



# t.g.i.c. news

PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER MONTH BY:

TRANSGENDERISTS INDEPENDANCE CLUBS

P.O. BOX 13604  
ALBANY, N.Y. 12212  
Phone: (518) 436-4513

SEVING THE  
TRANSGENDERED  
COMMUNITY OF  
NEW YORK STATE

\$20.00 / YEAR.

SEPT/OCT 1990

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Tiffane [REDACTED] President Pro Tem

Hi Ladies,

At last things got quiet, for me, my life was settling down almost...Dawn to the rescue. I am now acting president, as Dawn needs time to rest and focus on her career. Let's wish her well and thank her for what she has done for the club. She will be staying active and will be my mentor.

Ok, now whats going on here, and I don't want to hear any excuses, it's summertime. You can still bring your male self to the clubroom, I'm starting to think we are just a TS club! At a recent rap group, there were just two CD's and six TS's. Come on & join us on Thursday nights for some light discussion. Our socials have been well attended with a steady 20 to 30 folks from all over the northeast. Particularly exciting has been the number of visitors from up north from as far as Ottawa, and from New Jersey areas. Things are doing well with our outreach efforts too, with about 10 calls per day and 4-5 info packs sent out a week to inquiries. Also we will be meeting on an upcoming Thursday night with a reporter doing a feature on groups like us for the Kingston Freeman. Also, Jennifer will be conducting a seminar on October 11 for the National Association of Social Workers at the Ramada Renaissance in Saratoga on Explorations in Transgenderism, some of our people will be joining her for a panel discussion following the presentation.

Congratulations to Rachael and Lisa for their name changes becoming official, and to Vickie and Helen on obtaining surgery.

If anyone would like to see us do another weekend we need to hear from you!

## AN OPEN LETTER TO RUSS - Or Anyone Planning On Telling A SO

- Jennifer [REDACTED]

Relationships with wives or SO's are one of the most recurring problems with members for anyone in the gender community. Before you even try to think about telling her you should know enough about the subject to be able to discuss it intelligently, at the end of this article are a number of items of recommended reading for anyone in this situation. Next you may want to approach a marriage counselor in your area and discuss how or whether to tell her at all. Its not an easy thing to do, you may want to tell her that you have a problem, that needs her understanding, but you aren't able to discuss it with her until you feel more comfortable about yourself. Try to get her to go to counseling with you if you do tell her - this is imperative if your marriage is to work.

The sad truth is that about 80-90% of all marriages where the spouse doesn't know about the crossdressing before marriage end in failure, even where the wife knows before hand about 60-70% end in failure. The cards are against you.

When to tell or even if to tell her is something that each of us has to evaluate for him/her self. In a woman, CD'ing brings into action many emotions feel he needs something more?, "don't I fill his needs?", - feelings of self doubt from lack of self confidence - Other questions about whether you are gay, or TS also enter the picture. These ceratinly will be some of the concerns if you decide to tell a SO prior to marriage as well as when you tell her after marriage. If you haven't told her prior to marriage and you decide to

tell her now, you run additional risks, there will be fear of "what will the neighbors think", and most of all, a feeling of distrust... "How could you have kept this from me so long?" This last is a double edged sword... if you don't tell and she suspects, she may distrust you for not telling her. If you do tell her, she may not feel she can trust you because you didn't tell her before this.

Two things you have to do if you decide to tell is 1) Make sure she knows how hard it is for you to admit this to yourself let alone to ANYONE else including her... that you weren't intentionally being dishonest, just that you were afraid to lose her love, and 2) Give her time to understand and accept.. a lot of times wives go through an initial acceptance stage where you may think they are being accepting of you... you let down your guards breathe a sigh of relief and go overboard in your new found acceptance... then she drops the hammer... you wonder what happened... in reality she has just been trying to cope, learning just what this means to you, and trying to deal with it herself... you may even find that she has seen a lawyer n this period, and no doubt that lawyer has assured her that she can get everything she wants and get out of this situation - not the truth usually. At anyrate, by her knowing about this, and willingly or not shares in the responsibility to handle it responsibly. Things will change in your relationship, and it will take both patience, and understanding on both of your parts to work it out.

I suggest you read the following:

1) MY HUSBAND WEARS MY CLOTHES, by Dr. Peggy Rudd, its one of the best available. - From IFGE, PO Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778.

2) THE TV PRIMER, Oh Jennifer, PO Box 1417, Troy, NY 12181. \$10.00

3) THE TRANVESTITE AND HIS WIFE, - Virginia Prince - IFGE, (see above)

4) TRANVESTITES AND TRANSEXUALS - TOWARDS A THEORY OF CROSSGENDERED BEHAVIOR - Dr. Doctor from IFGE.

#### EDITORIAL COMMENT

- Jennifer [redacted] Editor

The TGIC NEWS is an outreach tool of Transgenderist's Independence Clubs of Albany, NY, an open social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, spouses, significant others, and those interested in the subject of gender dysphoria. Any article or material contained within the pages of this newsletter may be reproduced by any media as long as it is presented in total and proper credit is given as to source and author. Reprints for assistance in outreach or professional use are available and are encouraged.

Our community is representative of a very diverse group of people, and as such it covers a broad spectrum of articles and topics. It would be unfair therefore to assume the just because a certain topic is presented in this forum that it is of interest to all people in our community. Articles are selected for inclusion herein due to their timeliness, or general informative or interest nature to some aspect of the gender community. The articles herein do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Board of Directors of TGIC. The Board of Directors of TGIC urges anyone interacting with the gender community to use discretion and tolerance in forming opinions of any and all persons as individuals; rather than subscribing to ill-informed and preconceived stereotypical views of any person assumed to be a member of a particular set.

#### TGIC RATE STRUCTURES:

Full Membership	\$35.00
Couples Membership	40.00
Newsletter Only	20.00
Party Fees:	
2nd Saturday	5.00
4th Friday	3.00
Newsletter Ads:	
Business Card 1 Year	35.00
1/4 Page per insertion	20.00
1/4 Page per year	100.00
1/2 Page per insertion	35.00
1/2 Page per year	170.00
(No Full Page Ads Accepted)	
Classified - Members	FREE
Classified - others	10.00
(per insertion)	

#### LETTERS:

To the sisters of TGIC,

I wish to thank you for the warm welcome I received the night of July 19th. I also than Jennifer and Melissa for taking me to and from the club loft.

I'm not certain if any of the sisters present felt my need and appreciation for being there. I find it difficult to come up with the adjectives to describe my happiness for finding such a group. I look forward to seeing you all in September. Hopefully I'll be able to balance college with the club's various events. Due to either time or money reasons, I find disappointment in knowing that I may not be able to attend some of the club's events.

I felt a good deal of comfort at the club... I also felt a great deal of sadness upon hearing the stories regarding some of the members not being allowed to see their children. I felt like crying (which I eventually did) when I heard that Jennifer or Tiffane couldn't be with their children for one reason or another. Life can be so cruel. I wish I could make people's pain go away.

With Love - n - Hugs Jennifer H.

#### TGIC Officers & Board:

President (pro-tem)	Tiffane V.
Vice President:	Winnie B.
Secretary:	(Vacant)
Treasurer:	Tammy C.
Director of TS Affairs:	Rachael C.
Director of Outreach:	Jennifer W.
Directors at Large:	Sue M. Danielle W.

\* \* \* \*

#### Standing Committees:

Newsletter:	Jennifer W.
IFGE Representative:	Winnie B.
Programs:	Pam M.
Rap Groups:	Katherine H.
Big Sisters:	Melissa K.

