

JOURNAL OF

*Male Feminism*



1979

No. 3

Entire contents

Copyright © 1979, The International Alliance for  
Male Feminism, Inc.

All rights reserved.

Reproduction in whole or in part, except for  
brief quotations incorporated in critical reviews,  
is prohibited without permission. For information  
contact,

The International Alliance  
Box 1434  
Allentown, PA 18105

*JOURNAL OF  
MALE FEMINISM*

*1979 no 3*

*contents*

Greetings from Former Chairperson.....	3
Greetings from New Chairperson.....	5
A Reason To Cross Dress, by Merissa Lynn .....	10
Transsexuality, A Review and Comment .....	13
Dedicated to the Health Sciences Centre, by Linda T. O'Connell .....	14
Electrolysis for Males, by Denise M. Cook .....	15
A True Life Experience, by Linda P. Robbins ....	17
Pictures of Members .....	19-23
Revelations, by Diane Crawford .....	30
Cartoons From Days of Yore .....	35
Control of Beard .....	37

*Editor: Glenda Rene Jones  
Layout, Articles, and Advertising Editor:  
Linda Phyllis Robbins*

The International Alliance for Male Feminism is incorporated not for profit in the District of Columbia. The purpose of the organization is to provide help and support for transvestites, transsexuals, and their family members, to provide a social outlet, and to provide education to others about this phenomenon.

Membership in the Alliance is open to anyone over the age of 18 who is willing to agree to abide by the bylaws of the organization. Membership fee is \$20 (US) per year. Inquiries may be made to

The International Alliance  
Box 1434  
Allentown, PA 18105  
phone (215) 395-4794

The Alliance publishes the Journal of Male Feminism quarterly, the membership directory (open listings in same are optional), plus various newsletters throughout the year. All Alliance material except for books is normally sent by first class mail. Please keep the Alliance informed of your current address.

Present members of the voting Board of Directors are:

Glenda Rene Jones, Ph.D., Chairperson  
Susan F. Cannon, Ph.D.  
Betty Ann Lind, M.A.  
Denise M. Cook

In addition, the Alliance maintains close contact with the professional community. We have an advisory board as follows:

Paul A. Walker, Ph.D.  
Sister Jeannine Gramick, SSND, Ph.D.  
Vern L. Bullough, Ph.D.  
Linda E. Spencer, Ph.D.  
Barbette Blackington, M.D., Ph.D.  
J. David Beatty, Ph.D.  
Tom Mazur, Psy.D.  
Zelda R. Suplee, A.B.

## GREETINGS FROM THE FORMER CHAIRPERSON

Greetings are much preferred to farewells - I never did write a "farewell" as I feel certain that there can never be a goodbye to the International Alliance for Male Feminism experience. It will always be a treasured part of me. All I have done is resign from the position of Chairperson of the I.A.M.F. Board of Directors, not from membership.

I am looking forward to joining and supporting an IAMF chapter in the Greater New Orleans area, my new home. Friends can contact me by writing: Ms. Linda Ann Stephens, P.O. Box 8251, Metairie, LA 70011. Always thought Southern Belles were the prettiest and nicest gals in America. Even though Maryland is south of the Mason-Dixon line, it definitely is not south like New Orleans is south! I never previously had the opportunity to attend Mardi Gras, but you can bet I will be participating for a full month each year now! Have also already scheduled a talk on "Male Feminism" at a local university. Will try to promote some new IAMF memberships. How about the rest of you Louisiana-Mississippi Gulf Coast Alliance gals? What are you doing to help our sisters and to spread the word about our Alliance? Les's give Glenda Jones and Linda Robbins and the other IAMF Board members a helping hand by promoting an active chapter here in the deep south. Even though you may hardly be able to conceive of it now, you will undoubtedly find such involvement to be an extremely rewarding and enjoyable personal experience.

All of us need to take personal responsibility for the growth and success of the Alliance. I am confident that Glenda and Linda and the rest of the Board members genuinely welcome not only your suggestions and essential financial support, but more important, the active participation and leadership of all who can and will demonstrate what male women can accomplish. The IAMF is the only respectable, broad based organization active in this field throughout the US and Canada. We can only hope and pray that petty politics and personality cults will not prevent many local MF groups who essentially share the basic Alliance goals from moving closer to the Alliance. Martin Luther King had a dream. My dream shares similarities with his and you know what my dream is.

God Bless! Keep the faith! Let's all do our part and share both the load and the many benefits!

your Alliance sister,  
*Linda Ann Stephens*

Linda Ann Stephens.

PS  
Many thanks for all the cards and Alliance well wishes received during my wife's hospitalization and long convalescence. Just this month she was allowed to exchange the 24 hour metal neck brace for a soft collar. She can now travel and join me in the balmy New Orleans delta clime. Though she will probably never fully recover, she will hopefully come close in another year or so. Thanks again for your thoughtfulness and prayers.

# APRIL ADAMS

NEW REVISED CATALOGUE

Catalogue #2 is ready and better than ever. I've added stunning ready made shoes, a new line of cosmetics (sold under private label to the most exclusive salons and boutiques), new hair style and many, many more new items. Of course, I still offer the old favorites...the best beard cover, the most realistic breasts etc.

- |                |          |       |
|----------------|----------|-------|
| TV Specialties | Corsetry | Wigs  |
| Cosmetics      | Shoes    | Boots |

Let a professional counselor assist you...by mail.  
Send \$2.00 for catalogue to:



APRIL ADAMS FASHIONS  
P. O. Box 1624  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19105

Greetings from the New Chairperson.

With the letters I have sent out with the last journal, the directory, and the August newsletter, there is not a great deal more I need say by way of introduction. Many of you I have met in person and talked with on the phone. I will say again what I have said before, you are the most interesting and fantastic bunch of people I have yet to meet. Clothes in the final analysis are a means of social expression (other than their utilitarian value of keeping warm) and the paraculture allows for men in this society to socially express themselves in the gender of a woman. Still it is people who are important and not particularly what they are wearing. If we were going out fishing or camping I would still love your company and we sure as hell wouldn't be wearing high heels.

Now that the correspondence is current, the roster appears correct, and we are solvent, the real work of the Alliance can begin. Essentially our goals and objectives are what they always have been: to provide education to ourselves and others on the subject of cross dressing and its related matters (eg. effect on wives etc.), to provide a social outlet for the male femme experience, and in some cases to provide counseling with members on their problems. Actually we can counsel each other in most cases on cross dressing problems better than the professionals because we are a) smart, and b) understand the problem. Those professionals such as our advisory board who do understand the problem we welcome and will work closely with. (I have a West coast socialologist, a woman well recognized in her field who I am courting in this capacity.) If negotiations are successful I will make the announcement in the next Journal.

