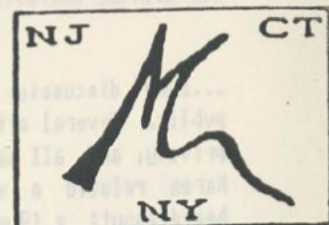




Tri-Ess Sorority

# our Special JOY



METROPOLITAN

\*\*\*\*\* CHI DELTA MU \*\*\*\*\*

Vol. III, No. 12

CHAPTER

December, 1983



## DECEMBER MEETING

\*\*\*\*\*

...Once again the Chapter met and all had a lovely time. Everyone was nicely dressed, and many Sisters had their best formal. It was a SPECIAL time to meet, with SPECIAL people to talk among themselves about their SPECIAL needs and concerns.

...ATTENDANCE. At the meeting were: Camille (NJ-M), Dorothy (NJ-I-G) and wife Ed., Eileen (NY-11-J) and wife Priscilla, Frances (NJ-10-B), Jamie (NJ-M), Jane (NJ-304-T), Jane (NJ-312-T), Janire (NJ-M), JoAnne (NY-M), Karen (NJ-306-K), Lisa (NJ-313-P), Marlene (NY-314-B), Mary Jane (NY-20-M), Renata Lee (CT-101-W), Vikki (NJ-M), Wilma (NJ-300-Y), Yvonne (NY-321-P), and friend Victoria. A warm welcome to first time visit of Vikki!

...PUBLICITY. Eileen, Chapter Publicity Chairperson, reported on the following activities:

(1) There is a special photo exhibit of crossdressers running through January 8th. The show was developed by Marlette, who visited with us last September, and is sponsored by the Women's Art League.

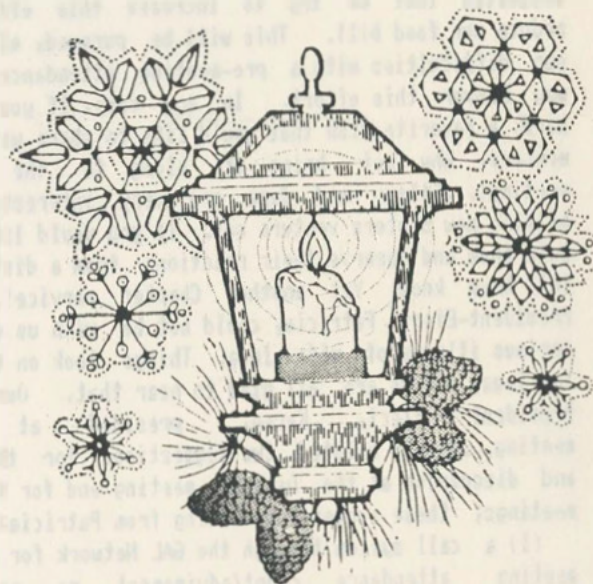
It is located at the Photographic Unlimited Gallery, 43 W 22nd Street, NYC. It is suggested that you telephone for hours (212-255-9678). Several Chapter Sisters are featured in the exhibit.

(2) The Susskind Show is scheduled for taping and viewing in January.

(3) The "Nine on New Jersey" Show was again repeated the first week in December, and was seen by many members.

(4) Carol Beecroft's HBO Show is due sometime in January.

(5) The Donahue Show is to be repeated. We will attempt to advise you as soon as we can with definite dates for these shows as soon as we know them.

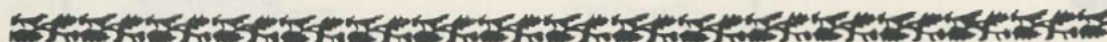


PEACE  
& LOVE

(6) Eileen visited with a reporter from the Rockland JOURNAL-NEWS, and really changed his mind about folks like us. The reporter is very interested in doing a feature on us, and has seen a lot of material provided by Eileen, including other newspaper articles. He and a photographer are to be at the January meeting. DON'T worry. You do not have to participate if you do not want to in any interviews or photos. Yet another opportunity to get out the word about TRI-ESS!

(7) Eileen and Marleen are also working on other radio and press contacts. If you know of a possible media contact and can at least make the initial contact for Eileen, without revealing your identity, it would be a big help for our publicity efforts.