#### FROM THE MOUTHS OF BABES

( We are deeply indebted to Renaissance South Jersey Chapter for the following articles)

#### REFLECTIONS

"It's as I always say, Your Majesty, children got to be free to live their own lives."

"You always say that, Sebastian? Well, I guess there's only one problem left."

"And what's that, Your Majesty?"

"How much I'm going to miss her."(1)

I wonder how many of us never achieve this freedom - a freedom that comes from the acceptance of ourselves and others. It is a freedom to live our own lives unencumbered by our own guilt and fears. It is a freedom that can not only bless ourselves but all the people we touch and who touch us.

Wendy Parker recently challenged those attending the IFGE convention to develop an agenda for the nineties for the gender community. In concluding her address, she related a short story by Robert Fulghum in his best seller, "ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW, I LEARNED IN KINDERGARDEN". It is a tale of confidence, of identity and acceptance, acceptance of diversity:

#### MERMAIDS

Giants, wizards, and dwarfs was the game to play.

Being left in charge of about eighty children seven to ten years old, while their parents were off doing parenty things, I mustered my troops in the church social hall and explained the game. It's a large-scale version of Rock, Paper, Scissors, and involves some intellectual decision making. But the real purpose of the game is to make a lot of noise and run around chasing people until nobody knows which side you are on or who won.

Organizing a roomful of wired-up grade-schoolers into two teams, explaining the rudiments of the game, achieving consensus on group identity all this is no mean accomplishment, but we did it with a right good will and were ready to go.

The excitement of the chase had reached a critical mass, I yelled out: "You have to decide now which you are - a GIANT, a WIZARD, or a DWARF!"

While the groups huddled in frenzied, whispered consultation, a tug came at my pants leg. A small child stands there looking up, and asks in a small concerned voice, "Where do the Mermaids stand?"

A long pause. A very long pause. "Where do the Mermaids stand?", says I.

"Yes. You see, I am a Mermaid", she said.

I said, "There are no such things as Mermaids."

"Oh, yes, I am one!"

You see, she did not relate to being a Giant, a Wizard, or a Dwarf. She knew her category. Mermaid. And was not about to leave the game and go over and stand against the wall where a loser would stand. She intended to participate, wherever Mermaids fit into the scheme of things. **Without giving up dignity or identity.** (Italics mine - JW) She took it for granted that there was a place for Mermaids and that I would know just where.

Well, where DO the Mermaids stand? All the Mermaids all those who are different, who do not fit the norm and who do not accept the available boxes and pigeonholes in society.

Answer the question and you can build a world.

What was my answer at the moment? Every once in a while I say the right thing.

"The Mermaid stands right here by the King of the Seal", says I.

So we stood there hand in hand, reviewing the troops of Wizards and Giants and Dwarfs as they rolled by in wild disarray.

It is not true, by the way that mermaids do not exist. I know at least one personally. I have held her hand.

\* \* \* \*

1) From **The Little Mermaid** (c) Walt Disney Productions

#### FOOTSTEPS

A friend was recently confronted by her father. He asserted that he could no longer deal with her gender dysphoria, wanted nothing more to do with his (adult) child, and was leaving the state to avoid the humiliation of any of his friends or anyone in his hometown finding out through the grapevine. The following was a response to her deep hurt --

"I wish something I could say would help take away some of the hurt of your Dad's rejection. Seems that I just could not hold back the tears when I read your message.

"It is so sad that he wishes only to bury his life. But, when we really accept ourselves, we also accept all the emotional responses about ourselves of those closest to us. Heaven knows that I am not there - there to that level of acceptance - but I know that it is changing.

"It is sad that he chooses not to partake in the joy of watching a child (you) grow, discovering itself and its own confidence. It is a wonderful miracle indeed. I am in awe almost daily as I watch my seven year old daughter grow, and laugh, and live. But then, you are a parent times two and know this feeling at least twice as well as I.

"It is sad that he chooses to isolate himself from his friends and community. The special others in our lives need support from their support groups, too. Ever the optimist, I feel that he would find both sympathy and listeners - not social ostracism - amongst those with whom he has already shared common experiences.

"It is sad that your Dad has to transfer his anger with himself onto you. He wants to make you guilty for his "grief that he isn't going to take from his kids". You are not responsible for his life nor for his problems in "coping".


"Someday, he may realize that his life is the less for having excluded the beautiful person that you are. To family we give our Love unconditionally. It hurts, it rends, it tears when it is not returned.

"Perhaps our parents are like our children. There comes a time when we can no longer be responsible for them nor live our lives for them. We love them. We bless them. We help them when we can. We provide that safe haven of emotional support when they need it. But we must let them go out into the world to find a life for themselves. And the cycle continues, and on, and on, and on.."

**This life has been a test. If this had been an actual life, you would have been given further instructions on where to go and what to do.**

\*\*\*\*\*

BARBARA MASTROIANNI L.P.N.  
GINNY SMITH, C.P.E.



**Hair Goes**

1789 WESTERN AVE.  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 869-4615

KREE CERTIFIED ELECTROLOGISTS  
BODY WAXING

KATHY/KLATCH - Kathy [REDACTED]

This is the first installment of what I hope to be a regular feature of this fine newsletter. Planned for this column are announcements, advice, information, fantasies, threats, and lectures; and, if I'm lucky, HUMOR. Your participation will be welcomed.

To begin, I wish to suggest in the strongest possible terms that you make every effort to attend all or part of the Fantasia Fair being held October 12 thru 21 in Provincetown, MA.\* Since this year's event is the 16th annual, it is the Grand mommy of them all. It is a TV's Nirvana, the Bali Hai of cross-dressing. More goings-on than you can shake a lipstick at! Nine solid days of wonderful womanhood. Heaven on Earth. Such fun and happiness you've never dreamed of. You shouldn't miss it, so contact TGIC or IFGE\*\* and go.

At the recent "BE ALL" Convention in Pittsburgh, the guest speaker at the Saturday evening banquet was a military psychiatrist. He gave a very impressive talk on how the psychiatric profession views transvestism. He demonstrated how the American Psychiatric Association (APA) - as shown in their Diagnostic and Statistical Manual IIIR (DSM-IIIR) - sees transvestism as a mental disorder. The doctor stressed the importance of our community educating the APA, helping professionals, and the public in general.

It is toward that end that TGIC has set aside three (3) consecutive nights, September 27, 28, & 29... Thursday, Friday nights at the clubroom on Central Avenue from 6:00 to 10:00, plus, Saturday night at Mather Eve's (formerly the 145 Club) in Schenectady from 7:30 to 12:00. Please, Oh Please, come and fill out one of the good doctor's anonymous questionnaires. Food, prizes, 50/50 drawings, and mutual fun, coupled with the exhilarating feeling of telling the APA what they should know about us. So do set aside one or all of the nights to

come - dressed preferably, but not necessary - and put your mind to helping the community as a whole.

Now, On to some letters:

Dear Kathy,

I'm afraid I have a serious problem. It only started recently, but I can't control it. I find myself in shopping centers buying racks of women's clothing. While I have no desire to wear them myself, and money is no object, I just cannot stop. What's a fellow to do?

- Macy's Bound

My Dear, Dear Bound,

You are suffering from an extremely rare disease called "MALE TO MALL SYNDROME". A man's buying of women's clothing is quite common, but the lack of desire to wear them is most odd. However, we wouldn't want to change that part, as I have enough desire for the two of us. Doctors say that once you have this disease you shouldn't fight it, but I am recommending that we begin therapy this very afternoon. It is important for me to learn to control this situation as soon as possible. And the money being no object is the most interesting part. So, Call me already!

