

THE **INGERSOLL** **MESSAGE**

INGERSOLL GENDER CENTER -- SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
JULY, 1996 □ VOL. TWO □ NO. 4 □ PRICE: \$1.00/EA □ \$15.00/YR SUBSCRIPTION

MORE PRIDE: PRIDE DAY SCHEDULED FOR SOUTH KING COUNTY JULY 7, 1996

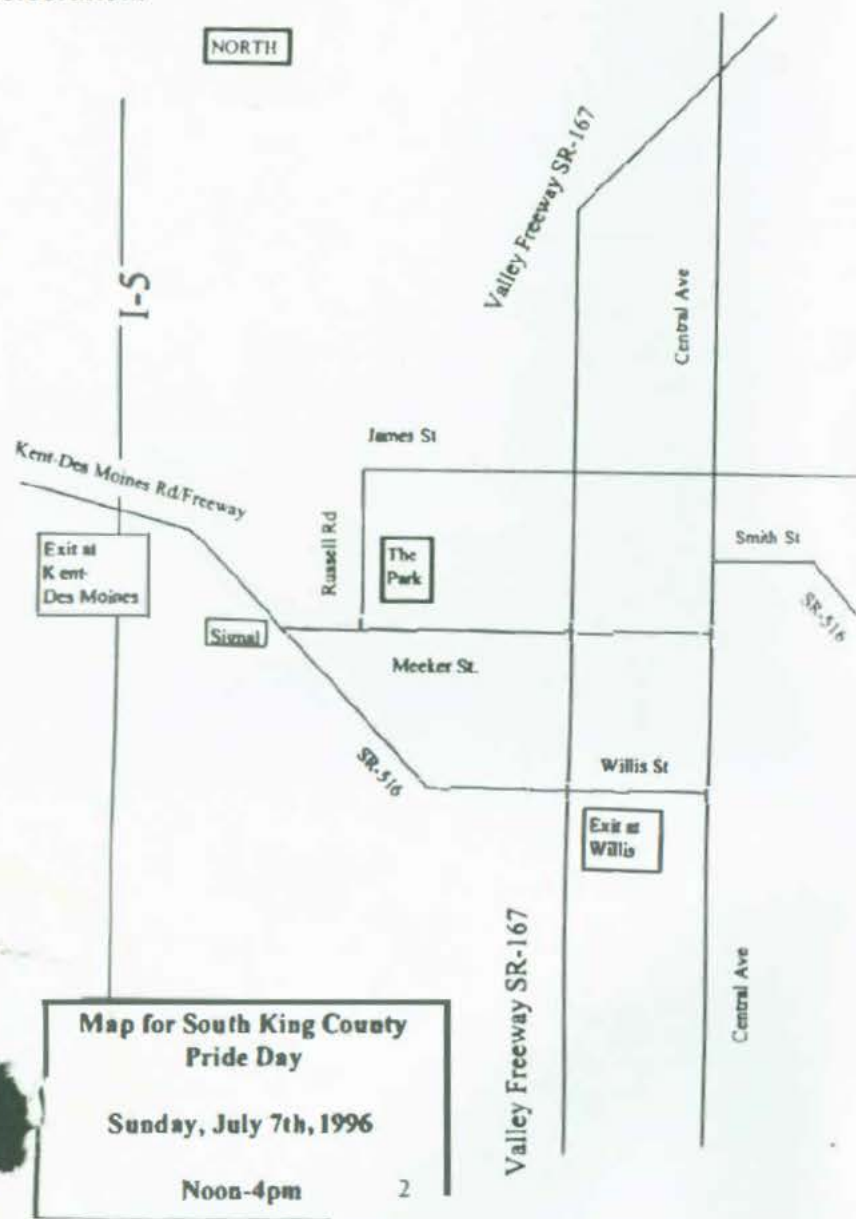


Earlier this year, Ingersoll was contacted by Tim [REDACTED] who lives in Tukwila, Washington, with the idea of having a Pride Festival in the South King County area. Ingersoll was invited to join other organizations in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Communities in celebrating who we are. ♪

