

Cross-Port Innerview

2020 BEECHMONT AVE. BOX 150
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45230

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Next Meeting February 18th At 7:30 **CROSS-PORT BASICS**

The weather had been cold and gray but the beautifully dressed and cheery ladies at our first meeting of the year brought color and life to a dreary January. Linda chaired and Heather told everyone how busy the Cross-Port phone lines have been recently (9 calls). Since the Gay Switchboard has referred so many individuals to us they are to receive our thanks and a \$25.00 donation.

The ad in the "Cincinnati Downtowner" has also started again. Our message to the possibly confused and troubled sister is, "You are not alone." Through our efforts and with outside help it seems to be getting across.

April and Belinda thanked everyone for their support at the Ms. Christopher's Pageant earlier in the month. Technical difficulties kept them from reprising their talent number for the group's enjoyment, but stay tuned! At the February meeting you may get to see all three girls from the pageant show the form that has the professional illusionists quivering on their four inch heels.

We're all beginning to notice how Cross-Port has grown. Heather says people from the media have contacted her for information and possible appearances. She also recently spoke at a meeting of the National Organization for Women.

If you have something you would like to say, this newsletter could provide a far less threatening forum than a television audience. We meet on the second Thursday of each month to assemble the Innerview. If you would like to join us or submit an article call Heather at 513-631-0732.

A Trip to Indiana or **ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE UNEXPECTED ?**

By Alona

The first Thursday of December was finally here. Though it had only been three weeks since attending a TV meeting in Cincinnati, I was all but distracted by the thoughts of being Alona again. I am always Alona but only completely made up and dressed two or three times a month.

As I am a graduate student at a school near Cincinnati, I live in a dorm apartment

three days per week. I live and work four days a week back in West Virginia. Since I am saving money for the IFGE Convention I had to dress in the dorm and sneak out. I know this is risky, but I have prepared for the unexpected as much as possible. First, I wait until dark to leave. Second, I park my car where anyone in the dorm who wants to see who is coming or going really has to crane their necks to see me. Third, I park within twenty-five feet of a side door that leads to a set of interior steps that are not well lighted and seldom used. Fourth and finally, I never leave in a skirt. I always leave in slacks (everything else is in place: bust, makeup, etc.) with a long hooded coat on. I then change out of my slacks either at a rest stop or in the car or at my destination. This night I will change at my destination.

I leave without notice and proceed up I-75 and then west on I-70 to Indy. About halfway there it begins to snow a little; light at first but getting heavier. Should I turn back? Will it get slick? No way am I turning back! I have waited three weeks for this night and I will not be denied. I think the poem goes something like this: Neither snow, nor ice, nor rain, nor dark of night, nor run her hose shall keep the TV from her appointed night out. That is how the poem really goes doesn't it?

Well, I arrived at the appointed place without incident and only one half hour late. The meeting was held at a restaurant and a bar called G.G.'s. It is an excellent restaurant and I highly recommend the food and prices to anyone.

There were about twenty of us or so in attendance. The central theme was the upcoming IFGE convention in Chicago. After watching the drag show about eight of us adjourned to a Waffle House for coffee and quiet chit-chat. Before entering the waffle house I kicked off my 3 1/2 inch heels and put on a pair of wedges. I did this for two reasons. One, after about eight hours in heels my tootsies needed some relief and second, it was starting to freeze and get slick (nothing like sliding around in high heels to make one look graceful). Again I was prepared.

Well, the time just flew and it was about two in the morning. I was facing a two hour drive home and an eight a.m. class. So I said my goodnights and departed.

Everything was going well until about an hour out of Indy I heard a loud bang, followed by the sickening flop, flop, flop. Blow out! One of my trusty studded snow tires had given up the ghost. As I pulled to the side of the road, I was thinking I've got to get this tire changed quick, I don't need some trooper stopping to help. I got out and went to the trunk, horror of horrors, my spare was also flat. Evidently the garage had failed to air it up when I had some tires changed and had also changed the spare. Luckily I was only about a quarter mile past an exit with a couple of garages. So I got back in the car, crossed the median, and drove to the nearest station. It was a self service station/carry out, but it had an air hose off to one side. Once there I set about changing the tire.