- Kathy

Yo, Ms Klatch,

My girlfriend just informed me that she doesn't want me around anymore. She doesn't want to stay at home cooking and cleaning like she should. And, can you believe this, she wants to become a man. Would you tell her how wrong she is?

- Elliott

YO-YO Elliott,

It is difficult to understand why she wouldn't want you around anymore, at least until she knocked the 'ell out of Elliott. I could certainly suggest something for her to cook for you, but you already are what you eat. And, she should clean ... the floor ... with you. The only thing wrong with her wanting to become a man would be if that man were like you. So I'll say it, though she

may already have ... T.S. Elliott!

- Kathy

In closing this initial episode, I wish to thank you for your time and should you have anything to add, or need advice on gender related matters, just drop a line to KATHY/KLATCH, c/o TGIC, PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212.

Uh oh, my Klatch is slipping.

\* Kathy Asked me to refrain from making editorial notes so as not to "upset the rythem" (temperamental writers - sheesh) However, you will find an advertisement for Fantasia Fair elsewhere in this newsletter.

\*\* (Sorry Kathy) IFGE has no connection with Fantasia Fair, for information write: Fantasia Fair Ltd, Lincolnia Station, PO Box 11254, Alexandria, VA 22312. Or, call EVE GOODWIN any Tuesday Evening 8-11 at 703-751-6271.

### TRANSESTITES AND TRANSEXUALS: Toward a Theory of Cross-Gender Behavior

by Dr. Richard F. Docter

A "MUST" for anyone who owns a personal library on crossdressing. Richard's approach is fresh; and represents 10 years of original research. Dr. Richard Docter has become a true friend of our community, and has produced one of the finest scholarly works on the subject of transvestism and transsexualism ever written. Every community member should read this book.

Cost: \$29.50 plus \$2.50 postage and handling.  
Make checks or money orders payable to "IFGE",  
P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778

### FIRST TIME SHOPPING - Melissa K.

For years now I have enviously walked past many a store and wished I could just walk in, purchase the outfit I wanted, and then walk out without any hassle. It wasn't until just recently that that dream was realized.

Until just last week all of my shopping for female clothing was strictly limited to mail order from such places and Avon Fashions, Victoria's Secret, et. al. I was nervous enough just filling out the mail order form to Sears, worried what the people there would think when they saw a man's name on the form. But I sent the form in anyway. And since then, regardless of the gender of the name, I have received countless catalogs and extra order forms from everybody and their bothers. And that was before I chose a female to use instead. Since then, mail order has become a regular and common place thing for me.

After much coaxing by Jennifer and some of the other members of our support group, I finally decided that it was time for a "change of scenery". Cross-gates Mall has some great places that sell nice clothes, so I decided to go for it! TARGET: CONTEMPO CASUALS. SHOP REPEAT SHOP! As many of you already know, Contempo's is listed in our TGIC Shopping Guide.

I decided to give them a jingle the night before to find out if it would be okay and to find out opening time. I spoke to the manager, Kim, and explained my desire. She was very reassuring and said there are several "regulars" that shop there and said it would be fine to come in. Early morning is the best time.


So, bright and early the next morning I was off for my first shopping trip. I did not go dressed, however. Just as my male self. I arrived at the mall about a half-hour early to case things out a little. There were not too many people in the place and they were dispersed fairly well. The doors to Contempo opened promptly at 10a.m. and in I went, trying to put all my nervousness aside. I proceeded to the counter,

which is near the back, and told the girl there about my phone call. I didn't catch the her name, but she told me to go right ahead and help myself.

After perusing several of the sale racks in the back and the belt racks, I selected a great black spandex mini-skirt with a wide leather belt that was on sale. Since I was currently in the process of moving, and still had to buy a couple more chunks of furniture, I kept my "spree" to that one item. Both girls on duty at that time were very nice and had no objection to what I was doing. Getting that kind of cooperation from the staff is very reassuring and morale building. I will definitely shop there again.

The next leg of my journey was walking through the mall and out to my car carrying a brightly colored bag that said "Contempo Casuals" on it. (They didn't have any regular bags.) I craddled the bag under my arm and casually sauntered out to the car to deposit the new addition to my female wardrobe into the trunk. Afterwards, I returned to the mall and played video games for a while.

Well, it just goes to show you. If you put your mind to it, you can accomplish anything. And the trip into Contempo's was kind of fun!



**DENVER**  
1991

COMING TOGETHER  
WORKING TOGETHER

Presenting IFGE's 8th Annual  
**COMING TOGETHER - WORKING TOGETHER**  
CONVENTION

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

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

\*\*\*\*\* APRIL 8 through APRIL 14, 1991 \*\*\*\*\*

For Information and Registration:  
The International Foundation for Gender Education  
P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778  
1-617-884-8340  
Office: 6 Cushing St, Waltham, MA

Host Organization:  
Gender Identity Center of Colorado  
Box 11862, 3718 Smed Ave.  
Denver, Colorado 80211  
1-303-458-8378

**A VISIT TO THE REAL WORLD:**

- Jennifer [REDACTED]

Remember the old days? Back before you saw the article in the Times Union? Before you learned about TGIC from the ad in Metroland - when you thought you were all alone in the world... the only one who was driven to crossdress? When you thought that noone cared - that you were strange - and you worried that maybe you were gay? Or if you were gay you puzzled over what this need meant? Remember how you tentatively went to the library to research what you could find on what we now call gender dysphoria - transvestism and transsexualism? If you went to the Albany Public Library what did you find - not much probably!

On a recent visit to the main branch of the APL to research another matter, I happened to check the card catalog subject file for listings on Transvestism and Transsexualism, and was appalled at what I found. A sum total of three titles faced me. Renee Richard's "Second Serve" - a well written however controversial account of one persons highly publicised experiences (often not highly regarded as a good example for someone asking "who am I") was the only transsexual listing. Things weren't much better under transvestism. There we find "Mother Camp - Female Impersonators in America" (perhaps better described as "the complete guide to staging a drag show, ala Club 82 style") filed among the books on homosexuality under the section on family issues (301.415 for you budding librarians out there). Again not much help. The other selection was "Tradition of Female Transvestites in Early Modern Europe" - huh?! Not only will some authorities argue whether there is such a thing as a female to male TV, this book other than providing an interesting historical asside will be of little interest to the researcher looking for her general roots, unless she happens to be FTM and lives in the period of roughly 1700 to 1900.

So, where does this leave us? Well, one of TGIC's functions is to help

our sister's by informing them and the public at large on gender fact and issues. What better way to do this than to make available to APL new and up to date information and accurate books on this subject? I propose starting the Library Improvement Funding Endowment (LIFE) to purchase books on gender matters for APL, and possibly other area libraries. If you feel this is a good idea, please send your contributions to LIFE, c/o TGIC, PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212. Thank you from all those who are still trying to grope with this issue.

**RESEARCH NOTES:**

I've been asked to post the following for you to see. If anyone can be of help with this study, please contact Dr. Roger Peo.

Dr. Roger Peo, an authority on transgender behavior, has asked that the following be posted in behalf of one of his colleagues:

Lin Fraser, therapist and researcher, is doing her doctoral dissertation on the effects of culture on the development of cross-gender identity.

She is looking for information about cross-gender behavior in cultures other than English-speaking or northern European. The heterosexual cross-dressing behavior she is interstred in is that in which there are two distinct selves or gender identities.

