C. Public Information

The Speakers Bureau shall be responsible for providing qualified, trained speakers to represent Stonewall Cincinnati and the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered communities to address and educate audiences about issues of concern to Stonewall Cincinnati.

Section D. Program

The Program area is responsible for the development of projects and programs that provide a service to the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered communities.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED

that Stonewall Cincinnati will amend its Mission Statement to include transgendered.

AND LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED

that the Bylaws of the Greater Cincinnati Stonewall Political Action Committee (Stonewall PAC) be amended as follows:

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Stonewall PAC is a non-partisan organization dedicated to the achievement of equality for all persons, especially regardless of sexual orientation, gender or gender identity, race, religion, age or physical challenge through political action. Stonewall PAC further particularly seeks to assist the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities to achieve social change, political recognition and eliminate discrimination and violence against us through: coalition-building with other

organizations sharing common goals, working for the election and/or appointment of public officials who are supportive of Stonewall PAC's issues, lobbying public officials to support specific legislation and actions that best serve the goals of Stonewall PAC.



POST-OPinion

Diane Torrance

The on-line Bulletin Board Service (BBS) I find most interesting is the *TSMenace Digest*. The majority of those who post to this are activists in the gender community. Frequent contributors include Phyllis Frye, Nancy Nangeroni, Sarah DePalma, Riki Anne Wilchins and many other less well-known but equally eloquent activists and observers of our community. In the days that followed the 20/20 broadcast, ABC's treatment of us was quite naturally the main topic since many of us had participated in the press conference and the demonstration for Tyra Hunter, footage from which ABC chose to use at the beginning of the story. Not surprisingly, opinions varied from "they trashed us" to the more frequently heard, "Not bad, considering."

An M2F from South Carolina had this observation: "The 20/20 segment was a most outstanding and positive step in educating America. Wish we could have had a switch to make every TV (television) get only that program."

The opposite view was expressed by an F2M from Philadelphia. "Exactly WHAT 'sensitive' portrayal was that?! Did we even see the same segment? Are you people on the same channel, the transgender channel that is!"

"If the publication which supposedly represents us gets it wrong, how can we complain when a television reporter does the same?"

"Recall, if you will, that they called Brandon 'Teena Brandon' throughout the segment, and if that wasn't disrespectful enough, they also called him a 'trans-gendered WOMAN' while consistently using 'she' as the pronoun reference. THIS IS SENSITIVITY????!"

And another M2F wrote, "My sole complaint with the segment was that the narrator continually called him 'Teena Brandon' and called him 'she' and 'her.'"

cont'd

My personal thought on this is, *Transgender* (formerly *Tapestry Magazine*) did the same thing ABC has been accused of. They wrote, "The murder of Brandon Teena, a woman living as a man, by two bigots who first raped her when they discovered her secret." If the publication which supposedly represents us - gets it wrong, how can we complain when a television reporter does the same?

Several people expressed dismay at the dialog between Hugh Downs and John Stossel following the piece. One person said, "I was annoyed at the "surprise" exhibited at the end when it was mentioned that many of us were not "gay," when the implication was that some of us are attracted to the sex opposite that of our birth (to my way of thinking, that makes me a lesbian now, not straight) while those who Stossel would term as gay are those that we would term as straight."

But Allison, a heterosexual crossdresser from Seattle thought, "They dispelled the rumor and public misconception that transgendered persons are all or even mostly gay. In fact, Hugh Downs made it a point to bring this point up so that the interviewer could say, 'No! They are NOT gay. Most crossdressers are NOT gay.'"

I agree with Allison. Hugh Downs was only asking the questions most of the viewers had. He did us a favor by asking this question, and John Stossel did us a favor by answering the way he did.

As a community, we have allowed ourselves to be defined by trash television. First Geraldo, then Springer have set the stereotype of what a transgendered person is firmly in the minds of the general public. ABC took a positive step to correct that image. Will one twenty minute segment miraculously change the perceptions of 250 million people? Get real... not in our lifetimes. But perhaps our children's children will benefit from what has begun.



WKRC

Those of you who stuck around after 20/20 to watch the local news, saw an "area man(?) who had a sex change." Despite Kit Andrews' sensationalist promo, Channel 12 did a good job in the 90 seconds with which they had to work. While filming the interview, both the reporter and the cameraman showed concern for "Kate's" anonymity, yet still living within their journalist policy of not filming in shadows or using electronic "blurring" of the subject. On one occasion, they stopped filming and allowed "Kate" to look at a section of tape for her appraisal.

