

The Transgenderist is the publication of Transgenderist Independence Club  
Albany, N.Y.

# The Transgenderist

inside...

## TGIC BUSINESS MEETING ENERGIZES MEMBERSHIP

Feb. 13, 1997- TGIC's annual business meeting was held last month with more than a dozen members participating in a creative exchange of ideas and direction for the club. The bad news is that the club broke even financially and that we lost as many members as we gained. The good news is that several members came forward to volunteer to serve on committees to help the club become a space for everyone to feel safe in. With the *Key Issue* paper distributed, (See *Key Issues* page 7) the members ac-

complished the following:  
TGIC President Winnie Brant announced that she would like to hand over the Presidency to someone else and that she would continue opening the club every week until someone else is appointed. She will continue as Treasurer and also take on some jobs of Secretary.

### CHANGING OF THE GUARD AT TGIC

Rhiannon volunteered to take on the office of Secretary and Den Mother. Committees were formed to gather information, organize events and get things done. Committees will report to the general membership on the third

(Continued on page 5)

## GENDER SHOCK

The book *Gender Shock* by Phyllis Burke (ISBN0385477171) is about how therapists have attempted to use diagnoses of Gender Identity Disorder to change people, especially children labeled as tomboys and sissies -- and suspect to be "prehomosexual" This is an excerpt.

### TABOO DOMESTIC BEHAVIOR

The psychiatrists and clinical psychologists specializing in Gender Identity Disorder in children insist that they are not trying to inculcate gender stereotypes. Yet when you cut away at the politically correct rhetoric in which they engage, and look at the actual treatment that is given to children diagnosed with GID, the message to the child is anything but flexible in terms of gender role, and the message is particularly strong in the domestic sphere.

In his *Sissy Boy* book, Richard Green writes of a five year 'old named Richard ("Feminine Boy, Heterosexual Man"). When the parents first brought Richard for treatment, Green asked them, "How far back does his interest in taking the female role go?" We are informed that it went back two and a half years, which would have made Richard two years old. Initial dialogue between Dr. Green and Richard's parents:

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### TGIC BUSINESS MEETING

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# Uncle Donald is now Aunt Deirdre

## CONFIDENT AND CANDID.

Charles Bullard, Register Staff Writer

DES MOINES REGISTER, January 27, 1997

Iowa City, IA - Donald McCloskey, 54, a University of Iowa professor of economics and history, left the school to teach for a year in the Netherlands and returned to Iowa City last week for the start of the spring semester as Deirdre McCloskey.

McCloskey is still a highly regarded, Harvard-educated economist and historian, but she is now a female professor instead of a male professor.

"I am now officially in every way you can name a woman," McCloskey told her economic history class Tuesday. "That's, of course, how I want to be treated."

McCloskey has been taking female hormones and living as a woman in the Netherlands since the fall of 1995 and underwent a sex-change operation in Australis last June.

"I want you to treat me as you might treat your aunt," McCloskey told her class. "Think of me as your Aunt Deirdre."

Over tea in her antique-filled Victorian home, McCloskey said her students will notice a marked change from Donald's macho teaching methods. "They'll observe a more womanly style. Instead of being Uncle Donald, I'll be Aunt Deirdre."

The class of undergraduate and graduate students sat in silence as McCloskey talked about her transition. "Now, this will be embarrassing at first, but if we're straightforward with each other, it doesn't have to be," she said.

McCloskey said she defines herself as a professor of economics and history, not as a transsexual. But she said she could not change genders in secret, so she felt she needed to be forthright with her students.

"I'm appealing to people's best qualities," McCloskey told her class. "I ask you to see a professor

here, a female professor who is very anxious to in-  
McCloskey said she is not ashamed of what she's done. "If there's nothing shameful about being a woman, then there's nothing shameful about becoming one."

McCloskey's decision to become a woman after 30 years of marriage and two children was made public in November 1995, but McCloskey was on a sabbatical then and left soon afterward to teach for a year in Rotterdam. So Tuesday's economic history class was the first exposure U of I students have had to Deirdre McCloskey.

The students seemed to take the news in stride. And university officials also have accepted McCloskey's transformation.

"The position that the university is taking is this is an extraordinarily fine faculty member and we're glad she's back," said Ann Rhodes, vice president for university relations.

Said Gary Fethke, dean of the College of Business Administration: "The professor who's returned to Iowa may look different from the one who left, but the essential characteristics are the same. An extremely intelligent, insightful person with a terrific sense of humor left and a person with those same characteristics has returned. From our perspective, that's what counts."