...continued on next page





...Some discussion was had concerning us being too public. Several attendees were concerned about their privacy, and all agreed that this must be respected. Karen related a very sad event which she recently heard about: a 19 year-old committed suicide and the most likely cause is guilt over crossdressing. I think that all agreed that we should promote at least the existence of our organization to the public to help prevent such unfortunate actions.

...OTHER CHAPTER MATTERS. Several Sisters have been bringing extra food to supplement our diet at the meeting, and for that we are very thankful. Eileen suggested that we try to increase this effort to reduce our food bill. This will be pursued, although our difficulties with a pre-meeting attendance count may hamper this effort. In any case, if you girls have a favorite dish that you'd like to share with the members, why not bring it along to the next meeting!...Eileen and Jana are very interested in helping new Sisters venture out. If you would like to join them and observe their reactions from a distance, let them know. Yet another Chapter service!...Our President-Elect, Patricia, could not be with us due to serious illness of wife, Inga. Things look on the up for Inga, and we are all glad to hear that. Our Vice President - Elect, Karen, presided at the meeting...Renata related two suggestions for thought and discussion at the December meeting and for future meetings; these suggestions coming from Patricia:

(1) a call system through the GAL Network for a pre-meeting attendance count/advisement re meeting cancelation due to weather;

(2) an assessment of \$5 per member per meeting to increase the Treasury.

...Some discussion was had on item #2. An alternative was suggested: that a member who informs her GAL that she's coming to a meeting and doesn't come be charged \$5, and a member who did not advise her GAL that she was coming but does show up at the meeting be charged \$5. This alternative suggestion would, perhaps, allow us to plan better for refreshments. These matters will be discussed further at coming meetings. (Ed. note: the 1983 Annual Report should be done for January's newsletter, and from that we can perhaps get a better perspective on our Treasury and our other resources.)



...1984 PROGRAM. Topics for 1984 as developed by Program Chairperson Jana will be: a return of Muriel Olive with a femme mannerism/coaching session, a movie of a Foccono Weekend, religion and crossdressing, and the Merle Norman field trip. Firm dates have not been set yet. The meeting schedule is as follows:

January 14.....Westchester  
February 11.....New Jersey  
March 10.....Westchester  
April 14.....New Jersey  
May 12.....Westchester  
June 9.....New Jersey

...The February meeting will be dressing in red and/or white, at Jana's suggestion. Remember, we meet on the second Saturday of the month. We are also open to changing the meeting location if desired by the membership. Should you have any questions about the meeting, contact your GAL.

...Jana is producing name tags for our regular members, and is looking into a unique TRI-ESS pin for us. Also to be pursued are ID cards with ACLU backing.

...WIG PROGRAM. At December's meeting we were very happy to have Alexis, of "Alexis J's Wiggery" (see business card). Alexis presented a very informative presentation concerning proper wig selection, care, types, etc. Her advice was very appreciative. Alexis demonstrated what can be done with Jane as a model, and all including Jane learned a lot. Alexis distributed brochures concerning selection and examples. Jana and I have extra copies if you would like one. Alexis will answer your questions and perhaps refer you to a reliable wig shop near you if you don't live close to her location. Send a self addressed stamped envelop to her. If you'd like, she is more than willing to assist you in wig selection, advice, and wig care. Call her (201-652-0171), to arrange for an appointment. She is most understanding and discrete of the needs of crossdressers, and we encourage your patronage of her business.

SALES

SERVICE

STYLING

*Alexis J's Wiggery*

- SPECIALIZING IN HAIR LOSS PROBLEMS -  
RETAIL - WHOLESALE

(201) 652-0171

29 CHESTNUT ST.  
RIDGEWOOD, NJ 07450





Above, left: Patricia...President, right: Karen...Vice President;  
below left: Lynda...Treasurer, right: Mary Jane...Secretary.

(Photos: Karen & Patricia)





Our Readers Write

\*\*\*\*\*

..."Primarily this letter is to let you know that I enjoyed my first meeting of the CHI DELTA MU Chapter. All of the girls were receptive, sociable and cooperative. I know that one of the items on the agenda for the future looked very promising. I know I am going to like the one about dinning out EN FEMME". (Lora, PA-5-4).

