

Script

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The Making of
the "Bridges to
Beauty" Videos

PERSONAL TRANSCRIPT:
Diane Marlene
of the Phoenix
Society

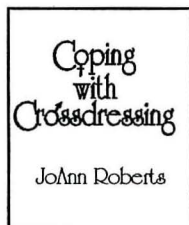
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much, much
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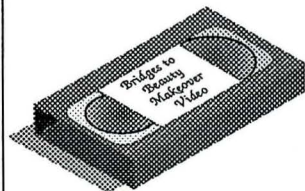
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On the Cover: Melissa Foster (l.) has her new tresses touched up by Jim Bridges for the "Hollywood Makeup Secrets" video. Photo courtesy of Joe Pulido & Jim Bridges.



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Creative Design Services

Editor in Chief

JoAnn Roberts

Department Editors

Living	Maggie Morgan
Arts Review	Daniel Graham
Shopping Maven	JoAnn Roberts
The Art of Makeup	Jim Bridges
Library Lady	Wendy K. Smith
Int'l NewsScript	Kym Richards
Left Coast	Marlayna Lacie
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Associate Editors

Canada	Veronica Brown
France	Laura A.
England	Stacy Novak
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Australia	Claire Stafford

Production

Betty & JoAnn	Design & Layout
P.G. Inc.	Printing
CDS	Distribution

Sales & Advertising

Creative Design Services
PO Box 61263
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1263
Phone 215•640•9449
Attention: JoAnn Roberts
Dealer inquiries invited.

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Editorial

What Now?

Okay, so we have a Bill of Gender Rights (JoAnn Roberts, 3/91) and a Genderist's Declaration of Independence (GAL, 3/91). What good are they and what do we do with them?

These two documents are more than just words on paper as some would have you believe. They are the embodiment of a new focus within the gender community. That focus is for our community to take its place in the political process.

Why Should I Care?

Our freedom to choose for ourselves is systematically being eroded by right-wing fundamentalists. Don't believe me, look at the facts. In Oregon, House Bill 2669 will enable parents to sue retailers who furnish "obscene" books, etc. to minors, i.e. those under 18 years of age. Sounds great until you realize this magazine could be considered "obscene."

In Massachusetts, a bill proposed by rep. Barbara E. Gray would require that any person who sells a book, pamphlet, printed paper... or other material which is obscene, offensive, indecent, or otherwise impure must keep all such materials out of the public view. (Are you listening *Tapestry*?) The effect of this bill is that you have to know that a publication is available and you have to ask for it. That would put just about all the TV/TS publications into bankruptcy.

The federal Omnibus Crime Bill enacted last year contains an amendment that threatens large sexual archives, such as that at the *Kinsey Institute*, and publications like *Penthouse* and *The Village Voice*. Fortunately, that portion of the law was declared unconstitutional. But that won't stop the attacks.

What Can I Do?

There are a lot of things you can do but the simplest and the easiest is to

make your voice heard. All it takes is some paper, a few stamps and a little time. Write some letters. Tell your elected representatives how appalled you are at the erosion of personal freedoms and civil rights. Tell them that you want to know their position on civil and human rights for *all* people. Tell them that you want them to protect and preserve your Constitutional rights and civil liberties.

Well, Who Do I Write To?

It's so simple. Every US senator can be reached at the following address: United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510. Every US Representative can be reached at: House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.

Follow up with letters to your state government officials. Look in the phone book for the state capital address. Write to your state Attorney General's office and ask about pending hate crimes legislation. I did and received a personal reply from the Sr. Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania, Fran B. Cleaver.

Ms. Cleaver not only told me that the Pa. Attorney General supported pending hate crimes legislation, she included a copy of a resolution passed by the National Association of Attorneys General in 1989 that "condemns all forms of hate-related or bias-related crime or violence; authorizes the Civil Rights committee to develop model state legislation for investigating and criminally prosecuting cases of hate related crime; encourages Attorneys General to work with national recognized civil rights groups which are already addressing these issues..."

What If They Find Out?

Find out what? Nowhere do you need to mention transgendered behavior. I didn't. The issue is civil rights for *all* people. That's the only way it can work. Get involved. Now!

Contributors



Claudia R. is our associate editor from Germany. She is a member of the group Transidentitas. Claudia last contributed an article to LadyLike magazine.

Maggie Morgan is a transgenderist in the fullest sense of the word. She lives and works full-time in a female role, which gives her an interesting view of the world.



Wendy K. Smith is an avid reader of science fiction and a pretty good critic. She's the former secretary of a Tri-Ess chapter in Arizona and a frequent newsletter contributor.

Janet Hylan is a professional writer, teacher and a former editor of a large, metropolitan newspaper. She writes in this issue about her struggles with crossdressing & alcohol.



Nikki Nash is a writer from the Southwest. She has a knack for creating poetry from everyday situations. Nikki last contributed to the ^{en}Femme Wedding issue.

Living: Real Life

Living full-time as a woman in the real world requires more than just a pretty face.

It may sound sort of odd, but there are actually two Maggie Morgans. (After some of my columns, I'm sure a few of you think that one Maggie Morgan is more than enough, but we'll let that go.)

What I'm trying to say is that there are two varieties of Maggie that live within me. One is Fantasy Maggie. She's the product of thousands of hours spent in front of the mirror, priming and preening, getting every red hair to lie just so, making her eyelashes just the right seductive length, mixing lip colors for maximum kissability. She's practiced every fashion model's movement to show off her generous curves, and a few other movements as well. She's extremely self-absorbed and terribly flirtatious; a dream machine built for pleasure.

Then there's Reality Maggie. She staggers out of bed at 9:00 a.m., spends an hour and a half trying to get her body and her brain on the same page, bolts down breakfast before doing a fast makeup job, and wonders why her bangs won't lie flat this morning. She stands on the subway far more than she likes, puts in a full day's work, and usually eats at her

desk. She does the laundry once a week, sees that the rent bills are paid, lives and dies with the New York Yankees, and, when she can lash herself to the word processor, writes these columns.

Fantasy Maggie is a lovely luxury. Reality Maggie is an absolute necessity.

In my conversations and correspondence with other trans, I'm frequently staggered by their conceptions of how women live. Life is a perpetual party, to be lived dressed to the nines at all times, a senior prom that never ends. I even get this impression from married trans, who have an object example of how reality works staring them in the face every day.

I suppose this attitude is perfectly safe, taken as directed, for someone who only crosses the gender line occasionally, or whose total experience in femininity never gets beyond parties or the occasional shopping spree. But if you harbor any notions about crossing the line completely, about living/working as a female on a full-time basis, you'd better know that it's a different world out there.

Having lived as a full-time female myself for more than a year now, I've become all too aware of how the real world works for women. I suppose that's why I'm less than tolerant of some of the most timeworn tran clichés. For example, I don't mean to sound like an Andrea Rooney (now there's a horrifying concept), but I can't handle the prototypical classified ad from a tran who "loves all things feminine." All things feminine? What does that mean, really? PMS? Cramps? Being paid 75 cents on the dollar for the same work that a man does? Rape? You can't get much more feminine than that. I know trans who insert tampons into their rectal orifices to "feel more like a woman." Yeah, toxic

shock syndrome is very feminine.

There's a definite point to all my ranting. Once you step through the looking glass into the real world, all the rules that govern your tran-life change. That fantasy figure that has served you so long and so well will not, cannot function in everyday life. You're going to have to create an entirely different character for yourself, one capable of handling the most mundane tasks of daily living.

I hear you grumbling now. "Okay, Morgan, Ms. High-and-Mighty, get down off that pedestal. You're not perfect. Didn't you have to do a reality check on yourself before you came out?" I plead guilty as charged.

When I first began living as a female on a part-time basis (evenings and weekends), I was still thoroughly rooted in the world of Fantasy Maggie. Of course, I didn't see things that way at the time. As far as I was concerned, I had created my feminine self, divorced from my no-longer-adequate masculine persona. I had all I needed to start living a female life, so look out world, here I come!

It even worked for a little while. I was so clearly comfortable with myself, and the people I knew properly respectful of the big step I was taking, that I had no trouble gaining acceptance at first.

It took a few months to discover that all was not well in Paradise. The people who had initially been so supportive began to cool toward me, and after a while tried to avoid me altogether. Even my closest friends were becoming rather testy with me. I was obviously doing something desperately wrong, and I needed to find out what it was.

The answer was that, in spite of all the preparation I'd done, there was no Mag-

continued on next page

gie but Fantasy Maggie — sexy and superficial, instinct without intellect. In my zeal to create and perfect my female self, I was throwing away nearly four decades of accumulated life experience as if it didn't matter.

By this time, I'd made my mind up that I would eventually live as a female full-time, and I realized that this problem would have to be corrected if I were to have any chance of surviving, much less thriving. I gave myself six months to make the transition and then set to work analyzing myself.

I questioned my motivations and goals. I critiqued myself relentlessly. Then I created a self that would integrate my past and my personality into my new female form. The end result was the reality Maggie, a synthesis of all my aspects that affirmed my life as a continuum rather than as an abrupt, violent shifting of gears.

I'm not going to pretend that making yourself over is an easy thing. It's not. It's even harder when you think you've com-

pleted the job already. But the demands of the everyday world are harsh. They test the strength and patience of biological women day in and day out. In order to be acceptable within the real world, you're going to have to adopt a tougher set of standards than might apply in your support circle or at the annual ball. You're going to have to create a real human being, what I often call the "same great person in a bright new package." And, it really isn't that difficult to do, provided you're prepared to put in some serious time doing the necessary head work.

One of the most common fallacies among transsexuals contemplating reassignment surgery, even those who pass the psychological screening, is the notion that the hormones will do most of the work, and then the operation will finish the job. They've forgotten one critical point: adjusting the head. I know pre-ops, and at least one post-op, who have been living as females for years and they still have not settled into a comfortable everyday persona. They just didn't

think they had to do the work, and now they're tremendously unsettled, wondering why they just don't quite fit in.

There are support groups that tell their members that it's not important to physically pass, just be content with yourself. That thought is admirable, but it's like putting a Band-Aid on a hemorrhage. What good is feeling content with yourself if you're not equipped to deal with the world in which you live?

Many years ago, Lenny Bruce asked the question, "Is reality what is, or what should be?" If you're planning to step out into the real world, it's essential; that you prepare yourself for success. You have my best wishes, and crossed fingers.

Oh, by the way, I mentioned at the beginning of this piece that Fantasy Maggie still exists. She's sweet and sexy; I like her and wouldn't ever think of letting her go. But there's a proper time and place for her, one where her special qualities and turn of mind can best be appreciated... between the sheets. ■

Crossdressers

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2-D & 3-D

Thomas Hansen

Zeitgeist*

*The spirit of the times.

Claudia gives us a peek into the transgender lifestyle in Germany.

What does it mean to be a transgendered person in Germany? Let's have a look at different aspects which might be of interest. First I want to introduce some legal aspects.

It is not forbidden to wear feminine clothes in public here, unlike France where it is officially not allowed but tolerated. If you are look feminine [passable] in Germany it's no problem to use the Ladies Room here.

Germany is one of the few countries that has a Transsexual Law. If you are a transsexual considering reassignment, you have to do as follows:

- Contact a special psychologist.
- Live full-time in your desired gender role for a period of one year, i.e. a Real Life Test. (Hormone therapy could start in this period.)
- After that you have to get two opinions from different experts who declare the success of the Real Life Test and perhaps recommend an surgical operation.
- If you don't want the reassignment operation you could now get the so-called "Small Solution" which



Photos by Caludia: One of the Transidentitas Balls in Frankfurt, June 1991.

means your first name would be officially changed on all papers (passport, identity-card, driving license, social insurance etc.). This name-change is also possible for the "Big Solution."

- "Big Solution," you schedule a date at a surgical clinic for the reassignment surgery. Sometimes, you have to wait months for an operation from a well-known surgeon.