If you have information of any kind, please send it to Dr. Roger Peo at P.O. Box 4887, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12602

For The Fashionable Large Size Woman

*Florida - Lauren*

Sudbury Inn Market Place  
410 Boston Post Road  
Sudbury, MA 01776  
(508) 443-4247

Bayberry Square  
637 Loudon Road  
Latham, NY 12110  
(518) 786-1661

**CALL FOR BOYCOTT!**

Recently, you may have seen on the public bulletin boards in the capital area a number of flyers from ACT-UP sporting the distinctive black circle and pink triangle with the words "Silence = Death" urging the boycott of among others Miller Breweries, and Philip Morris tobacco products. What gives? Has the war on aids turned to economic warfare? Almost. As you may know Act-up, is an activist/fund raising group of supporters of persons with Aids, dedicated to raising the public awareness of problems related to the treatment of aids. One of the most persistant problems has been a certain National Senator by the name of Jesse Helms. In recent months Senator Helms has sponsored or co-sponsored a string of homophobic legislation designed to revoke any and all civil rights for those groups which he labels as "undesireable". Yes, you guessed it, included among these undesirable groups are Transvestites, transsexuals, and homosexuals. One of his most recent and well known attempts at this sort of restriction was the famous "Sexual Deviancy Exclusion Ammdendment" to the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1989.

ACT-UP has targeted for economic boycott a number of companies which in the past or currently have made hefty donations to the campaign coffers or in other ways support the Senator Helms. The list of supporters targeted for boycott is as follows: Philip Morris (tobacco), Kraft Foods, Miller Breweries (beer), Oscar Meyer (Food products), Amoco (petroleum products), Shell Oil, Food Lion (food chain), AT&T (communication services), RJ Reynolds (tobacco), Nabisco (food products), Burlington Industries (fabrics & clothing), American Airlines, Kimberly Clark (paper products), Brown & Williamson (tobacco) and the Florida Sugar League.

While reviewing participation and endorsement of this boycott with gender community leaders, Sister Mary Elizabeth

urged caution as she noted that American Airlines in particular has been supportive of transsexual rights to employment as evidenced by their hiring practices. Instead of a full boycott, it waas recommended you write letters to these companies urging them to review their policies and withdraw funding for the good Senator. Letters are always a good idea to explain why you are acting against a company or its products so writel With this notable exception, the Board of TGIC fully endorses this boycott. Will you join in too? Remember, its all of our futures.

**TRANSSEXUAL HELPS RESTORE \$9,000,000!**

- Barbara [REDACTED] and Jennifer [REDACTED]

Earlier this year, Mental Health workers from the mid Hudson Valley rallied in Albany in an effort to lobby to restore much needed funding to the state mental health budget. In an effort to control a runaway budget, Govenor Cuomo and his team of experts decided that nine million dollars could be cut from this already under financed program, with no supplementary budget to follow. This money, normally matched dollar for dollar from each county's taxes, would have meant a loss to mental health professionals of over \$18,000,000 in total, resulting in drastic cuts in community health services, (those services such as crisis intervention services among others which are in some areas are working to help the gender community) rather than the institutions themselves.

Over the last fifteen years a program of mental health patient out-placement (de-institutionalization) has shown a better chance for recovery for patients returned to the community, and supported by community services. Consequently the number of available beds in institutions has dropped from 85,000 to 15,000 yet the amount spent on building maintenance, painting, gardening, administration and heating closed buildings, among other fixed costs (over 50% of the budget) have not kept pace with this change. This has placed the combined burdens of increased

patient loads and lower budgets on community services.

On June 21, Dr. Townsend, Director of Ulster County Mental Health, Joanne Martinek, Unit leader, a Public Social Worker, and our own Barbara [redacted] journeyed from Ulster County to Albany to confront the government. In separate meetings they met with Senator Cook of the Mental Health Committee, and Aide to Assemblyman E. Connelly of the Mental Health Committee, and Aide to Assemblyman S. Weprin of the Ways and Means Committee, Mike Dowling Secretary to Governor for Human Services, an Aide to and Senator Lombardi and Senator Cook again of the Finance Committee, and an Aide to the Senator Spano of the Mental Health Committee. In conclusion a press conference was held with TV 6 and the Daily Freeman (Kingston) newspaper.

Trouble was briefly encountered when an aide to Senator Spano, (looking bored) began speaking down to our lobbyists. Barbara, somewhat suddenly reminded her that "no royalty exists in the United States, and that she was in fact our employee" After that things ran smoother.

On June 26th, Barbara received a letter from Senator Cook and Assemblyman Hinchley, thanking and endorsing our case to Governor Cuomo. By the end of the month, the nine million dollars had been added to an unexpected supplemental budget revision. On July 2nd, Barbara received a letter from Dr. Townsend, and Joanne Martinek thanking her for speaking so openly of depression caused by gender identity issues, its effects on friends, families and employers. This budget revision was later passed with the \$9,000,000 intact.

This is an example of what one person can accomplish when she stands for herself and in conjunction with others, using teamwork, honesty and hard work. Nothing is accomplished by standing on street corners and yelling or crying into your beer. Barbara, justifiably takes great pride in what she has done. She has confronted and conquered many fears and apprehensions and feels she is a stronger person because she stood up for her principles.

Following is a list of people to contact if you wish to stand up and make yourself heard on gender issues. It takes effort from us all to make our future brighter and our community stronger. With folks like Senator Helms out there, we need more of this sort of effort.

The Honorable Mario Cuomo, Governor  
Executive Chambers  
State Capitol  
Albany, NY 12224

Senate Mental Health Committee:  
Mr. Nicholas Spano Chairperson  
Room 817  
State Legislative Office Bldg.  
Albany, NY 12487

Senator's: Padavan, Donovan, Vloker,  
LaValle, E. Levy, Seward, Ssmith, Nolan,  
Montgomery, and Paterson

Assembly Mental Health Committee:  
Ms. Elizabeth Connelly Chairperson  
Room 826  
State Legislative Office Bldg.  
Albany, NY 12487

Members of the Assembly: Harenberg,  
Green, Boyland, Murtaugh, Diaz, Colman,  
Daniels, Eannance, Wertz, and Cooke.

THE TIMES UNION Albany, N.Y., Wednesday, July 18, 1990

### Albany man charged with prostitution

ALBANY — A 27-year-old city resident — who police said they were not quite sure was a he or a she — was jailed Tuesday after being charged with prostitution and possession of illicit drugs and a weapon.

Eventually, police said they determined the suspect, Tracee Uzzell, 27, was a male with a full bust who wore women's clothing, and he was placed in the male tier of the Albany County Jail after his arraignment before City Court Judge Madonna Stahl.

Uzzell of 104 Morton Ave. was arrested by special investigation unit detectives Monday night outside the Waterworks, a nightclub at 76 Central Ave., where he allegedly agreed to engage in sex with a male undercover detective in exchange for \$20.

Uzzell, also known as Jonathan, was also charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest after he allegedly struggled with police officers as they attempted to load him into a police wagon. The suspect was ordered held at the jail for lack of \$5,000 bail and is scheduled to return to court next week.

MOMMA



STELLA WALSH, WINNER OF A GOLD MEDAL FOR RUNNING IN THE 1932 OLYMPICS, AND THE FIRST WOMAN TO RUN 100 YARDS IN UNDER 11 SECONDS WAS DISCOVERED TO BE A MAN IN 1980.