How many of you have a changed a tire in female dress clothes and heels, even 1 1/2" heels? I mean it is one thing to change a tire as a guy in jeans or even a suit, but you have not lived girls until you do it as a woman. Besides clothes and heels to worry about, you've got hose not to run, nails not to break, a wig to keep on and straight, and makeup not to mess up. I felt quite successful. I only broke two nails (fake, but super-glued on), and soiled a new pair of royal blue knit gloves. I'll never pass up a woman with a flat tire or car trouble again because I know how helpless that feeling is now.

I finished putting the ruined tire and tools back in the trunk and decided that I had better get some gas before going on. It was very cold and if anything happened to a tire now I was truly stranded. If anything happened at least I could run the engine and keep warm. After pumping the gas I went in to pay and hopefully buy a can of fix-a-flat. I had no luck with the fix-a-flat and found myself very much in need of a ladies room. As I paid the clerk I asked for the ladies room key. The clerk told me that the driver of the car outside of the door was in the ladies room and that I could have it when she got out. Well, I didn't know how long she would be and remembered that there was a rest stop about five

minutes ahead on I-70. so I said thank you and left.

As I drove away it dawned on me that the clerk had been looking directly at me and had not shown the slightest sign of reading me. I had passed! And if I hadn't, nothing was said, so I passed either way.

Continuing on my discomfort and need for relief increased. When I got to the rest stop I realized it was one of the open air type. You know, the type with about six inches of open space at the bottom. No way I going to go in there and freeze my bottom off. I had to go bad but not that bad. I knew of another newer one on down the road and headed for it. Anyway, if worse came to worse, I could pull over and squat by the side of the car but that didn't appeal to me either.

Well, I finally made it to the new rest stop. No sight could have looked so good to me as did that rest stop. As I entered I was relieved to see that I seemed to be alone. As I took off my coat and gloves and sat down in the privacy of the stall, I not only experienced delicious relief (I mean my eyes had started to water I had to go so bad), but a strange feeling of wholeness. Not only had I been out in public as a woman, but I had done what a woman would have done in those situations I had encountered that evening. I had evidently passed in a public place and here I was in the inner sanctum of femininity and feeling great. As I was straightening up my skirt and getting ready to leave a nice looking brunette entered the ladies room and went into a stall. I didn't want to wait around for her to finish, it was already 4:30 a.m.; so I left my stall with all the confidence I could muster and went to the sink, washed my hands, fixed my makeup, brushed my hair, put on my coat and left.

The rest of the trip home was absolutely wonderful. I felt very complete. And, perhaps better prepared for my part time life as a woman.

CAN WE TALK!

By Heather Peerson

Hello from the North Pole, no wait that was December, well it feels like the North Pole. How cold is it? It's so cold that last month the Volume and Number of the "InnerView" got stuck. It read Vol. 1 No. 3. It should have said Vol. 4 No. 1. It is understandable, we hired some of Santa's unemployed elves to help, and they were still hung over from their After Christmas Party. They were so happy to have been a part of delivering so many new clothes to so many people.

We should not have that problem this month as Cupid recommended we hire some of these wee little people, who all wear green. They won't be needed until the middle of next month and they are all ready to work. So I guarantee their well bee no miss takes this month.

Speaking of December, on the 26th of that month, Alternating Currents moved from Mondays to Saturdays from 3 pm until 5 pm. On the radio show, Mike Chanak, Hugh McAfee, Lisa and Tadashi bring news and events from in and around Cincinnati, for persons of Alternate Life Styles. It can be heard on WAIF 88.3 FM. They have been a long time supporter of Cross-Port and we of them.

It is almost time once again for the "Spring Pocono Fantasy Festival" This event has been going on now for ten years and is one of the biggest party style weekends available for crossdressers. The cost runs \$195 per person and includes Room, Six Meals, Taxes and Tips. It runs May 13-15. For more information write Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76th St., Jackson Heights, NY 11372.

Not to be out done is the "Tiffany Spring Fling" which is the last week in May in

Providence Town. Write to Tiffany Club, PO Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778.

The "Be All You Want to Be Weekend" will be June 8 - 12 in Detroit. Write to Crossroads Chapter, PO Box 1298, Flint, MI 48501.