Those who want their sex change as quickly as possible can make a trip to special clinics in London or Casablanca (Morocco). Two or three weeks is the normal length of a stay post surgery. This trip is very expensive and only a few could afford it. The social [medical] insurance does not

continued on next page

contribute to the costs, as it would if you follow the "official" route described above. A serious issue with this "quickie" method is, can the mind resolve such a dramatic change in lifestyle in such a short period of time?

Organized Crossdressing

Now, what about crossdressers? Most of them are still sitting in their closets. Some hold small private meetings with others in hotel/motel rooms. Larger cities have more to offer where you can go to "Travestie-Shows", gay clubs, women's cafes or special TV pubs. The biggest scene is in Berlin, but Hamburg, Koln (Cologne) and Frankfurt offer different places for the crossdresser to go.

Most everyone of us will take his chance at "Fasching" in February, which is similar to Carnival or your Mardi Gras. You can dress as colorfully as you like and no one will bother you. The best places are the cities of the Rhineland like Dusseldorf, Cologne or

Mainz where all the people take a holiday and walk through the streets. You can go to great carnival gatherings and see the most colorful costumes.

But carnival is only one time of the year. So, support groups in Berlin, Hamburg, Frankfurt and Cologne offer meetings. You could change your clothes there, meet others and talk to people with the same issues. Different social events are offered too. Twice a year my group, Transidentitas, has a gala ball. We organize our events with a dancing club of "straight" people that we have befriended. We do this for two great reasons; it is easier to fill the ballroom with two clubs and share the costs, and it breaks the isolation of both the TVs and TSs from the "real" world. So far, these co-sponsored balls have been great successes.

Own Your Own

But what do you do in your small town abroad? It depends very much on yourself. I know a sister who makes

disco-trips every weekend as a vamp-lady and enjoys it very much. She gets compliments from other guys and nobody seems to notice it [her cross-dressing]. Another sister went to a casino. At the entrance, the Maitre'd wanted to see her identity-card as is usual with all guests. She had no female name on her papers, but that didn't disturb him. So she was allowed to enter and gamble.

But sometimes it could be a little more dangerous. Years ago when the great terrorist attacks occurred in Germany quite another outcome occurred in Baden Baden. Two sisters made a Sunday trip to some cafes there and on returning to their car they were suddenly surrounded by policemen with machine guns prepared to shoot at once. The girls were very surprised, but after they showed their ID-cards there was nothing to worry about. The policemen said someone had called because they looked a little bit odd...

But I think most of us have the doorstep-hesitation, like me. I have only made a few adventure trips in my own neighborhood. I let Claudia be herself at home and at our meetings in Frankfurt, Hanover or Hamburg. We have a small, private circle here of four sisters living nearby. We met each other through one of my contact ads in a local newspaper. I have also made the acquaintances of two real girls who love TV's and we spent time together at meetings.

That's it for now from Germany.
Claudia. ☺



Transidentitas members co-sponsor their gala ball with a "straight" dancing club.

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Wendy K. Smith

THE Library Lady

These are the voyages of the library lady. Her mission: to seek out new stories, new transgender literature that is actually worth reading. Welcome to the ITS book review column. I hope you enjoy the column and remember—even I can't read everything, so if you have a favorite book that I haven't mentioned yet, write and tell me about it.

The editor asked me to begin this column with *Callahan's Lady* by Spider Robinson. While I have to admit that I love all of Spider's Callahan stories, I have to point out that this one is not a TV tale. In over 200 pages there is exactly one scene in which Prof., a con man who is incapable of swindling anybody he doesn't actually despise, disguises himself as a woman. Granted Prof. is so convincing that he is granted permission to stay in the women-only lounge, but that is the only time he's in drag, and Prof. is not a crossdresser; he's just trying to avoid a Neanderthal hit man who believes the Prof. owes him \$20,000 in counterfeit money. Genuine, cold cash is not acceptable.

Frankly a better bet is the same author's *Callahan's Secret*. The Callahan stories include a recurring character, Bill Gerrity, who is a transvestite that frequents Callahan's Saloon. While Bill never gets any big roles, *The Mick O'Time* in *Secret* is his finest bit yet.

Gender themes aside, the Callahan titles are, without exception, excellent, human, sensitive, thought-provoking and often side-splittingly funny.

I should mention *Carmen Miranda's Ghost Is Haunting Space Station Three*

— the anthology, not the song that inspired it. For the non-filkers among you, I should explain that *Carmen Miranda's Ghost...* is the name of a very funny and popular science-fictional folk (thus, filk) song. The song inspired an anthology of stories with more or less the same theme. No less than three of these have transgender plots. The best is anthology editor Don

Discover a brave new world of transgender characters in modern fiction.

Saker's own *Tarawa Rising*, in which aging drag queen, Tarawa Beachhead, must confront her 70th birthday, mortality and loneliness, with the help of Carmen Miranda's ghost. In *Basket Case*, a space marine major must solve a murder on Space Station Three where the suspects are a rabid homophobe who hates crossdressers and an armored, taloned alien male who insists on dressing like his idol, Carmen Miranda. While *In The Can* is, alas, another "the-drag-queen-did-it" — except that the accused murderess is the ghost of Carmen Miranda, who is going to get exorcised to worse than death if the psychic detective can't prove she was framed.

On balance, this anthology is very enjoyable and a lot of fun to read.

I have also found another transgen-

dered minor character in S.P. Somtow's *Moondance*. Billed as the "Werewolf novel to end all Werewolf novels," the plot revolves around a group of European lycanthropes who migrate to the old West for freedom and safety only to find themselves threatened by equally lycanthropic Indians. One of the minor characters is Maria, a Hispanic man who lives as a woman and works in a carnival where s/he is blackmailed by one of the most thoroughly evil villains I've ever seen. Be warned; this novel has some truly graphic sex and violence.

Enough of these bit parts! Let's talk about something with a real transgender plot — like *Desert Peach #8*. *Desert Peach* is what might be called an underground comic. It's hero, Manfred "Pfirsch" Rommel, is the younger, prettier, gay-er brother of the Desert Fox, Irwin Rommel, and commander of the biggest collection of oddballs in the German Army (the 469th Haltrack, Gravedigging and Support Battalion). In the words of his creator, artist Donna Barr, Peach is "feminine, not effeminate." In *Peach #8*, Peach's hapless orderly, Udo, becomes the belle of the local theatricals, inspiring the General to send him and Peach to England disguised as two missing female spies to recover some tank plans. The problem is the English landlords may be Gestapo agents and their patriotic son is one of Peach's old boyfriends.

What can I say? Weird as the plot sounds, *Peach* is always great fun and more intelligent than most of what's on the best seller shelves. Hopefully Frau Barr will give us more tales with Peach and Udo fashionably dressed. ♣

The Shopping Maven

Great places to buy makeup, another Jim Bridges video and great leather clothing at bargain prices.

As crossdressers we have very special needs when it comes to cosmetics. I know I've scrounged through a dozen stores looking for just that one perfect foundation or eyeshadow. So, here's the beginning of a multi-part review of the Best Kept Secrets of the Big Cities. We'll start with, where else?, New York City

Bigelow Pharmacy
414 Sixth Ave.
212-533-2700

The Big Apple is like no other city in the world and it stands to reason that some of its emporiums will be like no other as well. Take Bigelow's for example. This is more than a simple pharmacy. In the same site for 153 years, the store is pure indulgence when it comes to beauty supplies.

Start with French sable makeup brushes, move onto British cosmetics, stroll through the aisles of the store's own Palette-brand makeup, and finish with an almost inexhaustible stock of costume jewelry.

Boyd's Pharmacy
655 Madison Ave.
212-838-6558

Not quite as old as Bigelow's, this 50-year-old institution is more a boutique and salon than drug store. If a half-million hair ornaments don't catch your eye, then how about 300 shades of eyeshadow? Or, how about an in-house cosmetic line, Renoir, that never discontinues a product.

The products are extensive and eclectic, but it doesn't stop there. The store offers facials, manicures, makeovers, hairstyling and more.

The Make-Up Center
150 West 55th St.
212-977-9494

While the store was set up for professionals, amateurs are quite welcome here. The store carries an extensive line of theatrical makeup (usually a bargain compared to department store lines) and its own in-house brand. Customers can have consultations with a makeup artist for help in selecting products they need or they can get a "makeover" for a special occasion. There's an annex store on the East Side at 1013 Third Ave.

Patricia Field
10 East 8th St.
212-254-1699

Have you ever wondered where those MTV videos vixens find those wild plastic dresses and rubber bras? This is it. PF caters to a sexually ambiguous crowd and the products are as flamboyant as it clintetele. Take the Thaliona "body stains" from Germany, or the Komodo makeup palettes from Japan, or, the best cover up in the

business, Kryolan Derma Color Camouflage Creme; it's all here. Whether you want wild makeup, a la Kiss, or a simply enchanting face, PF can help.

M.I.S. Retail
736 Seventh Ave.
212-765-8342

Looking for exotica? This second-story walk-up has got them; prosthetics, temporary tattoos, bra pads and an in-house cosmetic line. (That seems to be de rigueur in NYC, doesn't it?) The place only stocks theatrical makeup, but just browsing can be fun.

More next issue. Now back to our regular program.

Product: Hollywood Makeup Secrets Video

Source: Jim Bridges Boutique
12457 Ventura Blvd., Suite 207
Studio City, CA 91604

Run time: 45 minutes

Cost: \$39.95

Rating: "B"

This is the second tape in the Jim Bridges series and it is made with the same attention to detail as the first video I reviewed in enFemme #24. In this tape, Jim reveals some, but not all, of his makeup secrets that he's learned from his years as a Hollywood films and stage makeup artist.

The first subject on the video is none other than the Godmother of the transgendered community, Virginia Prince. Uncharacteristically, Virginia has little to say as Jim works her over with his "tape trick."

Virginia is visually transformed from her real 70+ age to a "youngish"

50 by the application of vented surgical tape to pull back loose and sagging skin. The transformation is capped off (literally) with a new wig.

I'm not sure I could stand all the tape that Jim applied to Virginia, but if you need to lose about 20 years for an evening, this is a quick, painless way to achieve it.

Next up is makeup application for ethnic skin, in this case Diahanna, the cover girl from enFemme #23 who happens to be black. Jim's skill and expertise shows up well during this segment as he creates a very dramatic and stunning look for Diahanna. During the makeover, Jim talks about special problems for ethnic skin color.

Scuttlebut from the set says that Diahanna didn't care for the makeover preferring a more "natural" look, but I think that Jim did a great job anyway.

The final vic... er model, is Melissa Foster, a well known figure in the California TV community. Melissa has two trademarks: electric blue outfits and flaming red hair. Jim shows us what Melissa looks like with a variety of different hair colors and hair styles. I must admit that even with very dark hair, Jim makes Melissa look great. I particularly like the wig with the soft blonde curls.

At the end of the tape, we're given a quicky review of the techniques shown on the tape, followed by a brief commercial for the Bridges boutique.

By the way, Jim has some of the best clip-on earrings I've ever seen in any boutique anywhere. If there's anyway you can visit his shop, go!

Overall, this is a tape that is nice to have in your collection, but many people will likely pass it up. Except for the "tape trick" in the beginning, there

is not much else with wide appeal unless you have black skin or want to know what Melissa looks like in different hair styles. I wish the "ethnic" section had included at least an oriental.

I give this video a "B" mostly because of its production values rather than its content.



Product: Avon Fashions

Source: Avon Fashions Inc.
Avon Lane, Newport News, VA
Cust. Service: 804•827•9000

Rating: "A+"

I absolutely adore leather, as I'm sure many of you do as well. I drool over the North Beach Leather catalog

when it arrives, but they never have anything larger than a size 12 and more often it's a 10 or smaller. Besides that, they're dangerous to your credit rating.

However, I have two dynamite leather suits that never fail to draw highly favorable comments. One is hot pink and the other is emerald green. Invariably the final question is, "Where did you get it?" And, invariably, no one ever believes the answer: Avon.

