# Cross-Port InnerView

P.O. Box 12701, Cincinnati, OH 45212

The next meeting is October 18 at 8:00

#### A New View by Cathy

We had a real good turnout at the September meeting, with 42 people attending. Welcome to Stephanie who came to her first meeting. Linda brought several copies of the TV-TS Tapestry #56 which were on sale for \$10.00 each. We sold most of them, but still have some, so we will be bringing them to the October meeting as well.

At the November meeting, we are hoping that professional cosmetologist Terry Smith will be able to attend (if her work allows). While she will not be giving a demonstration, she is willing to talk to you individually. She gives personal makeovers and does cosmetic consulting for \$25.00 a session and will be glad to set up appointments with you. If you always wanted a lady to teach you proper techniques in make-up, voice, etc. here is your chance.

Several of us girls are headed up to the Oregon Distric Halloween bash in Dayton this year, just like last year. It is going to be held on Saturday, October 27. They begin closing the streets about six, but we don't plan on arriving up there until about 9pm (although with the traffic, we'll probably be a bit late). Use the Kentucky Fried Chicken parking lot on 5th street on the west side of the district as a rendesvous point. Last year there were over four thousand revelers at this event, many of whom got pretty wasted by the end of the evening. Under those conditions, err on the side of caution when you attend and try not to go alone -- you may run into someone who objects to your lifestyle. The Renaissance Education Association has a Prison Project program where they will provide free copies of their newsletter to transvestites and transexuals in prison. They have had many requests for newsletters and the requests continue to grow in numbers. They are looking for sponsors to help them subsidize their program.

For every six dollars donated, they are able to provide a one year subscription to an inmate. Confidentiality is maintained; inmates do not know who their sponsors are. To sponsor an inmate, send six dollars to:

Renaissance Education Association P.O. Box 552 King of Prussia, PA 19406

As Phillip Morris has donated \$20,000 to the campaign of anti-gay U.S. Senator Jesse Helms, and \$175,000 to a Jesse Helms museum currently under construction, a boycott by the gay community is currently under way against their Marlboro cigarette products. Many gay activists are also avocating that the boycott include Miller beer, as Miller is owned by Phillip Morris.

Miller has met with gay activists and has assured them that they are against the Helms contributions made by their parent company but are powerless to do anything about them. So far many gay bars in Dallas and New York have banned Miller from their establishments. Bars in Chicago have refused, citing Miller's support of the gay community in that city.

Let your conscience be your guide.

Does your wife/girlfriend/etc. know about your crossdressing? If she does, tell her about the Women Associated with Cross-dressers group. They publish a newsletter for wives and S.O.s to provide them with a forum for expressing their feelings -whether positive or negative. They also provide information about cross-dressing from the "other" side. The address is:

Cynthia Phillips W.A.C.S. P.O. Box 17 Belverde, TX 78163

I got a big kick out of a program called Good Grief! which aired on the Fox network Sunday, Oct. 7. Starring Howie Mandell as the proprietor of a funeral home, this particular show delt with a deceased man who wished to be buried in a dress.

The family of the man -- his wife, son and daughter (both of whom were in their late teens to early twenties) first met his wishes with shocked outrage and denial. This was followed with phrases such as:

I never believed he lost his eyebrows in a carburator fire.

Why did you always attend halloween parties with you as Sonny and him as Cher.

Everybody knew about daddy's dressing up.

His wife also exclaimed "Just because your father was good with a razor doesn't mean he was a homosexual." To this her son replied "But reseachers have said that 85% of all cross-dressers are functional heterosexuals."

All this on a Sunday night sitcom? What ever is the world coming to. As a result of the family finally talking about what they had known about but were afraid to discuss, the wife during her eulogy said "He was faithful. He believed in God. Who cares how he dressed in private -- he was all man to me. Any woman would have been proud to let him wear her bra. My husband was a transvestite! Saying it for the first time, I feel 50 pounds lighter."