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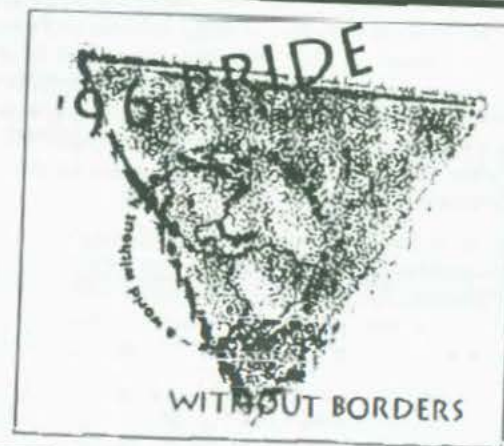


Ingersoll Gender Center will have a booth at the festival. The Festival will be held at the Russell Road Park in the City of Kent. Below, you will find a map with the directions to the park. Come and join us for what we hope will become a yearly celebration.



South King County Inaugural Pride Day Family Festival

July 7th, 1996 Noon-4pm



Russell Road Park City of Kent

Be a part of this historic event. Join many community organizations for entertainment, friendship and diversity celebration.

for more info: 206-431-8943

Jaye's Journal

By *Jaye Jane Albright*, Board President

This month I would like to give a plug for a new book that has been generating some degree of controversy in our community. Samantha [REDACTED] is a correspondent on the Transsexual Menace email list who wrote about Leslie Feinberg's new book *Transgender Warriors (TW)*.

"I cannot express how much I like this book. It showed quite clearly that TG people have been very much a part of the world in capacities other than poor misfortunates, or really, really wierd perverts that all too many people see us as today. It showed that we have been highly honored members of many cultures and people like us were considered a gift. The change in that thinking was traced back to the highly patriarchal cultures and in particular to the Chrstianization of the Western world. The early church used us (and gay's, lesbians and other diverse groups) as targets for campaigns of hate and vilification in order to cement its power. We were especially targets as we were often the heads of competing religious institutions and highly respected in non-Christian communities."

I had picked up a copy of the book in late March in Minneapolis at the IFGE Convention and found that I totally agreed with Samantha's mini-review. I feel our community owes a huge debt to the rare people among us, like Leslie Feinberg, who are the diligent writers and researchers and are courageous enough to speak publicly about transgender issues. I think their strength, dedication and communication skills benefit us all.

Lisa [redacted] had a different opinion, however. She wrote that she believed that we should "...put *TH*' on a "Tranny" book list...I'm all for that. I'd hope that most transfolk would have the maturity and morality to disregard the Marxist psychobabble, but sure, put it on a list."

Samantha replied: "Does Leslie do some of her culture analysis in terms of Marxism? Yes. So what? It does not get in the way at all in my opinion. What does come through, and what I prize is roots that allow us to hold our heads up high and stop acting like we have to beg a favorable medical diagnosis or decent treatment from others. It also gave me more grounds for considering that the treatment of TS people in particular can be seen as a medicalization of a gender balance different from the norm. Is it really sufficient to add to the old pre-treatment days when their were only to genders, and if you didn't fit ...then we will 'fix' you and make you fit? ...We can merely change from one side of the fence to the other if we satisfy the powers that be, but the fence is just as intact and just as alienating as always. This is still not respect for TG people in my opinion."

I'll bet that when you decided to deal head on with your personal gender identity issues you never guessed that you might also be making a political statement, did you? I hope you can see how in generating this healthy discussion makes us think and thinking can generate action. I want to bring this discussion back to the basic human level: Leslie Feinberg now needs the community's support assistance. S/he doesn't write books for

reason: Leslie has staggering medical bills as an uninsured person with an ongoing health crisis. There is a collection being taken for Feinberg at IFGL's book store in Waltham, Massachusetts, and more recently, a Queer Dance Party on Saturday, June 1, at the ACT UP/GO space in Center City, Philadelphia. For more information, call Julie [redacted] at [redacted].

If you can help, I hope you will! I will have a collection bucket at the Emerald City/Ingersoll picnic on August 24. It's not a formal action of Emerald City or Ingersoll, just a personal act on my part, but I hope you'll put something into it. Hope to see you there.