Yes, that door-to-door cosmetic company has a fashion catalog with lots of fashionable clothes and reasonable prices. My leather suits would have cost well over \$800 from North Beach, but were well under \$200 from Avon. Granted the Avon garments aren't buttery soft like the North Beach stuff, but they're fine by me.

The catalog contains casual fashions, evening wear, business wear, shoes, accessories, and lingerie. Here are a few typical examples: a charmeuse short slip in Jade, Red or Royal for \$19.99; leather pumps in medium and wide widths (up to size 10) with 3½" or 2½" heels for \$24.99; red leather double breasted jacket \$119.99 and matching skirt \$69.99; strapless suede dress \$79.99; panné velvet tank dress \$24.99 with matching bolero jacket for \$24.99; and this season's fashion must-have, a houndstooth jacket in a longer length for just \$36.99.

Credit card orders can be placed 24 hours a day through an "800" number. The service I like is the Federal Express three day delivery for only \$10 extra. Normal deliver times are 10 days to two weeks, although I had to wait four weeks for one of the leather suits. It was still a bargain. ♣

Jim Bridges

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Jim Bridges

THE Art of Makeup

Select eye shadow based on your eye color, not on your clothing and make your eyes project. Jim tells us how to choose and apply eye shadow.

This time we're going to talk about how to select eye shadow.

Many of the people that I talk to are very misinformed about selecting correct eye shadows to enhance their eyes. I still see a lot of people that select an eye shadow to complement whatever it is that they'll be wearing. This really is not the proper way to go about it. You want to enhance your eyes not your clothes; what you wear will speak for itself.

The best way to enhance your eyes is to use the colors that are in the eye itself. This way they work as a background for your eye so when you walk into a room your eyes are what project first. Your eyes are what people notice, not so much your eye shadow.

The whole idea of wearing eye makeup is to have somebody tell you how beautiful or how sexy your eyes look, rather than have them say, "Gee, I like that eye shadow. Where did you buy it?" That's not what you're doing this for. You want to enhance your eyes; make them project. I can't over

emphasize how important it is to make the eyes project.

When I ask people what color eyes they have, nine out of 10 will say they have "boring brown" eyes. No one has boring brown eyes! Take a hand mirror, go over to a window, and stand directly where you get good natural lighting. Take a close look at your eyes and you will see that brown eyes have tiny little flecks of green, gold, rust copper and brown. All of these colors are in a brown eye, and they are more predominant in hazel eyes. So, your color selections should be one or more of these beautiful colors. People with brown or hazel eyes can wear almost any shade of eye shadow with any spectrum of color and it's going to look pretty darn good, as long as they apply it correctly.

People who have blue eyes are a little more limited in eye shadow selection. Brown eye shadows should be your basic color palette for the simple reason that brown makes a wonderful contrast to the blue iris. It makes the eye just an electric blue. It makes it project and really enhances it more than any other eye shadow that I can think of. Other colors that work for blue eyes are lavenders, purples and plums. These will still be effective and look good, but they won't make the eyes project as much as brown.

Never use a blue eye shadow with blue eyes. It's an artificial blue next to the natural blue of your eye. When somebody looks at you they will automatically focus in on the eye shadow and not on your eyes.

People with green eyes can follow the same color scheme as people with hazel eyes and brown eyes. You can use a shade of green as long as it is something that has some gray in it;

khaki, moss, or a deep teal. You don't want to use something that is an "electric" green or a bright jade because, again, it's too artificial against the green of your eye.

Once you have made your palette selection, it really doesn't matter what shades or colors you decide to use, but you should, however, select three shades/colors: a dark, a medium and a highlight. The highlight will be the lightest of the three you have selected. You always want to go from dark to light; this is what opens the eyes up and projects them. I know I use "project" a lot but that's your want.

I recommend starting with the eyes before the rest of your makeup. No matter what product you use or how careful you are, as you apply powdered eye shadow little specks will flake off and drop onto your cheek. If you have done your foundation first, as most people do, the flecks will fall on top of your foundation. If you then try to remove them, you will streak and smudge your foundation and blush. Then you have to go back and spend time repairing it. You can eliminate all these problems by starting with the eyes first.

Start with a light dusting of translucent face powder on the eyes. It will absorb any natural oil on the lid and traces of moisturizer that might still be on the eye. Otherwise, your shadows will get a streaky, splotchy look because where there is oil on the lid, the shadow spots and will not blend.

Now, take the darkest shadow and start on the outside corner of the eye. Apply it approximately halfway in and halfway up the lid. Stop, take your blending brush, and blend this area.

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Diane Marlene Knoetze

Interview by JoAnn Roberts

This interview contains language that some will consider politically incorrect. The reader is reminded that South Africa is in a state of flux and the language used is indicative of the times and location.

Diane Marlene Knoetze is the founder of the **Phoenix Society** in South Africa. Diane is almost 46 years old at this writing and married for 23 years. She is on the verge of living full-time in her feminine role since she has just cleared the final obstacle standing in her way — telling her employers.

The Phoenix Society is the only organized support group for transvestites and transsexuals in Africa. As you may imagine, being a transgendered person in South Africa is probably not a lot of fun. In addition to organizing and nurturing the group, Diane is also editor of *FanFare*, the group's newsletter.

ITS: When and why did you form the Phoenix Society?

DK: I'm afraid my reasons for starting

Phoenix were entirely selfish. Around the middle of 1980, I was a member of the Beaumont Society in England and with such a wide expanse of ocean separating us, there was no possibility of meeting anyone else like me. I was really left with no option but to start a similar society in South Africa and, hopefully, meet others like me. I'm pleased to say that it worked — I now know hundreds

The Phoenix Society is the only support group for transvestites or transsexuals in Africa

of other crossdressers.

The biggest bonus for me, personally, to come out of the Phoenix Society was the gradual expansion to overseas contacts — particularly the joy of receiving and entertaining friends visiting us from overseas. Also, there is the added benefit of increasing our knowledge vastly because of contact with groups/organizations such as IFGE and Renaissance in the U.S., and the Elaine Barrie Project in Australia. Phoenix has done more for me and our members than I ever thought possible — thanks to all our friends around the world.

ITS: I know what you mean. My association with Renaissance has been very rewarding personally, too. I have a very unique group of friends that I thought I would never find. But, back to Phoenix. Wasn't it difficult setting up the

group? What kind of obstacles did you encounter?

DK: The biggest obstacle, believe it or not, was the fact that I wasn't allowed to use the words "transvestite" or "transsexual" in the adverts in the Personal Columns of the local Sunday papers. The country and the entire news media were still so behind in knowledge of the subject that the mere mention of such words were considered rude in polite company. Nobody was talking about it and everyone thought if they just would ignore the problem, it would go away.

I know this sounds unbelievable to people in a country such as yours where freedom of speech has always been an acknowledged fact. Please keep in mind that during that time we were in the P. W. Botha (with the shaking finger) regime and censorship was applied rigidly. Our customs and morals (especially the children), had to be protected at all costs. Mind you, with the "new" South Africa, we are hoping for a lot of improvement in censorship, keeping in mind that some progress has already been made. Imagine, we are now allowed to see a woman with naked breasts in movies — and this in a country where, until very recently, a black woman could walk around Johannesburg topless (it's their custom, you see) while a white woman isn't even allowed topless on a public beach. And some people call crossdressers strange!

ITS: I will admit that we have it better than most here in the U.S., but people are fundamentally the same the world over, so we have censorship problems too. Especially from right-wing Christian Fundamentalists. What was the social climate like in South Africa at the time?

Isn't South Africa a Calvinist society?

DK: The social climate was unbelievable. The South African Police actually had an undercover agent apply for membership in Phoenix. This "character" even went with my wife and myself for a weekend visit to one of our founding members, Sandra, at Plettenberg Bay. The cop stuck around for a few weeks, learning as much as possible about our activities, then, deciding we weren't communists in disguise, he left us alone. He even donated 14 copies of *Transvestia* to our library — no doubt confiscated by our censor board from people who ordered them from the U.S. All this had no real effect on our efforts in establishing Phoenix. What was holding us back was our futile efforts in trying to get the news media to give us some publicity. I remember numerous journalists who did articles about us, only to be turned down flat by their editors. Now you understand why our growth rate was so slow.

ITS: I know how important publicity is to a new group and it sounds like you had a really tough time of it. Is it any better now?

DK: Once we managed to break the barrier, so to speak, and get publicity, we were on our way. It was interesting. At first only the English language periodicals were prepared to write about us, but then the biggest Afrikaans magazine in the country, *Huisgenoot*, with a circulation of around 2 million, did a full spread on us, complete with photographs.

Of course, the debate in the Letters column lasted for weeks, and we got some pretty horrid reactions as well. But, more importantly, that one article increased our membership by 60 per cent — we were on our way. After that, SABC Television sent an entire production team down to Cape Town from Johannesburg to do a complete program about us, but that program was never broadcast. So, we still have some work to do.

Our cable television channel, M-NET,

did do a short program on us and they actually broadcast it — all three minutes — after lengthy fights with the church about the program. It is interesting to note that lately M-NET has been doing a lot for our cause with programs covering such issues as Tula's (Caroline Cossey) fight with the European Human Rights Court over the issue of her legal right to marry. Also, M-NET is now showing the Donahue shows and the very first one was about transsexual lesbians. Of course, we have programs like Santa Barbara and L.A. Law running here, which all have crossdressing themes. Maybe that's why Dallas was canceled finally — they didn't have crossdressing!

ITS: I meant to say, is Afrikaans society any more enlightened now than back then? Do you still get hassled?



Diane Marlene Knoetze

DK: The last time we were hassled was right at the end of the Botha period. I was personally harassed by the police at home. They simply walked into my home and demanded that I hand over all Phoenix records to them and they wanted to know if I had any pornographic material in the house. I asked if they had a court order to request these records (which they didn't) and I denied having any pornographic material (I lied). This, however, did not stop them from grilling me for two hours by which time they were tired of it. After the four policemen left, I dumped all the records to hard copy and burned any literature that might

even seem remotely erotic (remember our censorship laws). The records I immediately sent to Thelma, our overseas correspondent in Johannesburg, to be placed in her safe deposit box. The computer files I destroyed in case the police returned with a court order.

This incident proved to me the value of true friendship. When Elaine Barrie heard of our predicament, she immediately offered to produce and mail our magazine from there in Australia in order to keep Phoenix going. Such friends are indeed hard to find.

Anyway, things did calm down and we managed to salvage Phoenix from the ashes (thereby really earning our name) and got going again. Since the demise of apartheid and the introduction of our new president, F. W. DeKlerk, we've had peace! Yes, things are much better now and looking better every day.

ITS: What happened to you is almost unthinkable here. I guess we just don't know how lucky we are until we here a story like yours. But the important thing is you and the group survived it.

Now, you mentioned a very touchy subject: apartheid. That word has been synonymous with South Africa. Did apartheid ever figure into the Phoenix Society in any way?

DK: What apartheid? No, seriously, apartheid *never* figured into Phoenix at all. Since we broke away from the Beaumont Society (they do not accept transsexuals as members) and wrote our own constitution, we have a completely open policy — we do not discriminate against anyone who wants to become a member of Phoenix. We even have a number of straight people as paid members of Phoenix who are simply interested in the subject.

ITS: For a country that seems so backward in terms of discrimination, Phoenix is certainly light-years ahead on that score. I hope some of our groups here in the states take note. But now I'm curious about something. Are there any

continued next page

Diane Knoetze

Blacks in Phoenix?

DK: Yes, and colored, and Indian, and more than one Italian, a few Portuguese and probably an American or two. However, I should mention that, due to their culture, black crossdressers here don't suffer the same stigma as whites. The same holds true for the colored community. [Ed. note: Africans are called "blacks" while "colored" refers to other non-white people.] In both of these cultures "moffies" (a term derived from Hermaphrodite) are very much accepted. The colored community actually protects their crossdressers and affords them, many opportunities to do their thing, like beauty contests. (I very much want to do an article on this subject and I'm busy with the research.) The fact of the matter is that the colored TV/TS dress openly and most of them go to work like that. I've often wished I was colored myself! Interestingly enough, the moment they become educated, they suffer the same prejudices as the rest of us, hence the influx of colored members into Phoenix.