A matter which came as a bolt out of the blue was the resignation of the former Journal editor, Ms. Susan Cannon. In taking over the Alliance I had banked on having a Journal editor. Susan resigned over policy matters and her resignation was accepted with regret. Susan has done a lot for our culture and I indeed respect her a great deal. Still, "the past is prologue", and it is the future which is now important. We can use

an advertising editor whose job it would be to correspond with advertisers. Preferably a person who already is a member of several groups and can see who is advertising in other paracultural publications. If interested, drop us a note. Most important is writing an article for the Journal. (more on that later.)

I don't like this next paragraph, but it has to be written.

We are doing everything in our power to hold down costs. If everyone who has not yet renewed will do so, we will have no problem financially in the next year. Twenty dollars isn't much for the return on an Alliance membership. Frankly its the biggest bargain around. If you haven't done so this year (1979) we need your check. ....PLEASE??.....

People write and ask what they can do. No; telling all your neighbors and friends is dumb. Why throw pearls before those who can't understand. (Glenn and Linda have a nice social life apart from Glenda and Linda.) Still there are lot of things all of us can do for the culture. Here are some suggestions.

1) Our Journal is designed to help each of you in the cross dressing lifestyle. Each of you have a story to tell. We need that story for our Journal. Here is what I suggest. Write me first just a short note describing your contribution. I will tell you ahead of time whether I think it is suitable and what to emphasize. This saves you the toil of writing something up only to have it rejected. If you aren't an English major don't sweat it. We will clean it up for publication. About the only thing we will not publish in the Journal is material aimed principally at the prude interest. It isn't that I am any prude. What consenting adults wish to do in private really isn't any of my business. The purpose of the Journal is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, and to present means of coping with and enjoying the cross dressing lifestyle. Specifically we are looking for articles in the following areas:



- a) Makeup techniques for the male woman.
- b) Selecting attractive clothes when one has a male frame and features.
- c) Ways of finding and courting ladies when one is a cross dresser.
- d) How you solved problems with your wife.
- e) How you told your kids and their reaction.
- f) Why you decided to go ahead with or not to go ahead with the operation.
- g) Experiences with wearing lady clothes to work.
- h) Legal hassels you have run into and how you delt with them.

2) Each of you can help to recruit new members. One very good source of advertising in any paracultural organization is word of mouth. Many of you are already members of other organizations. Tell others that you are in the Alliance and encourage them to join. We are not competing with others, but complementing them.

Take a 3x5 card and put the following on it or words to this effect:

#### TRANSVESTISM

The desire to express qualities of the opposite gender through dress and mannerisms. Now believed by many psychologists to be a natural mode of behavior. For more information contact,

The International Alliance  
Box 1434  
Allentown, PA 18105  
(215) 395-4794

On another,

## TRANSSEXUALITY

The process of gender as well sex change from male to female or female to male. Includes behavioral, cosmetic, chemical, and surgical procedures. Indicated in certain cases of the "gender-dysphoria syndrome." For more information contact,

The International Alliance  
Box 1434  
Allentown, PA 18105  
(215) 395-4794

The next time you in any library, slip these in the card catalog. Better yet, if you are not paranoid, tell the head of research for your library to contact us. We have contacts with many libraries and need more.

Many of you have reported to me that you have seen counselors in the past. If you know some who are sympathetic, send me their names. I will write them (not mentioning your name unless you direct me to) and tell them about the Alliance and include some of our promotional material.

The Alliance does support a small amount of paid advertising within the limits of our budget. If you want to run an ad in the personal column of your paper, contact me and we will work something out.

Ask your electrolygist or beautitician if they would like to advertise in the Journal and/or receive any of our promotional material. Same for stores who cater to TV's and TS's. Lane Bryant retail stores in particular readily acknowledge that a major share of their business is from us. Just leave the store manager a card with our name on it and ask if they would mention this to any TV who might inquire about groups they could join.

Call you local gay hot line and ask if they would list the Alliance as a referral. Similarly call your local Suicide or Crisis Center and request the same. If they want your name, just give them your femme name.

Some quick matters of business. Because of our rapid growth, the membership directory will be reissued in November. Our previous directory carried some names of wives and other GG's by mistake. In the next directory, all GG's will carry 200 level numbers. For example, my member number is 107-PA-18105. Linda's is automatically 207-PA-18105.

IF YOU WANT YOUR WIFE, LADY, OR GIRLFRIEND LISTED IN THE DIRECTORY, DROP US A SHORT NOTE WITH HER NAME. IF SHE ALREADY HAS BEEN ISSUED A MEMBER NUMBER NOTE SAME AND IT WILL BE ADJUSTED TO CARRY THE 200 NUMBER. LINDA AND I DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO COMB THROUGH ALL THE APPLICATIONS AND DETERMINE WHO SHOULD BE INCLUDED.

Frankly it is very good to have your lady be a member as it gives other ladies the opportunity to write and to get to know one another. Ladies are invited to place ads like anyone else if they wish to.

One last word. The Alliance is a democratic organization. We are a corporation with a board of directors and elected officers. IF THERE IS ANYTHING ABOUT THE ALLIANCE YOU DON'T LIKE, WRITE AND TELL US. SOME OF YOUR LETTERS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL. If you want a letter published indicate "permission is given to publish this letter."

You people are neat. I really love all of you very much.

yours in the lifestyle,

*Glenda Rene Jones*  
Glenda Rene Jones

PS Linda let me know in no uncertain terms when proofreading that "wives and ladies" is no way to put it. "Lady" is a term I assimilated when single to mean a gal you are living with. Ah the problems with semantics. Linda also said that it should have been mentioned more clearly that wives are very much encouraged to submit articles for the Journal. Amen, my lady (who is also my wife), has come through again.

## A Reason To Cross Dress

by Merissa Sherrill Lynn

(Reprinted with permission from the June, 1979 TV-TS Tapestry. Merissa can be contacted at Box 426, No. Hampton, NH 03862)

I realize that there are as many reasons for cross dressing as there are people who cross dress. I also realize that most everyone has a political, ethical or philosophical opinion concerning cross dressing. I wish to talk about why I, Merissa Sherrill Lynn crossdress and what it is that I feel.

I divide my experience into three categories: envy appreciation, sensual and sexual. Although inseparable, I shall discuss them separately.