Important Tingersoll Doings in



All Wednesdays in July: TS Group (Referral Only) 7:30-9:30 PM

All Thursdays in July (Except July 4) Drop In Group (Open) 7-9 PM

All Fridays in July: TV/TS Support Group (Open) 8-10 PM

Phones answered Mondays & Fridays 6-8 pm and Saturdays 10-12 noon

JULY 7: THE FIRST EVER, SOUTH KING COUNTY

PRIDE DAY FAMILY FESTIVAL --(See article and map in this month's Ingersoll Message)

July 8: Ingersoll Board meeting 7 (K) pm - 8 30 pm

July 9: FTM Support Group 7:30-9:30 PM Topic for this meeting: Partner's issues: Social, Sexual, Personal expectations of both parties. For more information, call Jason at [REDACTED] or David at [REDACTED]

THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT INGERSOLL IN JULY. OUR NEXT SUNDAY WILL BE AUGUST 18, 1996, WHEN WE WILL PRESENT "HIV AND AIDS: WHAT MEMBERS OF THE GENDER COMMUNITY SHOULD KNOW". (See article in this month's Ingersoll Message)

July 27: FTM Support Group 3:30-5:30 pm. Topic for this meeting: Surgeries - Mastectomies, phalloplasties/metoidioplasty. For more information, call Jason at [REDACTED] or David at [REDACTED].

FACILITATOR'S FORUM

By Suzanne [REDACTED]



First of all a reminder that the IGC and Emerald City combined picnic is coming up on August 24th at Jose Rizal Park on Beacon Hill, and our President, Jaye Albright has put together a great event, so make an effort to come and share some good food and even better fun times. If all of you help make this potential great event a success then we will make it an annual event.

Also in August the facilitators/therapists meeting will be held on the 17th at 10 AM. This meeting is held to discuss problems, plan goals and keep us in communication with each other. The meeting is for facilitators and therapists only, but if members want something addressed at this meeting then give your facilitator a written note and we will discuss the topic at our meeting.

I am sure everyone is happy to have Robin back facilitating. I know that I am Karen [REDACTED] continues to draw a crowd, and Jaye's input is inspiring to all. Sara and Lindsay continue their good work for Thursdays, and the FTM group is alive and active. Allison continues her excellent leadership with her "Friday Humor", assisted by Phoebe on some occasions, and Denise will become more active in the fall when Lindsay has some other obligations.

As facilitators we continue to guide our groups through the tough issues of discrimination and coping in the workplace with transformation and identification, but everyone should realize that we as facilitators are not therapists, we merely lead group discussions concerning these issues. The answers exist within ourselves, and group discussion provides a common ground to air the issues and discover how others within our community cope with these difficult situations. It is imperative that members of the Ingersoll community check in with a therapist for guidance in discovering the answers to our problems, and we are fortunate enough to have a group of therapists who are not only qualified to handle the problems, but they care about us and our TG issues. I believe that this is what makes Ingersoll a national leader within the TG community. There is never any one person, facilitator or therapist that makes Ingersoll the successful institution that it is, but rather it is the entire group effort of each participant and involved professional that makes us what we are today. I am proud to claim that I belong to our organization, and I hope that all of you feel the same way too.

Have a great summer, remember to contribute your input of information to every meeting you attend and I'll see you in group or at the picnic in August.

INGERSOLL ON THE INTERNET

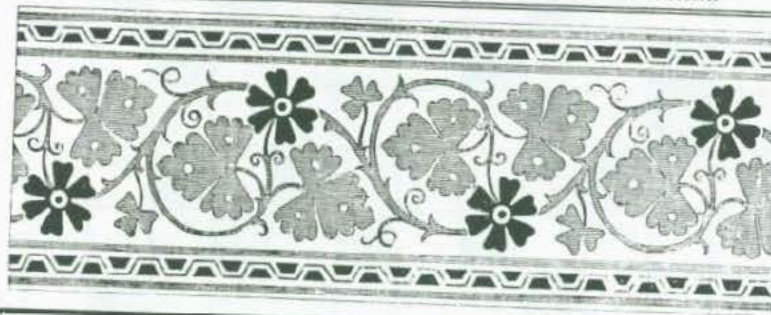
e-mail: ingersoll@halcyon.com

Graphics WEBBrowser:

<URL:<http://www.halcyon.com/ingersoll/iihome.html>>

TEXTonly WEBBrowser:

<URL:<http://www.halcyon.com/ingersoll/iihometext.html>>



EMERALD CITY/INGERSOLL PICNIC PLANNED

Mark your Calendars!!

