

Renaissance News



Volume 3, No.3

Vision — Integrity — Quality

March, 1989

Pairing up with PAIR; another way to communicate our goals

In a continuing effort to provide the "closeted" portion of our community with access to information about transgender behavior, Renaissance has become a member of PAIR, the Pennsylvania Association of Information & Referral Services. This action was approved by the national board at its January meeting.

PAIR is a non-profit group that coordinates and integrates information and referral services (I&R) throughout the state. Membership in PAIR will ensure that the organizers of other I&R services are aware of our existence and purpose. Renaissance has been very successful in coordinating with such services within the metropolitan Philadelphia area. Now, it has exposure statewide.

Information and referral services are a vital link in connecting people to the overall system of human services. Some communities still do not have effective I&R and many do not have coordinated I&R

systems. Yet, despite the recent growth of I&R services, many people still do not know where to turn or whom to call when they need help. This has been quite evident from the number of heterosexual TVs that have been referred to Renaissance by the Gay & Lesbian Switchboard in Philadelphia.

One immediate benefit of PAIR membership is access to their database of I&R services for chapter development. Renaissance can now coordinate local chapter development, within the state, through local, public I&R services. Outside Pennsylvania, PAIR will provide the name and address of similar organizations in other states to assist non-Pa. chapters.

In the near future, an article about Renaissance, its goals and its purposes, will be submitted to the PAIR newsletter.

PAIR membership is an important step for Renaissance in the expansion of the services it provides to the community at large.

Meeting draws record numbers

The January meeting of the King of Prussia chapter in suburban Philadelphia had the largest attendance in the brief history of Renaissance. "An accurate count was near impossible," says Angela Gardner, chapter membership director, "I lost count over 110 people. The four meeting rooms were packed."

One reason for the big draw was Dr. "Bud" Heuer from Temple University, who lectured on how to develop a more feminine voice.

Another reason for the turnout was the presence of all the new chapter leaders. Folks interested in the chapters had an opportunity to talk directly with each leader.

Also at the meeting was Denise Szekely, leader of the Philadelphia TS Support Group, along with several PTSSG members. Denise spoke with several officials of national and the K of P chapter.

It is expected that attendance at K of P will dip slightly as the chapters get into full operation.

Transgender work group makes report to mayor's commission

In a show of solidarity and mutual support, members from Philadelphia's two transgender support groups, along with other representatives of the local gender community, made a presentation on January 24 to the the Philadelphia Mayor's Commission on Sexual Minorities.

Denise Szekely, from the Philadelphia Transsexual Support Group is a member of the commis-

sion and the leader of a special transgender workgroup created by the commission to advise them on local transgender issues.

Paula Sinclair represents Renaissance to the workgroup, and Renaissance member Therése Aigner is an "unofficial" representative.

Szekely will provide details of the report made by the workgroup for a future issue of the *News*.

TranTour '89 gets underway

Several members of Renaissance are travelling extensively in February and March. Christened the "TranTour" by Trudi Henry, the areas to be visited encompass the United States, Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

Trudi was the first to hit the road when she attended the Texas "T" Party in San Antonio late in February. The "T" party is a new

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Chapter news & notes

If no address is given for an organizer, write or call the office.

New Jersey

South Jersey; Tina Louise, chapter leader: Box 2, Glassboro, NJ 08028. Meets first Saturday of the month. The February meeting was cancelled due to unexpected problems. Tina is working with a Unitarian church to develop a new meeting location for March 4.

Ohio

Columbus; Mikki: Interest is picking up here. A new member has offered to help Mikki get started. Anyone else?

Pennsylvania

King of Prussia; Teri Kay, chapter leader: Greater Philadelphia Chapter, Box AD, Bensalem, PA 19020. Meets third Saturday of the month at the original King of Prussia location. Doors open - 8:00 p.m.; New Member Orientation - 8:30 p.m., Main Program - 9:30 p.m. **No smoking permitted in the meeting rooms.**

The March 18 meeting will feature Dianne Gwynne Berger who will discuss fashion and styles based on body types.

The April 15 meeting will feature a Roger Armstrong, Director of Education, Philadelphia Community Health Alternatives.

Reading; Susan [redacted], chapter leader: Box 14421, Reading, PA 19607. Meets second Saturday of the month.