### Envy Appreciation:

I have since I can remember envied little girl's ability to give and receive love. I wanted the same, was denied, and therefore wanted to be a little girl. As an adult, I still envy the ease with which women can express those human qualities I hold most dear: love and affection for others, gentleness and kindness. I find when freed of the rigid demands of being 'a man' it is very easy to feel affection for people regardless of sex, to give and receive love, and to be a nicer person. I find the more feminine I become the more I understand and resent the pressures of masculinity, the easier it is to feel empathy and respect for women, and the more I like me. That is a very good feeling. So in my case envy is a good sensation, a motivation to practice being the person I prefer to be.

If I see a beautiful woman I immediately feel a very personal and intensely felt sense of appreciation. It is a joyful feeling, a very personal and intensely felt sense of admiration for another human being. That is a far different feeling than sexual desire, and more complementary for it implies not only appreciation, but respect. She is the art and the artist. I long to be the artist and the art. I like women so much that I want to be one.

### Sensual:

The feminine experience is far more than a way to feel and act, or a visual physical and emotional art form. It is also a sensual experience totally different than the masculine experience. We humans can sense and feel like most other species, but only we can interpret our sensations, categorize them, so as to give them labels such as 'masculine' or 'feminine', give them values such as 'good' or 'bad', and not only derive pleasure from them, but recondition and intensify that pleasure. There is a lot of power we humans have over our feelings. Being human, I am aware and capable of building upon my sensuality. Being male, I am very familiar with the pleasures and prides of the masculine sensual experience. However, being the special person that I am, I am also familiar with the incredibly exciting and happy world of feminine sensuality. There is really no describing the sense of satisfaction, the sense of completeness, of wholeness, and of a unique sense of wisdom that being able to transcend gender distinctions affords me. I am at peace with my masculinity because I am finally at peace with my femininity.

The sensation of feeling pretty is different than feeling handsome. The touch of women's clothes is different than the touch of men's. "Girl talk" is sensually different than 'guy talk'. Feeling 'feminine' is different than feeling 'masculine' and to me, feeling feminine is much more rewarding. I dearly love the sensation of feeling pretty, the caressing touch of velvet and nylon, the deep internal sense of poetry and the powerful sense of pride in my feminine self. For me the sense of wholeness, of peace, and pride in myself as a feminine male is my reward.

I am a very rich and satisfied person. I have peace of mind and self acceptance, not in spite of my femininity, but because of it.

### Sexual:

I like females and everything about them. Females are my turn-on. Their look, their softness, the warm smooth touch of their lovely bodies. Make-up and clothes as such are not my turn on, although it would be wrong to

say crossdressing has no erotic appeal. To feel the softness that is my own, to feel the female in my soul, to feel within myself those qualities that excite me in the first place is a tremendous turn-on. Clothes and adornment, particularly soft sexy items such as negligies help to trigger this sensation. This sensation, however, is only part of the overall erotic experience.

When dressed I feel attractive. (What I actually look like doesn't matter. To someone else I may be as attractive as a Boston pothole. What I look like and feel like are two different things.) I feel desireable and that is very very exciting.

I am capable of being aroused visually. That means I am aroused by the sensation of feeling attracted to, of desiring something external to myself. When dressed I am am aroused by the sensation of feeling attractive. That means when I am dressed I feel attractive and attracted to myself, desiring myself, sexy and sensual at the same time. What an absolutely incredible sensation it is! It is an overwhelming rush or trip, anything you want to call it. Join that sensation with the pleasures sensual femininity and with the satisfaction of actually being the object of aesthetic appreciation, and with what to me is the most rewarding of all; actually being the person you want to be, and you have a feeling that has left me feeling too weak to stand, bawling my eyes out from sheer joy. It is in effect a religious experience.

This sense of joyful ecstasy is a euphoric high that I wish all people to experience at least once in their lives. Then they would know not only this sensual, sexual, and aesthetic bliss, but know the rewards of being a softer, more loving, more understanding and nicer person.

The world can well afford a few more nice people, more peace of mind, and a lot more love. I am what I am because I want to be, and I would like the world to know why.

# *Transsexuality*

A Review and Comment by

Glenda Rene Jones

IT IS A THORNY QUESTION at best. To take a male, indeed a male who has fathered children, with perfectly functional genitalia and perform drastic surgery which will forever prevent him from again functioning as a male. Clothes can be taken off, and makeup creamed off, one can stop taking hormones and usually go completely back. Electrolysis is permanent, but only allows the man or the woman the freedom from shaving in the morning. The operation is different. It is path from which there is no return.

In the security of the intellect, in the clinical atmosphere, there are many good reasons for not getting it. Sometimes it doesn't take and the result is a non-male, non-female. The question has been raised by some professionals as to whether it really corrects the mental condition labeled "gender dysphoria". Some post-ops never again experience orgasm and, in any case, the result can never be more than a cosmetic approximation to the real thing. Then too, the operation can change only sex and never gender.

Still, transsexuality cannot be understood by the intellect alone. There is the emotional dimension. One can listen to the magnificent rendition of Bach by Wendy Carlos and read her story in the May 1979 Playboy. One can read poetry; and one book of poems which tells of emotion is Fighting Back, by Linda T. O'Connell. Linda is the president of the North American Transsexual Society (NATS), Box 27, UMSU, University of Manitoba, Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada R3T 2N2.

I cannot brush aside the good solid reasons for anyone to reconsider getting the operation, yet I brushed aside many tears as I read Fighting Back. The following is one selection reprinted with permission.

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE

BY Linda T. O'Connell

The blues is a heavy feeling  
when you know Clark Kent is deciding your sex.  
A nineteen seventies bearded medical reincarnation  
wants to say what's between my legs.  
The streets is full of hippy broads like me,  
yet he wants this girl to look like Doris Day.  
Says something to me about "assuming the female  
role completely", yet I always feel this way.  
Slept for dime in washroom of bus stations,  
collected pop bottles for next meal. At amusement park  
walked around with only clothes on my back.  
Yet I felt the same, in day or dark.  
I bore this pain against the jeers of crowds  
who tried to break and bring me down.  
I knew if I tried I could prove my right to be:  
to every last dissenter in the town.  
The way I feel is deep; and real.  
That's why for this I'd die.  
Yet, there are those, born normal, who could still  
be asking, "why?".  
For these I can only say, "try to do what I've done  
and see if you'd last a day."  
"You wouldn't begin to figure how I've lasted,  
yet the Lord's been in my corner, all the way.  
Try to figure how you're going to get a job,  
or how to pay for all the electrolysis.  
Yet the King's been helping my game,  
trying to figure how you'd do all this  
without the love of family to support along,  
not knowing if anybody could ever love you.  
But I know its here where I belong.  
Your see, its been here all the time  
and I'm not really changing sex.  
All I'm asking, Clark Kent, Super Doctor, is to now  
make more functional the gap between my legs.  
Sure, its great to now be accepted as a woman,  
but there is still a need inside of me,  
I didn't do this hoping for more beauty,  
just the right to live as woman: free...  
I've got God in my corner,  
who must be in yours??"



