



GIRL TALK

Powder Puffs of California — Serving the California Gender Community Since 1987

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OCTOBER MEETING? — Yes and No

We're NOT having one, at least not at the Placentia Holiday Inn. Many moons ago we agreed to work with Alpha Chapter and co-host the Saturday Night entertainment at the Transfest mini-weekend event at the Burbank Holiday Inn on October 17th.

Alpha Chapter's Transfest '98 (Oct 16-18) promises to be a fun-filled weekend in Los Angeles, CA (actually, beautiful downtown Burbank). The weekend will be crammed full with shoooping, seminars, food, woman's programs, couple programs, even a Monte Carlo Night and gala Halloween Party!

For info call Kathy at (818) [REDACTED] or Lind at (310) [REDACTED], or e-mail at [REDACTED]@earthlink.net

Thus, OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING AT THE PLACENTIA HOLIDAY INN WILL BE ON NOVEMBER 21ST AT 7:30 PM.

Date: Sat, Nov 21st
Time: 7:30 pm PDT
Place: Placentia Holiday Inn, 118 E. Orangethorpe Ave, Placentia, CA. Take 57 Fwy to Orangethorpe exit. Head east.

Calendar of Events

Oct 17 Transfest

Nov 21 TBA

Dec Christmas Party
* Meeting begins at 8:00 pm

Wilson signed the Transgender Hate Crimes Bill
Submitted by Shirely Bushnell

Just to let you know that Sheila Kuehls office just called to report that Governor Wilson signed the Transgender Hate Crimes Bill (AB 1999) yesterday. It takes effect 1/1/99 --- a very appropriate date for that bill. This means that every law enforcement agency in the state of CA will need training in T sensitivity issues as required by Penal Code section 13519.

For details, see
<http://www.assembly.ca.gov/acsframeset2text.htm>

Elections Results

No, this is not the results of the national election this November 3rd. I do not possess a crystal ball. Rather, I have been negligent in posting the results of Powder Puffs election. Your officers are as follows:

Election results (yes, we have some)

1. Prez - Diane
2. Veep - Dee
3. Sec/T - Joan
4. Board - Lisa [REDACTED], Cyndi Silk, Jeri [REDACTED], Linda [REDACTED]

California Dreamin '99

AirTel Plaza Hotel

Van Nuys, CA

April 22 - 25!

Powder Puffs' Officers

1998-1999 Officers

President
Diane D.

Vice-President
Dee G.

Secretary/Treasurer
Joan G.

Board of Directors
Diane D., *Chairperson*
Lisa R., *Member-at-Large*
Cyndi S., *Member-at-Large*
Jeri T., *Member-at-Large*
Linda W., *Member-at-Large*

Social and Outreach Director
Diane D.
Jeri T.

Newsletter
Cyndi Silk (editor), Diane D.

Librarian
Dee G.

California Dreamin '98

Powder Puffs of California
Educational TV Channel (ETVC)
The Diablo Valley Girls (DVG)
Rainbow Gender Association (RGA)
FiM International

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Membership rates. \$39/yr, \$15/meeting; \$180 covers dues & meetings for entire year. A Renaissance Education Affiliate.

PPOC:
<http://www.ren.org/ppoc.html>

CA Dreamin:
<http://www.flash.net/~dhome/cadreamin>

Let The Walls Fall Down

by Rachel (Richard) Miller

The bedrock of the United States' governing system affirms that all men are created equal and have certain God-granted rights. It is a nation with a strong spiritual heritage and the dual principles of loving God and loving your neighbor are widely espoused. Many settlers fled religious oppression and came to the U.S. in pursuit of their own personal vision of freedom of spiritual expression. Curiously, even with that backdrop, various groups of citizens, all of them God's children, find themselves treated decidedly unequally by much of society and frequently shunned by many religious organizations.

I have a permanent membership in one of those ill-treated groups and have considerable experience with the pain, guilt and shame inflicted by repeated rejection. The person that I allow everyone to see in public is perfectly acceptable and enables me to move about society freely without causing a ripple. Yet, I feel compelled to continue to hide some of the truth about myself knowing how others would likely react if they knew.

