



Editorial

Your Editor is most gratified over the response to the first issue of OUR SPECIAL JOY. A number of sisters have made cash contributions and have worked on various tasks to make our Chapter more and more of a reality. As you read this issue, I'm sure that you will agree with me that we are making progress! I stated in our first issue that the Chapter and newsletter are for you, the TRI-ESS sister. They are just what we want to make of them, and I think, what is developing is turning out quite nicely. The only disappointing aspect is the apparent lack of interest on the part of some sisters to at least let me know that they are concerned about the Chapter and its activities. I know that some sisters, for their own reasons, can not actively participate at this time, but they did contact me! With the cost of postage and copying, and our limited treasury, we must focus our efforts where they can be most productive. Support CHI DELTA MU, your organization.

Chapter Promotion and Activities

...Your Editor has been in contact with Leslie Borck, Ph.D., the Director of the Westchester Self-Help Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is an organization which helps groups like ours to get organized, and most importantly, they refer inquiries from people to the right place. I wrote Dr. Borck and briefly explained the goals and objectives of TRI-ESS, and I sent some literature concerning the Society for the Second Self. I related that it is our organization's policy to refer all inquiries to our national office, and I gave her Carol's address. Also, I asked Dr. Borck to:

1. List our organization in the Directory of Self-Help groups which the Clearinghouse publishes, and to add that there is a Chapter in the area.
2. To help us find a meeting place.

Dr. Borck's reply to my letter is found on page 2 of the newsletter. (No, your Editor will not be going to the Clearinghouse Fair held on November 7th; I do not have the "spunk", plus I do not have the literature in volume to do a respectable job.) I've replied to Dr.

(continued on p. 3)

WESTCHESTER SELF-HELP CLEARINGHOUSE

~~PACE UNIVERSITY / 55 CHURCH STREET / WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. 10601~~

Westchester Community College, AAB Bldg, 75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla, NY 10

Leslie Borck, Ph.D. / Director

914 ~~682-7204~~
347-3620

October 23, 1981

Ms. Mary Jane Moran
P.O. Box 1239
White Plains, NY 10602

Dear Ms. Moran,

I'm so glad you've contacted us. I'm sorry I don't have a phone number for you so I can talk with you personally. I'm certainly looking forward to speaking with you and the Clearinghouse will help you out as much as we can.

Two things first off:

We have an information and referral service to help people locate self-help groups and also publish a Directory of Self-Help Groups in Westchester County. Please complete the enclosed questionnaire as soon as possible so we can add you to both.

More immediately, the Westchester Self-Help Clearinghouse sponsors a yearly Conference and Fair of Self-Help Groups. The morning Conference is scheduled from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and will be limited to self-help group leaders and members. The Fair of Self-Help Groups will be held from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and is open to the entire Westchester community. There will be no fee for either activity.

(In the interest of economy, I've eliminated two paragraphs of Dr. Borck's letter; they concerned the Clearinghouse Fair, Ed.)

I'd like to invite you to participate in both the morning conference and afternoon Fair. I do hope you will choose to come. I will need to know immediately of your interest in either activity of the day. Please call and we can talk about how else the Clearinghouse can assist your group.

Cordially,

Leslie Borck

Leslie Borck, Ph.D.
Director

(Chapter Promotion and Activities from p. 1)

Borck and thanked her for her help. As to finding a meeting place, hopefully we will soon be successful. It would be a nice gesture on the part of our sisters if those of you so inclined would drop a nice note to Dr. Borck, thanking her for her kind interest in us. I've written Carol on this matter, and I forwarded the questionnaire which Dr. Borck sent to Carol for her action.

...I have asked Carol to send me a supply of TRI-ESS "library cards". In the December issue I'll pass on 2 to each sister. We are fairly well disbursed in the metro area, and as visiting two libraries is not asking too much of the girls to help promote TRI-ESS, I hope that each sister will do her part in this effort.



"Joan? Its Louise.
Could you please
leave my black
chiffon party dress
and my designer
lingerie out for
me tonight?"

Its another one of

T H O S E

days again" !!!