## ELECTROLYSIS FOR MALES

by Denise M. Cook

(see Denise's ad in this Journal)

The practice of hair removal goes back as far as the dawn of history. Women in Egypt used abrasives, and in some of their writings, a chemical substance was mentioned. The women of ancient Rome used tweezers to remove hair.

The saying, "The American Indians had no facial hair", is erroneous. Actually the Indians disliked their facial hair and plucked it with two shells. In our society, hair removal is part of the grooming procedure for most men and women.

Until the last century, hair removal methods all were temporary. A St. Louis physician, Dr Charles E. Michael, in 1875, conceived the idea of using an electrical current to prevent hair regrowth. His original motivation was treatment of ingrown eyelashes, however, his work heralded the era of permanent hair removal on other body areas as well. His first machine had a single needle which was inserted into the hair follicle and the current applied. The current reacts with the body fluids and tissues to form an alkali (lye), which in turn attacks the follicle to the bulb or papilla. This process became known as "electrolysis".

The next major improvement came when Professor Paul M. Kree devised a multiple needle machine still using direct current. Multiple needles allowed for faster hair removal and the demand for electrolysis increased. Kree founded the Kree institute devoted to training professional electrologists.

The next development was due to Mr. Garo Artinian, who studied using high frequency alternating current instead of direct current. This greatly increased again the speed of removal. Today these machines use an FCC assigned frequency of either 13.56, 27.12, or 40.68 megahertz. This is the machinery most widely used today providing fast, safe, minimally - discomfoting permanent hair removal.

A fine probe or needle is inserted into the hair follicle and slid down to the papilla (bulb or root.) The radio frequency energy is applied at a preset intensity and duration as the operator presses a foot treadel. Working all the while under a magnifying glass the operator then removes the treated hair with tweezers.

The male desiring permanent removal is well advised to investigate throughly. It is going to represent several hundred or thousand dollars and entail many hours of time. Competant electrologists experienced in removing male facial and other body hair can be found for as little as \$30/hour and as much as \$60/hr. Even with today's gas prices, driving distance to the right person can be worthwhile. One important question a male should inquire about is whether the person has experience on males. Some do and others do not. Usually this experience is on pre op transsexuals, however, TV's and for that matter perfectly straight men desire hair removal. Electrologists are human beings and business people. It is very impolite to make an appointment and not show up. The electrologist might have had the opportunity for another person at that time. While the hours on the table offer some opportunity for conversation, going to an electrologist only to ask questions about fashion make up or whatever is irritating. Remember that he or she (most electrologists are women) , is taking up time she could be using on another person. When "the machine is idle", the electrologist is not making money. While electrologists are used to working on TV's or TS's, they are not counselors. Save your personal problems for someone besides your electrologist.

## A TRUE LIFE EXPERIENCE

by Linda Phyllis Robbins

Ours is a second marriage for both of us . When I met Glenn, I met a tall, muscular, intelligent fascinating, sensitive human being. A man who seemed to get along well with my kids (a pre-teen and a teenager) and a man who seemed to complement all of us very well. Later I was to find out that Glenn was a TV, but when we met I thought a TV was something you watched the news on.

Shortly after we met it seemed that Glenn was either over to my place all the time or I was out to his place in the mountains east of Albuquerque. I noticed that he usually wore nylon underpants, but didn't really think much about it - some of my male friends didn't wear any underpants. And, then, I wear cotton most of the time. I didn't connect it up right away that his underpants looked just like women's panties. When he brought over a couple of nightgowns (definitely women's) we had a talk. He simply said that he liked to wear them and wondered if it bothered me. Actually they didn't really. Who is going to argue about the masculinity of the best guy you have ever slept with?

Out at his place, however, I was picking up the laundry and found "the works". At this point we had a long talk which extended well into the night. This was to be the first in a long and interesting learning experience about men who like to dress in women's clothes. No, far from being gay in any sense I had found out that he was quite a skirt chaser before we met. Finally we agreed that I would come out to the mountains the next night for dinner with "Glenda", Glenn's feminine counterpart.

I was greeted at the door by a person wearing a pretty red dress and black pumps. He wouldn't have "passed" that night (I was to learn the paraculture jargon as time went on), but he certainly wasn't bad. It was slightly unnerving to see him in a black slip under his dress as we got ready for bed, but I decided what the hell and we undressed each other. Then came a surprise in the form of a beautiful brown satin waltz length gown trimmed in dark brown lace. He had made it for me and

I was thrilled. (I didn't even know any women who made lingerie, let alone any men.) Between satin sheets we held each other and made love accompanied by Beethoven's ninth.

The next day I had a long talk with my kids. I have always had a very open relationship with them and told them that Glenn liked to dress in women's clothes part of the time. They made it clear that they wanted to invite their friends over with Glenn straight. That was a fair request and the thing we have followed ever since. (Dr. Beatty asked me how they reacted to him dressing around them and about all I could really say was that it has never been a problem.)

For our wedding Glenn made a beautiful slip for me to wear under my wedding dress. I made him a shirt in return. I have shown the slip to many of my friends and the general reaction has been that I am lucky to have a husband who likes to sew.

Since we moved to Allentown and have become involved in the Alliance I have met many wonderful and interesting people. Betty Ann Lind I guess helped me more than anyone to understand what this is all about. Dr. Prince's book, The Transvestite and His Wife I also found to be very helpful.

Life is not without its light moments. One night we were out to eat and I slipped and told the waitress when she brought the food, "No he ordered the lobster". She looked at Glenda, then at Merle, back at Glenda and just grinned from ear to ear. And Sandy our daughter had to learn which were Glenda's panties and which were mine. Sandy, by the way, has become very adept in pointing out to TV's why they won't pass when we have cross dressing parties at our house. Stephen, our teen age son just thinks the whole thing is dumb.