The Boards of Directors of Ingersoll Center and Emerald City have set Saturday, August 24, 1996, from noon to 5:00 pm for a *potluck picnic* for our two groups to get together for a day in the sun with a great view.

We have reserved a shelter with a panoramic view of the Smith Tower, The Kingdome and Seattle's waterfront at Jose Rizal Park on Beacon Hill. The park is located near Pacific Medical Center and we have sheltered tables reserved so the picnic will go on, rain or shine!

More information and a map to the park will be posted in the meeting room at Ingersoll, at Emerald City, and in next month's *The Ingersoll Message*, so watch for it! We hope to see you August 24, 1996, from noon to 5:00 pm.

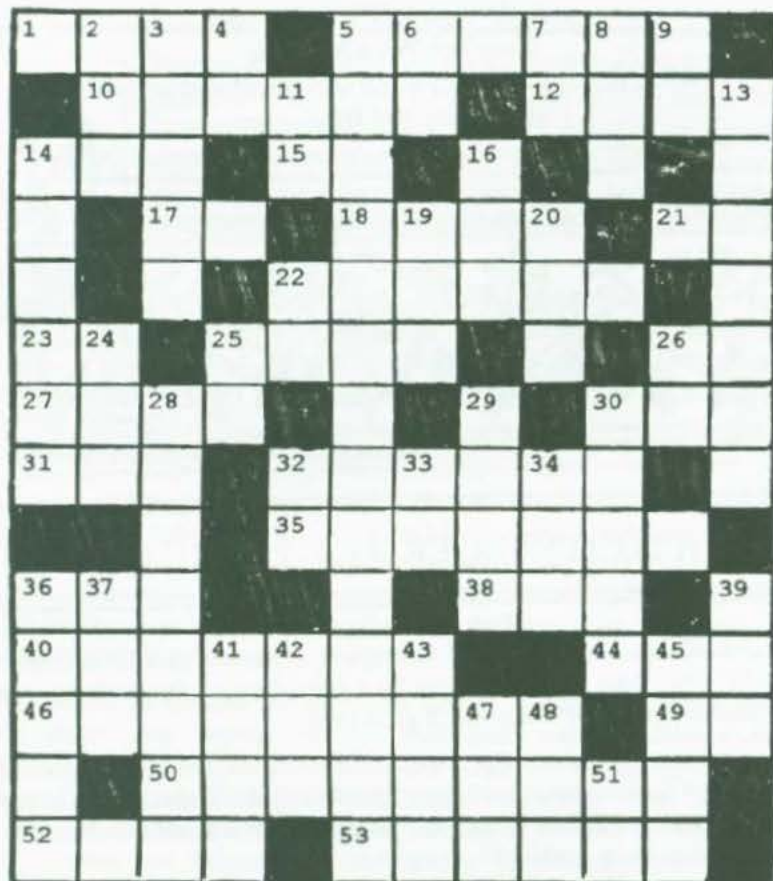


206-827-9494

PHONES ANSWERED TUESDAYS 7:00 PM 10:00 PM

For Crossdressers. Meetings and social gatherings. Safe, discreet, and confidential. A place to be all you want to be!

GENDER CROSSWORD



DOWN

2. Russia used to be this U ____
3. Sometimes it's 366 (2wds)
4. Courtesy ____ case
5. Andrew's movie
6. Third and fourth letter of #4 down
7. At
8. Fine
9. Daylight time (init)
11. Victoria cross (init)
13. The beginning (2wds)
14. Self
16. ____ eliable
19. Abbreviation for Canadian city
20. Over there
22. Cellist: Yo Yo ____
24. Single digit
25. Head woman: ____ O
26. Letters which sound like 'eye' and 'you'
28. Garage (2wds)
29. Concern
30. Noble woman (see #48 across)
32. Abbr. for 'years': R ____
33. Daytime TV: S ____ ps
34. Large deer
36. Water horse
37. Surrounded by water: ____ e
39. Woman's name
41. Talks back
42. Mail de ____
43. Facial orifice
45. 'Donkeyspeak'
47. Dole out R ____ on
48. Flying Down to ____
51. Greek letter.