McCloskey is encouraged by the support she's received from U of I administrators and fellow faculty members, especially females.

Lola Lopes, a professor and associate dean of business administration, said female faculty members accept McCloskey as one of their own but "it would be awkward to have to pretend that there hasn't been a major change."

"We're meeting someone who's new and yet it's someone that we've known for a long time," said Lopes. "It's like meeting someone that you have communicated with for a long time by e-mail or in letters and then you come to meet them face to

face. They're someone that you know and yet it's a new face to you."

McCloskey spent tens of thousands of dollars of her own money to make that face look feminine. She endured hundreds of hours of electrolysis to get rid of Donald's beard. She bought an expensive hairpiece to cover Donald's bald spot. She had vocal cord surgery and speech therapy in a largely unsuccessful attempt to raise Donald's voice.

McCloskey said she hasn't had any second thought. "I've not had a moment of doubt. I thank God I was born to be a woman. I thank God that in this great country I can be a woman for the rest of my life, that I can be who I want to be, who I am."

**'I thank  
God I  
was born  
to be a  
woman.'**

McCloskey said she encountered no problems in the Netherlands and doesn't expect any in Iowa. "People in Iowa treat each other with respect. I love this state. It's been kind to me. I'm as Iowan as a non-native can be."

McCloskey has been living as a woman only since Thanksgiving of 1995, but Donald already is fading from her memory. "I've started to forget what it's like to be a man and have started to be puzzled by men, by how they act," she said.

McCloskey is working on a general-audience, non-academic book about her transformation, and publishers are expressing interest. She has been featured in Harper's and the London Times. The New Yorker sent a writer to the Netherlands to interview her.

McCloskey, who labored in relative anonymity as Donald, is bemused by her new found fame as Deirdre. "I didn't do this to become famous as a transsexual. I'm interested in becoming famous as an economist and historian."

But having been a man for 53 years places McCloskey in a unique position to illuminate the differences between the sexes.

"It's like being your own sister, your own twin sister," she said.

"I'm not ashamed of having been Donald and I'm not ashamed of that man. He was OK."

## ANNOUNCEMENT

TGIC is taking up a collection to purchase the INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSGENDER LAW AND EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES (ICTLEP) Proceedings. Since this could affect any transgendered person, we feel it is important to have access to this very important document. There are 3 or 4 volumes at a cost of \$65 each. Donations to this fund are accepted at the club. It's a good way to help a specific person, to get knowledge into the community, and even get lawyers in training aware of TG issues. -- 10 people at \$30, 20 people at \$15, 30 people at \$10 is all we would need. Please donate what you can.

*(Gender Shock Continued from page 1)*

Richard Green: What are his favorite toys?

Mother: Cooking utensils.

Father: Cooking ware, stoves.

Mother: Doll furniture.

R.G.: And when he asks for cooking utensils when he has wanted them, have you gone out and bought them for him?

Father: Oh, no. His desires are quite extravagant, so we haven't always gone out and gotten what he's wanted.

R.G.: The feminine toys he has, you purchased yourselves?

Mother: Yes.

Dr. Green believed that because these parents allowed Richard access to cooking utensils, cooking ware, stoves and doll furniture, they had contributed to his mental disorder. Perhaps if the parents had indulged Richard's "extravagant" cookware desires, the world might have had another five-star chef.

As early as 1965, Robert Stoller made the following observation of the boys brought to the UCLA clinic: "We have noticed that they often have pretty faces, with fine hair, lovely complexions, graceful movements, and especially big, piercing, liquid eyes." In the 1970s, Richard Green asked parents to reconstruct their memories of their baby as an infant. Since the children were brought to the clinic because they were perceived as inappropriately feminine, the parents were likely to remember any detail which might tend to make them less culpable for their son's behavior. The parents were presented with a list of questions which included describing their baby, and what he was like as an infant. The size of the baby's eyes was targeted: If the eyes were "ordinary," they were connected to "never mistaken for a girl." If the eyes were large, they were connected to "perhaps occasionally mistaken for a girl." If the eyes were attractive, "perhaps with long lashes," they were connected to "occasionally mistaken for a girl." If the eyes were big, and "girl-like," they were connected to being "frequently mistaken for a girl." And finally, if the eyes were big, with long lashes, they

*(Continued on page 4)*

# Rodman Tops Worst Dressed List

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- Cross-dressing basketball bad boy Dennis Rodman led Mr. Blackwell's 37th Annual Worst-Dressed Women List, a roll-call of fashion misfits that included Glenn Close, Helen Hunt and Goldie Hawn.