Denise  
3-DC-20009



ELAINE  
1-MO-64112



SALLY-9-CA-95035 100-CO-80301



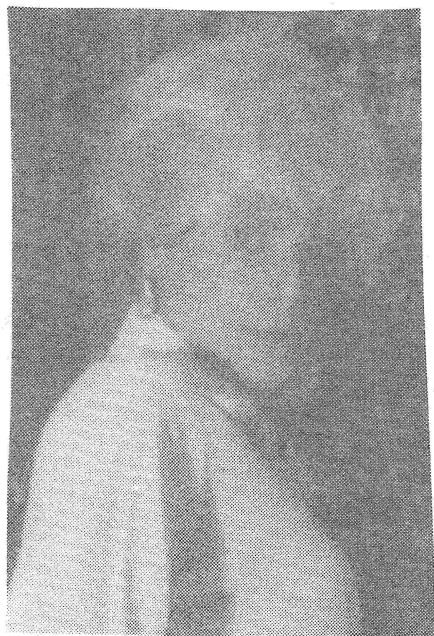
RACHEL



Crystal - 100  
MS-39153



Robin Jo



Christie  
100-RI-02840



Olivia  
100-OR-  
97214



LUCY-121  
VA-24060



Jennifer  
112-MD-21030



KAREN-27  
PA-19145



LINDA -  
207-PA-18109



Alice-120  
- FL-32561



SHIRLEY  
102-MI-48031



VALERIE  
113-IL-60614



DORIS  
108-MA-  
02251





Randy  
35-PA-17403



JO ANN  
124-NY-14882



GLEND A  
107-PA-18105

## NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY

by Lorean Lee St. Grace

1-UT-84106

I remember the day well. I wanted to stay home, but Robert made me go. He told me I would have to start sometime. He was right, but the thought that everyone was expecting me that day made me turn cold with a case of nerves.

I chose an extremely conservative outfit. I had to be careful so no one would be be offended. I picked a chestnut cowl-necked blouse, one that wouldn't play up my developing bustline, matching slacks and boots. My makeup had to be perfect. I chose chestnut once again. The eye shadow had to be placed so lightly as not to be noticed, just effective. I used no lipstick, just a light stain to add a feminine glow.

I was in tears as Robert drove me towards the State Capitol building. He tried to reassure me, but that only made it seem worse. It was like the first day of school my first day on a new job. But it wasn't school, it wasn't even a new job. In reality, I had been working in the same office for the State of Utah for over a year and a half.

Everyone knew by then that I was a transsexual, that too failed to comfort me. For the first time, I felt like a freak in women's clothes. I wasn't so sure I wanted to do it any longer. No one at work had ever seen me as a female and I knew the friends I had before would miraculously turn cold towards me. It hurt to think about it. I had learned to admire so many of them. I tried one last time to get Robert to turn around and take me home: I was quitting! He prevailed as we pulled into the parking lot.

I took the long way around the building so I could avoid as many people as possible, even though I was over an hour early. Once in the office, one of the telephone girls greeted me gingerly as usual. What unnerved me was the idea she greeted me as if nothing was out of the ordinary. In fact, the entire day went with hardly a mention of my wearing feminine attire except by the clo-

sest of friends. (There are close to 40 workers in my office alone.) Salt Lake City is the mecca for the nearly 4 million members of the Mormon Church. I had expected a fair amount of persecution by "God fearing Christians". But I had none of that.

By the second day I had enough courage to wear my favorite color, blue. I decided I would be bolder with my eye shadow by blending four shades into a soft effect. Others seemed to be a little more relaxed after the initial appearance. Even "God fearing Christians" complimented me on how well I looked. Others admitted that even though they were aware of the situation, it was still strange to see and didn't want me offended by their stares.

I found honesty was the best method for me. By confiding with a helpful employer. He in turn let the supervisors know of the situation. Before then I had to make sure my work was impeccable to make me valuable enough to keep. I also found I hadn't lost any friends but had instead, gained many more. Most people are very understanding when confronted by sincerity. One important lesson is that people do not learn to like a TV or a TS, they learn to like a person and then in turn you can begin to feel like a person.

That was less than a year ago. Now it seems to be common place. Barely a person ever mentions it, that I know of anyway. I've been able to relax in my new role. For the first time in my life I feel as if I have the license to be someone. I usually find it difficult to hold my tongue now, no more too shy little boy.

The most important thing is to appear in command of the situation, not nearly controlled. Yes, you must be sensitive to other people, because only as they relax, can you relax. But don't let some out moded ideas of femininity bind you down into some unrealistic character. Instead discover what it is to be a woman on your own. In other words, don't wiggle your hips because it is the womanly thing to do. Any pretentious act can be read in a hurry. Be yourself, the natural woman waddles, stomps, glides, skips and sometimes her feet hurt and she flops down from exhaustion in the most unladylike

manner. Still no one ever doubts she is a woman. I am not saying we can't be ladylike, just not unrealistic models of self perfection. Perfection is a freak in itself, we all have a human side.

One thing that has changed since my emergence into the world and my ability to be frank are my ideas about relationships. Before there were men and women, each with their selective roles. My relationship with Robert was just that. He was my husband and I was his wife. He was totally responsible for my financial well being. I was responsible for a clean home and good meals. Though our roles are basically the same now, our philosophy is different. We are a team, the roles we have are not based on gender, but rather on choice. Robert is the financial wizard of the team and he naturally takes that job and anytime he wants he can start on the housework. (That's for his benefit in case he reads this, I HATE HOUSEWORK!).

Being totally open, or "out of the closet" if you will has its rewards. It fills my need to help others, both to understand male women and to help others like myself. I've gotten many calls from male women in connection with the gay helpline. I have also spoken to a couple of groups about TSism. Although it isn't a big help in the whole, people have been referred to me just because someone heard me speak.

Robert has helped me a great deal to overcome my natural impatience. That could have cost me a good job with the state. Instead by thinking ahead, that was avoided. We chose the right time to come out with it. Actually no one was totally shocked as my mannerisms were somewhat feminine to begin with. There are problems though small. Silly things like the use of pronouns. But even the small things have to be kept in perspective or they soon begin to seem much larger. There is no malice intended in calling me "he", nearly habit.

I am a woman now, though the clothes I wear don't necessarily dictate my sex, it has helped me to feel more apart of the world. Regardless of what my physical body may tell, I am a woman.

FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CANADIAN TRANSSEXUALS  
(F.A.C.T.)  
PO Box 1315  
Station A  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5W 1G7

F.A.C.T. is a non-profit, nonfunded, service organization staffed by volunteers dedicated to assisting transsexual persons suffering from the medical condition, "gender dysphoria syndrome".

Co-founded in Calgary, Alberta, in January 1978, by: Nicholas C. Ghosh, B.A. (current executive director), Kyle J. Spooner (former Associate Director), and Christopher E. Black (former Secretary-Treasurer), F.A.C.T. has re-located its headquarters to Toronto, Ontario.