ACROSS

1. Right away (init)
2. A strong concern
10. A Hepburn TV role (first name)
12. Aware
14. Use this to mean 'before'
15. Metric measurement
17. 'Cat in the H ____'
18. First name of TV actor in 'Some Like it Hot'
21. Exists
22. Blond actress in #17 across
23. To this extent
25. Don't put in front of Horse
26. Third word in title in #17 across
27. As soon as, when
30. 'Vadis' and 'Status' use this
31. Arts Group (init)
32. Scramble #51 across
35. Last name of character in #11 across
36. In #17 across, liquor was carried in this flask
38. To barely make
40. Last name of TV actor in #17 across
44. Basketball organization
46. When you take 1st ____, the crowd will ____
49. Second scale name
50. Garbo's TV queen
52. Mmmmm! It's brown, white and brown.
53. Well-ordered vowels

SOLUTION TO GENDER CROSSWORD

1. Right away (init) 2. A strong concern 10. A Hepburn TV role (first name) 12. Aware 14. Use this to mean 'before' 15. Metric measurement 17. 'Cat in the Hat' 18. First name of TV actor in 'Some Like it Hot' 21. Exists 22. Blond actress in #17 across 23. To this extent 25. Don't put in front of Horse 26. Third word in title in #17 across 27. As soon as, when 30. 'Vadis' and 'Status' use this 31. Arts Group (init) 32. Scramble #51 across 35. Last name of character in #11 across 36. In #17 across, liquor was carried in this flask 38. To barely make 40. Last name of TV actor in #17 across 44. Basketball organization 46. When you take 1st ____, the crowd will ____ 49. Second scale name 50. Garbo's TV queen 52. Mmmmm! It's brown, white and brown. 53. Well-ordered vowels

ROBERT G. INGERSOLL

At the Pride Festival on June 30th, many people asked again why we are called the Ingersoll Gender Center. Who was Ingersoll? So we thought it was about time to re-run the article below.

Robert Greene Ingersoll, for whom the Ingersoll Center was named, was a great writer and orator; a soldier, a poet, a philosopher, a benefactor and a humanitarian. It is generally said, however, that Ingersoll was a destructionist, that his philosophy was of a negative character, that he tore down and did not build up.

Never was a grosser misrepresentation ever made of a man and his labor. Only those who are not acquainted with Ingersoll and his works, only those who do not understand his purpose could make such a statement. No one had a deeper regard for humanity; no one, man or woman loved humanity more fervently; and no one did more to bring understanding and peace to humanity than this *insidel*, this *unbeliever*. Witness below, Ingersoll's writing:

THE CREED OF SCIENCE

"To love justice, to long for the right, to love mercy, to pity the suffering, to assist the weak, to forget wrongs and remember benefits -- to love the truth; to be sincere; to utter honest words; to love liberty; to wage relentless war against slavery in all its forms; to love wife, child and friend; to make a happy home; to love the beautiful in art, in nature; to cultivate the mind to be familiar with mighty thoughts that genius has expressed, the noble deeds of all the world; to cultivate courage and cheerfulness, to make others happy; to fill life with the splendour of generous acts, the warmth of loving words; to discard error, to destroy prejudice; to receive new truths with gladness, to cultivate hope; to see the calm beyond the storm, the dawn beyond the night; to do the best that can be done and then to be resigned -- this is the religion of reason, the creed of science. This satisfies the heart and brain."

INGERSOLL PLANS HIV/AIDS INFORMATION SUNDAY

Sunday, August, 18, has been designated HIV/AIDS Awareness Sunday at Ingersoll Gender Center. In honor of that fact, we will present

HIV AND AIDS: WHAT MEMBERS OF THE GENDER COMMUNITY SHOULD KNOW.