There is a new publication for "transsexually inclined individuals", called Gender Forum. The second issue has articles by Roger Peo, Ph.D., JoAnn Stringer, Ph.D. and Veronica Jean Brown. It looks like it will be a good source of information. Write to Gender Information Service, PO Box 9238, North Dartmouth, MA. 02747. A sample copy will be available at the meeting.

American Transsexual Education Center (ATEC) is a non-profit human services organization for gender dysphoric persons. I have included a letter from that group. A life-time membership is \$15.00 and is tax deductible. I will have Vote slips and membership applications at the meeting, or write to ATEC, PO Box 392, Trinidad, Colorado 81082.

Not real well known to us on in the midwest is the fact that since 1971 there has been a yearly program put on call "DREAM". Glorea LaVonne who runs a School for Modeling in Portland Oregon has been the Fashion and Charm School Coordinator for the Dream Program. She now has some of her programs available on audio cassette tape for \$12.95 each. Subjects include: Body Language, Beauty Foods and Exercises, Skin and Hair Care, Wardrobe Planning I-III and others. Write to Glorea LaVonne, 1220 S.W. Columbia, Portland, OR 97201.

Cleveland's Paradise Club has announced their 1988 meeting plans. They are: Feb. 20 - Department and Style, April 16 - Miss Paradise Contest, June 18 - Not Finalized, August 20 - Picnic, October 15 - Therapist and Halloween Party. Write to Paradise Club, PO Box 29564, Parma, OH 44129.

For those not going to the Convention, there will be an "Evening at the Emery" to benefit AVOC. The cost is \$13.00 advance and \$15.00 at the door. Performing will be Sue Fink, Romanowsky & Phillips, MUSE, Cinti. Women's Choir and the Dayton's Men's Chorus. The performance starts at 8:00 at the Emery Theater, 1112 Walnut St.

Coming up on March 27th is a benefit performance for AVOC of "Ma Rainy's Blackbottom" at the Playhouse in the Park. Cost and time are to be announced. For information call (513) 421-AIDS.

Gay Pride Week is June 10 - 19. Some of the events you can attend are a "Prom Nite" aboard a River Boat (you can wear that favorite gown), a day at "Kings Island" (dress for summer fun), and the Pride Festival (you can work and play as the girl of your dreams). Though most of you are not gay, the Cincinnati Gay/Lesbian community has been very supportive of our efforts. All of us are welcome at their activities so take advantage of being able to attend some of these programs without having to be on the committees to plan, organize, execute and clean them up.

Heather



A TRIP TO THE CANDY STORE

I really don't get a chance to go shopping very often for my second self, and when I do, I would much rather go with my wife because I have more fun. You might say I'm like a kid in a candy store, ready to taste everything.

With the convention coming up, I planned to go out on a splurge. After all, Linda will be in full bloom for 4 1/2 days, and since everyone changes at dinner, this will mean a minimum of 9 outfits. Of course when Saturday rolls around, this is the night of the big banquet, and everyone will be dress to kill in their formal gowns, diamonds, and furs. After all I can't wear last years.

Speaking of last year, I remember meeting some of my old friends from the pervious year and one of them pulled out a bunch of pictures of yours truly, and guess what? I was wearing the exact same dress as in the pictures. Well lets just say this is one dumb blond, that learned her lesson.

Well I decided to go to Penney's Outlet Store in Cincinnati. This is a good place to pick up a formal at about half the cost. I spotted a gorgeous dress with a bubble skirt made of Celyon and taffeta. Unfortunately the dressing rooms were out of the question, so I had to try it on out in the aisle. It seemed to fit so I got it. (That night I properly tried it on and I decided it was too big. When I took it back I decided I would not leave until I tried it on right. So I ask the girl at the fitting rooms if I could use the closed fitting rooms to try on a dress. Lets just say by the time I asked the right person for permission, everyone in the store new what was going on.)

I then got into the shoe dept. and I spotted a pair of black suede pumps that fit and were a third of the original cost. (I always try to be discrete trying on shoes, but of course I am always caught by someone). Then on the bargain table I found some black silk pumps with a rhinestone-trimmed bow. Oooh! I'm in heaven.



I'll take one of this, and one of that, and let me try a few of those.