The acid-tongued Blackwell, who was designing dresses for the rich and famous when he originated the list in 1960, annually skewers celebrities in what he says is an effort to encourage fashion consciousness.

This year he included a man, Rodman, for what he said is the basketball star's bad habit of dressing in drag.

"In fishnet and feathers, he's a unisex wreck," Blackwell said in unveiling the list Tuesday.

Blackwell had praise for some celebrities. Gwyneth Paltrow, Lauren Bacall, Madonna, Fran Drescher, Whitney Houston, Chelsea Clinton, Bette Midler, Winona Ryder, Sharon Lawrence and Christine Baranski were hailed as "fabulous fashion independents."

The worst dressed list:

1. Dennis Rodman ("not a pretty woman")
2. Glenn Close
3. Lisa Kudrow
4. Helen Hunt (looks like a twister hit her everyday)
5. Goldie Hawn
5. Diane Keaton
6. Sarah, Duchess of York
7. Elizabeth Shue
8. Drew Barrymore (She doesn't need a designer, she needs an architect)
9. Claire Danes
10. Lori Petty

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## Transgenderist Independence Club

PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604  
(518) 436-4513 (live Thurs. 8-10 PM)

Transgenderist's Independence Club (TGIC) is a nonprofit, educational, non-sexual social support group for persons wishing to explore beyond the conventional boundaries of gender, including crossdressers, transsexuals and their friends.

### TGIC Officers

President	Acting -Winnie [REDACTED]
Vice President	
Secretary	Rhiannon
Treasurer	Winnie [REDACTED]
Newsletter Editor	Gina [REDACTED]

*The Transgenderist* is the newsletter of TGIC, published monthly and mailed First Class to members, prospective members, friends, professionals, and exchange publications. Copyright 1996 TGIC. No part may be reproduced without prior permission from the originator.

Readers are invited to submit articles relevant to the Transgendered Community for consideration. You may bring or mail typed pages for publication to the TGIC club room.

Format should follow that shown in the current newsletter. You may also e-mail the articles to [Jeeena@AOL.COM](mailto:Jeeena@AOL.COM). The article should be part of the body of the e-mail. If you must attach a file please save it in ASCII format.

Regular Meetings are held every Thursday at the TGIC Club Room on Central Avenue in Albany, 7:30 - 10pm. Some come earlier and stay later, but it is wise to call if you are not a Keyholder or if it is your first visit. Come dressed either way, meet and talk with friends. Many continue to socialize at one of the local night spots after the meetings.

*(Gender Shock Continued from page 3)*

were said to be "just like a girl," and "Everyone says the child should have been a girl."

Richard Green is especially confusing in this regard. He argues for the idea that homosexuality is hereditary, that traditional gender roles have a biological drive, and that feminine role behavior in boys signals the presence of a homosexual gene or hormonal abnormality that leads to homosexuality. He advises that parents should not be concerned about their role in a boy's femininity, since they are not to blame if it is biological. (This argument does not account for the millions of "masculine" homosexual men and "feminine" lesbian women.) In the next breath, however, Green adds that "parents have the legal right to seek treatment to modify their child's cross-gender behavior to standard boy and girl behavior, even if their only motivation is to prevent homosexuality." The doctor himself does not seem to believe that changing a child's gender role behavior will alter future sexuality, yet he is willing to treat the child as if it will, because the parents have the "legal right to seek treatment."

What then of the children who, for whatever reason, slip through the cracks in gender training? In 1995, Dr. Green quipped, "Barbies at five. Sleeps with men at twenty-five." Is that really true, or did Dr. Green and his cohorts simply reinforce for these boys the popular notion that, because they liked "feminine" roles and activities, and disliked "masculine" roles and activities, they were, or would become, homosexual? This is an extraordinary, absurd leap to take with a young child's growing identity. In effect, they

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(TGIC Business Meeting Continued from page 1)

meeting each month. The report will also be published in the following month's newsletter.

A *Facilities Committee* was formed consisting of Edie, Tina, and Rhiannon who will work to improve the physical space of the club room. They will contact the landlord to see if we can make more space for closets, perhaps a shower, etc. There was even some talk of finding a bigger, brighter space but financial restraints preclude this at this time.

The long term goal for TGIC is to recruit new members and expand the membership base.