If you saw the show and have any comments about it, you can write to Fox at:

Fox 10201 W. Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90064 I am looking for a person or persons who are interested in taking over the duties of editor, corresponder and treasurer. All it takes is a modicum of knowledge concerning the English language, residence in Cincinnati, honesty and discretion, and a lot of enthusiasm. Regular attendence to the monthly meetings is a must. Access to an IBM compatible computer with a hard drive would make the job transfer a great deal easier. If you are interested, please send me a resume at the P.O. Box. I hope to make the final transfer of power by the time of the January publication, so send 'em in folks. I would like to be able to announce my replacement at the November meeting.

# **Cross-Port Finances**

Here is the current status of the Cross-Port Treasury:

Beginning Balance as of the September Newsletter was: \$1495.48

September Expenses:

Phone;	\$32.00
Envelopes & Stamps:	\$42.55
Printing September Newsletter:	\$22.16
Renaissance Prison Project Donation:	\$30.00
Miscellaneous Supplies:	\$82.00
Bank Charges:	\$ 1.90
Total Expenses:	\$210.61
September Incomes:	
Meeting Collection:	\$88.00
Sale of Tapestries:	\$110.00
Total Income:	\$198.00

Ending Balance as of October 11: \$1482.87

We also mailed four intro packets this month.

Vol. 6, No. 10

## London Transformation

by Renee

I remember well the first time that I went to visit a Transformation shop. This one was in London, but I believe at this point they are established in at least five cities in England. This was in 1988, I was travelling through London on my way home from Munich to Dublin, Ireland, having spent a week or ten days away on business. I had changed my ticket at Heathrow to allow me to catch the later flight and give me the afternoon in the center of London.

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I was getting used to the journey on the tube. From the airport into the center of the city it takes a good hour and during rush hour it takes more than seventy-five minutes. I had been to the Polish Embassy twice that year and was beginning to understand how this public transport system worked. If anyone is familiar with Chicago which, I discovered, has a similar transport system, you might understand. There are all these wonderful track systems that intertwine, each track has a different color code and every color goes in both directions, which allows you to go back from where you came. That is the theory at least!

It all seems very logical really, but the reality is the hustle bustle of cold city crowds that neither look nor react to any situation, no matter how traumatic or strange. Put a poor 'paddy' in the middle of all this and his mind races at full speed just trying to figure where he goes to next. The real fun begins when, standing in the middle of a crowd of business people, he knows he must change station at some point. He thinks it was the tenth stop from where he began, but he has already lost track of the number of stops the train has made, so that theory is out the window. "Now was it Harringate or Haddington station where I change station?" he asks himself. He can't see the map on the wall with all the people in the way and as he looks around to try and catch someone's attention, he realizes that people have become expert at avoiding glances. It is funny to think that I have been all over the world, and have gotten myself into and out of all kinds of interesting situations, but put me in a crowded city and I am barely able to look after myself.

So, back to the main point in the story. I eventually found my way to Euston Station and then got my sense of direction readjusted to find Eversholt Street and the Transformation Store. I nearly didn't go in. You are met by a Gaudy, deep red facade and in enormous letters the name 'Transformation' crowns the whole thing. In letters almost as large is 'Licensed Sex Shop'. I felt like a big enough pervert already, so these people need to advertise to everyone and anyone who might be passing by, that I am indeed a pervert and this is my kind of shop. It is one of those occasions when you feel cheap and dirty, the full sordid nature of this obsession is illuminating my pale Irish skin. I entered anyway, having travelled too far.

My imagination had been running riot since I heard about the concept -- a shop that was started by a transsexual who was a husband and father, who had raised two children and reached an executive position in a large company when he found he was impotent. Medical investigation found he was in fact a text book TX (whatever that is!). So he started on the long road to correct nature's humorous prank on her. As she developed, a wife, children and a former life disappeared along with a job and a lot of friends. A sad point of comment here is that she could have retained her job if the British tabloid press had not insisted on the 'peoples right to know' and proceeded to torment her and the company to the point where she was forced to resign. In the middle of all this, she (who had a considerably receding hairline and a manly frame) found it very hard to find everything that a man finds hard to acquire which is normally only required by a woman.

Somewhere along the way, the idea came to her that a shop which would cater to the TV and TX population in her area would be a success. She was right, the last I heard it was turning over more than one million pounds sterling per year (about two million dollars) and that was a couple of years ago. They now have clinics to cater to all the medical needs and a job placement service for any girls who want to work but find it hard to be accepted by employers.