In mid-1991, after spending fifty years in hiding, I embarked on a journey to confront the fear and end my hiding. What is this fearful, secret burden that I have dragged with me? Terror of terrors, I am a man who sometimes likes to wear a dress. That's it! It may not seem like much, but it causes significant repercussions. People label me a transvestite or cross-dresser and many times something far worse. Mostly I'm surprisingly like any other person you know. We hide so deeply in our closets that no one, even our closest loved ones, suspects our secret. Even though you almost certainly know one of us, you don't know that you know.

Once I understood and accepted the cross-dressing part of me, I felt a strong compulsion to share that news with my

family and friends, the people I love and care about. I simply had to end the pretending and hypocrisy that had overshadowed so much of my life. Remarkably, after sharing the truth with nearly sixty loved ones, they have all continued our relationships. They saw that I was still the same person they had known and loved over the years and accepted the news as part of my total person. Many relationships have actually deepened. Since I had become vulnerable by telling my story, they felt secure enough to tell their secrets, and these exchanges have resulted in an unexpected mutual easing of burdens.

Even after telling those closest to me, I have continued to withhold that information from most of my daily life. I have considered the corporate workplace out of bounds for fear of losing my job. Stores and restaurants have been avoided for fear of recognition and for my safety. Although I bristle at those restrictions, I have been able to rationalize them with one exception -- church!

I am a spiritual person and strongly desire an accepting church home. For many years I have struggled with the question of how Richard could show the truth about his more feminine side at church. Not being able to show has continued to hammer at my sense of self-worth and has fanned the belief that I am not acceptable. In late August I wrote a letter (Keyword to: <http://members.aol.com/rachelmill/spirit03.htm>) to the pastors of nine local churches of different denominations, telling my story and asking if I would be welcome at their churches. I included a copy of a poem from my book, *The Bliss of Becoming One* (Keyword to: <http://members.aol.com/rachelmill/bobo.htm>), that describes my overall character and places cross-dressing in a balanced perspective. I included an extract of an article that I had written several years ago that addresses Biblical concerns.

I have been encouraged that two of the pastors wrote personal notes inviting

me to attend. My wife Marsha and I, dressed traditionally, have visited both churches to see how well they fit my needs and how well we fit in. I am continuing to attend services at one church, still in traditional male attire, and have enrolled in a class for prospective new members. I am taking my time before deciding how to proceed.

It is discouraging that in the past month, seven of the pastors have failed to respond -- they haven't said yes, they haven't said no, they haven't said anything. Perhaps the lack of response can be partially attributed to the prejudice towards cross-dressers that stems from negative stereotypical views and there is good reason for many of those views. Most of us try to blend unnoticed into society so only a small percentage is visible. Those who are visible tend to be more flamboyant personalities who often wear gaudy costumes and engage in attention-attracting behavior. Many of us complain that the outrageousness of a few ruins our reputation, still we continue to hide so you don't see the less ostentatious, garden-variety cross-dresser.

Some people believe that cross-dressers are simply getting what we deserve. They consider us sinners and violators of God's word and that justifies ostracizing us and even restricting our civil rights. That point of view is incompatible with the principles of the governing system and with the spiritual principle of love and acceptance and needs to be changed!

The primary obligation for initiating this change resides within the gender community, a general term used to embrace cross-dressers, transsexuals and other people who consider themselves transgendered. We must reduce the degree of hiding and let others see us as we are. Lacking that exposure, attitudes will continue to be based on the few who flaunt themselves in public. If you are transgendered, consider coming a bit further out of your closet and, without taking excessive risks, working for your spiritual freedom and the spiritual

freedom of others.

The next most important step rests within the religious community. Religious organizations, churches, ministers and members can exert leadership to change the existing attitudes. Consider demonstrating the love exemplified in this song that I learned last week at a local church.