"Kate" was impressed by the professionalism of the crew doing the interview. They took great pains to make her feel at ease. She felt like she was just sharing a part of her life with a friend, and even wondered when the formal question and answer session was going to begin. She felt the final product showed transsexualism in a positive, though brief, light. She also thanks Dr. Kayla Springer for taking the time to add her thoughts.

"Kate" assures you that she has no shame in who she is. She does, however, have a life. Where she lives, works and

worships God, her gender, past or present, is not an issue. "Kate" feels that even though some might recognize her, the attempt at anonymity sends the message that she is not "out" and does not wish to be saddled with the label "transsexual." "Kate" does not have the option of changing identities by washing the makeup off.



STONEWALL CINCINNATI

Stonewall Cincinnati's annual membership dinner will take place May 18th. At that time, the general membership will vote on the amendment to the by-laws to include "transgendered." How wonderful it would be if a large number of CrossPort people, who had the right to vote on this issue, were in attendance. That, of course, means a large number of CrossPort people must join before May 18th. I have membership forms with me at all times. Individual membership is only \$25.00. For that you get some clout when the Supreme Court decides Cincinnati must re-amend the human rights ordinance.

Additionally, because I was appointed to fill a board vacancy, I will have to stand for election to the board at the May meeting. Please consider this an undignified appeal for your vote. I feel I've earned my place on the board and I'm not there merely as the "token TS." In the words of Frank Jaymes, "Thank you for your support."



Note:

Deadline for March articles
is Wednesday February 28.

e-mail: crossport@aol.com

Ice Fishing in Patent Leather Mukluks

Jennifer Marquette

Yes, it's still cold out there. The upside is that it gives one the opportunity to wear those great cool weather fashions (which in my judgment are superior to their warm weather counterparts). Furthermore, it gives you the chance to take those ever-so-saucy undergarment self-portraits in front of the

fireplace with flames licking up between your thighs. There, spoken like a true crossdresser (just thought I'd keep my hand in).

A few thanks are in order. First, to Pat Gagné who came up from University of Louisville to update us on her research during the January meeting. My personal apologies for missing most of her presentation due to family business but I know many people found her talk rather enlightening.

A thank you to those who volunteered for the "pen-gal" program to become correspondents for those deep in the closet. If anyone else is interested, feel free to let me know. And to the person who thought I said "Ben-gal", if you can't do the splits - I'm not interested.

I also wish to thank Diane for consenting to an interview with Dayna Eubanks of Channel 12 for a local report tying in with the ABC 20/20 segment primarily on trans(s)exuals. The piece was a good, neutral, exposure of TS individuals with a focus on those in the protect and serve field. Diane's follow-up with Dayna on the evening news was a complementary take on just how everyday normal we are. Well, at least Diane is. Channel 12 was supposed to put our name and address on screen but they screwed up. Dayna did call to apologize for that and to say thanks for the help. But the big thanks goes to Diane.



Tonye Barreto-Neto, the Florida cop featured on the telecast, has had much of his surgical procedure docudrama-ed photographically by Mariette Pathy-Allen. Mariette, as you know, will participate in an exhibit called "Gender Affects" at the Fine Arts Gallery of Indiana University in Bloomington. Several other artists are involved including Annie Sprinkle plus photos and clothing from the Kinsey Institute.

Mariette confirmed to me yesterday that she and Sandra Cole will be attending the opening reception on Friday evening, Feb. 9th. The exhibit continues through March 8. If people are interested in making the drive over maybe we can make it into a short wong-fu woad twip.

Also keep in mind the IFGE 96 Convention is in Minneapolis (located in the only state that actually has gender rights on the books). It runs from March 24-31 and I know Linda and Ginger Robinson are definites and I'm about 50/50 at this time (in more ways than one). If you are interested in attending, request a brochure from me or Linda and we'll drop one in the mail for you.



"Those durned J. Edgars are on Springer again!"

Let me back track for a moment. My spelling of the word "trans(s)exual" above is intentional. Yes, I know how it is spelled in the dictionary with two "s's" but there is the contingency in our national community to spell it with only one. The very valid reason for this is one of politics and power and control in a society. An explanation is too long to expound on here.