..."The meeting I attended in New York (November) was very interesting. I feel I've made some new friends there. My girlfriend, Sally, also attended with me. She had a great time also. She tells me the more crossdressers she meets and gets to talk with (wives and girlfriends also), the less afraid and threatened she feel. A good sign in my book". (Cindy, CT-101-V, pictured below)



..."First I would like you to advise the other members of CHI DELTA MU Chapter that I am now living in Codiz (?), Spain, and my new address is (contact your Editor). Say hello to all, in particular Claire, Eileen, Patricia, and Lynda...Please print my photo to let my Sisters know that I am still existing. Note that Carol changed my membership number, and now I have SPAN-2-A, it is funny! I hope to come back to the USA and in connection with a meeting of the Chapter. I'll let you know...My life here in Codiz is quite different from Valencia, and until now I had no opportunity to go out dressed, while in Valencia I dressed very frequently. I have good contact with the other Sisters in Europe...I will be very pleased to receive news from you and other Sisters, don't let me alone! (Josephine, formerly NY-302-C. Josephine sent in an interesting newspaper article on the plight of TVs in Italy. Seems they must pay a fine of about \$50, and they have protested and are not going to pay the fine when caught. They have obtained legal counsel and are fighting the law on this. Right on, Italian Sisters!)





# GENDER BENDERS

**YOU'LL GET YOUR OLD ZIP BACK...**

**"Outrageous!"**

## Joy's Favorite Carols \*\*\*\*\*

### Side I

- 1) Joy to the World
- 2) I Saw Mommy Dressing Santa Claus
- 3) Rudolph The Red-Hosed Reindeer
- 4) We Three Queens (From TRI-ESS Are)
- 5) Deck The Halls With The Bras Of Holly
- 6) I Saw Three Slips

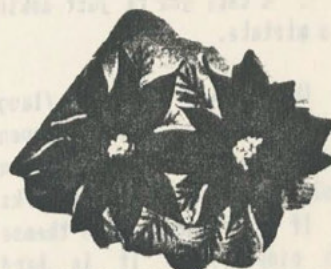
### Side II

- 1) Let It Show, Let It Show, Let It Show
- 2) Pink Christmas
- 3) All I Want For Christmas Is A Brand New Sheath
- 4) God Rest Ye Merry Gentlewomen
- 5) Angles We Have Heard On High Heels
- 6) Dior All I Want For Christmas

...Thanks, Diane (NY-R), for sending in the above for all good cheer, and we hope that you are recuperating nicely from your recent operation. Below: from the FEMME MIRROR, Vol. 5, Nos. 4/5, 1980.



"And this is my son Timothy's room!"



"Of course the Femme Mirror is good. Look what it did for me."



Crossdressing & the Law  
\*\*\*\*\*

Part 6...

(C) "Speaking again about the problem of the ladies' room, one solution if you are nervous about it is to go to a ladies' room in a gasoline station and go there; you have it to yourself and certainly nobody can complain about that. Go in to the ladies' room, all by yourself, and lock the door. (C) It just says 'Rest Room' (laughter). (C) I know of one case where a transvestite who was pretty obvious, not well put up at all, went into the ladies' room and somebody saw him and complained to the police. The policeman waited outside for him to come out and then arrested him for disorderly conduct. But giving false information to the police is another thing you shouldn't do; you should give them the truth because if you give them false information that's more than an offense, it is a misdemeanor. Isn't that right? (A) I don't think so. I think it is true with the FBI but not so with the cops.

(C) But as you say, they start getting uptight when you start to give them false information. (A) It is illegal to give them fraudulent information. Its fraud when you do it to a cop, the same way you do it to anyone else. So if you're asking for it when you lie to a cop, you're just asking for it. I think it is a mistake.

(C) Unless you act drunk (laughter), a little humor in a sensible way, 'this happens to be my thing'. (A) That's obviously not a legal question, but I believe firmly in humor, it often works to diffuse situations. (C) If everybody takes themselves too seriously on both sides... (A) It is hard to be humorous when you're scared out of your mind.