1979 MEMBERSHIP FEES are \$20 and include:

- \*Membership/Medical I.D. Card
- \*1979 Journal Subscription (4 issues)
- \*1978 Journal Back Issues (as supply lasts)
- \*30-word Personal Ad in Journal "CONTACT CORNER"
- \*Counseling & Peer Support
- \*Information and Referrals
- \*Personal Correspondence (with Officers/Directors)
- \*Free Admission to Regular Meetings/Reduced (50% off) Admission to Workshops/Presentations

Your participation and financial support are desperately sought in order that the Foundation may secure the necessary funds it (immediately) requires to enable the maintenance of its various services (including the publication of its quarterly factual journal: GENDER REVIEW)

Please help us to serve you and your transsexual peers in Canada and the U.S.A. by joining F.A.C.T. today as a member in good standing.

## *meyer Reports work*

Sexual reassignment surgery has generally been considered as one cure for the gender dysphoria syndrome. In the past three decades, it is estimated that in the order of 15-30000 such operations have been performed. One pioneer in this field is Johns Hopkins Gender Identity Clinic which has performed more than 100 such operations. About a year ago they stopped performing the operations to evaluate their former patients. Recently, they have announced that no further operations will be performed.

This action was the result of a study by Jon K. Meyer and a colleague Donna J. Reter. The purpose of the study was to determine if surgery did indeed help its recipients. Meyer interviewed and evaluated 50 patients who sought surgery through 1971. Twenty four who had surgery and 26 who did not. Although both groups showed improvement, the patients not operated on showed, in Meyer's estimation, a greater improvement in terms of jobs, educational status, and social stability.

Meyer, noting that most people who seek surgery are under 30, said, "Growing older seems to make the difference. Whether surgery is really in the best interests of the patient is debatable. What is really important is that in a time of crisis in the patient's life, some kind of therapy is offered. It probably doesn't really matter what."

Meyer further noted that more men wish to change their sex than women.

### *Editor's Note:*

*Meyer's comments have hit the national press. I checked with two recognized professionals who are Meyer's peers asking if his views are generally accepted. I was assured they are not and that papers critical of his work can be expected. Your comments on this article are solicited.*

# Surgeon Sued

The University of Virginia and a surgeon are being sued by a post op California woman for an allegedly botched sex change operation. Selena Jagger has accused the surgeon, Dr. J. William Futrell, chief surgeon in the operation, of negligence. She has charged "failure to exercise that degree of care and skill ordinarily exercised by health care practitioners".

The suit contends that as a result of post-operative complications and negligence, she is now neither anatomically nor functionally male nor female. That she has been "deprived of any sexual function and has been subjected to mental and physical pain, suffering, anxiety, depression, and despair."

The suit contends that following surgery, there was considerable post-operative bleeding for an extended period, that skin grafts did not take and that the post operative results were severely compromised.

## A Primer

Every community and profession has its jargon. Jargon is one way humans can determine who is in a given community and who isn't. Doctors have their jargon, lawyers have theirs, engineers theirs etc. Transvestites and transsexuals have theirs as well. What follows is a conservative summary of our jargon. Hopefully it will initiate new members more readily, and, of course, to old members it is strictly kindergartion stuff.

Sex is your physical hardware equipment. Without discussing exceptions to the rule, males have a penis between their legs and females have the labia and vagina. Sex, then, lies between your legs. People, however, come across to others as men or as women. Obviously we don't check every one out between their legs, we assume by mannerisms, dress, hair style etc. that a man is male and a woman is a female. The way we come across is gender. Gender may be thought of as what lies between our ears.

## REVELATIONS

by Diane Crawford

Until three years ago, life had been a mystery to me. I lacked identity, purpose and fulfillment. Yet, I had been reasonably successful as an airplane pilot, educator, administrator, and as a husband and father. I had been born a male to be someone's son, then student and athlete, surgeon or attorney. Finally to become some woman's marriage partner.

But none of these roles corresponded to what I perceived of myself in my mind. The conflict manifested itself in a civil war in my guts and soul for more than 40 years. For whatever whys or hows, I had perceived myself as a female who would or might never develop the desired secondary female sex characteristics, perform sexually, or be able to live in the roles chosen by me. I was locked into a life of dead-ends.

On many occasions I had developed near-psychotic drives to physically alter my body or to destroy it. I would remain in these altered states of consciousness for days and even weeks at a time, interrupting them only long enough to perform those tasks expected of me at work or at home. During one of these episodes of desperation in 1964, coupled with the fear of being killed or captured in a hostile land, I found relief from my pain in alcohol. I was to rely upon this acceptable drug to sedate my emotional pain, drinking to the level of my increasing tolerance each day for the next 12 years.

In early 1976, my tolerance for ethyl alcohol took a nose dive and within four months I was unable to find that better life through chemistry. The physical pain from alcohol toxicity became excruciating - steel spikes at the base of my skull and each temple. I had been in a state of panic for the last several days because of my drinking. I presented myself for admission to the Psychiatric Ward of a Veterans Hospital - I had absolutely no idea what was wrong with me. I had nowhere else to hide from myself or my feelings. I was wisely directed to an alcoholism treatment program.



Within a few weeks I discovered that alcohol had rendered me incapable of dealing with most aspects of my life, especially my gender dysphoria. It was no longer a rational choice of drug for easing my inner conflicts. But was there another drug that would ease the pain? I believe not. I must be fully aware when I hurt, and I must be mentally functional in order to identify a thought, an action, or an inaction that is creating conflict with my belief or value systems, the result of such conflict manifesting itself as a pain in my guts. I believe that my taking of any mood-altering chemical that prevents such a process is self-defeating. I have an on-going need to fully discover and be aware of all of me.

During my first year of abstinence, I succeeded only in not drinking, largely, I believe, because I had made the first of now many commitments to stop doing what I had been doing - sedating my feelings with alcohol. I had no idea what I wanted to do or what the future would hold. I did know precisely what I did not want to do. The pain in my guts mounted until I was unable to function rationally; I was directing all my energies to the "why me's" and "if onlys". I had always been interested in human behavior and had just completed graduate studies in Psychological Counseling and Guidance, but I was immobilized and discovered I knew least about myself. In treatment the second time (sober) I was to find the path leading to inner direction.

I know now that I am responsible totally for my feelings of pleasure and pain, my beliefs, values, and my appearance; and best of all, that I can change any one or all of these if and when I choose. I also discovered that I have inalienable rights as a human being, equal to those of anyone else to determine for myself what and who I am - my sex, gender, sexual preferences, what I do for myself and others, and what is good and bad for me. For are we not all human beings regardless of credentials? In the end it is I who will enjoy the pleasures of life or suffer painful consequences for my singular thoughts and deeds. I must therefore, with the help of my Creator, determine my own direction in this life.