The first meeting of the Reading chapter had 11 people in attendance. Susan gave a progress report on networking with area businesses. Three possible meetings locations have been identified. Paula Sinclair and JoAnn Roberts led a discussion on transgender behavior and sexuality.

Susan and the chapter were the subject of a feature article in the February 12 Pottstown *Sunday Mercury*, capturing front page coverage. Well done Susan!

The next meeting is March 11.

Harrisburg/York: Elsa [redacted]

[redacted] has expressed a willingness to get this chapter moving. Interested parties should contact her at P.O.Box 7412, York, PA 17404.

Vermont

Burlington: A special letter was sent to the 17 people that contacted Michelle [redacted]. Two of these people have expressed an interest in pulling the group together. They hope to visit the K of P meeting to observe the meeting format and operation.

General Information

The Chapter Handbook is in its second draft and is planned for chapter distribution in March.

For those who want to start a group but do not wish to affiliate with us, we have Community Outreach Bulletin #1, *Creating An Organization*, available for \$1.25.

And, don't forget about...

- The PCHA Food Bank: Please bring canned and dried food to the next KofP Chapter meeting.

- The Benjamin Book Project with the Outreach Institute. The book is now available. Special member discounts, regular edition

@ \$28.50, Deluxe @ \$33.50

- Background Papers are available for \$1 each plus \$.25 postage for each pair ordered. Eight papers are available.

- Mona Lisa charms: \$40

- Library Project: please donate your books, tapes, videos, etc.

Renaissance News

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For the latest information about events call: 215-640-9449, 24 hours a day.

Renaissance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing education and support to the gender community at large.

Business Report Thru Feb. 12

Membership Count: 273

Starting Balance: \$1941.51

Income:

Dues & Donations	\$276.00
Publications	269.00
<u>Advertising</u>	<u>210.00</u>
Subtotal	\$755.00

Expenses:

Admin.	\$30.00
Newsletter	155.00
Office	124.21
<u>Postage</u>	<u>82.25</u>
Subtotal:	\$391.46

Ending Balance: \$2305.05

Renaissance Meeting Calendar March

4th	So. Jersey Chapter startup
11th	Reading Chapter, 2nd mtg.
18th	Greater Phila. Chapter (at King of Prussia) Dianne Berger/Fashion

April

1st	So. Jersey Chapter
8th	Reading Chapter
15th	Greater Phila. Chapter Roger Armstrong, PCHA

Opinion - Forum - Information

Reality anchors...more thoughts on hormones and TVs, by JoAnn Roberts

In a study performed between 1962 and 1972, Virginia Prince interviewed over 500 transvestites. One interesting result of that survey was that 50% of the people were interested in taking hormones. That is a startling figure. It also seems to be an accurate one based on Richard Docter's latest research with transvestites.

From my own personal experience I know of three close friends who are self proclaimed to be non-transsexual, yet are taking hormones. One of these people is married and one is in a serious relationship with a woman. What gives here?

There is a behavior pattern that I've observed time after time and I've been guilty of it myself. Once out of the closet, many transvestites tend to go overboard with their dressing, especially if a spouse has agreed to "try it." Everything must be done as the femme-self. All of a sudden good things are happening to 'her', and they want to keep it that way, forever if possible. Some may further reason that if they can live as 'her'

full time, then good things will happen to them all the time. Ask any transsexual in a Real Life Test if that makes any sense to them.

I think part of the problem, at least, is that so much of a transvestite's life is made up of fantasy that they lose their grip on reality. They don't have, or they reject, the "reality anchors" that will keep them from making unnecessary mistakes. They are classic over achievers, pursuing every facet of femininity to the exclusion of all else. They know what they want and they want it all, now.

I listen to my "reality anchors"; my wife and children. They are aware of and support my crossdressing activities, but they also keep me reminded that my activities affect them as well as myself. My wife says I take too many chances with public appearances. She may be right at times. I carefully weigh the potential good of each appearance against the risks to myself and family. I then try to make an informed decision; one based on the reality of the situation, and my "anchors" are part of

that decision process.

As Karen said, "I'm not your mother", but I feel I have an ethical obligation to remind you that a transvestite on hormones is at risk for all sorts of physiological and possibly psychological problems. Further, if you are married and your spouse was not made a part of the decision process, then you are being terribly selfish and irresponsible (more on this subject in a later editorial).