(C) But you have too many people that have variations, the hostile kind and the kind that just pass it off. You're going to run into the same problem; you don't know who you are confronting, whether they are going to go along with you or not go along with you.

(C) How can you define fraud in this situation. (A) I'm not sure I can, it depends upon the context. It means 'misleadingness'. (C) Yes. (A) But what fraud is depends upon the context. (C) Well, is this a fraud, dressing like this? (A) No. (C) Its misleading (laughter). (A) I don't know how to answer that. Its not a legal fraud. (C) Not unless you're committing a crime while doing it. (A) (laughter) Rob a bank! Then you're more than in trouble. At that point this (dressing), is the least of your problems. Better example, again it doesn't

apply to this group, and I'm trying to provide an example of fraud, but suppose you tried to induce a man to marry you while dressed like this, because he's rich. That's fraud. (C) On the other hand, if a man induced a woman to marry him claiming he's rich, that's fraud too. (A) Yes, I was just trying to think of a crime that was not like the bank robbery (laughter).

(C) In 1961 I decided I needed a driver's license, mainly for the purpose of identifying myself to stores so I could cash checks, use credit cards, and so forth. So, I went and took the test as a lady. I passed it, got the license, and still have it. I had to do a little bit of finagling to do it, but I got a valid license (laughter). When I was arrested in 1964, the police saw my driver's license and asked me how I got it and I said, 'I took the test'. And they thought it was hilarious and all laughed (laughter). They said how did you do it and thought it was the biggest joke they had ever heard. They notified the police in my home town, Poughkeepsie, and they didn't do anything. Now that was in 1964. Last year I was stopped driving. I changed lanes and the cop behind me was exceeding the speed limit without his lights on and without his emergency light. It was wet, foggy, slippery at night and a lot of traffic. All the traffic was exceeding the speed limit except me. I was the only one adhering the speed limit in sight and I decided I was in the way and wanted to get out of the left lane into the right, so I changed lanes. One car pulled past me while I signaled and another did. It turned out to be a cop; he turned his beacon on and pulled me over and I had both licenses with me. I pulled out the wrong one and gave him the one in the name of Joan instead of John. I didn't intend to, but they were both there. He thought everything was all right and he was going to give me a ticket. As a routine, he told me to wait there and went up to his car and radioed to verify the license. They radioed back and said that, well, Joan M. is also John M., they knew it (laughter). (A) That's what computers have done to us these days (laughter). (C) That's right, they knew it since 1964. So the policeman gave me a ticket in the name of Joan M. So, a couple of days later I went to court and paid the fine, no, I mailed it in. I was going to go, dressed, but I decided that was a little risky. Nothing's been done about it. They know it. (A) You're lucky. (C) I have two licenses, under two names, and the first one under the name of John M. I didn't have to take a test for that. It was handed to me back in the days before you took a road test.

(C) This is a point of a lot of interest to TVs, the driver's license that defines you. I recently moved here from Iowa. I do not have a local driver's license yet, I want to get one. If Jana went out, dressed as a woman, to a local motor vehicle bureau



and took the test as Jara, with no license transfer, would that constitute a fraud? (A) You'd be gambling a lot because you'd be making false statements on the driver's license and that is a crime. You can use any name you want so making a false statement about your name isn't a crime. (C) It also says you can have any name you want. (A) But I think that it would be unnecessary gambling. (C) I've never done it before, but I'm thinking about it (laughter). (A) All I do is give advice, take it or not take it.

(C) You may run into a problem anyhow, because the first thing they will ask is if you have ever had a license and if you say 'yes', you'll have to turn in your old license which has sex on it. (C) Yes, but if I say no... (C) Then you're making a false statement and that constitutes fraud. (A) It is a crime. (C) Then you'll have to take another road test. (C) If you wrote 'Joan then John', or 'Joan a.k.a. John', and filled out the application that way, it would not be illegal. (A) As long as you do not lie, it is not illegal. (C) So, now you would have to see what they would put on the license, Joan or Joan a.k.a. John. (A) It would be interesting, I don't know what they would do (laughter). (C) I may just try it. (C) Where it says sex, just forget the box, let someone else fill it out. (A) Even if you didn't check it, it would be risky. The fact that the person who is going to check it is going to do it based upon what they are seeing; you are not committing fraud by not checking the box, but you may be by your appearance. (C) What about the case where I did get a speeding ticket, gave the officer my valid male driver's license, while dressed, and he checked on the ticket both male and female. Now, is he committing a fraud? (A) He can do what ever he wants.