We need members to volunteer for the *OUTREACH* Committee. This committee will outreach to new members, develop a phone and security protocol, revise the information packet and help new members feel safe and comfortable at the club.

TGIC will now have a structured presentation one night a month This will be facilitated by Karen who is on the *EVENTS Committee*.

Anyone wishing to serve on a committee please contact a member of that committee or call the club room on Thurs. evenings.

*COMMUNICATION* among members was brought up as a very important prerequisite helping members feel supported and to stay informed of key issues affecting the club. Those members who are part of the on-line network already have a means for communicating ideas but those who do not have a computer are sometimes left out. A proposal was made to start a phone circle and several members signed up. Anyone wishing to join this phone circle can call the club. Discretion and privacy was discussed and most felt that this was a good idea to keep everyone up to date about what is happening.

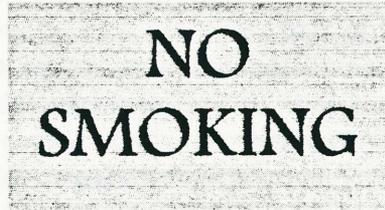
Some other ideas that were discussed were having additional meetings on other nights, perhaps on a Friday or Saturday

night. It was noted that any key holder is welcome to make a commitment to do this. Any member who is not a key holder can make arrangements with the club to obtain a key in exchange for making the commitment to open the club on that night.

Also discussed was arranging the donated clothing in a way that makes it easier for others to view it. All clothing that is donated is free for any member who wishes to have it. Last but certainly not least was the discussion of smoking at the club house. Out of the 13 members who attended the meeting only 2 smokers were present. Almost everyone present had something constructive to say about the issue. The idea of purchasing a smoke removal machine was deemed too expensive. Moving to a bigger club room with smokers room and exhaust fan may be something to consider in the future if we can increase our membership and increase our finances.

After everyone had voiced their opinion and creative suggestions a vote was taken. The vote: Continue the current policy of allowing smoking on alternate weeks: 2 votes. Ban smoking at all times in the club room: 11 votes. An interesting note: One smoker voted for the ban, and one non-smoker voted to allow smoking.

The Annual Meeting is not the final say on any issue, it is merely the beginning of all members working together to improve the quality of the club. Our primary goal is growth, attracting new members who find TGIC a safe and supportive place to be. Any member can volunteer to be on any committee, submit ideas, commit to work together to help the club. □



**EARS WANTED!**

Transgendered? Transgendered friends?

Have you heard about:

- > abuse by public officials?
- > discrimination?
- > public harassment?
- > sexual harassment?
- > assault or rape?
- > remaining silent bothering you?
- > no help from conventional sources?



Network with us: (518) 432-7092

E-mail: [AlbGender@aol.com](mailto:AlbGender@aol.com)

Mail: P.O. Box 6307

Albany, NY 12206

**ALBANY GENDER PROJECT**

*Building Respect one person at a time.*

# Is your Man a Candy Man?

by Mary Gottschalk (Knight Ridder Newspapers)  
Feb. 97

Men--are you ready for nail polish? Not that clear coat you sometimes get at the end of a manicure, but serious nail polish with dark, metallic colors that you notice, and names like Dog for purple, Oedipus for forest green, Testosterone for Libido---a teal coloration just made for San Jose Sharks fans.

Candy Man is the name of this first line of nail polish aimed specifically at men. Priced at \$12 a bottle for .45 oz, in a choice of seven shades, it's expected to hit cosmetics counters around the first week of February.

"I don't know if Mr. Wall Street will be wearing it," admits creator Dineh Mohajer. "I don't think he'll put Gigol (black) on for work, but who knows what the night may bring?"

Tom Julian, a men's fashion trend analyst for McFallon Elligott, a marketing company, says, "We've had acceptance of tattooing and ear piercing, so colored fingernails and toenails goes right along with that.

But "will Revlon embrace it in a big way? Probably not. It's for a small segment of the urban population---and it does exist--- but I don't envision guys going down to the corner drugstore and saying, 'I'll buy a new shade of nail polish for tonight.'"

Still, Mohajer thinks there's a market, and her sense of the cosmetics market place is legendary---at the age of 24.

Unable to find a baby-blue shade of polish to match new shoes in 1995, Mohajer mixed her own in their Beverly Hills home. People noticed, asked to buy it, and finally she heeded the advice to market it from her sister Pooneh, now her business partner. Sales for 1996 were \$10 million and spawned copycat shades from other manufacturers following her lead. "Candy Man came about because we've had such interest from men as well as women. We're to the point where men were stealing their girlfriends bottles and putting it in the bathroom," Mohajer says.