Sometimes it requires a smack on the side of the head with a 2X4 to get someone's attention. The facts about estrogen printed below are the cold reality of the risks one takes when ingesting hormones. For transsexuals, there is no choice but to accept these risks if they are ever to achieve their preferred gender role as women. At least most transsexuals will do so under the care of an endocrinologist or gynecologist. A transvestite has a choice and it should not be made lightly.

No matter how you rationalize it, hormones are drugs and drugs are serious business.

The facts about estrogens...excerpted from the *Physician's Desk Reference*

Estinyl - synthetic estrogen - chemical name 19-Nor-17a-pregna-1,3,5(10)-trien-20-yne-3,17-diol

Premarin -a mixture of estrogens obtained exclusively from natural sources.

The dangers are:

- Cancer - Estrogens can cause development of tumors in animals such as tumors of the breast, cervix, vagina or liver. One study raises the possibility that the use of estrogen may increase the risk of breast cancer in later years.

- Gallbladder disease - There is an increased risk of developing

gall bladder disease requiring surgery.

- Abnormal blood clotting - Estrogens increase the risk of blood clotting in various parts of the body. This can result in a stroke (clot in the brain), a heart attack (clot in a blood vessel of the heart), or a pulmonary embolism (a clot that forms in the leg or pelvis, breaks off and travels to the lungs). Any of these can be fatal.

General Precautions:

- A complete medical history should be taken with specific reference to blood pressure and breasts.
- Estrogens cause some degree

of fluid retention and conditions such as epilepsy, migraine and cardiac or renal problems may become aggravated.

- Oral contraceptives appear to be associated with an increased incidence of mental depression.

Adverse Reactions:

- Tenderness, enlargement and secretion of the breasts
- Nausea, vomiting, and cramps
- Loss of scalp hair, hirsutism
- Steepening of corneal curvature, intolerance of contact lenses
- Headache, migraine, dizziness, mental depression

In my opinion...a rebuttal by Trudi Henry

In the January issue of the *Renaissance News*, Paula Sinclair denounced The Phoenix Society of South Africa for lack of a policy renouncing apartheid. Her views were based on one article from the December issue of *Renaissance News* in which Thelma, a member of Phoenix, spoke of the difficulties of life for the transgendered under an oppressive regime. Paula felt that, South Africa being what it is, Thelma had a duty to address the apartheid issue in any communication with the outside world.

Paula is a friend, one whose opinions I value and whose work for *Renaissance* has been outstanding. In this case, however, Paula is a friend with whom I strongly disagree. The way I interpreted Paula's remarks were; because Thelma did not address her country's racial policy in the article in question, it must follow that members of The Phoenix Society

are, at best, cowards or, at worst, racists. It seemed as if Paula felt the situation in South Africa dictates that conventional rules of fair play may not be applied to a South African until that individual declares him/herself to be at odds with their government on this central issue. The basic question on which Paula and I disagree is; is it incumbent on all right-thinking South Africans to introduce themselves by saying "I'm South African, but I'm not a racist."?

Bigotry is a filthy, ugly thing. South Africa's institutionalization of apartheid is a moral abomination. It is dangerous, though, to condemn all people of a nation because of the policies of a party in power. I don't feel that it is our right to vest the sins of a government on its individual citizens based on the color of their passports. Indeed, to do so fits all too easily into the definition of bigotry.

In conversations with Paula about the article, she stated that she wished to drive home the point that an individual is not necessarily a nice person simply because he/she likes to crossdress or wishes to change sex. I couldn't agree more. Still, I feel that Paula had an obligation to find out more about the group before blasting them in print. It is simply wrong to paint such a picture based only on the fact that the writer of the article neglected to use the "magic words".

While I've not had contact directly with Phoenix, I have asked friends who know about them. We also have a year's worth of copies of *Fanfare*, their bi-monthly newsletter. For the record, Phoenix is a racially, sexually, genderally, and in all other ways, open organization. Not only do I defend their name, I applaud their courage and only hope I could have as much under similar circumstances.