(C) As a final wrapup, if the ERA gets back and talks about sex and not gender, just off the top of your head, do you think the ERA would have any positive effect on us? This is not a legal question. (A) It is a legal question and what you're asking me is to predict how the courts will interpret the ERA, and my guess is that it would not help. You never know, and the law changes considerably, and that's 5 years off at best. But my guess is that it would not help. There has been such controversy about this that the Congressmen who have been pushing it have gone out of their way to argue that it would not apply to you. The opponents all raise these kind of questions as the ultimate horror and so there's going to be a lot of legislative history that it should not apply in your context. That's the only basis for my guess as to how it will come out.

Well, if there are no further questions I'm going to leave the book ('Rights of Gays'), which as I said only contains one chapter that you would be interested in and you can get additional copies by writing the ACLU. I'm also going to leave business cards and if you should need, give me a call. Let me say again what we as an organization can and can not do. In general, we will not represent you if you get arrested in a routine problem; we just don't have the kind of resources to deal with all the kind of criminal and non-criminal problems that arise. If, however, you or your lawyer feel that there might be an applicability beyond your individual fate in your case that challenging the law would help other people, either you or your lawyer should feel free to call us.

I'm happy to discuss with you how we can help and to discuss how we can help other people benefit and whether we consider it worthwhile or not. Those are the things we will consider when you call. The same thing is true of the New Jersey affiliate or the Connecticut affiliate. In addition, I do know lawyers who would be sympathetic in private practice, so if you want referrals, feel free to give me a call and I'll try to find someone who will be sympathetic.

(C) One final question. Is the ACLU willing to provide us as a group or as individuals belonging to a group with identification, as we spoke of before? You said that this would be better coming from the legal community rather than the medical community; do you think that the ACLU would be interested in this? (A) Well, in terms of if it is better to have a lawyer, I'm just guessing. It's not that I know better than others. (C) I understand that if I were a cop I'd be more interested in seeing something from a lawyer than a doctor. (A) I don't have any problem with it but I don't make the ultimate decisions in the organization I belong to. My guess would be yes I'd be perfectly willing to discuss this further with the individuals who make the decisions. (C) If we discuss this further within the group do you think we should get in touch with you? (A) Yes, not only if you are going to pursue this among your group. I'd like to see a draft of what is said. You are likely to be more intelligent here. (C) There are other organizations which issue cards in both genders. (A) I'll pursue it if you'd like. (C) Thank you. (A) My pleasure. Feel free to give me a call (applause).

(Ed. note: Thank you again Mr. Chris Hansen, Esq. of the New York Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union for a very informative presentation on "Crossdressing & the Law". This concludes this series of the program which was taped in June by Renata Lee, and thank you too, Renata. The tape is being sent to Edith Marie for inclusion in our Chapter Library, so if you'd like to hear it, contact Edith Marie.)



# C. D. M. CHAPTER SISTERS,

DECEMBER, 1983

Alice, FL-301-M, 13326, Daisey, 9/85  
 Andria, NJ-306-M, 08903, Iris, 5/84  
 Barbara, 11735, Rose, 6/83  
 Barbara, 11785, Rose, 11/84  
 Camile, 10801, Violet, 10/84  
 Carole, NY-207-S, 11418, Rose, 10/84  
 Carole Ann, 12110, Daisey, 12/83  
 Chrys, 07604, Lily, not paid  
 Cindy, CT-101-V, 06114, Violet, not paid  
 Claire, NY-206-S, 10598, Violet, 4/84  
 Connie, NJ-25-N, 14701, Daisey, 3/84  
 Dawn, 11412, Rose, not paid  
 Donna, 60505, Mum  
 Doreen, Lily, not paid  
 Dorothy, NJ-1-S, 07712, Iris, 4/84  
 Eddie, NY-301-S, Rose, not paid  
 Edith Marie, NY-319-W, 10985, Gardenia, 12/83  
 Eileen, NY-11-J, 12603, Daisey, 8/84  
 Eileen, 10952, Gardenia, 4/84  
 Elizabeth, 10602, Violet, 3/84  
 Felicity, NY-16-M, 12601, Daisey, 1/84  
 Fran, 10584, Gardenia, 8/84  
 Frances, NJ-10-E, 07628, Lily, 11/83  
 Jana, NJ-304-T, 07093, Lily, 1/84  
 Jane, NJ-312-T, 08202, Iris, 8/84  
 Janet, NJ-305-K, 07701, Iris, 1/84  
 Janet Lee, 11516, Rose, 2/83  
 Janice, 08846, Iris, 11/84