ITS: So how has the change in South African society's attitude toward apartheid affected Phoenix?

DK: That depends on where you reside in the country. Thelma, for instance, was mugged three times in as many weeks, once on the pavement outside her building, once in the lift on the way to her flat and once at the door of her flat. Because of the abolishment of the Group Areas Act, blacks can now freely wander in previously white-only areas. Unfortunately, after 40 years of apartheid and a resulting lack of education for blacks, the crime rate among them is very high. I suspect it will take much longer than 40 years to set things right *and* we're going to need a lot of help from other countries. In effect, we're paying for the sins of our fathers.

In other areas, like Cape Town, things are much better simply because we do not have and never did have a large black

population. However, it is still dangerous for whites in certain areas, hence the delay in the article about the "moffies." I will have to befriend a few of them to gain their trust, which isn't easy after what we whites have done to them. But, we *must* cross that rift and get to know each other.

After 40 years of apartheid, it will take a lot longer than 40 years to set things right.

ITS: I see a similar division between our "suburban" white crossdressers and the inner-city minority crossdressers. It's almost like two totally separate worlds. We need to learn how to bridge that gap. Perhaps your article will show us a way to do that.

Speaking of publishing, Phoenix published a very important booklet a while back. Tell us about that project.

DK: The project was a treatise on transgender behavior. That booklet was a joint project between myself and Joyce Wellbeloved, one of our longtime, honorary members. We saw a desperate need to educate our own members who, being cut off from overseas literature (it's "pornography" you see) were rather ill-informed about their own condition. We saw the need to provide the information because the psychiatric/psychological professionals in this country didn't have the knowledge to help them. And, we saw an opportunity to educate the professionals too. Strangely, the professionals weren't very interested although we did get the book out to a substantial number of them. To this day, we've had no response from the professional/medical field about the booklet, although I hear they're giving better advice these days.

However, with our own members, the booklet was a tremendous success and

most of them now know and understand themselves better. The most unforgettable result of the booklet was when both Joy and myself received a literature award from the Elaine Barrie Project in Australia. Elaine is now producing the book in Australia and I hope it is helping as many people there as it did here.

ITS: Let's get personal. How have you managed to stay married for 23 years and yet develop a complete feminine persona?

DK: Let's get this straight — I never *developed* a femme persona; I was born with it. However, expressing that feminine "me" is another story. I first went out with Sanette's sister, but soon discovered that her sister was a real hellfire! [Ed. note: Sanette is Diane's spouse.] I realized that Sanette was more my style and we dated for about a year before we were engaged.

I felt it would be *wrong* not to tell her that if she married me, she would be marrying a feminine being like herself. How to tell her was the problem, until I came across a book called *A Year Among The Girls*. In this book, I discovered for the first time what I was and could put a name to that condition. I gave the book to Sanette to read and then told her that I had similar desires. She decided to take the chance and marry me anyway.

I think that what is important in our marriage is the fact that we are each other's best friend. No marriage can survive on sexual lust alone, but, I believe, even a sexless marriage, based on friendship and mutual respect, can survive — mine has.

ITS: But Sanette must have had a reasonable expectation of at least some semblance of a "normal" marriage. Yet, after only four years of marriage, you decided to begin taking hormones. What affect did that have on your relationship?

DK: In the beginning, we had a reasonably successful, sexual relationship, but we both knew that if I went on hormones my sex drive would diminish, maybe even disappear

continued on page 28



Behind The Scenes:

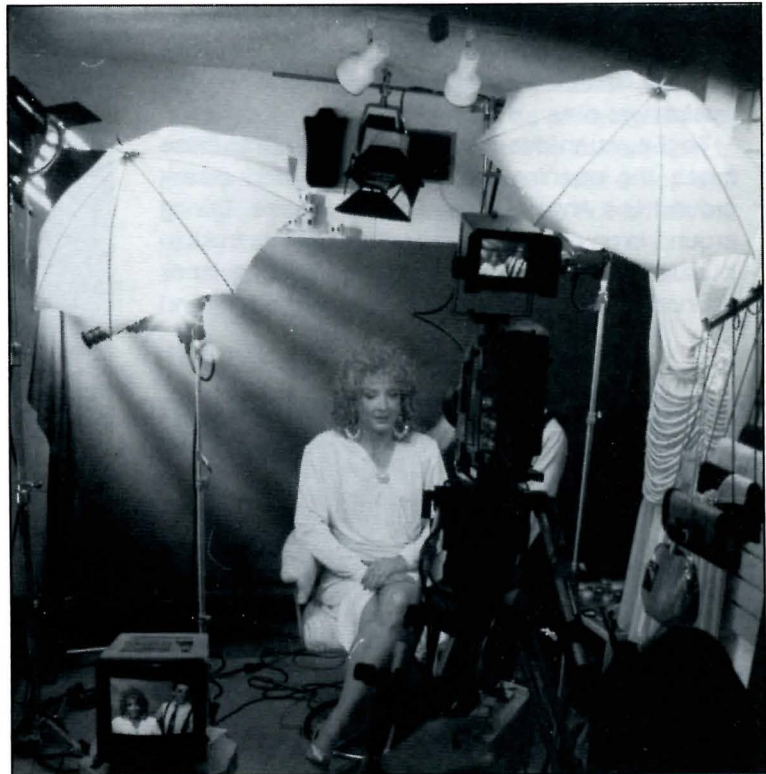
Making the "Bridges to Beauty" Videos

The interesting thing about the Jim Bridges videos is the fact that, except for Jim and Anthony, the entire cast and crew are members of the transgendered community.

Director/camera person, Andrea Susan Mitchell came from the East Coast. Since the airlines wouldn't insure her camera equipment, she drove to Los Angeles and back.

Photographer and model Diahanna Taylor flew down from San Francisco. She took these stills during the taping sessions.

At right, model Vicki Vargas, sits patiently under the hot studio lights. Vicki was selected as the sole model for the "Bridges to Beauty" tape because she is the average age for most



crossdressers and her face would transform beautifully under Jim's talented hands.

At left, the legendary Virginia Prince is seen with Jim, during the filming of "Hollywood Makeup Secrets." She seems to be saying, "I solemnly swear I have never been photographed by Vogue." Actually, Virginia said, "I'd like members of our community to see that no matter how long they've been doing this, there's always room for improvement. If my part can help a new girl gain confidence to feel good about

herself and her appearance, then this project was well worth it."

Virginia was a real trooper to allow herself to be filmed "au natural," but what a stunning transformation she made. In fact, she was so pleased that gone is her trademark red hair, since recolored to a beautiful blonde.

Melissa Foster (seen on the cover) was the wig model for the "Hollywood Makeup Secrets" tape and Diahanna Taylor (seen next page and on the cover of enFemme #23) is shown in the segment on women of color. Although Diahanna prefers a subdued look, Jim discovered out a gorgeous, glamour look for her.

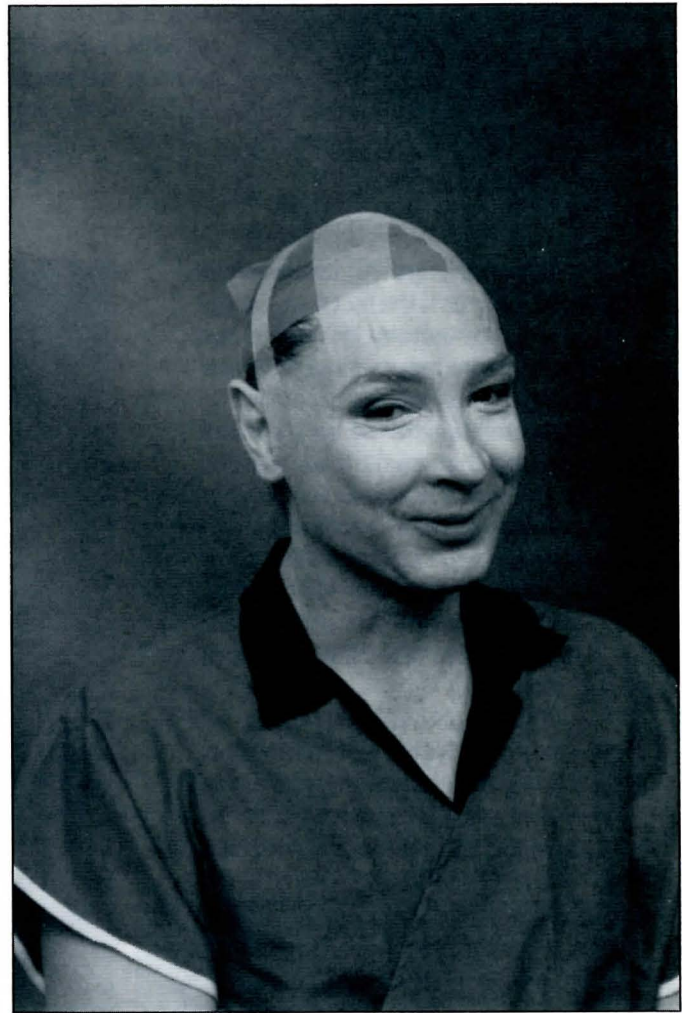
Capturing Jim and the girls on video

Making the “Bridges to Beauty”

was easy, even with re-takes. The killer was post-production editing.

With 15 hours of tape, it was time to cut, chop, dissolve, fade and wipe the scenes into a cohesive film. Luckily, they had the help of Emmy award winner, Louise, from the Alan Landsberg Studio (Dallas, Dynasty, Kate & Allie) to guide them through an expensive and excruciating 12 hours of editing. One observer estimated that at least a dozen packs of press-on nails were consumed during the editing process. Everyone involved breathed a deep sigh of relief when the session was over.

To give you an idea of the effort that went into these tapes, the opening sequence shows Vicki driving around Los Angeles in an Jeep Cherokee. Driving around in an open-top Jeep with a camera truck in pursuit is not an everyday occurrence, but Angelenos are non-plussed when it comes to movie making and



▲ Above: Vicki Vargas, transformation underway.

◀ Left: Vicki Vargas, transformation complete.



All photos courtesy of Joe Pulida

& "Hollywood Makeup Secrets" Videos



▲ Above: Virginia Prince "au naturel," before Jim Bridges.

Left: Virginia after her makeover. ►
Absolutely stunning!

they gave the caravan the right-of-way. It took four hours of filming to get that one minute opening.

Jim's extensive work in film and stage productions was an asset. His easy manner in front of the camera and familiarity with sound, lighting and scripting, made for very few retakes.

Jim's goal in producing the videos was to show crossdressers that learning how to create an attractive appearance does not have to be an overwhelming experience. When you take the time to learn how to create an attractive appearance, you're not only going to feel better about yourself, but others are going to be more accepting of you as well.





▲ Above: Diahanna Taylor after her transformation, looking a lot like Diana Ross.

Bridges to Beauty Video Credits

Executive Producers Jim Bridges, Anthony Zito
Director/Cameraperson Andrea Susan Mitchell
Sound Geri Mallack
Production Coordinator Lynda James
Casting Gloria
Editing Louise
Script Writer Linda McKim
Models Vicki Vargas
 Virginia Prince
 Diahanna Taylor
 Melissa Foster
Still Photography Joe Pulido
Post Production Westside Video
 Hollywood, Calif.

The "Bridges to Beauty" and "Hollywood Makeup Secrets" videos are available exclusively from the Jim Bridges Boutique, 12457 Ventura Blvd., Studio City, CA 91604, and Creative Design Services, PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, PA 19406.

Left: Executive Producers, Anthony Zito (l.) and Jim Bridges, relax after the post-production editing marathon. ►



Stacy Novak

Over There

Meet Stacy Novak, the co-ordinator of TransEssex in the U.K. and a genetic female.

What a pleasure to be asked to write for International TranScript. I hope to keep you interested with the news from here in England.