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Paula Jordan Sinclair... **The NewsQueen**

A former mistress reports that Cary Grant wore women's panties, and a beauty contest is held in Chicago for chubby female impersonators. But the big story on Action NewsQueen this month is about a transsexual who has won agreement from prison officials to allow her to continue medical treatments while she finishes her sentence for armed robbery.

In 1982, Tammy White was sentenced to prison by an Iowa court for an armed robbery she says she committed to obtain money for gender reassignment. But when she entered prison, authorities refused to allow her to continue her medical treatments in preparation for a sex change. After two years of requesting appropriate medical care, White sued the state and Iowa Department of Corrections officials.

White won the case, but after appeal by the state, a three-judge federal Appeals Court panel held the ruling in abeyance until an independent medical expert appointed by the court could determine if White was a transsexual.

When the expert from Johns Hopkins University determined that White was indeed a transsexual, her attorneys and the deputy Iowa Attorney General reached a settlement that allows her to receive the medical care recommended by the court expert.

White expressed general satisfaction with the settlement. She hopes to be released from prison soon and "begin to move toward a productive life as a female."

♣ ♣ ♣

The news last month also contained the story of a woman who had lead a productive life as a man. Billy Tipton was a swing saxophonist and piano player who, in later years, had his own trio. He had been married twice and had three adopted sons. After he died last month at age 74 from a bleed-

ing ulcer, it was discovered that he was actually a woman.

"I'm just lost," said one of Tipton's sons after he learned of his father's actual gender. "He'll always be Dad, but I think he should have left something behind, something that would have explained the truth."

Tipton apparently decided to live as a man in order to have a career as a big band musician at a time when the only slots open to women were as "girl singers." His fellow musicians had no idea that he was a woman.

After his gender was revealed, a former colleague of Tipton's said that from time to time people in the audience would remark that Tipton's voice was too high and his face was too pretty for a man. But, the musician said, if anyone would have commented on Tipton's masculinity instead of his appearance, "I would have slugged them."

The Spokane, Wash., coroner was reportedly looking into Tipton's true identity.

♣ ♣ ♣

Thanks to Sharon in Yountsville, Calif., this month's mail brought news of another surprised spouse—Alicia Lobos of Mexico City who divorced her husband of 18 months after she discovered he made his living as a crossdressed prostitute, plying the city's red light district.

According to the report in the *National Examiner*, Alicia was casually looking through the personal ads section of a local newspaper when she saw an ad placed by a person who used the same nickname she used for her husband, Heraldo, during their most intimate moments together. But the big shocker was that the ad was not seeking a woman for an affair, but a man who wanted a "special evening" with a transvestite.

Alicia hired a private investigator to find out if the ad was indeed

placed by her husband. But when the detective reported that it was, she didn't believe him. So he took her to the corner Heraldo worked so she could see for herself.

"Heraldo was walking slowly up and down the sidewalk, wiggling his bottom and laughing "and in full drag", Alicia was quoted as saying. "I couldn't believe that was my macho husband because in the bedroom he certainly had been a man." And what was Heraldo's reaction to his wife's discovery? "These things happen," he said. "That's the way the world is. We've all just got to accept it." But Alicia didn't accept it and filed for divorce. The last time she knew, Heraldo had been hired as a female impersonator in Mexico City.

Despite sharing intimate details about Heraldo's professional gait and his bedroom prowess with Alicia, the *Examiner* never revealed the tell-tale nickname. So we'll have to pick one ourselves. Remember, it has to apply equally well to a male and to a female, it has to be hot enough to attract attention in a personal add, and, as a bonus, it should serve as a stage name for Heraldo's new gig. Send your suggestions to the *Renaissance News*.

♣ ♣ ♣

The story also doesn't mention Heraldo's size (that's "size" as in weight, you trashy things!) But if he was of a certain poundage, he would certainly be interested in the Miss Chubby World Contest held earlier this year in Chicago. Goldy Adams, a statuesque blonde, was chosen as second runner-up; Tony Holiday was first runner-up; and the Miss Chubby World 1989 is Lady Ashley.

Just by looking at the contest photos, several things were apparent. One, this was a serious contest. Two, the runners-up looked

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On The Town with Alison



Best bargain basement bar none

Philadelphia is not a city known for its basements. There is one, however, that deserves more interest. "The New Kurt's" on Chestnut street — actually it's below Chestnut street — was voted best dance club in Philadelphia Magazine's 1988 Best of Philly issue. This reporter and others give it the same high grade, not for its music but rather for its Sunday brunch.