The theory was to carry similar clothes at comparable prices to those found in department stores, offer friendly reassuring service to the terrified customers, have somewhere for them to sit and drink a cup of coffee and make them feel relaxed, then watch them spend and spend. So, as I said, I entered. The shop is deep and narrow, but in an L shape that expands at the front of the shop. The windows are completely concealed by the displays, so you can't see out and the infamous "they" can't see in. In another room is a selection

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of what appear to be very good quality leather shoes. They boast that the shoes are made from a male last and so are going to fit your male foot. They look good, though the selection is limited and a lot of the choices are too radical for social dress. This theme is reflected throughout the clothes selection. I know they are most likely meeting the needs of the market, but I find it kinky and in bad taste (I must emphasize that I am very conservative in my taste and I only want to blend in with the crowd).

For some reason, I had my heart set on getting a pencil thin black skirt and a simple top. I nervously told the assistant, who was far more interested in talking with her associates than helping customers, what I wanted. We agreed on a size and I was given a choice of two combinations to try. Off I went into a changing room, yes they have a few. When I put them on I really was excited. I thought I looked good and I had never had clothes that really fit me before so I wanted to spend money. I stepped out of the dressing room and the assistant and I exchanged comments. At this point I asked her if I could try some shoes, she obliged and as I slipped them on, my posture conformed to the heel and my legs took a new shape. I knew that nature had played a nasty trick on me. I felt so good, so comfortable and natural, I did not want to change back to my street clothes.

While I was indulging myself, I suggested that she give me a wig to complete my transformation and it was this request that seamed to hit a nerve. A very stern little cockney accent gave me a very stern look and said "you know you can only try this stuff on if you are going to buy it, are you going to buy it ?" A very timid me, standing there in a thin black skirt, white blouse, heels and a big red bare face explained how I was catching a tube, taking a plane to Ireland and then how I still had to face customs in Dublin. I was not prepared to explain all that I had to a customs man and then have him pull out a wig as well. The thing the Irish customs men (or women) like to do most of all is humiliate people; a wig and a selection of women's clothes would have meant more to a customs man than money in the bank. By the way, if any Irish customs man should ever read this, do you mind if I ask you "would you really hang your own granny, or is that only an untested claim?"

Well with that comment, I went back and changed into my street clothes. It has taken me TWO years since that experience, to pluck up the courage again to try on a wig. (I finally went into a wig store in Chicago last month 8/90, and now have a crowning glory.) I purchased the skirt and the blouse that I had tried on, but no shoes or wig. I left the store and I felt much lower than the piece of perverted dirt I had felt as I walked in earlier. I felt that as I was some sort of perverted creep, the sales lady could treat me any way she wanted, and she did.

I did visit the Manchester shop on two occasions after this episode, but I never did buy anything. I was always hesitant after that experience in London. The sales girls were always too busy talking amongst each other and never made any effort to sell me anything, so I never asked. I may be conditioned to American efficiency and service a bit too much, but I do not believe I would go back there now, it is so easy and efficient to buy from good department stores.

For what it is worth, I do really believe that if you go into a good store, you will get exceptionally good service. You may not get to try on the item in the store, but you will buy a quality product and you will get a good price if you shop around. I do not believe in this style of specialty TV shop. Inevitably you pay a premium price on everything, the selection is limited and there is far too much concentration on the sexual aspects of dressing as opposed to the feminine aspects. I personally find this to be in poor taste, but I am a little old fashioned and a lot conservative as I have said before...

As for me, well I am Thirty years of age and still single. I would like to be attached to a significantly other female but have not yet found one that did not make me feel to constrained. Nor have I found one that could understand this desire we share. I think she may be out there, I just have not met her yet. Every time I pass a pretty woman and look back to admire her, as most men do, I find myself asking my Maker "why is that not me?" as well as the other male thoughts, though this is the dominant thought.

As for the straight black skirt, it and many other valuable pieces were lost during the Great Purge of 1989.