I thought I'd tell you something about myself. My name is Stacy Novak and I'm 41 years old. I was the first (as far as I know) gendered female to become the coordinator of a TV/TS group, TransEssex, over 6 years ago. Essex is a county in the Southeast of England just north of the Thames on its way to the North Sea. A journey by train takes approximately 30 minutes to London.

I had the privilege of meeting JoAnn and her partner, Betty, a couple of years ago for an evening in London at the London TV/TS Support Group in French Place. We got on so well, I hope one day, I will host her and her partner, myself.

It was a lovely evening for me, though it would have been so much nicer if it had been my group they had been attending (I'm very proud of my evenings). The parties we have are a

lively, informal affair with a licensed bar and DJ. We have quiet music playing for the first half of the evening and a couple of hours of Disco. It's a place where people can make friends and feel totally relaxed. No one is left on their own. Over the years I have seen a great change of faces and a few of my girls have taken the plunge and undergone gender reassignment. We are known as one of the friendliest groups in the country, which is a nice reputation to have. I find TVs are a reasonably friendly bunch, though some TSs can be a little hostile. Some believe it's because of my female status, but some TSs are very confused, which I think could be the reason.

I expect many of you are wondering how I became involved in the first place. Well one thing's for certain, I fell in feet first, I knew what I could be letting myself in for.

I had, at the time, a boyfriend, a quaint soul, who one day sat me down to tell me a story. Some six hours later I got the gist of what he was saying; he was a transvestite. What could I say? I loved the guy. I really had no knowledge of the subject. Well, it turned out he had been a postal member of the Beaumont Society for a few years, and through the magazine we found some places to go. In this way I became more educated on the subject. Admittedly, when I was first told, I felt strange and confused as to why a man wanted to dress like a woman. We had some fun times though. We were about the same size so we could share the wardrobe.

We met up with some locals at one of Ron Storme's famous Porchester Hall balls. My first real TV friend was

an elderly crossdresser named Denise. It was love at first sight (all platonic) and still is. She taught me a lot about the feeling of TVs. She is the sweetest TV I have ever met.

At this particular ball, a gay guy was organizing a TV meeting at a place one of the other girls had found and TransEssex was born. I remember the first meeting in June. Seven people attended. My goodness how things have grown since then.

After a year the guy was tired of the whims of TVs and "defied" me to keep it going, telling me I could never do it. "Too much work," he said. A few bitchy comments later and I was more determined than ever to make the group work. It has been very hard but most worthwhile.

A time came when things started to go horribly wrong in my personal love life. My partner was becoming more and more feminine and I had this idea that there was some gender disorder. Sadly (for me), this person, my boyfriend and lover, finally realized at the age of 35, he was a transsexual. My demands for him to seek treatment were met with stony silence, at first, as he would just not admit it to himself. He did not want to hurt me, our families or our friends, but this sheer act of unselfishness was doing him more harm than good.

Yes, we went through some traumatic times, but two and a half years ago a beautiful woman was reborn. We are still very close and things have worked out just fine. She qualified as an electrologist and now works with me.

Of course, loving and being loved is

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Double Denial

*Drinking &
Crossdressing.
Double denial is a ticket
to hell or insanity.*

He proved to be a contradiction, the first happy one in Janet's tortured existence. Nothing about him suggested he might be a guide, there to lead her out of Hell and into life's better light.

The wall full of degrees said nothing about "guide." The framed documents identified him as a psychiatrist and he looked the part. A shade over six feet, bald with neat gray side hair, an aquiline nose that belonged on a bust in ancient Rome, he lounged in his molded easy chair like Caesar. He was courtly with no visible humor. He treated his pen and notebook as minor adjuncts. One hardly noticed when he scribbled. His three-piece suit belonged in the Harvard Club.

John sat across from him, fiftyish, full of guilt and remorse, sober but puffy from years of quiet but heavy drinking. He was there to be saved, to be straightened out, to be again one of the "normal" people who love to set rules for others. John had accepted those standards slavishly all his life.

Now John sipped coffee with this daunting man, admitting a destructive addiction, happy to have ended at last the denial of his problem, pleased with the reactions of family, friends and colleagues when he said he was going away to get healthy. He was determined to do it but equally sure there was no need to discuss his other denial. One denial is enough, isn't it?

No need? Ha! There was every need. It was the core of the problem, the heart of the matter. And it was out in minutes. John was only half the person; there was also Janet.

It was the second of 10 sessions. Doctor complained John had fenced with him in their first talk, that the patient who doesn't trust the doctor wastes the time of both. "You're hiding something," Doctor said, "Tell me. I am a professional." Out it came. John's lip quivered and he wept. Janet broke through, not her usual gentle self, but more a flood erupting through a weakened dike.

"I like to wear girls' clothes" said John/Janet. "So," said Doctor, "that's not so bad. Let's talk about it. Do you get sexual satisfaction out of it?" "Sometimes," J/J replied. "But more and more, I just feel complete and real. I feel whole and it's the only time I feel at peace with myself. I can't explain it." "You just did." They were off on a fascinating tour.

When that session ended, it was the physician who said "Let her out; you have got to let her out. You're killing yourself."

He wanted to know everything. J/J grew increasingly eager to tell.

John could not remember when Ja-

net was not there from the earliest, probably from birth. With a sister and a couple of close girl cousins, there was ample opportunity to dress as one of them. They summered at grandfather's country house and J/J's warmest memories are of role-reversal games in that happy place. It was innocent, but there was a tacit understanding that there was no need to tell the adults, who wouldn't understand.

The teen years were a period of intense emotional turmoil, more so than for most other kids. J/J was heterosexual but cherished an enduring sweet memory of brief freedom for Janet at age 16 at that country house, where John had gone alone to close it for the winter.

John was sensitive about his slight build and the gibes of the bigger kids ("You walk like a girl.") There was a thing called World War II when he finished high school. John joined one of the more macho military outfits and fought with distinction and surprising savagery in the final months of the war. There were no taunts when John came home.

But Janet was always there. John liked to accompany his buddies to female impersonator shows. They would laugh and applaud the more convincing performers. Inside, John fought a raging jealousy.

After the war it was college, then love and marriage. John thought marriage would "cure" him. It didn't, of course. It was his worst deceit.

Janet never really went away. She was a person with her own desire for life, with an instinct for survival as strong as anyone's. She burst out peri-

odically and inevitably John's spouse caught him. He was dressed in her clothes and she was staggered by the fact itself and by the quality of the transformation. They had it out, J/J still dressed. He promised to quit but could no more stifle that other self than he could murder in cold blood.

He settled for a few pairs of undies hidden in a junk drawer. He also found a way to forget Janet. It was called drink. Alcohol, booze, the sauce, the magic elixir that substitutes oblivion for pain. He was a world class drinker in a few years.

Every alcoholic knows that one piece of advice they receive is sincere but wrong. That's the one that says "It [the booze] doesn't work." Of course it works. It can tinge grim life with a roseate glow, or provide an unconsciousness in which one literally feels no pain. It works. It is, of course, also fatal.

It was some dim sense of that, or perhaps some grace beyond the ken of theologians, that took J/J to that alcoholism program and that psychiatrist. The crushing hangovers and the bitter indescribable frustration were simply the immediate impetus.

If one can call so fateful a confrontation with life "fun" the rest of J/J's time with Doctor was fun. Janet first noticed the warm brown eyes that belied the dignified mien. Doctor encouraged J/J to laugh; he joked about Janet having to put hot towels "... on that face for a year to unboil it." In J/J's presence he called an anxious spouse and laid it all out.

But he was serious too. Get yourself a wig and proper clothing and agree on times when Janet can exist without guilt or conflict, he counseled. He said he found a more than 60 percent female persona. He said letting her live would permit both to live.

When they parted, he shrugged and said "We don't know anything about these things. You probably should have been a girl."

That was 10 years ago and drink ceased to be a problem when J/J walked out of that office. Neither one spends time on remorse over the wasted years and the bitter frustration. John tries to let more of Janet rub off on his once bristly personality. Thanks to a mystified but patient spouse, Janet appears with increasing frequency, enjoying in the afternoon of life a peace she had never known.

None of this suggests that the cure for alcoholism is to switch clothing. But we know there are others whose second selves, whose feminine natures, are being drowned in booze. Fear, embarrassment, lack of courage, whatever the reason, the result is a far more deadly denial than gainsaying a drinking problem. Double denial is a ticket to hell or insanity.

To any who struggle with that nightmare, J and J can quote a great human being. "Let her out; you have got to let her out." ■



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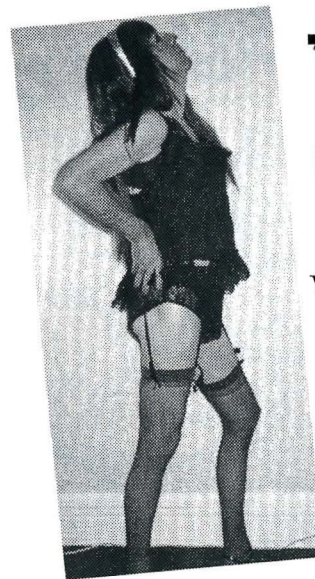
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not all there is in life and we both do all the usual things, like having boyfriends. I met a guy (straight) and went out with him for a year, but somehow this just did not work. He resented my other partner and I could not tolerate this. Then I met another TV and this time it felt right.


Funny how there are many woman who just can't stand the thought of a TV partner. Can't they just count their blessing? They can continue their childhood with a real live living doll to dress, makeup and play with.

I have visited a lot of groups around the country and many TVs here do seem to have tolerant partners, but many do not. Many a marriage has split up, but, of course, it depends on the TVs behavior. Some do go overboard in wanting to dress all the time, which is a bit selfish.

Well I hope this gives you some idea of the person writing to you. Some suggest I am a bit crazy with the work I do, but I am involved in other helping charities. A joke among my girls is "Save a Whale, Save a Rainforest, Save a Trannie!" Ah well, such is life.

I do wish JoAnn every success with the new launch. I would be happy to answer letters from readers. Write me at TransEssex. My address is in the Resources section (pg. 32).

My love to you all,
Stacy Novak ☺



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Nikki Nash

Our Family's First TV

*A real life adventure.
What evil lurked within
that innocent looking
chiffon dress?*

I can still clearly remember when I was about 6 years old, the first time my mother called me to her bedroom, and asked me if I'd like to have some "special fun."

I was totally mystified, but very close to my mother, and I trusted her. She was the only mom I had. She confided in me that she loved me deeply, but that she secretly had always wanted a pretty little daughter. (She and my father had been divorced for about four years.) She proceeded to tell me that "girls always have more fun than boys, get to wear jewelry and perfume, pretty clothes and pretty underthings as well!"

She took my hand gently, and led me to her bed, which had a lot of fancy wrapped packages on it. She told me to go into her bath and take a quick clean shower. It was after school and frankly, I needed one! After I was through, I returned to her bedside wrapped in a white towel. I was accustomed to seeing mom nude and vice-

versa so though nothing of it when she told me to drop it. She said "I have a nice surprise for you honey, close your eyes." I found myself stepping into a pair of girls pink lace trimmed panties. "Now don't those feel yummy!" queried mom, and after my initial embarrassment, they seemed to feel good.

Then she handed me a pink satin slip, and put it over my head and I put on my new lace trimmed white anklets and to top it all off, a pair of brand new, black patent leather "Mary Janes!" (They're like black loafers with a strap across the instep and little girls still wear them today.)

I had medium-long blond hair which she parted in the middle and combed down after jauntily placing a pink barrette to one side. To complete the ensemble she helped me into a pink taffeta party dress, which buttoned up the back with a belted bow. I couldn't handle the bow, so she tied it for me. "Well," she said "now don't you look pretty?"

I was amazed to gaze at myself in

her dresser mirror. I certainly looked nothing like the tow-headed six year-old boy I really was! I still felt a bit uneasy, 'til mom told me this was "our secret" and nobody else in the whole world would ever know.