Over a year ago, Therése Aigner was looking for a place to go out in the daytime. Her purpose was straightforward: develop her daytime personal image. Her requirements were stringent: pleasant and accepting atmosphere and it had to be inexpensive. She had noticed ads for Sunday brunch at Kurt's in PGN and au Courant and decided to give it a try.

What she found was a delightful way to spend an afternoon and an incredible bargain. Brunch is served from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. most every Sunday in the back video lounge. The fare includes omelettes and eggs cooked to order, sausage, home fries, and at least three hot entrees, usually a chicken or beef, with broccoli or cauliflower, and a pasta dish. Therése reports that the food has always been good, but recently a new chef, Phil, has made it even better.

In addition to the breakfast entrees, there is a full table of salads: mixed greens, mixed pasta, elbow macaroni, potato, and fresh fruit. Topping this all off is another table of pies, pastries and sundry desserts.

Therése is not one to keep a good thing like this to herself and she soon spread the word about the brunch to friends like Joanie [redacted] and Joanne [redacted] (An historical aside — this was the beginnings of f-troop, the f is for feminine.) Now, every Sunday you'll find Therése, Joanie, Joanne, June and occasionally Jennifer (sounds like they ought to be J-troop) brunching at Kurt's.

What does all this cost, you may wonder. The answer is astounding, but let's prolong the mystery. The entrance to The New Kurt's is located right on Chestnut street under a short navy blue awning. Don't look for any large or obvious signs; you won't find one. After negotiating the flight of stairs

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Great moments in pantyhose history... January '89 Rhapsody (TransPitt)

B.C.	The nude look is in.	1969	Pantyhose research leaps forward with panties knitted into legs. Miniskirts boost pantyhose sales. (Concurrently, popularity of pants sparks sales of knee-highs.)
1500 B.C.	The Egyptians invent underwear. (The significance of this is largely ignored until Cecil B.DeMille films <i>The Ten Commandments</i> .	1970	L'eggs revolutionizes the industry. Unique plastic egg packaging cuts costs and production time by eliminating "boarding". a heating process that molds hose in to the shape of a woman's leg.
1589 A.D.	William Lee of Nottinghamshire, England, invents the knitting machine. Hosiery can now be knitted mechanically rather than by hand.	1973	Football star, Joe Namath, wears Hanes' "Beauty Mist" pantyhose in a television commercial.
1876	Silk lingerie is manufactured replacing wool and cotton underwear. The word "lingerie" is borrowed from French by Sara Josepha Hale, editor of Godey's Lady's Book.	1974	Joe Namath doesn't want to talk about it anymore.
1915	Silk lingerie becomes generally accepted. (Conservative religious leaders and moralists question its link to promiscuity, licentiousness and good clean fun.)	1980s	Sheer threads of Spandex are now commonly woven with nylon for enhanced support and fit. New colors, styles and appliques move pantyhose from utilitarian to high fashion.
1938	Du Pont introduces Fiber 66, later called nylon, a thermoplastic polyamide made coal, air and water. German researchers concurrently develop Type 6 nylon.	1987	U.S. produces more hosiery than ever before. Pantyhose accounts for 70% of all women's sheer hosiery sold; 118 million pair are sold, amounting to \$2.1 billion in sales according to the National Association of Hosiery Manufacturers, which says the average woman uses 13 1/2 pairs of pantyhose annually.
1940	Nylon hosiery is sold in stores. (But only in the state of Delaware-Ed.)	1988	Actress Loni Anderson shows off her sheer support pantyhose in TV commercials. An unscientific poll says her legs are better than Joe Namath's (he still doesn't want to talk about it.)
1942	Nylon goes to war. Production is devoted to military use, which forces thousands of women to draw seams on the backs of their legs with eyebrow pencils.	1988	<i>The September issue of Hosiery News, a trade magazine, queries manufacturers after receiving consumer requests for sources of men's pantyhose.</i>
1950s	The first waist-high garment resembling pantyhose is developed for dancers. Not sold to the public.	2088	Archaeologists unearth billions of plastic eggs. They conclude the greenhouse effect produced a race of giant mutant polymer birds that ate the entire industrial world.
1959	North Carolina's Glen Raven Mill invents the "pantyleg", nylon stockings sewn to panties. Not immediately popular. (It sells about as well as Egyptian underwear.)		
1961	Du Pont's Spandex (elastomeric man-made fiber), an anagram of "expands", goes into commercial production.		