# The 32 Most Guilt-ridden Words

from the ETVC newsletter

Millions of transvestites, transgenderists and transsexuals have been hurt and have felt guiltridden because of the following bible passage:

Deuteronomy 22:5 "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are an abomination unto the Lord thy God." (from the King James version of the Bible).

These words have a little truth to them, but King James in the 16th century changed their meaning by leaving out words and phrases. Deuteronomy ws written in the 7th century B.C. for the tribes of Israel. The original words translate approximately to:

A woman shall not wear men's clothes to impersonate holy men and men shall not dress in women's garb to go nto ladies tents to rape and pillage - to do so is an abomination to God.

The words and meaning have changed several times in 23 centuries, but a homophobic, authoritarian despot completely changed their meaning and had made millions of TVs TSs and TGs miserable anf guilty for a long time.

Just remember that crossdressing is fun, exciting and enjoyable -- there's nothing wrong with it.

In today's terms: Just do it ... and be happy. -- Kim

A Cross-dressing Tip

by Barbara

At the August meeting, several of us sisters were bemoaning our need to wear glasses when dressed. Our brothers' male specs are not usually becoming. And how would we ever get a regular optometrist to fit some girl glasses for our prescriptions? And how to justify the usually high expense? (Although I was about ready to ask one to do that... why should they be concerned???)

I found a pretty good solution at Walgreens of all places. They now advertise and carry a good line of Personal Optics -- "magnifying reading glasses" in several good-looking female and male styles, and of a range of powers (magnification). Though I am in late middle age, and my boy glasses are pretty powerful, I was able to select a nice pair of big, round girl glasses which I think look much better on my face. They were on the high side in power, and don't quite work for close-up reading, but serve very well for walking, driving and socializing. And the great news, they are all marked \$12.00, but sell regularly for \$9.99. When I found them they were on sale for a few days for only \$7.99! And of course, no hassle... you are just trying on glasses from the rack, just like buying sunglasses.

#### Wet Nail Polish by Tommy-Sue

Glancing out of the 2nd story windows of my cheap, but finely architectured old efficiency apartment, I saw a middle-aged man n business clothes, unloading the back hatch of his shiny car. It was a busy street below, but in this light, no-one could see me in my lingerie. I admired the man's relaxed, serious efficiency. With his suit jacket draped over one arm, he slid his black cases out.

I nuked myself a cup of swiss mocha instant coffee, and sat down to do my make-up. I had nowhere to go, but just felt like doing it. Three even knocks on the door, and I was up answering it.

The man was slightly plump in the stomach, but otherwise looked fit. He looked sharp in his grey suit, with black cases tucked under one arm, and more black cases held by a black strap in the other hand. He looked casual, with an open collar; his suitcoat and tie tucked under the first arm, next to the cases.

"I'm the man you saw with the hatch-back, outside."

"Fine, come on in."

I sat down at the table and began putting my make-up base on. The man began opening his cases and setting up tripods. Sipping on my coffee, I just ignored the man and continued with my make-up.

I complimented my blue eyes with sharp brown eye-liner. He complimented his tripods with an intricate metal rack. I defined my lashes, and he defined his rack and stand positions. I glossed my lips, and he lubricated his pivots.

After I got up to pick out an outfit, he left. I chose the thin white, short-sleeved sweatshirt with the shiny black blobs of art on the front. It drapes my small breasts closely, such that they show. The skirt was a collage of muted colors, especially purple, brown and black, ruffled, with a wide black stretch waistband hugging my waistline. Black stockings slunk down to muted purple heels.

As I was putting all of this on, the man came back with several other men. The other men were slightly younger and wore blue suits with ties tucked tight against starched white collars. They each carried one black case.

Another cup of hot mocha was necessary for sharpening my nails. The men mounted their weapons. When I put clear polish on my nails, they aimed their weapons. Finished, I stood up and asked them how I looked.

"Fine!", sang five base voices in unison, and lights danced off the stands.

(That's all she wrote. She died with wet nail polish.)

Official Invitation from IXE

#### We would like to cordially invite all our friends to the third annual IXE Winter Holiday Party to be held on Saturday, December 15th in Indianapolis RSVP by December 8th

There will be no charge to attend this event. Dinner will be pot luck -- if it is possible, please bring a side dish or dessert -- we will provide turkey and ham entrees.