I have no quarrel with those for whom I have lived my life. I know now that society, to be comfortable, and unthreatened, must be able to predict and control one another's behavior; guilt and rejection are powerful reins. I know that people must have, and sometimes demand, that the masses believe and act as they do; it reinforces and makes acceptable their beliefs and values which are oftentimes shakey. To experience otherwise is to know pain and doubt of self, and perhaps a need to change one's ways. Oh! how we resist that.

For many years my values were those of my mentors, and I could live in the peace of conformity without risk, yet with good reason to blame others when their dictums ran afoul. And now I have chosen to be myself, whatever that may be, and to accept the risk of being labeled a deviate or pervert, and, yes, mentally ill. I have abandoned society's two-value orientation of "good or bad", "right or wrong", "success or failure", "opposite sexes" - the list goes on for an endless abundance of life-in-between.

I no longer view my emotional pain as necessary sacrifice, but as sign-posts for the existence of barriers that separate me from myself and my happiness, productivity, and earthly fulfillment. I have dealt with my alcoholism, abandoned relationships, values, and behavior that have been destructive to me, and I do not accept guilt or responsibilities from the "you should's". These life changes have been painful, and some have brought forth many tears. I am certain there is more to be dealt with.

The most painful change has been the dissolution of my 23 year marriage of a beautiful and talented woman to whom I became an ogre. I lived in pain with her for the last 13 of those years, and as an extension of her for all 23. She resented the woman I wanted to be, but after I shared with her my innermost feelings of transsexuality, she thwarted and condemned my every move to emulate her. I am sure those last 10 years were as painful for her as for me. It was a terrifying leap to freedom to be myself; to have remained with her would have been to destroy two lives. I can change only myself, and that took a lot of learning.

If summarizing my struggles in life were possible I would say, "breaking loose from the control and domination of others to become the self-directed, inter-dependent person I chose to be, and to become able to accept the consequences of those choices."

I believe the most important step I took was, in the beginning, to harness every ounce of faith and strength in me to share my thoughts and feelings with another human being who cared about me - and there have been many. And I will continue to share, because I have experienced self-acceptance which derived first from the acceptance of others who did not necessarily approve - just accepted. It matters not that acceptance by others came first; most important is its having arrived. Alone I have failed; together with you I have a chance. But it was I who had to make the first move.

Diane Crawford, 14-AZ-85717  
Box 40214  
Tucson, AZ 85717

(215) RA 5-5878  
RA 5-6878

BLOSSOM C. PASTER

**PARTY OCT 26, 1979**

**ELECTROLYSIS**

1009 HARTEL AVE.  
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19111

*PRIVATE MAKE-UP CONSULTATION*

## *To the Editor:*

I don't really know where to begin with this story. I have known for some years that my brother had a problem. The problem being that he was really a woman trapped in a man's body. To be quite honest, I still don't fully understand, but each day is a little easier for me to cope with. For about 15 years I had a brother, then for five years I didn't know, and now I find there is a sister hidden in my brother's body.

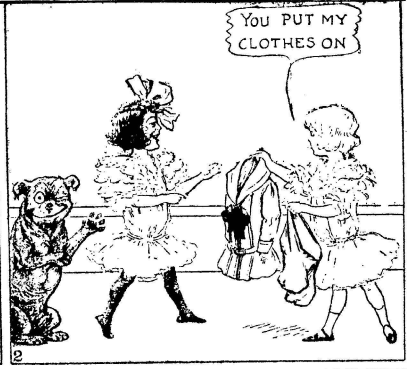
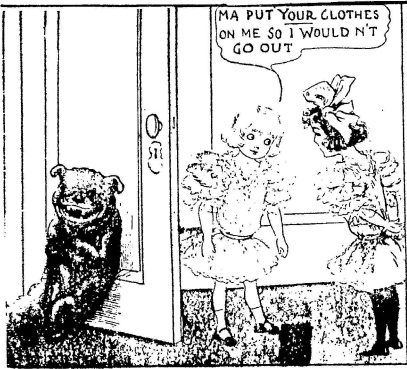
First of all my husband is a country boy, but a good person. He has tried to be understanding with Chris; more than most men I guess. He still doesn't understand everything, but is willing to help in anyway he can. My oldest son I must say found it hardest to cope with. After all, "Aunt Chris" was his favorite uncle for as long as he could remember. The first time he heard of Chris' problem he resented it, was scared, and said, "mom does this mean my uncle is dead?" Now he has come to know his uncle was trapped in a man's body and is really his aunt. He loves Chris just as much; no less no more. If anyone makes a slip and calls Aunt Chris, "he", or "him", Tommy gets very upset and says, "she". Tommy is in his teens so I feel he is old enough to understand. My youngest son is a happy go lucky guy. He just goes along with everything and loves Aunt Chris and likes to see her.

For myself, I love Chris and feel for her too. If I could go back in time and change things I would and wish to God I didn't have to see this hell my sister is going through. The only thing I ask of her is to understand us too. Its hard sometimes not to make a slip and say "he". After all "she" was a "he" to the world for a long time.

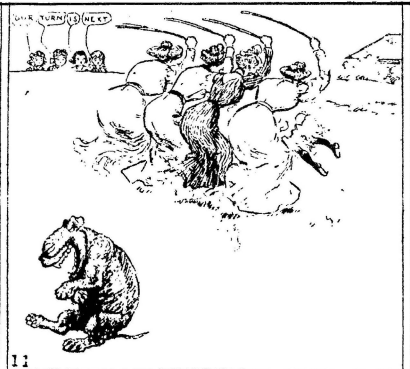
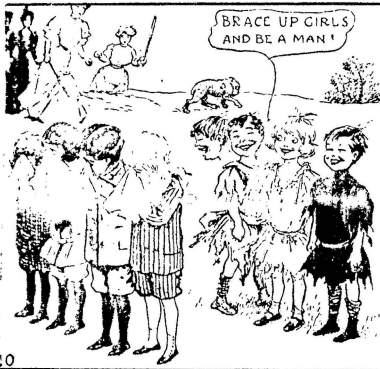
I hope that what I have written has helped at least one person making this change. There are people who really try to understand and feel for others close to them. I pray for everyone who is trapped in the wrong body whether they are male or female.

*Note: Mary Jane is  
Crystal's 100-MS  
sister.*

Signed,  
Mary Jane



These charming little cartoons were provided by our sister south of the border, Barbara from Mexico. They were drawn originally before the First World War.