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Flying en femme...Lynda, from "Cross-Talk" of Delta-Chi, an open Tri-Ess group

I would like to recommend a few tips for my sisters who fly. I am a Customer Service Agent and have been for 10 years. I say this only to give credibility to my suggestions.

- Dress practically to fly. I know sometimes what we *like* to wear is not practical for flying. High heels are out. Women just do not wear them to fly. Slacks are definitely a good choice, but if you insist on skirts or a dress, then choose something that won't wrinkle or muss and keep it conservative (no miniskirts or floor length gowns). The idea is to blend in and not stick out like a sore thumb.

- Have your travel agent write the ticket using only an initial for your first name. Tickets are just

like a check. You could be asked for I.D. to prove you are the same person as the name on the ticket. This is a security and fraud check. If you are asked for I.D., don't be embarrassed. The agent has seen a transvestite before. They really don't care how you dress. The agent may pick you out because you're nervous or by the male name on the ticket itself.

- Get a boarding pass from your travel agent in advance. This can be done on most carriers within 30 days of your departure. To use the boarding pass you have to board with the general boarding (don't wait until the last minute.)

- Check your bags at curbside. This will keep you out of the lines and away from that possible I.D.

check. An I.D. tag is required on the outside of your bag. I recommend one on the inside, as well, along with the name, address and phone number of a contact. This could be the hotel you are staying at or just a friend who knows where you are staying. It will help should your bag get lost.

I want to point out that agents and flight attendants don't care what you are. We look for potential problems and security risks. With this in mind, do not try to hide what you are. Keep in mind, we deal with thousands of people a day and moralizing for that many personalities would be impossible.

I hope some of my suggestions will help you have a nice flight and an enjoyable trip.

TranTour from page 1

annual event sponsored by our sisters from the Boulton & Park Society.

Trudi and spouse Kathy then take off on March 10 for Australia where they will try make contacts with gender groups while vacationing "down under."

Departing right behind her on the 19th for the United Kingdom is JoAnn Roberts and family. Their plans include several days in London and a visit to the Isle of Wight. In each locale JoAnn will try to get together with leaders of several transgender support groups for informal talks.

One meeting is already set with Phaedra Kelly of the Gender Transient Affinity on the Isle of Wight. Kelly is a well known figure in the international gender community and the editor of *Chrysalis International*.

Last, but not least, Alison Laing will be representing Renaissance at the third annual IFGE convention in San Francisco mid April.

Each of the peripatetic ladies will file their trip reports in future issues of the newsletter.

Best bargain from page 6

down from street level, you come to the coat room, where you will be required to check your wrap at a cost of \$1 (leave a nice tip on the way out, too.) Make your way to the main bar and place an order for a beverage (it does not have to be alcoholic) and tell the bartender that you'd like to have brunch. He will take your name as the seating accommodations in the video lounge are limited. That's it. You don't have to spend another dime!

The atmosphere in the video lounge is relaxing and laid-back. There are 6 small video monitors and one large screen display. The entertainment ranges from current music videos to classic movies like *Casablanca*.

After you pig-out on all this food,

you can go back to the main room and work off those calories dancing to the newest and best of disco rock.

Some weeknights there are special shows with a moderate cover charge (~ \$5) and often a complimentary buffet dinner will be included if you arrive early.

So, if you are looking for an inexpensive way to spend a Sunday afternoon, in the company of good friends, in an accepting and relaxing atmosphere, then you ought to try The New Kurt's at 1229 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, (215) 751-0009.

Note: The editors would like to thank Therése for providing the information in this review, especially after JoAnn lost the first one.

Important Notice

For a variety of reasons, not the least of which is the fact that it is getting difficult to see across the room, there will be no smoking permitted in the office area at the King of Prussia meetings.

Dr. Stayton, our very gracious

host, does not permit smoking in the office during the week.

Smoking will be permitted only in the hallway. Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated. We don't want to wear out our welcome.