She painted my fingernails pale pink and my lips to match, then added a subtle touch of rouge to my cheeks. After an hour or so, I was really beginning to enjoy the total experience. My step-dad was out of town on business; mom and I were all alone. She told me I'd have to have a girl's name, so that from now on, I'd henceforth be known as "Lisa" during dress-up times.

I recall that she also patted my face and throat with glycerin and rose water which smelled pretty girlish to me at the time. I soon began to chafe, as I wanted to go play with the "guys" in my backyard tree house.

I hastily took everything off, took another shower and got rid of my rosy cheeks and "sissy smell." I was "all boy" the rest of that afternoon and evening. Mom acted as if nothing out of the ordinary had transpired. We had a dinner of mom's wonderful homemade meatloaf, fresh shelled green peas, corn on the cob and hot apple pie for desert. I went to my desk in my bedroom to read and listen to Hopalong Cassidy on the radio.

When I went to bed at 8:30, I lay awake for over an hour thinking about the really extraordinary event my mother had precipitated. I didn't know it then, of course but my life had been changed forever!

To be continued... ❁



Diane Knoetze

completely. We discussed the issue at great length and decided that our marriage consisted of much, much more than just sex. My going on hormones was a mutual decision and, I think, Sanette knew how important it was to me. She supported me 100 per cent then as she does now.

ITS: So, you are, in essence, a “transgenderist” and being on hormones has had some interesting “side effects” so to speak. You had an incident where some doctors told you that you “had” to have a sex change operation. I had visions of people from the states emigrating to South Africa for “mandatory” re-assignment surgery. What was that all about?

DK: You know, even Tula mentioned this aspect of South African medical/legal practice in her court battle. Let me make it clear to all the readers that M-t-F transsexuals in South Africa are “reclassified” as females (and vice versa) not from any enlightenment of the authorities, but from pure ignorance. In this country, we simply cannot allow anyone to sit on the gender fence. According to the authorities, you are either male or female; there is *nothing* in between. This is why M-t-F transsexuals, after reassignment surgery, here, are completely robbed of their previous existence as males. They can marry and adopt children and live wonderful carefree lives as women with absolutely no reference to their male past. (Please note, however, that birth certificates are not changed.) That is why I was told to have a sex change operation — simply because I am sitting on the fence and our bureaucracy doesn't have a niche in which I fit. I remember a case some years ago, a transsexual was caught stealing women's clothing and the court ordered reassignment surgery.

In South Africa, you cannot be allowed to sit on the gender fence. One is either male or female. There is nothing in between.

ITS: Now I know there will be an emigration to South Africa after this gets out. But back to Phoenix. What kind of social activities does the group have? I remember plans for a “grand social.”

DK: Because our country is so vast with a sparse population, meetings are determined by where you live. Our Johannesburg Region has regular monthly meetings attended by some 30 to 40 members. Many gay crossdressers, most not Phoenix members, also attend. These folks also go to the *Dungeon* nightclub/disco on almost a weekly basis. Having been to this club myself, I can attest to the fun they have there.

In Cape Town, where I am, the people are much more accepting and tolerant, we don't really have a need for meetings as such. Oh, we invite each other around for tea, drinks or a meal, but mostly we just go out and do whatever we want. We can go to any restaurant, theater or movie dressed and you have to look really terrible before anyone is likely to pass comment. You see, as a rule, Capetonians do not interfere with each other and so long as you don't make a scene, you will not be hassled. Conversely, you can be mugged in broad daylight and nobody will lift a finger to help you. They'll just rush right past you. So, it's a double edged sword.

In Cape Town, any activity that involves groups isn't very successful. I'm referring to things like dancing, cycling, and most hobbies involving group activity. Capetonians have been accused of being unsociable. This may be true, but we are the capital of the world when it comes to eating out, camping, drives in the country and any activity that involves only family or close friends. This is why our plans for a Social Weekend failed. The country is too big, travel too expensive and the members too spread out to make it viable. Petrol is just short of \$1.00 a liter (a little over \$3.00 a gallon). Maybe sometime in the future such an event will happen — I hope so.

ITS: What's the future for Phoenix?

DK: That's a good question at this particular time. I have been running Phoenix and editing *FanFare* for the past 11 years. I can truthfully say that I'm just a little bit tired of it all. What started with purely selfish intentions has developed into an organization where there is no room for selfishness or personal egos. I've learned that there are a lot of people out there who genuinely need the help of organizations like Phoenix. I will be retiring from Phoenix activities at the end of this financial year on the 30th of June 92. I hope someone will take over and keep it going — I'd hate to see it die! I want to devote my time, for a change, to myself and to writing. Apart from that I just want to rest.

ITS: Well, no one can deny that you've certainly earned a rest and time for yourself. I too hope that some one steps up to the challenge of keeping Phoenix alive. Somehow, I have little doubt that it will survive. Thanks for the interview and good luck. 🍀

Christie Lea

Devil In The Black Dress

Reprinted with permission from the !Fiesta Tri-Ess newsletter

*A real life adventure.
What evil lurked within
that innocent looking
chiffon dress?*

Ack! A deep searing pain shoots through my chest. A terrible tightening weight lies on my heart.

The air is suddenly stifling.

"Ack! Oooooogh... shit."

The breath is driven from my lungs as a hawser of black and white polka-dot chiffon twists below my ribs. My arms flail helplessly, pinned to my ears, hand flapping aimlessly straight overhead.

"Ack! Ack!"

Breathing is quickly becoming more difficult as I blunder about, crashing into a wall then a chair.

"Urgh Aggh. dammit. Agchhh." Crash.

The dress had certainly looked innocent enough. Slinky, sexy black chiffon, with tiny white polka-dots, a straight mid-calf skirt and a bodice with pocket pleats and epaulets. Definitely a hot outfit.

My breath comes in gasps, filtered through several layers of cloth. Inside-out skirt is piled on my head tumbling down over my face. Everything has

gone black... with little white polka dots.

The dress sure had been cute though. Hanging there in that second hand clothing store. No size marked. It had looked to be a bit small, but... three bucks, worth taking a chance.

"Argh. Ooooooff. oomp. C'mon dress, let me go... shit."

Pulling the dress on had been accomplished with only a bit of a struggle. I even managed to get it buttoned. For a moment. However, I decided quickly that this particular dress, cute or not, unfortunately was not destined to find a place in my wardrobe. It fit well enough in the waist, but in the body, it was, well, a tad... tight. As a matter of fact, the dress seemed to have me in a Full Nelson, restricting my shoulder motion by about sixty percent.

It wasn't until I tried to get the dress off that I realized the true extent of the peril.

A twisted cord of slinky black material encircles my ribcage just below my arms, binding me completely. Desperately, I struggle to free myself. Twisting, pulling, bending, arms flailing and beating air. Crouching, cursing, crashing against the dresser, nearly falling over that damned chair. Pulling some more.

With diabolic tenacity the chiffon remains in place. Even "hulking Out" is to no avail. If anything, my struggles only serve to further tighten the dress' death grip.

"Agcch! Urph, damn... scissors! Yeah!

Got...to...find...some...scissors!"

Blundering from the bedroom into the darkened hallway, I can't see a

bloody thing. Somewhere in my gyrations I had lost one shoe, and now I find I can't kick off the other, so I am forced to gimp along on one heel.

"OOoof!" Wham! Into the door frame, then the wall.

"Aaaaaiiee..." Thud. Tripping over the dog, then trying in vain to break my fall with arms stretched out over my head.

The true demonic nature of the dress is becoming apparent. It tightens inexorably as I thrash and roll desperately trying to get my knees beneath me.

Blind. Disoriented. Each breath becoming a struggle. I feel as if my ribs must crack. Like my heart is in a vice.

Arms flail frantically, tearing at the material of the skirt, twisting, pulling.

Crashing, finally, into a wall. I am able to lever myself into a kneeling position, then standing-bent straight forward at the waist, hands groping desperately.

Blindly, I flounder into the kitchen and yank open the "Black Hole." The drawer crashes at my feet. Sorting frantically through piles of clattering junk with numbing fingers, viewed down a long black and white polka-dot tunnel. String, several hundred pens, tape dispensers, spools, ladles, spoons, strainers, extension cords. No scissors. The desk drawer is next. Envelopes, computer disk. No scissors. Still the dress tightens its death grip.

My life is beginning to pass before me, as my breath comes in ragged, painful gasps. I am weakening. The Polka-Dot-Chiffon-Dress-From-Hell was about to claim another victim.

continued on page 39

International NewsScript

Edited by Kym Richards from the news section of "Cross-Talk."



While our lead story in this premiere issue of *ITS* might be considered "old news," most people in the gender community are calling the almost simultaneous release of two documents — the *Bill of Gender Rights* and the *Gender Activist Declaration of Independence* — the beginning of a new era in the fight for transgendered people's rights. The *Bill of Gender Rights*, circulated to support groups worldwide, was authored by Renaissance founder and *ITS* publisher JoAnn Roberts. It proclaims, "it is time for the transgendered community to take a strong stand against all gender based discrimination," declares the gender community's rights to assume a gender role, freely express that gender role, make one's body congruent with one's gender role, and express one's sexuality congruent with the assumed gender role.

Meanwhile, the Gender Alternatives League (GAL), headed by Cynthia Howard, simultaneously issued the Gender Activist Declaration of Independence, which recommends the self-adoption of the term "genderist" for those who support gender rights, calling the term a "standard of pride ... (showing) unity of purpose". Much of the rest of the GAL declaration is similar to the Roberts' bill, with such statements as "the right to choose and express our preferred gender publicly and freely ... without discrimination in any form".

Roberts calls the twin documents "a major milestone in this community" and maintains that it is not simply coincidence that both appeared at the same time. She believes GAL may be the national umbrella group the community has needed, and could become its national "voice".



The on-going dispute between two Tri-Ess chapters struggling to become

the Los Angeles outlet of that national organization has ended, just under a year after it began. The Sigma Chi chapter decided to cease operation, after acting Sigma Chi president Jayne Cresap announced her resignation and no chapter members attended the nomination meeting in June. The Sigma Chi mailing list was then merged with that of Tri-Ess' flagship, Alpha chapter, which promptly invited the Sigma Chi membership, many of whom were Alpha members before the highly-publicized split, to return.

Alpha also subsidized the mailing of the final Sigma Chi newsletter containing Cresap's farewell message to its members. Cresap was the first to return, and agreed to take over production of the Alpha newsletter "Alpha Bits."



The case of the resignation of Michael Federico from the New Jersey State Police is going to move ahead, despite an earlier unfavorable ruling in his attempt to be reinstated to the State Police force.

Superior Court Judge Francis Piscal ruled that the resignation was voluntary and not under duress, as Federico claimed in his suit. Federico's resignation followed a state police investigation into his "unusual behavior." It was reported he visited a beauty salon for a makeup session and a wig fitting. He claimed his resignation was forced in order to protect his division, and was not based on any criminal behavior. According to Federico's attorney, Lewis Robertson, an appeal to the ruling has been filed, although it probably won't be heard for another year. Since the appeal can only raise issues brought up in the original case, it is doubtful that Federico's cross-dressing will be addressed directly.



Vernon Porter, president of the well-known community business "Vernon's Specialties", said someone deliberately eliminated as many as 2,000 addresses from his firm's computer hard disk, re-

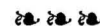
sulting in many of his customers not receiving the store's May/June newsletter or expected correspondence. The computer incident is the third setback suffered by the store in the past nine months. In October of last year, an armed gunman held up the store shortly after it opened for the day. The gunman drove off with a safe police say contained at least \$10,000. Two weeks earlier, thieves threw a cinder block through the store's rear door and ransacked a cash register.



The Gender Identity Center of Colorado (GIC) made a \$1,279 donation to a local community foundation as proceeds from a fund-raiser held in conjunction with the International Foundation for Gender Education's (IFGE) 5th Annual "Coming Together - Working Together" convention in April.

Laura Smiley, Chairperson of the GIC Board of Directors, said the donation to the Denver Foundation "marks the first time that any group within the gender community has held a fund-raiser that reached out beyond the local organization." [Publisher's Note: Renaissance held its first AIDS benefit and made a donation to a local AIDS charity in 1987.]