After dinner, for those who wish to participate, we will have our exciting gift exchange. Here's how it works: Bring a wrapped gift (value must not exceed \$10.00) and place it under the tree when you arrive. After we have finished eating, each person will be given a chance to select a gift from under the tree or you may "purloin" a gift from someone who has already made a selection. (Last year, the "battles" to maintain and reclaim possession of a package were most entertaining.) When the last gift has been removed from beneath the tree the play ends and the gifts are opened.

This year, to add to the excitement, we will have special prizes of \$25.00 Casual Corner gift certificates for the following:

Most creative gift wrapping Most interesting gift

There will also be a special gift for the person who has traveled the longest distance.

Everyone is invited -- bring your family and friends and join us in this evening of fun.

Send RSVP to:

Elaine Edwards 8105 Valley Farms Trail Indianapolis, IN 46214



#### Publication Notice © Copyright 1990 Cross-Port

<u>InnerView</u> 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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Contributions of articles are welcomed but may be altered, with the author's intent retained, or may be rejected, whether solicited or not. Absolutely no sexually explicit material will be accepted or printed.

Cross-Port is a not-for-profit support group which meets solely for the support of cross-dressers, trans-sexuals and their family and friends.



Since I haven't had the chance to talk with most of you during the summer, I have plenty of news items from IFGE that I must cover.

I have a report from Janice Van Cleve, who is a member of EMERALD CITY out of Seattle, WA. She is pleased to announce that its recent "90 in 90" resort weekend was a complete success. Over 50 crossdressers attended the three day event. They were welcome in all the restaurants, shops, and churches with only an occasional stare.

Plans are now being made with coopperation of some other close groups, to have an even bigger and better event next year.

(Two weeks ago, in the Sunday paper, a reporter asked Boomer Esiason of the Cincinnati Bengals about Seattle. He commented on their football team, and then went on to say that he remembers his team was staying in a hotel the same time there was a transvestite convention going on.)

The first Southeast Regional Conference was held in Atlanta from Aug. 10-12. More than 12 groups were represented. We were invited, but no one I spoke to could go.

They discussed the possibility of holding a southeast regional event like the "Be All". If this would come about, the event would proably be around Sept or Oct of 1991.

If anyone would like to do some skiing while dressed, you need to make plans to come to the IFGE Convention in Denver. Reports has it, that G.I.C., the host group, have big plans on getting all the girls out on skis.

For more than 20 years, Rupert Raj has been active in the gender community. But now he feels it's time to retire and concentrate on career and family. Therefore he has resigned from the Board of Directors of IFGE.

His replacment is Patricia Fisher, a post-op TS, who is very active in Canada

for the past eight years.

Peggy Rudd, author of "My husband Wears My Clothes', and Melanie, both of PM Publishers, are sponsoring a cruise for CD's and their SO's. They are working out details now, but hope to have a five day cruise with a good price on the Nordic Empress - one of the Royal Caribbean Lines newest ships. They are presently trying to arrange a June 10th sailing date. If interested, contact PM Publishers. 1811 Crutchfield, Katy, TX 77449.

The Tri-Ess Holiday En Femme is opening its convention to all members of the crossdressing community. The Holiday will take place in Houston from November 14-18 at the Hilton Southwest. It promises to be the largest ever held by Tri-Ess, and sounds to be a very worth while event. For information contact Jane Ellen Fairfax, PO Box 1105, Alief, TX 77411-1105.

There is a new publication out exclusively for the partners of CDs. The primary, goal is to explore the feelings of the SO and the relationship to the CD. If you are the partner of a CD, they want to know your feelings, and how you handle your situation. It is felt that expressing oneself in print will also help other women similarly situated, who may feel alone on this subject. Contact: Cynthia Phillips, PO BOX 17, Bulverde, TX 78163.

Wendy Parker of the Power Puffs of California, announces plans for a "first time ever" weekend outing in beautiful downtown Burbank. This 'CALIFORNIA DREAMIN' weekend will be held May 2-5 at the Holiday Inn, Burbank.