Are you a perfect "10?"...article courtesy of J. Bray, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Although one of every two people in the United States is considering facial plastic surgery, many people are not precisely sure what it is about their face that they would like to change.

Thus, the first step before having facial surgery is to analyze your facial features, to enable you to ask relevant questions of your facial plastic surgeon during your initial consultation.

While the popularity of judging looks on a scale of one to 10 is arbitrary, there are certain proportions, handed down from the Greeks, and immortalized by Leonardo DaVinci, that form the "ideal" of beauty for men and women. And, while each generation has its own idea of beauty, these variations still fall within the certain basic proportions for the "perfect" face. It is important to remember that no one is a perfect "10".

To assist you in pinpointing the feature(s) that may be making you unhappy, it will be useful to examine front and profile photographs of yourself and follow these steps:

Step 1: Divide the front of your face into three sections by drawing horizontal lines through the forehead hairline, the brow, the base of the nose, and at the lower edge of the chin, as shown in illustration 1. The ideal face would be in three equal sections.

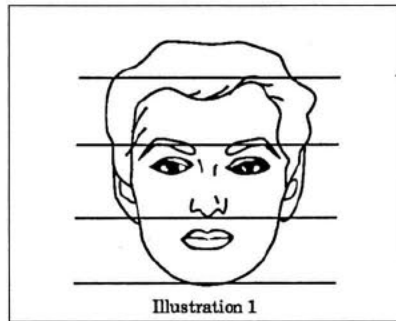


Illustration 1

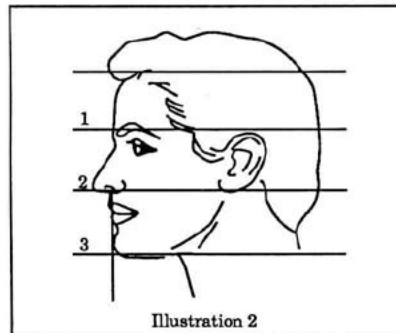


Illustration 2

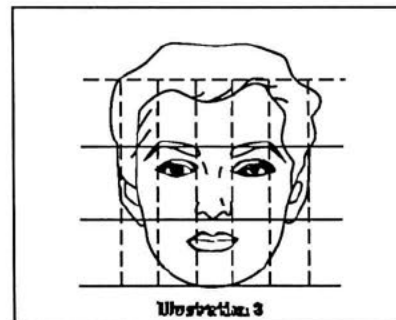


Illustration 3

Step 2: Using a profile photo, draw a line straight down from the lower lip (see Illustration 2). For a man, the projection of the chin should be even with the lip. For a woman, the chin should be slightly behind the line.

Chin alignment may be improved with a chin augmentation or reduction.

Step 3: Looking at your face from the front again, divide it vertically into five equal sections from ear to ear. The ideal face is "five eyes wide," that is, five times the width of one eye. The space between your eyes should be "one eye wide."

In addition, the width of the nose should not extend beyond the lines drawn down from the inner corners of the nose (see Illustration 3).

A nose that is too wide can be corrected, as can other structural problems such as a drooping nasal tip, a bump on the bridge, or a twisted or crooked nose.

Although it is not realistic to aspire to a "10", since even the most handsome men and beautiful women have some facial flaws, once you have a better understanding of the interrelationship among the proportions of your facial features, you will be better able to discuss the various corrective options available with your surgeon.

NewsQueen...cont'd.

better that the winners of some other contests. And three, sequin factories had to work overtime for the gowns the hopefuls wore.



At least one woman in the news recently didn't end her relationship when she learned that her man had a preference for women's underwear.

In her new book, Maureen Donaldson, Cary Grant's former lover, reports that the actor wore

women's plain nylon panties because they were cooler and easier to wash. She also says that Grant kept the lights low whenever they made love because he had something to hide besides his lingerie—his 70-year-old body. Donaldson was 27 when she took up with Grant.

The book—*An Affair to Remember: My Life With Cary Grant*—is due out in April.

Miss Sinclair tries to read several newspapers daily. But like *Heraldo*,

she has been served with divorce papers, and she may miss a story or two while she contemplates such things as a property settlement and a new career as a female impersonator. If you see an article of interest, clip it out, make a note of the publication and date, and send it to the Renaissance News.

In memoriam

Member Jennifer Roberts' father passed away on Monday, February 6. We extend our deepest sympathies to Jennifer.