Hard Candy's Bubble Gum, Trailer Trash, and Sky colors are marketed to women, and famous fans include Alica Silverstone, Lisa Marie Presley, Madonna, and Cher. But Mohajer can easily tick off a list of well-known men who gladly paint their nails with it. Lenny Kravitz, Quentin Tarantino, Dennis Rodman, Antonio Banderas, and Sean Lennon, as well as members of rock bands like Red Hot Chili Peppers, Smashing Pumpkins, and Garbage are among the enamel-enamored men she expects to buy Candy Man.

"There's something very sexy about a man wearing nail polish, and it doesn't compromise his sexuality. It's a hip, fashionable thing to do. It's not caught up in machoness. It's more about fashion, style, fun,

**There's  
something  
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nail  
polish....**

## Connections

Psychotherapy Associates

**MOONHAWK RIVER STONE, B.S.  
PH.D CANDIDATE**

10 Colvin Avenue Albany, NY 12206  
518-446-1261

### KEY ISSUES DISCUSSED AT BUSINESS MEETING

- sponsor fun events like parties and dances that are warm and supportive
  - offer a more comfortable club room, maybe even with a shower
  - provide affinity group meetings where people can get together to talk
  - reach out to more TG people in the community, help others find peace
    - coordinate professional facilitators for group therapy sessions
    - deliver a broader library of books, magazines and videos
- stand up for transgender rights, in areas including harassment and child custody
  - educate clinical professionals, teachers and others on TC, TS & TG issues
  - organize recreational & shopping trips to NYC, Boston and other areas
    - work with other groups to make life easier for transgender people
    - provide classes with professionals in beauty, self-help and other areas
- be more of a presence on the internet to help educate and support TG people
  - publish more information and educational materials

*(Gender Shock Continued from page 4)*

trained these boys to believe that they were gay, and psychologically crucified their parents as being responsible for their child's deviance. The parents were accused of being lenient, phallic, distant; too masculine, too feminine; negligent, competitive, empty. They were portrayed as suffering from bad marriages, penis envy, rage, jealousy and impotence. The bottom line was, they had sons who, at their most flamboyant and for a wide variety of reasons, mirrored back to the world a vividly accurate cartoon of socially constructed gender roles. The artificiality of these roles is terrifying for the adult to witness, because we are taught that these roles are biologically natural and linked to sexuality. Our personal identity is threatened when we realize that what we took as a given, because of our sex, was really a choice, a choice we forgot we made, a choice that might have been made for us.

#### THE FEMININE BOY PROJECT AT UCLA

Anything that challenges the definition of girl and boy fuels our cultural anxiety around gender. So deep is that anxiety that our government has sponsored many studies and experiments on children who do not fit the norm. Government records indicate that, since the early 1970s, at least 1.5 million dollars was awarded from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) alone for this purpose. For the most part, on the occasions when "normal" children were studied with these funds, it was to determine treatment goals for the "abnormal" children. The institutions that received these funds include UCLA, the State University of New York at Stony Brook, the Roosevelt Institute in New York City,

The single largest and most heavily documented government-funded experiment in the United States with nonconforming children took place in the 1970s at UCLA, under the direction of O. Ivar Lovaas, Richard Green and George Rekers, and the target population was the feminine boy.

One night, when Kraig was putting his infant sister's clothing on her stuffed animals, his father became furious and spanked him while his mother stood by, watching. This incident might have been what this mother needed to convince her husband that Kraig should be taken to the clinic at UCLA, where they would be able to help him overcome his feminine behavior.

In 1973, Rekers and Lovaas devised a behavioral treatment plan for the feminine boy project. The study required access to feminine boys, and they needed to show dramatic improvement in the boys' conditions as a result of their behavioral treatment. In this same time period, Dr. Richard Green was at UCLA's Neuropsychiatric Institute, where he was the principal analyst for the feminine boy project.

Dr. Green was the one responsible for procuring the boys, and so he sent letters announcing the feminine boy project to psychiatrists, psychologists and family general practitioners in the Los Angeles area. In the letter, he described the features of such a boy as: "frequent dressing in girls' or women's clothing, a preference for traditional girls' activities, and statements of wanting to be a girl." He stressed that the boys had to be prepubertal, in order to "better study the association between early gender-role behaviors and later patterns of erotic preference." Green appeared on a television talk show to discuss the effeminate boy and the UCLA project that might help him. Also on television was a man who explained to the viewers that, because he played with dolls as a boy, he grew up to be homosexual. The message could not have been clearer: feminine boys were suspected of being prehomosexual.