Jenny, NY-326-B, 10023, Rose, 8/84  
 JoAnne, 11955, Rose, 11/84  
 JoAnne, 10750, Gardenia, 12/83  
 Joan, NY-9-F, 12603, Daisey, 1/84  
 Joan, NJ-204-G, 07857, Lily, 5/84  
 Josephine, NY-302-C, (international), Mum, 12/83  
 Joyce, NJ-206-M, 07901, Lily, 10/85  
 Karen, NJ-309-K, 08562, Iris, not known  
 Laura, NY-304-F, 10977, Gardenia, 1/83  
 Lisa, NJ-313-P, 07602, Lily, 8/84  
 Lynda, NJ-307-F, 07960, Lily, 4/84  
 Lynne, NY-313-T, 10952, Gardenia, 3/83  
 Lora, PA-5-W, 19134, Iris, 9/84  
 Marion, NY-210-G, 10034, Rose, 10/84  
 Marlene, NY-314-E, 11214, Rose, 4/84  
 Mary Jane, NY-206-M, 12602, 10/E4  
 Nancy, 11433, Rose, 12/83  
 Nora Helene, NJ-202-C, 07036, Lily, 10/84  
 Patricia, CT-8-G, 06370, Violet, 9/84  
 Rachel, 10021, Rose, 2/83  
 Renata Lee, CT-102-W, Violet, 1/84  
 Sharon, NY-311-W, 10602, Violet, 3/84  
 Sylvia, FC02-1-K, Mum, unknown  
 Janine, 10019, Rose, 4/83  
 Tina, NJ-303-E, 07650, Lily, 4/83  
 Yvonne, NY-321-P, 12602, Daisey, 1/84  
 Wilma, NJ-308-Y, 07423, Lily, 3/84  
 Terri, NJ-310-R, 08031, Iris, 10/84



## Unbelievable!

GAL NETWORK.....ROSE: all of NYC except the Bronx, and L.I.:  
 Marlene: P. [redacted] P. O. Box 287, Brooklyn, NY 11214.....VIOLET:  
 Connecticut, Westchester, and the Bronx: Renata Lee: Ms. Renata  
 [redacted], P. O. Box 403, Riverside, Ct. 06878.....GARDENIA: Rockland  
 and Orange: Edith Marie: Don [redacted], Draw R, Valley Cottage, NY  
 10989.....Daisy: upstate NY: Eileen: Dave [redacted], [redacted].  
 Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.....From a line drawn west from Linden NJ to  
 Easton PA, north: Lily: north NJ: Wilma: E. [redacted], P. O. Box 343,  
 Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ 07423.....south: central and southern NJ, plus PA:  
 Karen: K. [redacted] P. O. Box 294, Wrightstown, NJ 08562.....all else:  
 Mary Jane (see address on last page).



# Treasurer's Report

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The December Treasurer's Report will be in the January newsletter (as will photos of the December holiday party). Also, in January we hope to have the Annual Report for 1983, with financial and statistical comparisons to the prior year of 1982.

## Library Cards

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In March we will hold our annual Library Card program. Each Sister will be asked to deposit 3 or so TRI-ESS Library Cards (informing people about TRI-ESS); we simply ask you to deposit them in the appropriate section of a library's card catalogue. Edie (NY-G), suggests that perhaps Carol B. should revise the card and substitute the work "crossdresser" for "transvestite". Good idea!