...I'm sorry if I caused some confusion in the minds of some sisters by my comments in the last issue of the newsletter about focusing our efforts in New York. This was not meant to exclude the girls in New Jersey - by any means. At our August 30th meeting it was agreed that Jane (NJ-209-W), would "organize" in Jersey, Patricia Gallagher and I on this side of the Hudson. By "organize" I mean to find a place to meet, contacting new members, writing sisters in your area, and general promoting our Chapter. I'm sure that a new sister who lives, say, on Long Island would especially like to hear from a sister who lives on Long Island. This is one Chapter, and nobody is being left out because she lives in a certain place!



"Mr. Richardson, could you please tell Jimmy that if he wants to go trick-treating with us that he can't wear the same dress that he's been wearing for the past week; everyone will recognize him."

... Our sisters will be happy to learn that Barbara (NY-217-Mc), has taken on the responsibility of developing a shopping list of stores where we are welcome. As you can imagine, Barbara can not cover the entire metro area. Right now she is focusing on Queens and Manhattan. Those of you who are interested in helping Barbara in this most necessary service for us all can contact her as follows:

Bill [REDACTED]

New York, New York 10036

Please let Barbara know of any store where we are welcomed, and if there are any "special" instructions in visiting the store. We hope to have a partial listing of stores very soon!!!

...As I had mentioned in the last newsletter, it would be convenient for us to contact one another by means other than California. Postage is now .20¢ (more for OUR SPECIAL JOY), and by publishing a mailing listing, we could save Carol some work. If you would like to be included in this listing, please fill out the form below, and send it to

YES, I do want to be included in the mailing listing. Please print my name and address EXACTLY as I have indicated below.

(signature)

(Code #)

Name: _____
Address (include zip): _____

Our Readers Write

..."Thankfully, you still retain the precepts of TRI-ESS which caused you to join us in the first place. I believe that you, as I, continue to feel a personal and continuing obligation to the organization which brought each of us out of the "closet" in the time when we needed its help." (Donna [REDACTED] IL-11-S, Director of the Great Lakes Area TRI-ESS.)

..."I never received the CLARION you mentioned, and I also have no idea of what is going on with Michelle and Betty Ann." (Claire, NY-208-S. Ed. note: if you have not seen the CLARION, drop me a note and I'll send you a copy.)

..."I think that transvestism is a delightful way of relieving tension and relaxation from the macho world we have to cope with every day. To come home hot, sweaty, and full of tension, then go take a shower, fix your make-up, put your wig on and slip into something soft and silky and relax for the rest of the night, you feel bright-eyed and bushy-tailed for the next morning of the macho world. What do you think?" (Patricia Gallagher, CT-8-G, Co-Leader of our Chapter.)

..."Although I won't be attending any meetings, please accept the enclosed contribution (\$5.00), for your publishing costs." (Marion, NY-210-G.)

..."The Betty Ann -- Michelle thing really floored me, even though I've never had any contact with either of them. Nevertheless, I support TRI-ESS and applaud you in your endeavors." (Joyce, NJ-206-M.)

..."...you did a 'missterful' job." (Nora Helene, NJ-202-C.)

..."If I ever get enough free time in the future to help you out I will -- after all, we still have our whole lives and what we can't do today, maybe we can do tomorrow." (Lucille, wife of Janet Lee, NY-303-F. Ed. note: Due to difficult business problems and an illness of their child, Lucille and Janet Lee can not be active at this time.)

Food For ThoughtMy Feminine Creed

This is my tribute to femininity-- God bless it! Its not the look as much as the feel. To be "dressed" full-time is the ultimate goal. Any part of that is something to be thankful for. The feeling of "pretty" is undescrivable - to be with my sisters is heaven - to have to return from Nora to Norman is a real downer. The most important thing is to have someone to share all this with." (Nora Helene, NJ-202-C.)

support CHI DELTA MU -- its your organization !