My simple-minded reason for writing it in the above manner is simply to bring it to everyone's attention. If I only spelled it with one "s", people might think I just spelled it wrong or they

may not even know *how it's spelled. This way, people know something's up.*

My feelings on this are very simple also. I have always felt it should be the privilege of the minority group to call themselves what they wish and the rest of us just have to follow suit. In my early childhood, it was correct to refer to members of a particular race as "colored people". That switched to "black" and is now being replaced by "African-American" and will some day be replaced by something else. Gays invented that name for themselves to replace pejorative and clinical labels and it is now used throughout society (except by rednecks).

Likewise, we have replaced the clinical term "transvestite" with the more user-friendly: "crossdresser". This term is successfully leaking out to society and is replacing that quaint phrase "drag queen" which has been heretofore used by general society as a blanket term for most of us. But when the word crossdresser eventually is used casually by the mean-minded partisans of society we will again change it, maybe to something like: "naked potato dancers" or "J. Edgars" or "Buffyists" or "PantyMasters-of-the-Universe". It doesn't matter, *we get to choose in order to maintain respect and dignity for our personal minority.*

This is really no different than you choosing your own name. You are entitled to be titled as you so desire. If you want me to call you "Patrick" sometimes and "Patricia" at others, that is your prerogative. If you want me to call you "Miss Patrick" then I will. And for those of you who have changed your femme name numerous times - who's counting?

A minority's name should not just be a description or classification but should engender respect. Oftentimes in our society, a minority's title has a negative connotation and sustains divisiveness. And the more lines drawn in society, the more problems. At heart, we in the gender community detest categorization and just want society to love us for who we are. But, pigeonholers will always be with us.

I know that to many of us this whole terminology blitz sounds vaguely like a gender rendition of "Who's on First?" but the points are valid and proper discourse often depends on clarified terms. However, the truly important thing is: United we stand; divided, it's back to the closets.

Frankly, I don't think the one "s" spelling of TS is divergent enough to properly raise consciousness and it is still quite clinical. But I'm not entitled to call this one.



Couples Get-Together

The date for the CrossPort couples get-together will be Saturday, March 2. This will be a casual pot-luck dinner (possibly featuring Jenn and Jackie's duelling lasagna's). There is no real agenda for this evening, the purpose is *not to indoctrinate partners into thinking crossdressing is the greatest thing since 3 Stooges movies. It is a non-crossdressing event to allow SO's a chance to meet and talk with their counterparts. Remember, this is a non-crossdressed function - and there will be a panty check.*

If you are interested in participating please give me or the CrossPort line a call and let me know so I can put you on the

list and fill you in with the details when they get finalized. And if you happen to have that rare Milton-Bradley game, Gender Twister, you must come.



A Stone Wall With a T-Brick

I had some very good news yesterday morning. Diane called and reported that the Tuesday evening Stonewall Cincinnati board meeting voted on whether to become "trans" inclusive and change their mission statement to include transgender people. The board voted unanimously in favor of this and it will now be forwarded to a constituency vote.

This is no minor feat. Last September we sat down with the Cincinnati Coalition and Community Center folks to re-commit CrossPort to their efforts. Trans-inclusion on a political and societal base in conjunction with organizations like Stonewall was certainly part of our agenda. Frankly, I did not expect results of this nature in this short of time.

Please do not dismiss the importance of this. When legislation is eventually and successfully passed in this area to protect *your rights, regardless how deeply closeted you are, it will stem from this very occasion. And you will have one very special person to thank for that - Diane. I do not want to dismiss the others who have been involved with Coalition and Stonewall events, but most of the credit for this is demonstrably due to Diane. Thank you.*



Note:
Cross-Port's active phone #
(606) 581-3711
e-mail: crossport@aol.com

The New Breed

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



1-8

Norm Rockwell

Future Fun

February 10 & 11 - "Load-out" on Fountain Square
(WX Permitting)

February 12 - Deadline for dinner/meeting reservations.
Call [CrossPort@\(606\) 581-3711](mailto:CrossPort@(606) 581-3711) or E-Mail

February 15 - *CrossPort* Meeting, dinner @ 7:30

February 22 - 25 - 8th Annual Texas T Party, Dallas, Texas
c/o PO Box 700042 San Antonio, TX
78270 (210) 980-7788

March 2 - *CrossPort* couples get-together (non-dressing event).