National Gender News

from around the TV/TS community

Heather Peerson (Cross-Port, Ohio) is still looking for a job. Readers will recall that Heather was fired from her previous job when she entered the real life test period for transsexuals. She says if she doesn't find a job in the Cincinnati area soon, she will move to Boston to help out at I.F.G.E. headquarters. It would be a shame for the area to lose her talents.

NGN

Those girls at Emerald City sure do know how to treat a fella real well. It appears that the police were summoned by a nosy neighbor while our ladies from the great northwest were holding their Christmas party. Someone noticed the police car and went out to see if there was a problem. The officer said, "No", and left only to return a little while later. Janice VanCleve, who we know is no shrinking violet, gathered up a plate of cookies and went out to wish the officer a Merry Christmas! He declined the cookies and left; this time without returning. We've always said, "If you can't reason with 'em, smother 'em in love."

NGN

We read in Denise Mason's *connecticutView* that there is interest in starting a Spouse/SO support group up Devon, Conn. way. Denise is looking for a couple to chair the group. Anyone up there interested write to Denise at Box 2281, Devon CT 06460. While we're touting the *View*, we'd like to tell Denise that she's been doing a great job with her club and newsletter. If you live in her area, drop her a line. You will be hard pressed to find a more caring and sharing person.

NGN

Someone once said, "The two worst things that can happen to you are not getting what you want and getting what you want." Looks

like the ladies of Alpha-Zeta Tri-Ess have gotten what they want: their own newsletter. We reported last time that the SSS contingent were complaining about the uninteresting articles in the combined *A Rose & Alpha-Zeta* newsletter. So, the "alphas" are on their own now. Wendi Pierce, chairperson of the IFGE board of directors, still edits *A Rose News*.

NGN

"Toilet Tempest - Part 3" Wendi (A Rose, Ariz.) commented on Veronica Brown's editorial (The XX Club, Mass.) concerning her challenge to Janice VanCleve (Emerald City, Wash.) as reported last month. [Are you following all this?] Anyway, Wendi felt that Brown's comments were, "inappropriate...does nothing more than fuel the fire that will polarize our community." Naw! Open debate is good for the community. It gets people to *think* instead of react.

NGN

Now we know why some groups literally paste up their newsletters from magazines and newspapers. Take this example, "the author is neither a deity nor an auricle (sic)." Or this one, "...given a 'Mad Max' scenario wherein humankind is decimated (sic)..." (Sigh) an editor's job is never done.

NGN

We're glad that we're not the only ones who see gender discrimination as a real problem in our community. Barbara Diane, a Tri-Ess member writing in the January issue of *The Crossdresser's Bureau* (Gurnee, Ill.) created a future view for the year 2000 where Tri-Ess no longer can exist. She says, "Well, my sisters, I have a dream too (referring to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.), that one day lesbian and gay men, transsexuals and crossdressers, gay or bisexual will

join hands and forever end prejudice against us all." What a wonderful sentiment, but we don't think it will take until 2000 to come true. Groups like ETVC, CGS and Renaissance are at the leading edge of the movement.

NGN

Last time we promised you the information to subscribe to a new publication *Gender Expressions*, so here it is; Bisley Enterprises, 6A Glenville Ave., Allston, MA 02134. You get 6 issues a year for \$30. The first issue is already on the street. The publication features popular articles written by people within the community and by people conducting research into gender issues.

NGN

Some of you will recognize Bisley's address as being in IFGE's backyard. We suppose that too many folks got tired of waiting for the next issue of *Tapestry*. You know the old adage, "If you want something done right..."

NGN

M.F.G.E. (Minnestoa Freedom of Gender Expression) is meeting at the Metropolitan Community Church, 3100 Park Ave, Minneapolis, and from the sound of things in their newsletter, even a bad snow storm doesn't stop these girls from getting together. Their next meeting is March 4.

NGN

A new TV oriented boutique has opened near Detroit. According to *Paradise Tales* (Paradise Club, Ohio) Lavender & Lace is owned by two GGs who started by selling jewelry and lingerie at a flea market. They noticed that many of their customers were men buying for themselves and decided to go after this market. The shop is at 21823 Van Dyke is Warren, (313) 754-4570, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

NGN

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