## CHI Chapter

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The Chicago CHI Chapter meets on the third Saturday of the month, and I know that Carole (NY-287-S), often visits them on business trips. Should you be in that area and would like to attend their meeting, contact Mary Ann (of the Donahue program). Her code # is (IL 283-B). CHI has installed their own phone in Mary Ann's home to handle the volume of calls since Donahue! We hope that CDM will have some visitors from Chicago at our meeting.

## Directory

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Carol B. is now in the process of finishing a new Directory of members for us. So, if you want your photo and bio updated, contact Carol as soon as possible with a new photo and write-up.

## Newsletter Contributions

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We have suggested several new columns for the newsletter, but so far no contributions. As Editor, I ALWAYS welcome help with material for OUR SPECIAL JOY. So, if the columns suggested don't meet your liking, write something else for your Sisters. I'm sure we all could write and write for "Food For Thought"; who knows, your thoughts and experiences may just contain the answers which some Sister is looking for, and for a long time! So, ladies, please help us and send in some good words. Remember the power of the pen!

## Chapter Library

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Your Chapter Librarian, Edith Marie, is always looking for book/tape/other materials for our Library. Last month's newsletter included a listing of the items we have, plus items we'd like to see added to the Library. Also, please USE the Library; your cost to obtain an item is approximately \$1.00 in postage.

## GAL Network

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...The listing on the opposite page is our most current membership listing, provided by our Treasurer, Lynda. If it is not current or inaccurate, contact Lynda. If you wish to use this list for mail forwarding, send your letter to me by sealing it in an envelop, address in pencil, place appropriate postage on it and send on in a larger envelop to me and I'll see to it that your letter gets sent on. As the National organization receives copies of the newsletter, our Director of Membership Affairs, Donna [REDACTED], will advise me of the due date for the National dues (\$25), for each member who has a National code number. For those of you who haven't yet joined the National organization yet, we remind you that you must be a member in good standing in both the National organization and the Chapter. Contact Carol Beecroft at P. O. Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275.

...As we have 7 areas to cover, I initially thought that we should have some way to easily designate each area: Area 1, Area C, Area Blue, etc. I was obviously in my masculine thinking mode then. I began to think femme. Flowers are pretty things, as ladies love pretty things, so, why not name each area after a flower? Now, I've somewhat arbitrarily doled out names, and I'm no expert on flowers (also, I now know its "Daisy" and not "Daisey"), so if you girls want to select a new name, be my guest!

...As we've said before, knowing your GAL is very important. She can answer most of your questions about the Chapter, meeting location, etc. This is especially important when a snowstorm comes barreling our way at a few hours notice and we have to suddenly cancel a meeting. At the bottom of the opposite page I've indicated each area, the GAL responsible, and the mailing address.

...Members who have suggestions about forming new areas should let your Chapter Officers know. The current structure may not be adequate enough, but if we don't hear from you on this we will not know that.



## In Case You Missed It

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Dear Dr. Brothers: I've had two bad marriages to men who looked like film versions of everything superman should be. Both men were the kind of all-male, macho types who played football and still drink beer with the boys at night...My girlfriend seems to have a wonderful marriage that has lasted 14 years and is going strong. When she and I were in high school and she told me she was marrying this fellow, I thought she was crazy. He was sweet, but he seemed almost feminine compared to the boys I dated. A.W.

Dear A.W.: Unfortunately, many people are still hung up on archaic sexual stereotypes. This kind of thinking can be very destructive to marriage and to happiness...Both males and females cross each other in many ways; both share certain traits and neither is all-male nor all-female. Those who try to be are actually robbing themselves of a part of themselves...In a study by Stanford University's Dr. Sandra Bem, men who viewed themselves as super-virile he-men had great difficulty showing tenderness and warmth. As a result, it was difficult for them to show love and to nurture babies, and as we know, tenderness is a large part of being a good lover...Those persons who did not cling to sex stereotypes but allowed both the male and female side of themselves to be expressed were able to be independent and tender, assertive and yielding.