March 24 - 31 - Minnesota Pride '96 IFGE Convention
Minneapolis/St. Paul. c/o IFGE, PO Box
229, Waltham, MA 01754-0229

May 18 - *Stonewall's* Annual Dinner

May 31 - *Pride* Rally on Fountain Square at noon
"Happy Hour" events (TBA)
"Cruising on the Ohio" Boat Ride

June 1 - *Pride* Parade and Festival Special
Events (TBA)

Publication Notice

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InnerView is a monthly publication of *CrossPort* for its members and friends. Subscription dues are \$24.00 per year, payable in January of each year. It is our goal to support the TV, TS, and Gay communities and in return we need your support.

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CrossPort is a not-for-profit support group which meets solely for the support of cross-dressers, transsexuals, and their families and friends.

"Are You Ready For Your Mystery Date?"
an X Dressing Phile by Isabella Anya

Matt looked up from his plate. "You know how many of my friends have tried to fix me up since Cindy and I split up two years ago?"

"Judging by how much you date, not many." Sharon said.

"Besides, who knows you better than us?" Added her husband, Rob. "Trust us on this one, I guarantee you'll have the time of your life. We'll be there, it's just dinner."

"Trust you, huh? There's something of the used car salesman turned politician in your voice." Matt fiddled with his pasta and thought. They had been close friends seemingly forever. There was dreadfully little they didn't know about him. Actually, they knew everything except his desire for dressing. Matt thought about the string of Saturday nights he spent at Toejam's Sport's Bar in lieu of a real social life. He sighed and looked away.

"Okay, you guys win. What's she look like?"

"Oh, this isn't a *blind* date, it's a *mystery* date!"

"We're not quite sure what she looks like, Matt."

"Come on, you two. You expect me to go out with..."

"Matt. You'll go out with who we fix you up with." Sharon looked at him with her blue-gray eyes then tossed her thick blonde hair back over her shoulder. "Understand?"

"Jesus, Sharon, don't give me that tough gal stuff."

Sharon heated her butter knife over the candle and gave Matt a cute smile and a wink. "Don't talk back to Mistress Sharon or she'll have to cut off some useless appendage of yours."

"We'll pick you up at 7:30."

"Aren't you going to at least tell me her name. And where are we going - dressy or casual?"

"We don't know her name yet and we'll let you know."

It was just after three on Saturday when Matt hung up the phone trying to get through to Sharon and Rob's to check on the plan for that evening. As he turned to walk down the hallway there was a knock at his front door. He about faced, went to the door and opened it to reveal Sharon standing there with her arms full of packages.

"Sharon! What are you doing here? What's with all the stuff? You and Rob didn't..."

"Are you going to open the door and let me in or leave me standing here in the cold loaded down like a pack mule?"

"Sorry. Let me give you a hand. What is all this stuff?"

"I can't believe you're not getting ready yet." Sharon said as she showed herself to his bedroom. "Don't you realize how much time you need to prepare for tonight?"

Matt entered the room. "Yeah, twenty minutes for the triple 'S' and ten to get dressed. What's the big deal?"

"My dear but silly Matt, you have *hours* of work to do. Don't you realize this is one of the most important and memorable dates you'll ever have?" she said as she pinched his cheek. "God, do you ever need a shave, I hope you have a few razors."

"Sharon, would you kindly explain what the hell you're doing here? And what's all this mess?"

"I am here to help you get ready for tonight and this *mess* is a few things that I think you'll like." Sharon blandly stated.

"Like some Hai Karate aftershave?" Matt smirked.

"No. I thought this might be a little more appropriate for tonight." She said as she reached into a bag and pulled out a small box. Sharon opened it and displayed a bottle of perfume in her hands. "Encounter. It's one of my favorites. I think you'll like it."

Matt looked at her stone-faced. "Alright, what gives?"

"Well, you know the other night when we told you we didn't know what "she" looked like or what "her" name was?"

Matt shook his head slowly. "Yes."

"In the next few hours you and I are going to discover the answers to those questions. I am here to help turn you into the woman you have longed to be." Sharon looked at him.

"What on earth are you talking about! Woman I want to be! What the hell kind of thing is that to say?" Matt turned red.

Sharon was calm and soft. "Look, Matt. I've known you a long time and you've dropped a million clues. Also, Cindy didn't keep your lingerie habits much of a secret after you broke up. I'm surprised you didn't realize that we knew. It's no big deal to us."

"Cindy told, huh? That bitch." But Matt caught himself. "It's not what you think. She made it all up to get at me!"

"Matt." Sharon walked over to his dresser and pulled open the bottom left drawer revealing an array of women's lingerie. "I'm just here to help. Really, it's okay."