Treasurer's Report

<u>statement</u>		<u>contributions</u>	
Beginning cash balance:	\$0	Nora Helene (NJ-202-C)	\$20
Receipts	90	Patricia (CT-8-G)	10
Expenses (postage)	(20)	Marion (NY-210-G)	5
Ending cash balance	<u>\$70</u>	Barbara (NY-217-Mc)	10
(as of 10/31/81)		Joyce (NJ-206-M)	15
		Mary Jane (NY-206-M)	10
		Claire (NY-208-S)	20
		TOTAL	\$90

A special thanks to those sisters who contributed more than the suggested \$10 initiation fee, and to Marion who can not be active, but supports her Chapter. The treasury saved considerable copying expense thanks to Nora Helene. Through the efforts of Dr. Borck we may have a meeting before the next issue of OUR SPECIAL JOY is published. I will contact the sisters who expressed an interest in having a meeting if the timing and interest is there. I told Dr. Borck that we are ready to pay for meeting facilities, so those of you who are interested in having a meeting, I do hope that you contact me if you have not already done so, and make your \$ contribution to CHI DELTA MU.

In Case You Missed It

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I are about the same size. For years she raided my closets and took my jeans, shirts, sweaters, etc. When I complained, she'd tell me to buy more. This I did time and time again, but she continued to wear my clothes. Finally, I put on one of her dresses and paraded into the kitchen. She said I looked "cute" and went about her business. I tried this a few times, then a funny thing happened. I started to like it. (What took you so long? Ed.) She started to help me put outfits together --- pantyhose, heels, then makeup and a wig, and she'd wear the pants. We've done this only at home, but we're considering going out this way. We enjoy switching roles. (Its done wonders for our sagging sex lives.) Are we crazy? Or just caught up in the times? This isn't a prank letter. Its real. What do you think? - Liking it in Harlem, Ga.

DEAR LIKING: You didn't invent anything. This has been going on for centuries. You are not crazy, but before you go out that way you'd better check with the local laws. Its against the law in some cities to "masquerade" in this manner.

(Appeared last month. By the way, does anyone know of any "law" in our area which restricts us? Please send in any information you have. Ed.)

A Stabilizing Element:

Add to your lingerie wardrobe

Etc.

...Janet Lee (NY-303-F), has been in correspondance with Sybille (GERM-2-G), and I with Josephine (NY-302-C), who is working in Spain for the year. Both sisters are quite lonely, and would love to hear from others. Take a look at the last Directory update (last page), and note how few sisters are members overseas (not that there are few who never even heard of TRI-ESS); a letter from a sister in the USA would be a nice present to receive at this time of year. Think of your sisters!!!

...Those sisters wanting to expand their wardrobe, but with a limited budget, should consider "thrift" stores. I bought a dress with a famous NY label for less than \$5.00 at a hospital "thrift" shop; the dress originally sold for \$200.00 + (according to those who have seen it), and is in excellent condition.

...Those of you who have met Patricia Gallagher know that she does an outstanding makeup job; Patricia advises to shave closely, apply Erase White, and from there you'll have to experiment for best results, as Patricia says that each face is different. She has gotten some very helpful hints from Redbook and Cosmopolitan.

From The Kitchen Of...Mary Jane

Beer Stew Casserole

(No pun intended; Ed.) 1 - 1½ lb. stew meat; cut up 4-5 white potatoes 3-4 carrots; add celery (1 stalk) and/or onion if desired. 1 envelope dry onion soup mix, 1 can beer. Dredge the meat in flour, brown in frying pan with Italian salad dressing. Grease casserole with Italian dressing. Place browned meat in casserole; place potatoes, carrots, etc., over meat. Pour beer and soup mix into the pan where the meat was browned, and stir well. Pour contents evenly over vegetables and meat. Cover, cook @ 350° for 2+ hours. (Actually, this is a recipe of my wife; the smell and taste are delightful. Serves 3-4; check for taste after cooking 2 hours. Ed.)

-30-

...After writing "My Feminine Creed", Nora Helene added, "...the ensuing friendships have become priceless". I think that that about sums it up for all of us who have gotten to know one another. Your Editor attempted to improve the masthead of the newsletter, but was disappointed in that I could not find matching wording. I began to think about this, and now I'm glad the styles don't match, for each word is unique, OUR, in that Nora has described it most pointedly in that we are sisters, SPECIAL, in that what we do is very special and important to us, for our well-being, and JOY, well, how can I describe that in a few short lines? Your Editor welcomes your input for the newsletter, and hopes that those sisters who have not joined, will soon do so.

Mary Jane
NY-206-M