COSMO Feb 1990

IRMA KURTZ



After fourteen

years of marriage, I've made a shocking

discovery about my husband. In a box in his dresser, I found a hoard of women's underwear, stockings, high-heeled shoes, a wig, and lots of make-up—all his. I tried to confront him about it, but he won't discuss the matter or get rid of these things! He denies that he's a homosexual. We have a good sex life and two healthy children. I love him as much as ever, but now I'm sickened and confused. What's wrong with him?

NEXT PAGE... TRAPPED !!!

## ACLU SUPPORTS NAME CHANGE FOR TRANSSEXUAL

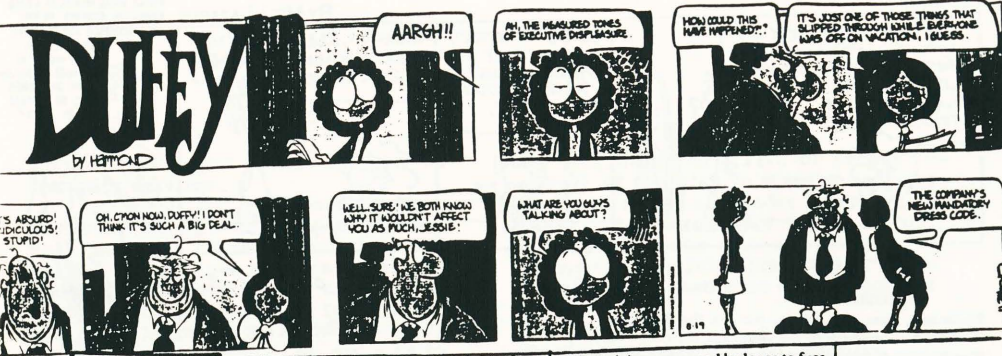
The ACLU-NJ is appealing the refusal of Superior Court Judge Birger Sween to permit a male-to-female name change for John William Eck, who in all other respects has assumed the identity of a woman. Eck is a pre-operative transsexual, having an established medical condition known as gender dysphoria.

According to ACLU volunteer attorney Margaret Kean of Mahwah, who is representing Eck in the appeal, the surgery that will complete the transformation of a man into a woman cannot be performed until the person has lived as a woman for some time, as Eck is now doing. In addition, it costs approximately \$15,000, an amount that Eck does not now have available but is trying to accumulate. To fully live as a woman, Eck needs

the legal name change to change things such as his driver's license and school records.

Applications for formal name changes are normally granted unless the judge sees a specific reason to refuse, usually an attempt at fraud (such as evasion of a financial obligation or criminal charges). Otherwise, people have a right to call themselves anything they please. Judge Sween, however, without support in the records, declared that "it is inherently fraudulent for a person who is physically a male to assume an obviously 'female' name for the sole purpose of representing himself to future employers and society as a female." Eck has no intention of deceiving anyone about his situation, but does want to live with only one name, a "female" one...

TIP OF THE HAT TO: SHELLEY, RAHAEL, KATHERINE, & MELISSA FOR THEIR SUBMISSIONS



# TRAPPED!!!

BACK IN THE BAD OLD DAYS, when what passed for Sexology was driven by crazed-repressed-head-shrinkers who operated as a clique out of New York, one common notion was that any homosexual man was simply a woman trapped in a man's body. The Drs. DeRangos liked the "explanation," though few seemed to work out the contradictions, as few ever bother to do, between this TRAPPED! Theory and its predecessor which "explained" homosexuals as "The Third Sex." The Third Sex Theory proved unsubstantial (after all, who needs more exes?). Being TRAPPED! had something of the material world to it, something somatic, implying a chrysalis condition promised help thru Modern Surgery. TRAPPED! gave birth, so to speak, to that true heir of Nazi Science, the transsexual industry, with Dr. John Money not to be confused with the ex-Mrs. Salman Rushdie's John Dollar) leading the 76 trombones. How many cocks were sliced off in this scalping frenzy—or, for that matter, how many faux cocks stitched in—has not been announced, but transsexual surgery gained enuf cache so that at the memorable 1971 Peoples' Revolutionary Constitutional Convention ("Clear it with Huey!"), some of the ditzier queans in the gay contingent proposed an article for the New Constitution: "Free Sex Changes On Demand!" Today, not only is transsexual butchery largely discredited, but we live in an age filled with (choking on?) Critical Theory, and what "Free," "Sex," "Change," and even "Demand" mean are open topics to fill files full of abstracts.

Nonetheless, TRAPPED! remains a useful concept, both for the tricky and the unclassifiable. I know of one guy who, on first glance, you'd think to be your average straight man. But no. He has a special angle. He wears loose, hippie-type clothes, long hair and likes to have sex with lesbian-identified women. His line is: he's actually a young lesbian trapped in an adult man's body. It seems wildly cornball, but he says it works like a charm. This ruse was, I think, made popular in California in the late 60s and early 70s when he men boasted that they were really pre-op transies, and they begged to sleep with their lesbian "sisters" before going under That Big Knife. You figure it out. ("Today on Oprah—lesbians trapped inside men's bodies trying to get out...")

Now to the faggots. In my short time on this over-populated planet, and given the oddball social text of the venue I have inhabited to these past decades (no, dear, not L.A.), it is apparent that we have TRAPPED! problems among the sissies. There is the matter of the Politically-Korrekct Lesbian often TRAPPED! in the skinny faggot's body. Do you know this type of quean? He's often a bitter pill. He rarely hangs around with other faggots—Clue #1. He toes the women's line and is their fifth column among the gay boys. He is always hostile to faggot leaders who go on about sexuality. He never does anything with his hair, and his wardrobe is basic Demo Duds. Needless to say, he completely resents humor, and if he weren't queer himself, I suppose he would regard homosexuality as Bourgeois Degeneracy, which, for him, it perhaps is. I have several of these TRAPPED! variety in my circle of acquaintanceship and they are rarely on my dance card.

Then, an even odder sort: the straight, bossy woman TRAPPED! in a faggot's body. He's a different kind of cupcake altogether. First, he prefers to hang out

with straight women and he loves to fuss with his hair. Since there is no exact word yet to describe this person, he is a faggot who wants very much to be a Fag Hag (a genus still doing quite well, thank you, despite the hurricanes). This fellow can rarely work with other gay men except in a Roz Russell kind of way, dominatrix-cum-flirty, making you wonder exactly what his toilet training must have been like and/or what movies are looping thru his head.

Oscar Wilde quipped that most women grow up to be their mothers, that was their misfortune; most men didn't, and that was theirs. In gay life, the women who are so often TRAPPED! in the faggots may indeed be their mothers (and, if they are, my advice? Blow Out Fast and Hard!). Or they may be movie stars or pop political icons (as in the case with one strange faggot who lives in common law with an obscenely overweight female anti-porner). One of these variety of TRAPPED! (I'll let you guess which breed) was going on at me the other day.