Matt looked down. He peered into one of the bags and after a long pause said, "Thank you, Sharon. I've wanted to tell you guys for a long time. I just never thought that it would be..."

"Oh save the speech. We've got a lot of work to do to get you ready for tonight. I hope I guessed your size right. Now get into the bathroom and shave - everything."

"Everything?" repeated Matt.

"Everything but your head," confirmed Sharon.

When Matt finally emerged from the bath he was smoothly clean shaven. He entered his bedroom to see an array of makeup, clothing, undergarments and accessories that Sharon had unpacked. She motioned him over and opened his robe.

"Good. Nice and smooth. Much better, isn't it?" Sharon gestured to him. "Have a seat and I'll start your makeup."

She carefully plucked his brows into sweet arches and then slowly applied his makeup as she coached him on how to move and behave and talk as a woman. This went on for quite awhile.

"Just picture some woman you admire, maybe an actress, and just move and behave like she does." Sharon said as she lined his lips. "There. Makeup's done. Let's get you dressed."

"I want to see what I look like." Matt stated.

"No, not yet. Wait for the finished product." She said as she handed him black panties and a bra. "Put these on and your breasts are right there." Then she instructed Matt to pull on the silky black hose and then put nails on his fingers. "So you wouldn't run the hose. Now slip this dress on and those shoes." When he had done so she produced a shoulder length auburn wig and spent some time arranging the tresses. When she finished with the hair she attached earrings, slipped a bracelet over his hand and draped a necklace around his neck. Then she stood back.

"A little perfume - there! All done. Now you can look."

Matt walked over to the full length mirror and nearly gasped. He couldn't believe what his eyes were showing him.

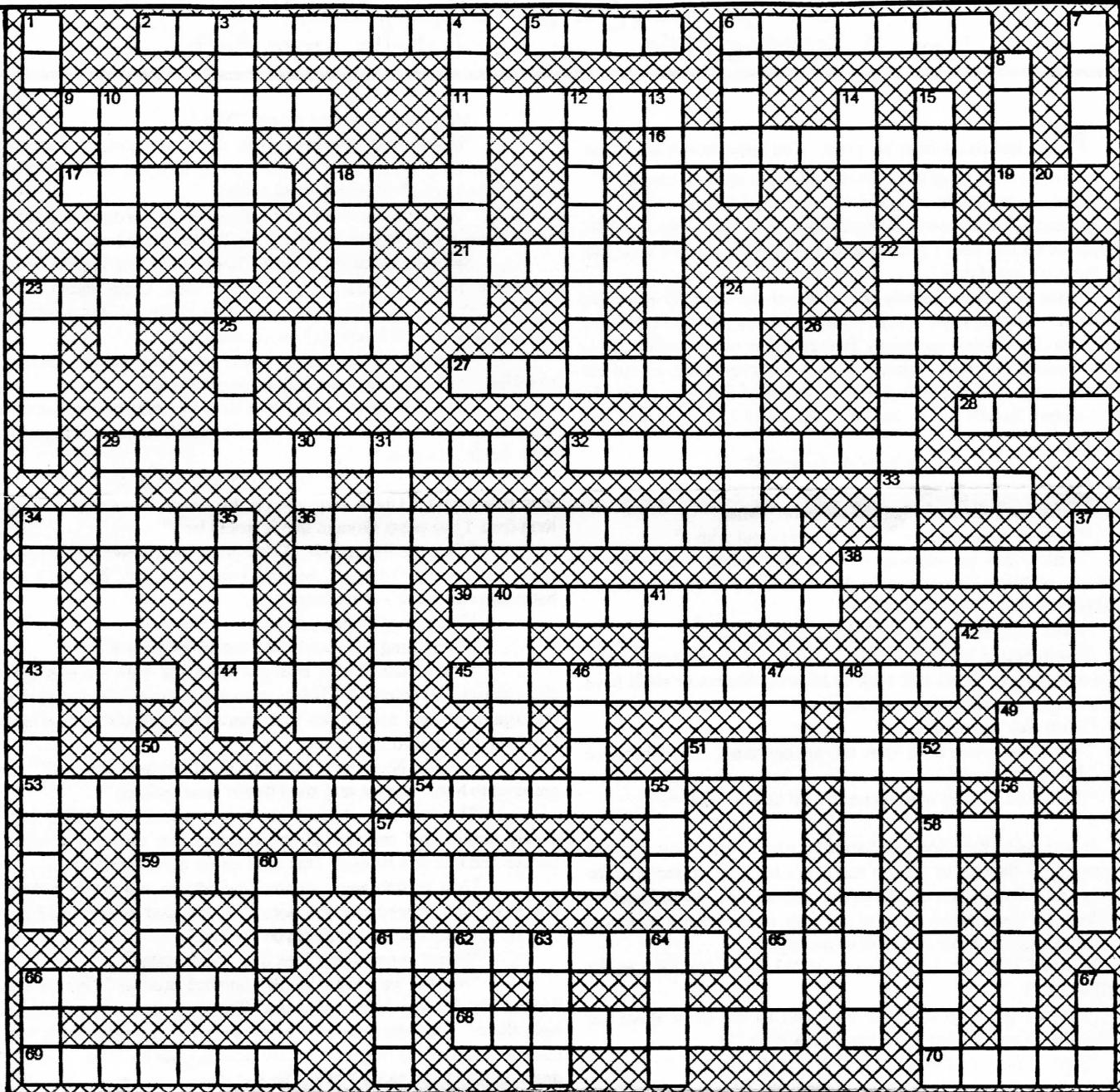
"You look absolutely gorgeous." Sharon whispered.