We will present a training presented by a trainer from the Northwest AIDS Foundation. The training, which is normally a two-day event will be presented from noon to 5:00 pm. We realize that this longer than our usual Sunday programs, however there will be breaks and refreshments will be provided.

There will be a general discussion of HIV/AIDS, including, what it is, how it is transmitted, what people can do to protect themselves against infection, and the latest information about treatment and the possible vaccine.

Discussions concerning HIV/AIDS have not been a priority in the Gender Community, but it is of vital interest to all of us to be informed since more and more members of **all** communities are facing the devastating effects of this terrible epidemic. We urge you to attend and bring a friend.

The Butler Did It!

by Pat Butler, Executive Director

What Is Worthwhile?

June 21st was my daughter Andrea's 30th birthday -- a fact which she, and all of us celebrated and rejoiced in. June 21st was also the first anniversary of the death of Thom Negri, PhD, my therapist of some seven years. I found it an interesting mix of emotions: joy at my daughter's continued progress in this world of ours, and immense sorrow at the recognition of the loss of Thom, a beautiful human being who was taken from this world way too soon.

As I was putting together this issue of *The Ingersoll Message*, I came upon a wonderful article from the Reader's Digest. It spoke volumes to me and I want to share it with you.

Anna Robertson Brown graduated from Wellesley College in 1883. She was the first woman to earn a PhD in English at the University of Pennsylvania. She was the daughter of a Presbyterian minister, and she spent part of her childhood on the western frontier. As a Wellesley alumna she became a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She also studied at Oxford and the College de France, daring departures for a 19th century woman.

In 1896 she married Dr. Samuel McCune Lindsay, a commissioner of education for Puerto Rico and later a prominent sociologist at Columbia University. Together they traveled the world. She produced three children and 34 books and died on March 1, 1948, at the age of 84.

In the 1890's she wrote a little book, *What Is Worthwhile?* The book was translated into Japanese, went into 73 printings, and stayed in print for 73 years. What could this 1890's author have to say to the hard-boiled and sometimes cynical 1990's? Listen.

"We cannot possibly grasp the whole of life. What is vital? What may we profitably let go?

["Drop pretense. Eternity is not for shams.

["Drop worry. Worry is spiritual nearsightedness, a fumbling way of looking at little things, and of magnifying their value.

["Let go of discontent. Make a heroic life out of whatever is set before us.

"What are the things in life that we should keep, guard, use?

["Be wise in the use of time. The question of life is not, How much time have we? The question is, what shall we do with it?

["Value work. But not any kind of work. Ask yourself, Is the work vital, strengthening my own character, or inspiring others, or helping the world?

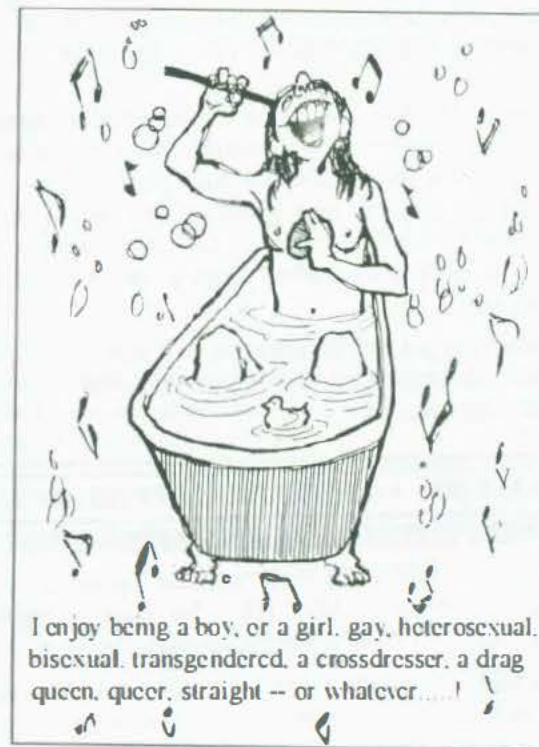
["Seek happiness each day. If you are not happy today, you will never be happy! Strive to be patient, unselfish, purposeful, strong, eager and work mightily! If you do these things with a grateful heart, you will be happy.