It was the same old shit: gay men shouldn't do this and gay men shouldn't do that because it might offend The Women and/or it is oppressive to The Women and blah blah blah blah. (Another Free Warning: Beware anyone who yaks in lingo like The Gays, The Women, The Blacks, The Jews, The Bloated Bovine Criminally Rich Republicans.) I just had to deliver the news to this sorry critter and bulletin the obvious. What gay men do with each other is their biz, subject to no one's censure or commentary. I gave up Listening to the Women's Movement when The Pod People took it over and it became a lair for Therapists, Anti-Porners, and Recovery Addicts. With so many women TRAPPED! inside of so many faggots, perhaps there's a whole new jag for recovery waiting to be tapped, sort of an update on the Knife-Wielders, penectomy

wonders for building better gay identity. Whatever daemon may be TRAPPED! inside you (and by the way, whatever the world happened to that mad-shrink-doc category of "Latent Homosexual" off which so many doctors' wives got fabulous fur coats?) you probably can't reform now. Some of my nearest and dearest who have done electro-shock (not by other means. As to the TRAPPED! problem, I have always recommended a simple course of exhibitionism. Alas, these days exhibitionism is no longer the casual affair it once was, but nonetheless, a little personal adventure in costumes, in make-up, or with a local theatrical company can do

## Discovering What Little Boys Are Made Of

Just where do males come from, anyway? Reports last week in the journal *Nature* offer the most convincing answer yet. Researchers have known since 1959 that the Y chromosome makes an embryo develop testes rather than ovaries. Once that occurs, the sexual die is cast: other male traits, from beards to baldness, stem from hormones made by the testes. Now biologists think they've found the actual gene, on the Y chromosome, that nudges an embryo toward maleness.

People with two X chromosomes are usually female; an X and a Y make a male. But sometimes an XX is male and an XY is female. By studying these exceptions, researchers narrowed the search for the maleness gene to a smidgen of the Y—a piece that was absent from an XY female's Y, but present on an XX male's X. Researchers at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in London used biochemical scissors to chop this smidgen of human DNA into 50 bits; they then mixed those bits with DNA segments from other mammals, male and female. Because a trait as basic as maleness is expected to have deep evolutionary roots and thus can be shared across species, the bit that found a match in every male was the

best candidate for the masculinity gene. In a second study, using only mice, a team at Britain's National Institute for Medical Research discovered a virtually identical maleness gene, in the Y chromosomes of the test rodents.

Is it the maleness gene? If inserting it into an XX mouse turns "her" into "him," it would indeed prove to be the only gene needed for maleness. Understanding how this gene works might yield insights into how a mere fertilized egg becomes a complete newborn—boy or girl.

FULL READAT NEXT ISSUE ↑



Gender joke: Barkin bites back STEVEN SANDS

### Quick Change

Blake Edwards, king of the gender-mandering genre, has done it again. The director who cast Julie Andrews as a woman pretending to be a man in "Victor/Victoria" has now cast Ellen Barkin as a man who awakens to find he's a woman in "Switch." Confusing? Imagine how costar JoBeth Williams feels when she kills her ex-lover only to have him rebound as Barkin.

*wild hair!* BY oh... jennifer !!

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REASONABLE RATES!

It's a wig!

### SUNSPOT

Ken's a real doll, dressed in Barbie's clothes

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Barbie and Ken dolls have changed through the years, but a woman believes she's purchased a one-of-a-kind — a Ken doll dressed in Barbie's clothing.

When Carina Guillot and her 12-year-old daughter, Jocelyn, shopped in a toy store Wednesday night, they were shocked to find a "My First Ken" doll clad in a purple tank top and lace apron over a turquoise and purple skirt.

"My daughter was looking at the Barbies. I was looking at the Kens," said Guillot. "When I looked at this one, I said, 'Oh, my God, now we have a crossed-dressed Ken.'"

Toys R Us store director Greg Warren said Thursday he and other employees examined the cardboard package and concluded its seal was intact. Employees found no duplicates, Warren said.

Mattel Inc. spokeswoman Donna Gibbs said she had "no idea how this woman got the Ken doll she got."

"This either slipped through or something happened on the retail level, but I'd guess it slipped through the inspectors," she said, adding that Mattel would replace the \$8.99 doll.

"We don't want another Ken doll," Guillot said. "This is like a real collector's item."



## 16th ANNUAL FANTASIA FAIR



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D&S CORNER  
-Melissa K.

### Corset Discipline

Corsets have always been a symbol of discipline. Although many people may not think about it, a corset is a very strict discipline device by itself. It molds a body, male or female, into a certain form. Either hour-glass or cone shaped. A man can enjoy a corset just as much as a woman. In fact, many men do wear corsets for posture reasons, to achieve a "trim" look, or purely for pleasure. And for TVs it can also

nibble that large waist down a few inches into a more womanly figure.

Anybody who owns any amount of D&S material has probably stumbled onto corseted bodies more than once. I know I have. And take my word for it, they look lovely! Corsets themselves come in all shapes and sizes. From lightly boned waist cinches to very rigid custom body braces. I have even heard several accounts of people who have had special full-body braces made for them or a certain someone. (And I understand they are very effective!) A plaster mold is made of the person's body, and that is used for the construction of the brace itself. (Talk about designer underwear!)

Corsets are a sensual treat. If you ever saw the movie "Dangerous Liaisons", then you recall the character played by Glenn Close. She appeared on *Latenight with David Letterman* one time and even brought her corset with her. She admitted to wearing it even after the filming of the movie and said that she enjoyed the feeling of its constriction and confinement. She explained how the corset made her aware of her every body movement.

If you are familiar with the "Dressing for Pleasure" (profiled elsewhere in this edition) galas which take place every year, then you are aware that one of their major fashion staples is corsetry. You can't get into their events without wearing a corset or some kind of leather or rubber apparel. I have never had the pleasure of attending one of these get-togethers, but I will certainly publish any experiences relayed to me by others who have.

There are many places that manufacture corsets, and some of these have the cross-dresser and fetishist in mind. CENTURIANS is one, but I, myself, have never really considered their merchandise to be very good. (And they are quite expensive!)

One place I know of, that's even listed in *Tapestry*, is BR CREATIONS. Box 4201, Mountain View, CA. 94040. Their brochure is \$5.00 and for an extra \$2.00 you can get a copy of their corset newsletter which is well worth acquiring.

If you prefer something of a custom made design there is also True Grace Corsets, 40 Whaley Road, Wokingham, Berkshire RG11 1QA, England. \$10.00

cash for the brochure.

There are even surgical corsets / posture devices made my Camp. These usually include shoulder straps and back braces, but have gotten incredibly expensive lately. And some surgical supply houses my not let you purchase anything "interesting" without a prescription.

Until next newsletter,  
Keep Tight!!

### CHOICES COUNSELING ASSOCIATES

PAUL G. POSTIGUONE, CSW.  
(518) 462-5016



ARLENE ISTAR, CSW, CAC  
(518) 393-6403

79 Central Avenue, Albany, New York 12206

INTERVIEW: CHOICES COUNSELING SERVICES  
PART 3 of 3 Jennifer [REDACTED]

Choices counseling is a regular advertiser and supporter of TGIC NEWS. Although this service primarily works with clients from the gay community, they offer the gender community a holistic, supportive, private, confidential and professional alternative for those seeking assistance dealing with their gender conflicts.

Although it should go without saying, Choices is a professional service and as such charges for their time. If you contact them for counseling you will be expected to pay for their time and service. Approaching a professional counselor, with the hope for a free session via phone without compensation for their time or service reflects a negative image of the transgendered community and puts the professional in an awkward position. Unfortunately, Choices is unable to accept Public Assistance reimbursement programs. If you need to talk with someone about your gender issues we recommend you consider attending our Thursday night rap sessions. Or call me for peer counseling and referrals at 432-7092.

Choices offices are in the WOMEN'S BUILDING located at 79 Central Avenue,

Albany, and their phone number is 518-393-6403, please limit your calls to legitimate inquiries about their services, rates or for making appointments.