From there I turned in to a crazy lady. I grabbed everything I liked and formed this huge pile in my basket. But now I would have to go through

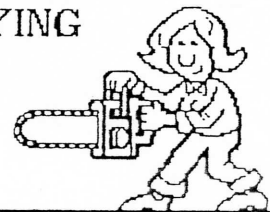
the mess and pick out what I really want, because I may be insane, but I still only have so much money.



THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW

- After the meeting a couple of lesbians told me, a girl becomes a woman at the age of 40.
- Susan was seen smiling at the last meeting
- The posing for Hazel camera seems to be getting sexier.
- Alice had not been to wonderland before the last meeting.
- There seems to be and increase of Lounge Lizards at the bar.
- Laurie passes so well because she is real.
- Lynn never wears a bra.
- Alona didn't come the same week her twin brother showed up?????
- Heather was picked up by the police and enjoyed the experience.
- Sharon gave up dressing.....ha,ha!
- Judy has a new sexy hair style, but she's still not easy.
- Linda is as cute as ever.
- Our girls did such a great job on stage last month, perhaps we could all get together for a talent show. What do you say?
- And finally, no one has been embarrassed in public since Ginger's last meeting.

JUST TRYING TO HELP OUT

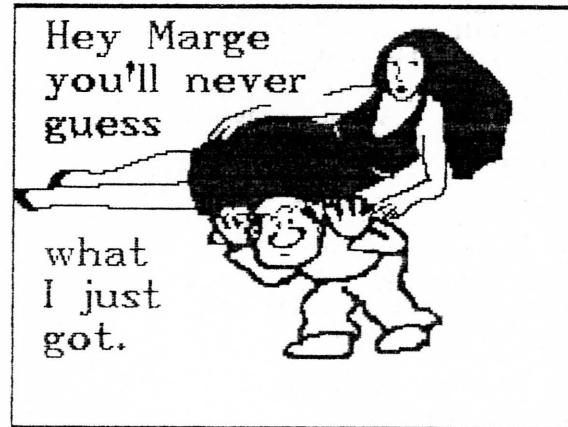
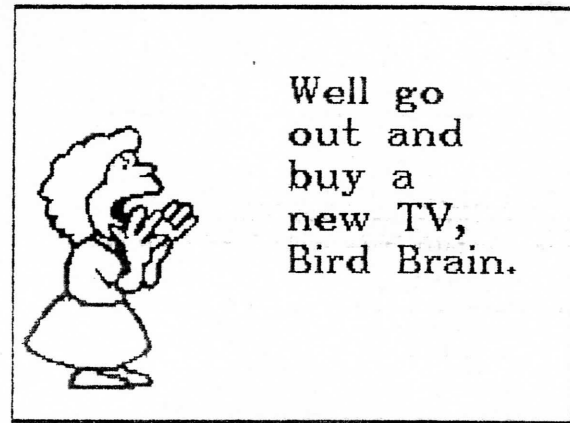
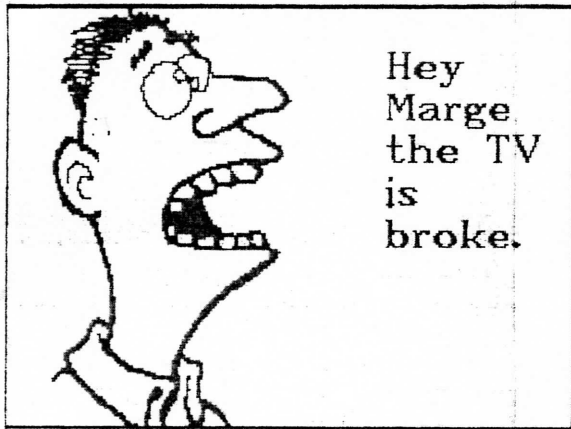


On behalf for the Cincinnati Enquirer who obviously made a typographical error when printing this quote, I have taken the liberty to set the record straight.

“ If you wear a mini you have a mini brain and you'll probably have a mini career and you deserve it ”

— John T. Molloy

Time to the next Crossport meeting



Publication Notice

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InnerView is a monthly publication of Cross-Port for its members and friends. Subscription dues are \$18.00 per year payable in January of each year. It is our goal to support the TV, TS and Gay communities and in return we need your support.

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Cross-Port is a not-for-profit support group which meets solely for the support of crossdressers, transsexuals and their family and friends.