Dear Dr. Brothers: I just returned from a visit with my parents. Both are over 60 and, like most of their contemporaries, they are happily married. This is a twist, but true...What really surprises me is that all the women, mothers and grandmothers, among these couples, seem so masculine and the men seem so beautifully un-macho...They're just nice, calm, easy going guys who don't sweat about their sexual identity. I mean, they don't hesitate about tidying up in the kitchen or even preparing a meal. I like it. A.Q.

Dear A.Q.: One of the reasons these couples may be "happily married" is that neither the men nor the women have been locked into rigid sexual roles...Repeated studies have shown that the happiest couples blend sexually and the most adjusted persons are able to express both male and female characteristics...A three year study at Penn State showed that couples are happier when the husband feels he has traits that traditionally are considered "feminine", such as being gentle, needing approval from others, and being warm in relationships...According to the project's director, Ted Huston, in general, the happiness of the wife depends on the willingness of the husband to talk about the relationship and how much he shares in household tasks...As men and women get older, say, after age 40, they tend to become more alike. After 50, the man often welcomes a more passive role, he often enjoys exploring a side of himself that may have been repressed. The woman enjoys being more assertive and dominant.

I guess that we as TVs just aged very quickly! There, now aren't YOU glad to be YOU!!! Ed.

## Food For Thought

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## Being Femme.....

...From the above items Dr. Brothers' comments reflect to a great extent the TRI-EES position. No one is either all-male or all-female; individuals denying their femininity are really, "...robbing themselves of a part of themselves"; "tenderness is part of being a good lover"; "the happiest couples blend sexually and the most adjusted persons are able to express both male and female characteristics", etc.

...I would think that Dr. Brothers, who is a noted expert, would very wholeheartedly support TRI-EES and its goals.

...Dr. Brothers' comments prove quite true that "society's" concept of masculinity and femininity are well overdue in need of rethinking. How we accomplish this rethinking of society is really unknown. What IS known is that our publicity efforts are certainly steps in the right direction to change, "archaic sexual stereotypes".

...Perhaps we should plan for a "Disclosure Day...The Day After", when every one who is TV expresses their desires in dress in public. If that ever were to occur, the numbers would really boggle "society". You never can tell!



Editorial

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As has been our tradition at this time of year, we review activities that we've accomplished and renew our hopes for an even better, coming year. I will not go into details about this, but ask you, my Sisters, to answer as to how we've done from your experiences with the Chapter, and what needs to be done in the future.

Both the National organization and the Chapter have specific goals which we have already accomplished, and hope to further in 1984:

- \* to help our Sisters in whatever way we can, to achieve a level of happiness with their Second Selves;

- \* to promote the true facts about male, heterosexual crossdressing;

- \* to establish a well-organized local Chapter to provide for the needs of its members and further our cause.

All of this takes effort, effort which can not be provided by a small group of individuals. It takes YOUR effort, in whatever way you can, to contribute to the Chapter and TF!-ESS.

In many ways we are "pioneer(esses)" in our work. Just as the early pioneers of our Country, we have our doubters, detractors, skeptics, critics, etc. Well, these people, more often than not, were proven WRONG! We now have a U. S. of A., and not a colony of England; we have more people than not, educated and appreciative of the civil rights of others, etc. These accomplishments took effort, not just sitting back and waiting on others' work.

So, if you want to achieve your dreams, you can!

This may not be in 1984 or even in the immediate future, but we are going in the right direction.

I'll conclude by wishing you and your loved-ones a most happy holiday time of year. It is a WARM time of year, a time to be closer with your loved-ones. A special time we all need as human beings, be male or female, crossdresser or not. A time to reflect on our own personal needs, and as human beings, a time to express our concern for other human beings and their needs. OUR FEMININITY, I believe, gives us an EXTRA boost in this direction. USE THE GIFT OF YOUR FEMININITY to both help yourself and your fellow man/Sister human being. YOUR FEMININITY is a GIFT not to be rejected or denied, but a gift to be shared, appreciated, cultured, and perhaps most importantly, to be USED to benefit both yourself and others.

Again, a most warm greeting to all from your Editor at a very happy time of year!





To All Sisters  
& Lovers:  
Peace & Love,  
Your Sister,  
Mary Jane.

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