Noted sex-reassignment surgeon Dr. Stanley Biber of Trinidad, Colorado, who attended the fund-raiser, noted that the contribution represents a significant milestone in the quest to educate the general public about the gender phenomenon.



Two Camp Pendleton Marines have been arrested in connection with the slaying last December of a transvestite prostitute in the driveway of an Oceanside, Calif. motel.

Jeffrey Todd Hammons and Todd Alan Thornton, both 24, were arrested May 22 at the base by Oceanside police after a five month investigation into the murder of Carlos Santiago, 25, who was also known as Carlos Santana or "Tasha".

Santiago, who reportedly was one of

about a dozen transvestite prostitutes working downtown Oceanside, was found dead from a gunshot wound to the chest. Police said it took months for authorities to gather enough evidence to obtain warrants. The two Marines, both corporals, reportedly completed a tour of duty in the Persian Gulf while the investigation was underway. They have not been linked to any of the other five slayings reported in San Diego County last year in which the victims were transvestites or transsexuals.

•••••

A Florida corrections officer fired in 1985 after found wearing a woman's French-cut swimsuit, false breasts and heavy makeup has had a sex change operation and is seeking reinstatement.

Belinda Joelle Smith, formerly William Harvey Smith, told an administrative hearing officer in February that she was a good worker wrongly fired and deserves the job and back pay. "I told them ... I knew there would be some problems, but I could deal with it," she said of her efforts to go back to work.

Smith had a sex change operation in September of last year. Police discovered Smith's secret when they stopped to help her change a flat tire. The 42-year-old transsexual said that once her secret was out, she was told she could either resign or be fired for "conduct unbecoming an officer." When fired, Smith, who holds a two-year degree in criminology, had worked for 14 years as a corrections officer and was a lieutenant watch commander at the Jacksonville Correctional Institution.

In the hearing, Jacksonville psychiatrist, Daniel Stinson, testified that Smith, was a transsexual, has a medically recognized psychosexual disorder, but, he said, it would not impair her ability to perform her work at the correctional facility. However, under cross-examination by city attorney Cheryl Peek, Stinson admitted that a man in such a position [corrections officer], dressed as a woman, "could pose a problem".

Attorneys Samuel Jacobson and David Garfinkel, representing Smith, say they do not expect a ruling for several months.

•••••

Former child television star Danny Bonaduce, better known as Danny Partridge of the "Partridge Family", was arrested in Phoenix on charges of robbing and beating a transvestite prostitute. Bonaduce, now a disc jockey with KKFR-FM radio, was arrested after police found him hiding in a closet in his apartment. He is expected to face three felony charges: felony flight, aggravated assault and strong-arm robbery.

According to police reports, Bonaduce and the prostitute agreed on a sex act, and the prostitute was paid \$20. Afterwards, when Bonaduce wanted another sex act, the prostitute refused and a fight ensued. Bonaduce allegedly beat the prostitute, kicked him in the head before taking back his money and drove off. Police officers and a police helicopter pursued him to his apartment. After they were let in by Bonaduce's wife, Gretchen, they found Bonaduce naked, with blood on him, hiding under a pile of clothes in his bedroom closet.

Bonaduce would not say what he was doing before police entered his apartment but contended that the officers roughed him up needlessly. "I think what happened is they realized how much they beat me and came up with the worst-case scenario," he said. "I said, 'Whatever you want, whatever you want,' over and over again. I was stark naked and just sitting there."

•••••

An airline pilot whose career took a nose-dive after a sex-change operation turned him into a shapely blonde, is taking her sex discrimination claim to Britain's Equal Opportunities Commission. "I'm highly qualified, with 27 years' flying experience," Kristina Livingstone says. "But the airlines think I'm a pervert and have barred me from the air. I've been turned down for more than 30 jobs. I have a double handicap — not only am I a woman, I'm a transsexual."

Kristina, who as Ian Livingstone was once a married man and has an 11-year-old daughter, began her flying career with the Royal Air Force. She then joined the Rhodesian Air Force in Africa, dodg-

ing flak on bombing missions against rebels. She was decorated twice for bravery before returning to Britain as a captain with Britannia Airlines. Four years ago, when she began living as a woman, her shocked bosses fired her.

•••••

A suit filed in April in Philadelphia federal court is creating an interesting twist on the oft-tried attempt to force the government or an insurance company to pay for sexual reassignment surgery.

The suit claims that state Department of Public Welfare officials violated the civil rights of "Erik V.S." by denying him surgery to make him physically male. Unlike surgical procedures used only for M-to-F transsexuals, the mastectomy and hysterectomy Erik seeks are routinely funded by Medicare when necessary for the health of female patients. Eric was diagnosed as a transsexual in 1984, has been taking hormones since 1987, and has been functioning and living as a male for several years. But because of earlier psychiatric and medical problems, he is unemployed and receives Social Security and disability payments.

•••••

The Australian Administrative Appeals Tribunal has found that a 61-year-old woman who had a sex change operation is entitled to receive an age pension, even though men are not eligible until they turn 65. The majority decision said the law had to acknowledge that Australian society permitted sex reassignment surgery, and thus the woman, identified only as H.H., was eligible for the pension at age 60, just as other women are.

H.H., who has lived as a woman for many years, was treated by her local community as such and carried a Queensland driver's license describing her sex as female. In fact, the tribunal said, until she applied for the age pension, she had been treated by the Department of Social Security as a woman. The decision stated only transsexuals who had undergone reassignment surgery should be classified as women for purposes of the Social Security Act.

continued on page 36

Resources

o = open membership, TS = transsexuals only, f = family orientation

• National Organizations •

International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE), Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778, Publishes *TV/TS Tapestry*. Reprints and books on TV/TS subjects, other info. 617-899-2212.

Outreach Institute, 405 Western Ave., Suite 345, So. Portland, ME 04106. General TV/TS information for personal and professional use. Hard to find books.

Renaissance Education Association, Inc., Box 552, King of Prussia, PA 19406, 215-630-1437, \$12 associates fee includes monthly newsletter. Background Papers on TV/TS issues for personal and professional use. Speakers Bureau. Inquire about new chapters.

Society for the Second Self (SSS), Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275. Organization for Hetero-TV's only. Publishes "Femme Mirror." See chapters listed below.

• Organizations by State •

City, Name, Address, Zipcode

Arizona

Tempe, Alpha-Zeta SSS(f), Box 24459, 85285

Scottsdale, A Rose(o), Box 4351, 85261

California

Anaheim, PPOC(o), Box 9091, 92812

Concord, DVG, Box 272885, 94527

Duarte, CHIC(f), Box 562, 91010

L.A., Androgyny, PO Box 480740, 90048

L.A., Alpha SSS(f), Box 36091, 90036

Sacramento, Sacramento Gender Assoc(o), Box 215456, 95821

San Diego, Neutral Corner(o), Box 12581, 92112

San Francisco, ETVC(o), Box 6486, 94101

San Jose, Rainbow Gender

Association(o), Box 700730, 95170

Tulare, Tri Chi SSS(f), Box 194, 93275

Connecticut

Farmington, Connecticut Outreach Society(o), Box 163, 06034

Colorado

Denver, Gender Identity Center, 3715 West 32nd Ave, 80211

Florida

Hollywood, Serenity(o), Box 307, 33022

Miami, Animas (o), Box 420309, 33242

St. Petersburg, Southern Belles (o), Box 23112, 33742

Winter Park, Phi Epsilon Mu SSS (f), Box 3261, 32790

Georgia

Atlanta, Sigma Epsilon SSS(f), Box 250481, 30325

Decatur, AEGIS (TS), Box 33724, 30033-0724

Hawaii

Honolulu, Hawaii TG Outreach(o), 777

Kapiolani Blvd., Ste 3114, 96813

Illinois

Chicago, Chicago Gender Society(o), Box 578005, 60657

Washington, Central Illinois Gender Assoc.(o), Box 126, 61517

Wood Dale, Chi Chapter SSS(f), Box 40, 60191

Indiana

Indianapolis, IXE(o), Box 20710, 46220

Kansas

Overland Park, Crossdressers & Friends, Box 4092, 66204

Shawnee Mission, Gender Dysphoria Support, Box 15561, 66215

Louisiana

New Orleans, Tri Delta Chi SSS(f), Box 870213, 70187

Massachusetts

Springfield, The Twenty Club(TS), Box 80690, Forrest Pk Sta, 01138

Woburn, Tiffany Club(o), Box 2283, 01888

Michigan

Grand Rapids, W. Michigan I.M.E.(o), Box 1153, 49501

Royal Oak, Crossroads(o), Box 1245, 48068

Resource listings are free. If you'd like your group or business listed, please let us know. This list is accurate at the time of publication. Please send an SSAE when writing to these folks.

Minnesota

Minneapolis, CLCC(o), Box 16265, 55416

St. Paul, MFGE(o), Box 17945, 55117

Mississippi

Jackson, Beta Chi SSS, Box 31253, 39206

Missouri

St. Louis, St. Louis Gender Foundation, Box 9433, 63117

Nebraska

Bellevue, River City(o), Box 1305, 68005

Omaha, RCR(f), Box 24060, 68124

New Mexico

Santa Fe, Fiesta SSS(f), DeVargas Center, Suite G-451, 87501

New Jersey

Brick, MOTG(o), Renaissance Affiliate, Box 1326, 08723

Mays Landing, Renaissance SJ(o), Box 189, 08330

New York

Albany, TGIC(o), Box 13604, 12212

Brooklyn, Girl's Night Out (o), Box 369, 11235

Mountainville, Chi Delta Mu SSS(f), Box 93, 10953

New York City, The Gathering, Box 29, 10021-0030

Ozone Park, LIFE (f), Box 121, 11416

Rochester, CD•Network, Box 92055, 14692

Syracuse, EON(o), 523 W. Onondaga St., 13204

Tillson, Transgender Network(o), Box 177, 12486-0177

Ohio

Cincinnati, Cross-Port(o), Box 12701, 45212

Elyria, Alpha-Omega SSS(f), Box 954, 44036

Parma, Paradise Club(o), Box 29564, 44129

Reynoldsburg, Crystal Club, Box 287, 43068

Resources

Resource listings are free. If you'd like your group or business listed, please let us know. This list is accurate at the time of publication. Please send an SSAE when writing to these folks.

Oregon

Portland, NW Gender Alliance(o), Box 4928, 97208.

Pennsylvania

Harrisburg/York, Renaissance LSV(o) Box 2122, 17105

Phila., Renaissance GP (o), Box AD, Bensalem, 19020

Pittsburgh, TransPitt(o), Box 3214, 15230

Texas

Alief, Tau Chi SSS(f), Box 1105, 77411
Arlington, Delta Omega SSS(f), Box 1021, 76004

Austin, Heart of Texas (o), Box 402, 78767

Houston, Gulf Coast TV Chapter(o), Box 90335, 77090

San Antonio, B&P Society(o), Box 169652, 78280

Utah

Salt Lake City, Alpha Rho Provesta SSS(f), Box 26711, 84126

Virginia

Arlington, DCEA(o), Box 16036, 22215

Richmond, Virginia's Secret (o), Box 34631, 23234

West Virginia

Huntington, Trans-WV, Box 2322, WV 25724

Washington

Portland, NW Gender Alliance(o), Box 4928, 97208

Seattle, Emerald City(o), Box 31318, 98103

•Canadian•

Cornbury Society, Box 3745, Vancouver, B.C. V6B-3Z1

Monarch Social Club (o), Box 682, Owen Sound, Ontario, N4K 5P1

Toronto Crossdressers' Club Inc., 429C Dundas St. East, Toronto, Ontario, M5A-2A9

•Overseas•

U.K., TransEssex (o), Box 3, Basildon, Essex, SS14-1PT

France, Assoc. Beaumont Continentale, 2 rue des Charpentiers, 68270 Wittenheim

Germany, Transidentitas, Postfach 10 10 46, 6050 Offenbach

Australia, Seahorse Society Victoria, GPO Box 2337V, Melbourne, Victoria

Australia, Elaine Barrie Project, Box 405, Altona, Victoria 3018

South Africa, Phoenix Society, Box 375, Parow, 7500 Cape Town

New Zealand, TransCare: The Minorities Trust, POBox 2983, Wellington

•Boutiques & Businesses•

CA, Glendale, NS Products (Mirage Breast Forms), Box 6678-L, 91205

CA, Laguna Niguel, Fashion 2000 (makeup & fashion consultants), Box 6502, 92607

CA, Mt. View, B&R Creations (Corsetry), Box 4201-L, 94040

CA, San Diego, Jo Lynn White Image Consultant, 619-492-8816

CA, Sherman Oaks, Lydia's TV Fashions, 13837 Ventura Blvd., Suite 2, 91423, 818-995-7195.