A beautiful woman stared back from the mirror into Matt's eyes. She had deep, dark eyes and perfect, full lips. Her hair was a soft and wavy auburn shade that just graced her shoulders. She wore a deep jade satin cocktail dress that caressed her tightly around her arms and bodice. It had a low neckline and hung low around her shoulders. The skirt was full and flared out from her hips and ended mid-thigh exposing slender legs that almost shimmered from the silky black hosiery. Her shoes were velvet pumps with subtle satin trim. Her earrings dangled low and her silver and jade necklace reached to her cleavage. Matt stared.

Sharon broke in. "I think I'll call you "Marissa" because you look so exotic. Now let's practice your walk before the boys arrive, okay?"

"Boys!" Matt exclaimed, "What boys?"

(Continued next month)



GENDER BENDER
by Jill Ambrose

Across	Group	Removal	Regular Columnist	Women's Organization
2.Name of Local Support Group	28.Nylons	61.Recent Movie	14.Accessory with Tight Slacks	46.Initials of National Gender Organization
5.Used For Opaqueness	29.Regular Contributor To Interview	65.Color of Hose	15.First Name of 12 Down	47.Director of IFGE
6.Charged With Discrimination	32.Article of Clothing	66.Actor In TG Movie	18.Author: The Perils of _____	48.What Transgendered People Desire
9.Next Venue For BeAll	33.Refused Treatment By EMS Tech	68.A Lady of Color	20.Many Men Wear These Secretly	50.Wife of Editor
11.Final Phase For Transsexual	34.Classification	69.Dressed As Our Second Self	22.Last Name of Our Leader	52.Editor's New Last Name
16.Crossport Meeting Place	36.Winner of Crown at BeAll	70.A Fool	23.Name Used By Some For Transgendered	55.Initials For Sex Change Surgery
17.Means of Hair Removal	38.Phillips And Cox	Down	24.Movie Title	56.Former Name of Paula Ison
18.What TVs/TS's/CD's Desire	39.Queen City	1.Abbv. for Crossdresser	25.Detrimental To Passing	57.Belonging to Dr. Doctor
19.Service Related Job	42.New Organization for Police	3.Last Name of 22 Across	29.First Name of 22 Down	60.Last Name, Founder of Crossport
21.Famous Drag Queen	43.Home of First Women	4.Former Name of IFGE Journal	30.A Refresher Course	62.A Necessary Item for Most Crossdressers
22.First Name of 3 Down	44.The First Woman	6.Hard to Walk In Sometimes	31.Hobby of Jill A.	63.Catholic Women
23.Title Given to Kristine at BeAll	45.Star of Mrs. Doubtfire	7.Feels Good Next To Your Skin	34.Former Meeting Place	64.Skin Condition
24.Transsexual	49.A Drink	8.A Traditional Feminine Color	35.A Revel, As in Hose	66.A Feminine Pronoun
25.Location of 'T Party	51.Does Wonders for Nails	10.The Fashion Patrol	37.Neighboring Support Group	67.Arid
26.Get Rid Of	53.Crossport Publication	12.Last Name of 15 Down	40.Paula's New Name	
27.National Support	54.Our Transgendered Friends	13.Last Name of _____	41.Abr. National	
	58.Convention			
	59.Permanent Hair			