Our interview was with Arlene Istar, CSW, CAC. In part one, published in the TGIC NEWS for JULY / August, we gave an overview of the general attitude and services available through Choices. Arlene had concluded with a comment that she had run numerous gay programs at various institutes where she had worked, and often the gender people were better off being dumped into the gay programs than sent off to psychiatry.

AI: But obviously the issues are real different and especially when you are working in an agency where everyone is five days sober. I do a lot of drug and alcohol counseling, I know that in the gay community alcoholism is a very big problem. I don't know for a fact that that's very high in the transgender community...

JW: It is,

AI: But I certainly would imagine that it is. And that would certainly be an issue that I would strongly recommend that somebody clean up, before they go ahead and change or make any sort of drastic changes in their lives.

One thing I wanted to say, just backing up, we were talking about family issues, what I have done a lot of work with is families where people are coming out. I have a lot of clients I see who are the wives of gay husbands, and there are very similar issues, (to the transgendered community) in the kind of confusions that come up in the sense of not knowing somebody who you always thought you had known.

JW: How does a wife, for example deal with finding out that her husband is gay or interested in a man for an affair or bisexual?

AI: Usually, with a mixture of anger and depression, a sense of failure, "I've failed as a wife, what's wrong with me, what did I do wrong", and then they get into a whole... you know, they get their hair cut, and they change their image, trying to appeal to the person again.



JW: Oh Really?

AI: "If I were trying to appeal to you how can I bring you back? How can I make this work" And a lot of compromise, you know, "On Monday it's ok if you sleep with someone else, on Tuesday it's not OK", they kind of get a lot of ambivalence.

JW: Does that type of relationship work? Or is there a high rate of failure?

AI: No, statistically about 95% of the people eventually wind up separating. Not necessarily negatively though. Sometimes they separate in very loving ways. I would say in my own practice, about 20% separate immediately and hostily, about another 20% of the people start to separate amicably and wind up getting hostile over kids or over this or over that down the road, there's a good percentage of folks, as a matter of fact, most of the people we've seen make the relationship work... some for a long time, and of those there are very few that ultimately... and we have two couples we have, that I'm thinking of who have been in the process of coming out for years and who have been working on their marriages, and working on their marriages, and working on their marriages, and recently both of them have left their wives, and it was a very painful and difficult decision. Partially because of homophobia, and partially because of the loss of just leaving a family that you've been a part of for 15 or 20 years.

JW: Do you find that lack of self worth, low self esteem, is a factor for the wives in these relationships?

AI: Before they found out or since?

JW: Before, but is it manifest by that?

AI: Yes, significantly, I think that's where the depression comes from.

JW: We have a considerable divorce rate, I wouldn't put it quite that high, but I would guess it's between 80 to 90% for transvestites let alone transsexuals. Drawing from your experience working with gay people and transgendered people, would you have any

words for the wives of people in this type of relationship?

AI: Well I think that the key is in getting education about what the issues are. I don't think that we can say the your issues are the same as somebody elses. The issues and the needs are going to come up, if it's a relationship where the transgendered person wants to remain in the relationship, and wants to make the relationship work, loves the person or is still sexually aroused by the person, those issues are going to be significantly different from a relationship where, and I think this happens, where people want to maintain the shell of the relationship. They really don't want sexual intimacy or just closeness. What they want is just somebody to have dinner on the table...

JW: So that's a viable alternative then?

AI: Well, I would not think that for the spouse that would be a very, um, it wouldn't meet her needs. And that would be the concern working with the spouse and those are the issues I would look at. How much of it is prejudice, confusion their own self esteem issues, "What's going on, I can't believe this is happening to my life", you know, those issues versus "what's the quality of this relationship" If the transgendered person is really interested in maintaining a quality relationship with somebody, then I think that relationship can work. Certainly under different parameters that the average suburban marriage out there, but I think it could work. One of the unfortunate things that I see, with gay clients that are coming out or transgendered people is a real kind of way of using it to dump anger on their spouse. You see it a lot with gay kids that are coming out...

JW: You mean the wife dumping it on the..

AI: The transgender person not really allowing the spouse the chance to process it, to understand what's going on. The best example that I can give you is the sixteen year old kid who is just coming out as a gay person, turns around to their parents in anger one day and says to their parents, "you don't

understand me you don't even care that I'm gay", and slams out the door. The parents are going HUH!? (amazed exclamation) You have no idea that this is going on, don't know where it is coming from and the kid is....

JW: Holding everything in until you explode.

AI: Right, but that's not fair. It's kind of like... if it takes me ten years to accept that I'm a lesbian or it takes you fifteen years to accept that you are a gender person, somehow we want our spouses or families to accept it in about five seconds. You know, we tell them and we want them to accept it and say "Oh, Ok it's fine".

JW: I tell people this all the time, unfortunately we seem to have trouble in our community getting beyond the hurt, the anger the pain, and getting to a point where a positive relationship, although maybe a modified relationship, can be restructured. A lot of times we find that the wife takes the approach that "THIS IS YOUR PROBLEM, go to counselling....deal with it" The unsaid inference being... "go get cured".

AI: "I'm normal, you're not"

JW: Right, it's virtually impossible, I've found to get the wife to realize that this isn't just the crossdresser's problem, its the problem, (as a married couple) in the relationship. How can you convince someone like that, that she needs to go to therapy with him? Any pointers?

AI: That's a hard one, because I usually can't get to that person.

JW: If you were talking to these wives right now, what would you say to them?

AI: I would say to them that if they were interested at all in maintaining any contact or in developing any kind of healthy relationship with people in their family, in their family it is virtually essential that they get involved.

JW: Is it at all realistic for them to say "Its your problem, go deal with it"

AI: No, because it's a family problem,

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I'm a family therapist, it's a family problem. The family as a unit has to find a way to cope or to deal or to adapt, is perhaps the best word, to the changes that are happening. There's a grief issue that goes on with these spouses because they're losing, for example, I am your wife, your mother your daughter, or whatever, and I have always had a certain perception of you as a man, and suddenly you are telling me that that's not right. That this is different, that you have all this grief attached to it and that this has been a hard transition for you... there's an image of you I need to let go of, in order to let a new image in. And we know that people don't like change. When people are getting sober from drug and alcohol abuse there's a grieving process. Even though we can say that that drunk person was bad or awful or horrible, the sober person is (whatever adjective you want to give) a healthy sober person, is still grieving over a person.



JW Would you say that this grieving process may be represented by a name calling session, for example?

AI Oh sure! The anger is acting out grief.

JW How is this resolved?

AI Well the first thing you get is education, for example how does the transgender person for themselves resolve the issues? You get information, and you get support, Right?

JW Right.

AI And those I think are the same key issues which again, I think are the same for gay people coming out, for getting sober from alcohol, I think its the same for so much of what therapy is about, is giving correct information, or taking away misinformation that people have. "Oh, you know this means this," or "it's because of the way I raised him" or to get rid of the misinformation, and then to develop a support system. You see I think one of the healthiest and most important things for people is to find people like themselves. I think that is where we affirm who we are. I think that to be gay in a small town in Nebraska, or to be a gender person in Bern, NY, or to be even Jewish in a small town in Nebraska, is isolating, is very alienating... its hard to develop a sense of identity. Without having other people to say "well I went through this, I had that experience too, I know how you feel inside because I feel that way." Which is why with my gay clients I am always pushing them back into the gay community. And often times what happens is that the gay person internalizes the homophobia. So what they say is "well I think I'm gay, but I'm not like all those other gay people... those gay people are sick... they all cruise the bar..." I mean whatever their stereotypes are, "those are all "BAD" gay people...I'm not like them". I imagine that gender people do the same thing. You know they say, "I know I feel this way... but I know I'm not like all those other 'sickos'!"