CA, Tustin, Versatile Fashions, Box 1051, 92681

CT, Greenwich & New Haven areas, Jane Doyle Electrology, 203-869-2323 or 734-5408

MA, Waltham, Vernon's Specialities, 386-EF Moody St., 02254, 617-894-1744

NJ, Romance & Lace Lingerie, 721b Black Horse Pike, Turnersville, 609-227-5845

NY, NYC, Mardi Gras Boutique, 400 W. 14th St. at 8th Ave., 212-947-7773

PA, Jenkintown, Laine Alexander Image Consultant, 215-635-8858

PA, Upper Darby, Marilyn's Wigs, 215-446-0799

Canada, Toronto, Walk on the Wildside, TV Boutique, 416-864-0420

Canada, Owen Sound, FantasyLand, TV Boutique, 274 8th St. E., Box 682, Ontario, N4K-5R4

•Recurring Events•

Autumn Accord, Upstate New York, Sponsored by the New York State Gender Coalition; EON (Syracuse), TGIC (Albany) and CD•Network(Rochester) in early October. Inquire with any club.

Be All You Can Be Weekend, Sponsored by Paradise Club, Crossroads, Trans-Pitt and Chi Chapter of SSS in June.

California Dreamin' Weekend, Sponsored by PPOC and Cross-Talk. Southern California in May.

Esprit Weekend, Sponsored by Emerald City, NWGA and Cornbury Society, in the Spring.

Fantasia Fair, 10 days, once a year in October, in Provincetown, Mass. Contact the Outreach Institute.

IFGE Coming Together Convention, once a year in April, '92 in Houston, '93 in Philadelphia. Contact I.F.G.E.

On The Scene Nite, 2nd. Saturday each month at the Queen Mary, Studio City, Calif. (818) 506-5619.

Paradise in the Poconos, 4days/3nights, twice a year, May and September, in the Pa. Poconos. Contact CDS.

Tiffany Provincetown Outings, twice a year in Oct & June.

International NewsScript



A federal magistrate has refused to order officials at the California Medical Facility at Vacaville to provide female hormone treatments for a transsexual inmate, but has instead instructed them to conduct a thorough medical and psychiatric review of the inmate and recommend treatment. 49-year-old Georgette Rebecca Belcher, who is serving a life term for kidnapping and robbery, claims depression and anxiety attacks because prison officials have refused to continue the hormone treatments she had received for several years before being incarcerated in 1989.

U.S. Magistrate John Moulds chastised the California Department of Corrections for not having a formal policy on providing therapy to transsexual inmates. A physician for the department testified he is reluctant to prescribe female hormones for male patients because they could cause severe health problems. Be-

fore being incarcerated, Belcher had breast implants, but had not had a sex change operation.



Betty Ann Lind was the recipient of the 1991 *Virginia Prince Lifetime Contribution Award*, the highest and most prestigious award conferred by the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) and within the gender community. Lind received the award at the 5th Annual IFGE "Coming Together - Working Together" convention.

Lind co-founded the Minnesota chapter of FPE (Phi Pi Epsilon) in 1964. She served as the Mid-Atlantic coordinator for Tri-Ess from 1976-1980 and has been the editor/publisher of the Outreach Institute's "Our Sorority" from 1978 to the present. She has held many offices in various crossdressing organizations, including a position on the IFGE Board of Directors since 1987.

Previous recipients of the Prince award are: Virginia Prince herself (1987); Merissa Sherrill Lynn (1988); Ariadne

Kane (1989); and Sr. Mary Elizabeth, SSE (1990). In addition to the Prince award, the annual Trinity Awards, recognizing extraordinary contributions and accomplishments in the gender community, were awarded to Ellen Summers (Northwest Gender Alliance), Sheila Kirk (Transpitt), Yvonne Cook, Boulton & Park Society, Stanley Biber, M.D., and Mariette Pathy Allen for their work in the gender community.



Elisabeth P. Swan, psychic healer and founder of Swan's Inner Sorority, died of heart failure on March 29th at the age of 82. Ms. Swan, who became intrigued with the gender community after meeting Wendi Seabreeze in 1986, formed Swan's Inner Circle (later Swan's Inner Sorority) the following year, using metaphysical lessons written by its founder.

Swan was cremated on April 3, with her ashes spread across the bay of Ballyheige. A cosmic communion and final rite of passage was performed by the Sorority's sisters on June 26. ❧

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202—Pittsburgh: Pretty 39 yr. old TV looking to meet other TVs & understanding women. 5' 8" Green eyes. Write E.F., PO Box 95205, PGH, PA 15223.

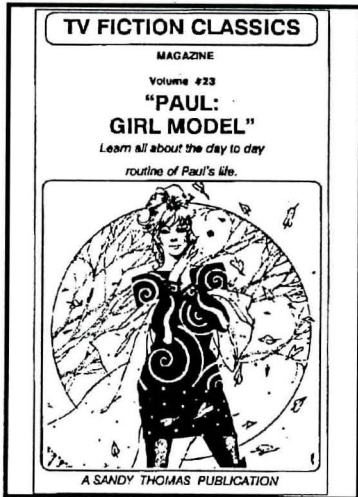
203—SWM TV, Loves dressing fully & being feminine. Just beginning to venture out in public & would like support. Send photo please. Lee Jenkins, #290 PO Box 2013, Austin, TX 78768

204—No. VA: TV & spouse seek other TVs for friendship & girltalk. Write: Jacqui, PO Box 828, Manassas, VA 22111

205—Colo: CD/Sometime FI, 34, Hopes to corresp. w/ old & new friends—coming out a bit more: Anndrea Daniels, PO Box 17724, Boulder, CO 80308-7724

206— MWM, 50, Love fem, meet new friends, like photo exchg, letters, travel to AZ & FL, live MI. Kim Sebastian, PO Box 40515, Redford, MI 48240

407—No. VA: TV, 66, ISO other TVs & GGs for correspondence & afternoon get-togethers. Write: Becky, 8375 Leesburg Pike, #215, Vienna, VA 22180



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Devil Dress...

I can feel the strength draining from me. My struggles diminish. I can't help it. I can feel my will to live slipping away, as the dress' strength increases with each moment. Oblivion is near. I'm glad I have on clean panties.

An eternal blackness is beginning to creep into my brain, when suddenly my mind fills with a vision. A tombstone — cracked, neglected, askew amongst coarse weeds. Carved across this melancholy stone a simple message ... "TRIED TO FIT INTO AN 8."

"No!" I roar, thrashing violently to my feet. Battering my way back into the kitchen, I slip and stumble over all the junk. Stretching out desperately with both hands, I finally reach the knife rack. An eight-inch long carving knife is the first my hand encounters. It flashes in the fluorescent glare.

Both arms are bound together so tightly, movement is possible only at the elbows and wrists. Gripping the

knife with bunched fingers and twisting my wrists down and in, I can just bring the point of the blade against the material directly in front of my face. Again and again I lunge trying to pierce the cloth, but the chiffon gives with each jab. The dress seems to be mocking me. A dozen times the knife is thrust, a dozen times the slinky material slides and stretches out of harm. I can feel my spirit flagging, darkness is moving in on me once again.

In desperation I drop to my knees. Bracing the knife against the floor with both hands, I aim it upwards toward my throat. Leaning forward, I can feel my balance teetering precariously. The cloth pushes against my face, stretching before the point of the carving knife. Further forward I lean, further the chiffon stretches.

Suddenly, one knee slips. With a shrill ripping sensation the knife blade slides past my neck, the metal cold against my skin.

It seems as if with this single breach, I have pierced the heart of the demon. The material parts easily now as the knife blade saws into the black and white polka-dot bindings. My shoulders can flex a little, widening the gap with each motion. A very welcome sound of tearing cloth comes close to my ear.

Suddenly, I see daylight. Cool air spills over my face. The remnants of the dress still encircle my chest, but the fight seems to have gone out of it. Gasping, I finally manage to tug it over my head. Collapsing on the kitchen floor I lean back against the refrigerator, fighting to calm my breathing.

Lying in a heap across my legs is the dress. Black and white polka-dot chiffon! Once very sexy, now with a jagged slash across its bodice.

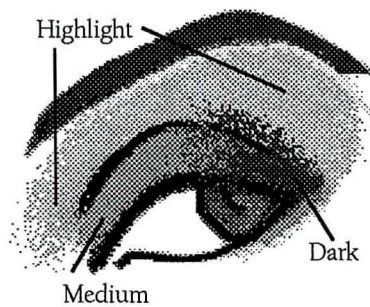
I wonder though, if I was to cut this part off here, and fold this down, tack it here... and here, I could still salvage a real cute skirt out of it... ♣

Jim Bridges

When I say blend, I don't mean you have to go over the entire lid with the brush. You only want to make a few, small, simple brush strokes, blending the outside edge where you applied the shadow. So, take your brush, start from the outside, and blend very lightly to the inside of the eye towards the nose. You have all this color on the outside of the eye and if you start blending from the inside outward toward your ear, you're going to end up with color halfway to your ear and look like Cleopatra.

Do this for both eyes, then go on to your second shade which will be medium. This color should start at the inside corner of the eye and it should be applied, again, about halfway up and toward the first color, your darkest one. You bring it just to where you stopped with your dark color so that they meet. Then you take your blending brush, starting from the inside corner of the eye this time, and blend

toward the outside. Again, you don't need to brush all over the lid; you'd just be dragging a lighter shade over the darker and end up with mud. You



don't want a sharp contrast between the two colors. You want them to blend lightly one into the other.

Once you have that done on both eyes, take the highlighter, the lightest shade, and apply from the inside cor-

ner of the eyebrow, right under the eyebrow, all the way to the outside corner of the brow. It's like an arch. You want to lift the eye; open it up.

Don't bring the highlighter down too far, because you will overlap the outside corner where you applied the dark shadow. You want a definite contrast. Again, that opens the eye up.

The secret of great looking eye makeup is blending. Once you have learned where to apply the three colors, the next step is to learn how to work with that brush so you can make them blend very smoothly, one into the other without sharp contrast. You do, however, want there to be a noticeable difference between your dark, medium and highlight colors. If you just blend and blend and blend, you end up with sort of a muddy look and that's not what your going for.

Next time: Finishing the look. Eye liner and Mascara. ♣

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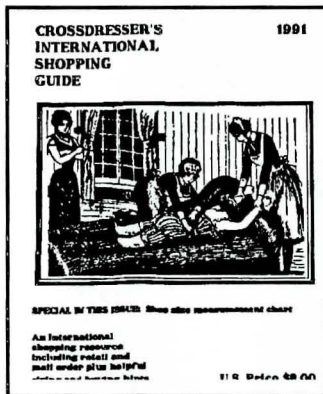
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J M P G



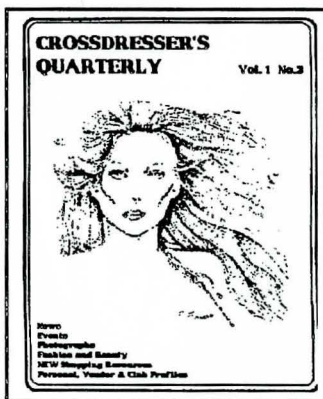
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