Plans include tours of Universal Studios, Rodeo Drive (shopping), and of course Fredreck's of Hollywood 'Bra' Museum. There will be many nights out to some of the best clubs and FI shows you will ever find. Also is planned, many workshops, discussion groups, lectures, and slide shows. Write to: PPOC, PO Box 9091, ANAHEIM, CA 92812.



raye .

The IFGE Educational Resources Committee announces a historical research project entitled:

# TRACKING OUR PAST; AN EXCURSION INTO THE HISTORY OF TV/TS ORGANIZATIONS AND SUPPORT GROUPS

Nancy Cole, the project's coordinator, states, "In order to capture the history of individual organizations and the collective story of how these organizations came into existence and grew, IFGE is sponsoring an unprecedented historical survey of TV and TS organizations. Our purpose is to create a comprehensive history of TV/TS organizations from 1950 to the present."

"The goals are: (1) To capture the story of individual organizations and the people who formed and led them. (2) To collect comprehensive, accurate, and detailed information on the history of TV/TS organizations around the world that will serve as a permanent record. (3) To provide our community and those who work with us a complete and comprehensive historically based education resource." Nancy goes on to state, "This exercise will be no easy matter. It can, however, be fun and educational for all participants. This is a longterm project. What we need for starters is one person to receive the initial data, file it, and acknowledge it's receipt. A best case scenario would be if one or two people of quality step forth and volunteer to fill the role of amateur historians. In that case, they can then begin to sift through the data and move to the next step of follow-up interviews and creation of an initial form and format of the history."

"Concerning final publication, my aim is for the mass market. I believe, if the product is better than good, and done properly, we can get a major publisher to publish this book."

Merissa Lynn, Executive Director of IFGE, adds, "The benefits of a complete and compre-

#### \*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\* GENDER ALTERNATIVES LEAGUE (GAL) P.O. Box 3392, Napa CA 94558 707-257-1973

G.A.L.'s primary purpose is to help and support the Gender Community through educational and political activism. We want to channel and enhance the ability of all organizations to have the clout necessary to advance our best interests within the society at large. We are here to help you.

It is our intention to support other human rights organizations.

It is our intention to become the watchdog for our community.

It is our intention to remove transvestism as a "mental illness" from future DSM and other psychiatric manuals.

It is our intention to correct misinformation in public libraries.

It is our intention to take legal action where and when it is necessary.

We need each of you to be a watchdog and report to GAL any and all discrepancies in our society that causes us, as a minority, to suffer undue, unethical, and possibly illegal discrimination as a group and as individuals.

Together we can accomplish many things, but the Gender Alternatives League is new, and we need your support and your participation. Please contact us.

hensive documentation of our own history is immeasurable. The contributions of those who came before us would never be forgotten. The lessons they had to teach us would never be forgotten. This is a project that will require community-wide cooperative action, which in itself will help bring our community together. It will be of obvious benefit to us all, not just for today, but for generations to come. Such a publication would be far more relevant than anything that has been done before not only to those of us who are members of our community, but to those who want a real understanding of the CD/TS phenomena. No book has ever been written that give anyone a real understanding of who we are, from where we have come, and why. I believe this project is one of the most important projects that has yet been proposed."

Anyone interested in becoming involved in this project may write: IFGE Historical Committee, P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778

Or may contact Nancy direct: N. Cole, P.O. Box 241, Leavenworth, KS 66048





COMING TOGETHER WORKING TOGETHER Presenting IFGE's 5th Annual

COMING TOGETHER - WORKING TOGETHER CONVENTION

Cross-dressers, Transsexuals, Wives & Partners, Medical & Mental Health Professionals, Friends & Alies working together to build a happier and brighter future for us all. COME AND JOIN US!

In the majestic Regency Hotel, in Deriver, beautiful Deriver, at the foot of the Rocky Mountains,

···· APRIL 8 through APRIL 14, 1991 ·····

Eor Information and Registration; e International Foundation for Gender Education P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778 1-617-894-8340 Offices: 6 Cushing St, Waitham, MA

Host Organization; Gender Identity Center of Colorado Box 11563, 3715 32nd Ave. Deriver, Colorado 80211 1-303-458-6378