["Cherish love. True love never nags, it trusts. Love does not have to be tethered, either in time or eternity.

["Embrace friendship. It takes a great spirit to be a true friend. One must forgive much, forget much, forbear much.

["Do not fear sorrow. Disappointment in life is inevitable. Pain is the common lot. Sorrow is not given to us alone that we may mourn. It is given us that, having felt, suffered, wept, we may be able to understand love and bless."

I finished the article and put it down, thinking of Andrea and Thom. For each of them a strong belief in the goodness of life and people is/was a cornerstone of existence. Each of them, in their own way are faithful (in the literal sense of the word of "faith-full") that just around the bend there are joys and experiences that are waiting to be embraced. Sometimes, I falter in my belief in things eternal. At those times, I am like Emily Dickinson, and have to "dwell in Possibility".



I enjoy being a boy, or a girl, gay, heterosexual, bisexual, transgendered, a crossdresser, a drag queen, queer, straight -- or whatever.....!

"RECLAIMING OUR HISTORY"

Seattle's 1996 FTM Conference

Seattle is proud to present the second Female-to-Male Conference of the Americas. Organizers invite all FTM's, their families and friends to join them as they learn about their past, present and dreams for the future. "We welcome all, no matter where they are in their personal journeys, to attend and contribute their own wisdom and insight to our common bond of brotherhood", organizers say.

The conference will be held August 9, 10 and 11 of 1996.

|||| Friday, August 9, 1996 -- Registration begins at 5:00 pm and continues until 7:30 pm. A "Meet and Greet" event will occur followed by an evening of entertainment and social gathering. Fees for the entire 2 1/2 day conference are \$60 per person, \$95 per couple before 5/31/96. After 5/31/96, fees are \$75 per person and \$120 per couple.

|||| Saturday, August 10, 1996 -- Saturday's events consist of various workshops designed to meet the needs and questions of significant others as well as discussions fulfilling the needs of FTM's. Various events and social functions after the workshops will be scheduled for entertainment. For those wishing to attend Saturday's workshops only, the fee is \$40 per person.

|||| Sunday, August 11, 1996 -- Sunday will be reserved for questions and insight into medical practices and procedures. For those wishing to attend Sunday's discussion only, the fee is \$40 per person.

Some work/exchange discounts on registration fees are available for those who wish to volunteer to work before, during or after the conference. We will also try to assist those who can't find or afford lodging, please let us know if you will require this assistance.

When we receive your paid registration, we will send you a confirmation letter with information about lodging, a detailed conference schedule, and travel directions to the conference sites.

CALL FOR ASSISTANCE WITH HOUSING

The Organizers of the 1996 FTM Conference for the Americas are looking for housing for incoming Female to Male Transsexuals and transgenders. They will be attending the second FTM conference being held August 9, 10, and 11, 1996.

Many of the attendees are on a limited income, so any help you can give would be greatly appreciated. If you are willing to host one or more visitors, please call David [redacted] Housing Committee, at 859-1053.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO WORK ON THE FTM CONFERENCE

Volunteers are needed to work on the upcoming FTM Conference of the Americas. Volunteer coordinator, Spencer [redacted] discussing the conference which will be held August 9, 10, and 11, told the *Ingersoll Message* that volunteers would be needed to set up and take down the various sessions, to be general gophers, etc. Those interested, should call Spencer direct at [redacted]. It would be a great way to help the FTM community!



REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Special needs: _____

- ☐ Yes! Register me now! \$60 is enclosed **
- ☐ Yes, I'm interested. Sign me up and I'll pay later.
- ☐ Please send me more information.
- ☐ I need housing information.

Mail to: FTM CC
1202 E. Pike #1070
Seattle, WA 98122

I am donating \$_____ for those who may be unable to afford registration.

**Fees: \$60 single, \$95 for couples before 5/31/96. \$75 single, \$120 for couples after 5/31/96 or at the door. \$40 per person for attendance to Saturday's workshops, or Sunday's medical discussions only. Make checks and Money Orders payable to FTM CC.

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Opinions expressed in the Ingersoll Message are strictly those of the writer. They do not necessarily reflect those of Ingersoll Gender Center or the Board of Directors

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