## Control of Beard

by the Journal Staff

Although much of the material to follow is readily available from many other sources, the fact of the matter is that one of the most common reasons men dressed as women are read in public is inadequate beard control. It is just this simple: if your beard is under control, you won't necessarily pass. If your beard is not under control, you will be read in two seconds.

There are only four methods one can use to control their beard. One can shave it, chemically remove it, pull it out, or remove it via electrolysis. The only method which is permanent and totally effective is the latter.

Shaving and cover up.

Before getting into this method (the most popular by far) we may as well be honest and to the point: There are some people who can shave their beard and cover it successfully, there are others who can't. If you have relatively light skin and a heavy dark beard, shaving and covering may not work. With a light beard it works quite well for many hours. In any case it has the advantage of having a minimum impact on your masculine role.

To many men, shaving is a fast process performed in the morning before work. It results in a nice masculine appearance in the morning and an acceptable five o'clock shadow later in the day. When shaving to go out en femme, the process is more involved. The trick is a very very close shave with no nicks. While many shavers and blades are available, the two which in our experience merit the most attention are the Gillette Trac II for blade shaving and the Norelco three head electric shaver with twelve blades per head. They are complementary to each other.

Although there are many methods of shaving, a super close shave requires that the beard be super saturated.

One way to achieve this is to shampoo the beard along with one's hair and shower in two stages: first time in shampoo, then shave, then back into the shower to finish. In any case with a very wet beard apply any good shave cream. With a new Trac II blade first shave in the normal manner. Now feel your face. If you can feel your beard, it is still there. Note which direction it feels roughest and shave slowly and carefully in that direction. Finish by showering or otherwise rinsing. At this point dry your face and apply a good loose powder such as Johnson's baby powder. Now go over your face again with the electric shaver. As in the shaver ads, additional hair will be removed. Now your beard may be covered. By common consent of many in the culture, Recover brand cover up cream is highly preferred. It can only be removed with cold cream, indeed one can go swimming with it on. It is sold by many chain drug stores or it can be purchased by mail order from April Adams (see ad elsewhere in this Journal.) Recover for the face is sold in three shades: light, medium and dark. After applying the Recover coat, one may proceed with make up.

Generally it is best to use an electric shaver for ordinary daily shaving as it is easier on the face than daily use of a blade. Also it helps not to shave a day or two before an "en femme" shave to minimize any razor burn.

#### Chemical Depilatories.

Chemical depilatories such as Nair or Neet allow for hair removal at a deeper level than shaving. They are particularly effective for removal of leg hair, underarms or hair on the chest. Unfortunately, the facial hair of most men is so thick that chemicals will not work without causing skin reactions. As indicated in the directions for depilatories, one should first apply the cream or foam to a small portion of the skin and determine that there will be no allergic reaction. Although the directions state that one should wait for ten minutes or so after application, male hair may take up to half an hour.



## Plucking and Waxing.

Whereas shaving removes hair just below the skin, chemicals remove it slightly deeper, pulling a hair out removes it an eighth to three sixteenths of an inch below the skin. As such it will take much longer to regrow. In the case of leg hair it might take several weeks, in the case of eyebrows it can take a similar length of time. Facial hair in particular removed in this manner will usually not show again for at least a week and with light shaving can be rendered almost invisible for at least another week. The effect is a baby smooth face which requires only a minimum of makeup. The week or so after one has waxed, it is possible to present a very believable woman's face totally without the appearance of a "woman with too much makeup" frequently associated with the shaving-cover up method.

Wax designed for hair removal is like candle wax only with a high steric acid content making it very hard at body temperature. It can be purchased at any drug store for about \$3.50 a block. Two blocks are recommended and will last for up to a year. Alternatively one can have their face waxed at a beauty salon although it can run into some real money if done frequently. As with any method of hair removal a small area should be done first to be sure that there will be no adverse reactions. In addition it must be pointed out that waxing is very uncomfortable when the wax is removed from the face along with the hair. One can deal with the discomfort, but it is not a picnic.

For waxing to be effective one must have enough hair for the wax to grip. One eighth inch or two to three days growth usually is satisfactory. Trial and error will show in an individual case. This may or may not be a problem in one's male role. The alternative to waxing is plucking with tweezers. Less hair showing usually is required than for waxing and the discomfort is much much less. It takes longer and one must decide the relative advantages and disadvantages of the two methods. Many beauty parlors offer waxing and one might want to check paying someone else to do it.

ctnd from p 16

A most frequently asked question is, "how long will it take?" First off, everyone has their own beard type and skin type. Then too the beard is different on the lip, chin and sides. An important factor is that the energy used is felt as heat. While not exactly painful, it is irritating. Some people can tolerate it well and others cannot. Using less energy (and less "pain" ) means that it will take longer. Usually the electrologist can give an estimate after working on a person for a few hours. Rough ballpark: 50-200 hours.

Many methods can be used to deal with the discomfort. Some people have a drink or two beforehand, others take aspirin, Empirin, or Empirin with codeine. The latter requires a prescription, however, if one is taking hormones, the same physician will usually prescribe a few emperin 3's or 4's for the electrolysis. In an extreme case, one can receive a shot of lidocaine from a doctor or dentist in the local area, but this has the disadvantage of possibly taking too high a current with some skin problems resulting. Best method by far is to learn meditation or yoga or any other technique which permits deep relaxation and detachment.

Persons having electrolysis should not regularly wax or tweeze their beard. Tweezing and waxing eventually cause the follicle to become distorted and the probability of regrowth is much higher.

(This article is the first of two parts. In the next issue Denise will discuss hair removal on other parts of the body, some comments on hormones and electrolysis, and more on causes of regrowth. Also information on the Depilatron, the space age answer to hair removal.)

ERA - 3 to 90

Ctnd from P 29

Most anyone can come across in the gender associated with their natural sex. Indeed that is all most people desire to do. These people are called straight or normal. Those who desire to come across in the opposite gender may be successful and are said to pass. Those who aren't are said to have been read. All such people who desire to express an opposite gender role are said to be in the culture. The word paraculture is becoming accepted, but not universally.

Males and females who primarily live in their natural gender, but enjoy being in the opposite gender at times are usually just called transvestites. This literally means to "dress across", and hence the term cross dresser is commonly used. Many people don't like the term transvestite or TV because of adverse social usage and hence the terms male-woman or female-man are used in their place. Two other terms are femmiphile (love of feminine) or hommephile (love of masculine).

**ELECTROLYSIS**

**HAIR REMOVAL**

*Permanently  
By Short-Wave Method*

*For  
Men & Women  
—TV's & TS's—*

Ms. D. Cook-R.E.  
KREE GRADUATE  
(202) 638-4439  
Thomas Circle, NW

766