*(Due to space limitations, this story continued next month)*

**TGIC MEETINGS (SMOKE FREE)**

- (March 6      **Coming Out At Last: Debutante Gala**  
 March 13      **Bleeding For Fun: The Punk Spree**  
 March 20      **COMMITTEE REPORTS 9PM**  
                  **Half & Half: Androgyny or**  
                  **Gynandrony (Vernal Equinox)**  
 March 27      **Shatner's Birthday: Bad Wigs &**  
                  **Girdles In Space!**
- April 3        **Golden April Showers: Rubber & Vinyl**  
                  **Night**
- April 10       **Polyester Power: An Easy Care Event**  
 April 17       **COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
                  **Still Cher-rie: Gypsies, Tramps &**  
                  **Dweebs**
- April 24       **Tribute To "Oscar": Odd Couples**  
                  **Forever!**

**MAJOR COMING EVENTS**

- February 22,23, 1997- True Spirit Conference,  
 Washington, DC See article on  
 page 9 for further information
- March 11-16, 1997 - Texas T Party, P.O. Box 17  
 Bulverde, Texas 78163 (210) 980-7788  
 e-mail: TXTPARTY@AOL.COM
- March 13-16, 1997. International Conference on  
 Prostitution: An Interface of Cultural,  
 Legal and Social Issues" Van Nuys,  
 California, email James E. Elias, Director  
 of The Center for Sex Research, at  
 james.elias@email.csun.edu.
- March 22, 1997 11th Annual Charity/Coronation Ball  
 produced by the Imperial Court of New  
 York, the fantastic "Night of a Thousand  
 Gowns". Grand Ballroom of the  
 New York Hilton & Towers at 1335  
 Avenue of the Americas, New York City.  
 908-603-0514.
- April 15-20, 1997 - California Unity -IFGE PoBox 229  
 Waltham, MA 02254 617-899-2212
- May 4,5,6, 1997 -First Annual Gender PAC Political  
 Conference (Free) Washington, DC Riki  
 Wilchins 274 W. 11St. New York, NY  
 10014 212-645-1753 EMAIL-  
 RIKI@pipeline.com
- June 19-22-1997- Second International Congress on  
 Sex and Gender Issues- King of Prussia,  
 PA. Guest  
 Speaker: Kate Bornstein. Contact  
 JoAnn Roberts, Ph.D., P.O. Box 61263,  
 King of Prussia, PA 19406  
 Phone: 610-640-9449

**BECOME AN IFGE MEMBER**

The International Foundation for Gender Education is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Basic membership is \$25 per year. Subscriptions to Transgender Tapestry are \$40. Brochures and forms are available in the TGIC Club Room. Call or write to:

IFGE (617) 899-2212  
 PO Box 229  
 Waltham, MA 02154-0229

The I.F.G.E. has now started, in co-operation with D B Associates, the publishing of a monthly version of Transgender Tapestry to be placed FREE on the internet. You can find this new version of the community's largest publication at <http://www.tiac.net/users/dba/ifge/ifge.htm>

This magazine will be updated every month and will also shortly carry the I.F.G.E.'s entire line of books and advertisers.

**ANONYMOUS HIV ANTIBODY TESTING**

Your regional HIV Counseling and Testing Program provides free HIV counseling and antibody testing, support and referral. No names will be asked. (NYS Health Department) Albany Area: (518) 486-1595 or 1-800-962-5065.

**TGIC-On-line**

All transgendered people are invited to join TGIC On-Line, an informal e-mail network sponsored by Transgenderist Independence Club (TGIC) an over 30 year old organization for TG people. TGIC meets every Thursday night at a private club room in Albany, and then many go out to several of the area clubs. Messages exchanged on TGIC-On-line focus on events of interest to transgendered people in a region from Lake Placid to Newburg. If you are interested in joining the network, or want more information about TGIC, send an e mail message to: [tgic-request@hartebeest.com](mailto:tgic-request@hartebeest.com) with any subject line and in the message body, the text: JOIN TGIC STOP You will receive an automated acknowledgment (Journal) of your request, which must be approved with the list moderator.

NOTE: THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER IS 8 PAGES  
 TO ALLOW FOR DISTRIBUTION OF MEMBERS  
 LIST (ENCLOSED TO PAID MEMBERS)