*SORRY!! NO PICTURES WERE  
SUBMITTED THIS MONTH!*

**FRIDAY NIGHT FALL PARTY**  
Friday, September 28. 8PM SHARP!

Well, it's the end of another summer and it's party time! This will be the first Friday night loft party since May and it's going to be fun! With the sun setting a little later now, the opportunity is there for more of you to get out for a change. Dress is optional, and you can always change at the loft if you like.

Katherine, our rap group coordinator, will be on hand with a survey that a psychologist is distributing. You don't have to participate in the survey, but let's show them how many we really are. Katherine will also be around during the Thursday rap group and on the following Saturday at the 145 Club (now Mother Eve's) with the survey questionnaire. So if you miss out on Friday night and want to participate in the survey, you can do it at the rap group that week or at Mother Eve's on Saturday.

Also, there will be some refreshments and door prizes, and possibly a special guest or two! This is not a costume party. Just come in your favorite fall outfit. Or if you want to come in a costume, fine! Later on, if anybody is interested, we could go out to The Playhouse, Rage, or Esther's. (We may even raid some straight places!)

Let's see some new faces! But, old faces are welcome too!

Melissa



"Come see, dear, our little boy is shaving!"

**CALANDAR:**

**REGULAR MEETINGS OTHER THAN TGIC**

**CD NETWORK: Rochester, NY 716-251-2132**  
General Meeting - 2nd Friday

**TGN: New Paltz, NY PO Box 177, Tillson, NY 12428-0177**  
General Meeting - 1st Friday - Church 7P  
3rd Friday - Church 7P

**TIFFANY: Wayland, MA 508-358-2305**  
Rap Group - Every Tuesday - House 7P  
Wives Support - 1st Friday - IFGE  
Couples Group - 3rd Friday - IFGE

**XX CLUB: Bartford, CN (TS only)**  
General Meeting - 2nd Saturday - Church  
4th Saturday - Church

**THE GATHERING: NY City (TS only)**  
General Meeting - 1st Sunday

**CONNECTICUT OUTREACH SOCIETY: Devon, CT**  
Socials - 1st Saturday - House Parties

**LIFE: Hempstead, NY (Long Island)**  
Socials - 1st Friday - 3rd Saturday  
Wives Support Group - 2nd Tuesday

**SEPTEMBER**

- 6 - Board Meeting - Clubroom 7PM
- 6 - RAP GROUP - Clubroom 7PM
- 8 - Couples Support Group (contact Dawn)
- 6 - 9 MURIEL OLIVE'S POCONO WEEKEND
- 13 - RAP GROUP - Clubroom 7PM
- 14 - CDN SOCIAL ROCHESTER (Sock Hop)
- 15 - SOCIAL NIGHT - Mother Eves 8PM
- 16 - TS TEA - (contact Rachael)
- 20 - RAP GROUP - Clubroom 7PM
- 20 - 23 CDS POCONO WEEKEND
- 27 - RAP GROUP - Clubroom 7PM
- 28 - 4th Friday Party - Clubroom 8PM
- 29 - Special social Night Mother Eves

**OCTOBER:**

- 4 - BOARD MEETING - Clubroom 7PM
- 4 - RAP GROUP - Clubroom 7PM
- 6 - COUPLES SUPPORT GROUP (Contact Dawn)
- 11 - NASW CONFERENCE - SARATOGA
- 11 - RAP GROUP - Clubroom 7PM
- 12 - 21 FANTASIA FAIR - P-TOWN

- 13 - SOCIAL NIGHT - MOTHER EVES - 8PM
- 14 - TS TEA - (contact Rachael)
- 18 - RAP GROUP - Clubroom 7PM
- 19 - 21 DRESSING FOR PLEASURE - NYC
- 25 - RAP GROUP - Clubroom 7PM
- 26 - 4th Friday HALLOWEEN PARTY!!! 8 PM Clubroom

**NOVEMBER**

- 1 - Board Meeting - Clubroom 7PM
- 1 - Rap Group - Clubroom 8PM
- 2 - 4 EON BANQUET - AND 1ST NYSGC AWARDS  
The first weekend event to be hosted by Syracuse Eon - In Syracuse - Contact Jennifer
- 3 - Couples Support Group - Contact Dawn
- 8 - Rap Group - Clubroom 7PM
- 10 - Open Social - Mother Eves 8PM (special guest)
- 11 - TS Tea - Contact Rachael
- 15 - Rap Group - Clubroom 7PM
- 22 - Rap Group Canceled - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!! <O"
- 23 - TGIC THANKSGIVING SOCIAL - Location to be announced - plan to bring a dish to "pass". (Leftovers OK)
- 29 - Rap Group - Clubroom 7PM

**DECEMBER:**

- 1 - Couples Support Group
- 6 - Board Meeting Clubroom 7PM
- 6 - Rap Group Clubroom 8PM
- 8 - Open Social - Social Mother Eve's 8PM - Special Guest
- 9 - TS Tea - Contact Rachael
- 13 - Rap Group - Clubroom
- 15 - Syracuse Eon Christmas Party
- 20 - Rap group - Clubroom
- 22 - TGIC CHRISTMAS PARTY (THIS IS A SATURDAY)
- 27 - Rap Group - Clubroom

**CLASSIFIEDS:**

TGIC NEWS will accept classifieds of a reasonable nature to our community free of charge from any TGIC member. Classifieds may be edited or rejected subject to decisions of the News committee.

**KEY CLUB OPENINGS:** We still have 2 storage closets available for rent. One is \$35.00 per month, and the other is \$20. To rent one of these units and have access to the club room for dressing and storage leave a message on the machine 518-436-4513 or contact Dawn.

**OH Jennifer** - Carries the "Its a Wig!", Rene of Paris and Alan Thomas lines of wigs. Available to Gender Club members everywhere at 10% below retail. Our catalog of these beautiful wigs is now available featuring all genetic male models - \$10.00 applicable toward your first purchase! CARRYING CASES available **Make overs Publications** and more! Information package \$3.00. PO Box 1417 Troy, NY 12181 or 518-432-7092.

**GIRLS LIKE US** is looking for bookings for any events for DJ's, Drag, or Bands with a crossdressed theme. For information contact 518-432-7092.

**WEDDING GOWN FOR SALE** Size 20 \$100.00 - rarely used. 432-7092.

**NEW SHOPPING GUIDE AVAILABLE** Our new shopping guide to the Capital District and Eastern New York is now available. If you never received yours with your membership... its free, otherwise a donation of \$3.00 is requested. Contact the club with your request.

**BOOKS RETURNS REQUESTED** In recent months several books and videos have been borrowed from the club and not returned. If you have these please arrange for their return immediately! Books in particular being sought are Dr. Doctor's **TRANSVESTITES AND TRANSEXUALS, TOWARD A THEORY OF CROSSGENDERED BEHAVIOP**, and Dr. Peggy Rudd's **MY HUSBAND WEARS MY CLOTHES.**

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### OOOPS!

Ooops, I'm outta space but not material... quick notes: My article on **TRANSVESTISM: Our Problem or Theirs**, will be included in the next edition. Don't forget our Halloween Party on October 26th it should be a great time, please call me or Patty for details, and yes this is our only meeting where **DRESS IS MANDATORY!** Finally, if you feel you need help in any area due to depression, marital problems, substance abuse etc, contact the Crisis Line: 463-2323.

See you soon - I'm outta here, man!