Let The Walls Fall Down

One by one we're drawn together,
One by one to Jesus' side,
One in Him we'll live forever,
Strangers He has reconciled.
In His love no walls between us,
In His love a common ground.
Kneeling at the cross of Jesus,
All our pride comes tumbling down.
(Chorus)

)Let the walls fall down,
Let the walls fall down;
Let the walls fall down,
By His love let the walls fall down.

Bill Batstone, Anne Barbour & John Barbour 1993 Maranatha! Music

Governing officials have another crucial role in changing conditions. Only a handful of jurisdictions prohibits discrimination against transgendered people and even the Federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) is not designed to protect us. While we haven't yet wielded significant political clout, all citizens deserve legal protection. If you are a legislator, consider how to help transgendered people to achieve equal status in society.

To change views, active media participation is essential. The July 20 issue of Time ran a constructive story, "Trans Across America," describing the efforts of transgendered people working for equality. The Arts & Entertainment Channel will air "Transgender Revolution" a ground-breaking documentary on October 5. The program moves beyond sensationalism and freak show images and treats us as real people fighting for our civil rights. If you are a

member of the media, consider portraying a factual, non-emotional account of transgendered people or issues to dispel some of the negative stereotypes.

The medical community is needed to heal the existing pain and suffering. Most transgendered people function extremely well in society in spite of the difficulties they face, but many have developed significant emotional problems. They have been forced to compartmentalize their lives into a society-acceptable piece while hiding the true-self piece and this disassociation has had dreadful repercussions. The problems are exacerbated by the low level of involvement by the medical profession. If you are a health care professional, consider helping these people to break through their emotional barriers and integrate their lives.

While we have differing beliefs and value systems, we must find ways to demonstrate real love and concern towards real people with real problems. Together we can achieve freedom of spiritual expression by making the transgendered walls fall down.

When we allow freedom to ring,
when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet,
from every state and every city,
we will be able to speed up that day when
all of God's children,
black men and white men,
Jews and Gentiles,
Protestants and Catholics,
will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual,
'Free at last! Free at last!
Thank God almighty,
we are free at last!'

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.
%Opportunities for Improvement P.O.
Box 31475 Oakland, CA 94604,
U.S.A. (925) 935-
9594 <http://members.aol.com/rachelmill>
(Keyword to:
<http://members.aol.com/rachel>
mill)

QUEENSPEAK

by Joan Goodnight

Dues, Dues, Dues - Yes Kids, It's Due-Due Time Again

Just a gentle reminder that it's the time of year when our annual membership dues are upon us for renewal. The Board of Directors met in executive session on Sept. 24th, and try as we might, there just wasn't any way not to increase the annual dues. So effective this month (October 1998) our annual dues will be \$39; a whopping four dollar increase. The step was necessary so that the club can continue to cover the cost of envelopes, labels, printing, and distributing the monthly newsletter. Our newsletter editor, Cyndi, composes the newsletter gratis and others volunteer their time and labor to stuff the envelopes carry it to the post office for mailing.

So dig deep in to those purses ladies. This is all for a good cause and helps the club distribute a quality newsletter. By the way, there is no increase to the meeting fees. They remain at \$15 per meeting. If anyone would like to pay annual dues and meeting fees in one lump sum have we got a deal for you. For the paltry one-time payment you can pay your annual dues and 12 meeting fees in one neat little discount package of \$180.

So please send in your dues to:

PPOC/California Dreamin'
P.O. Box 1088
Yorba Linda, CA 92885

Or, please pay at the November 21st meeting

OCTOBER MEETING

We're not having one. We're combining with Alpha Chapter and co-hosting the Saturday Night entertainment at the Transfest mini-weekend event at the Burbank Holiday Inn on October 17th. Our next regular meeting at the Placentia Holiday Inn will be on November 21st at 7:30 pm.

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN' 1999

Cal Dreamin' '99 will take place April 22 - 25, 1999 at the AirTel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys, CA. This is the same hotel that hosted the first International Congress on Sex and Gender. We're still working on the programs and convention prices but we do have hotel room rates established. Room rates for the

event are as follows (these rates are per night, single or double occupancy):

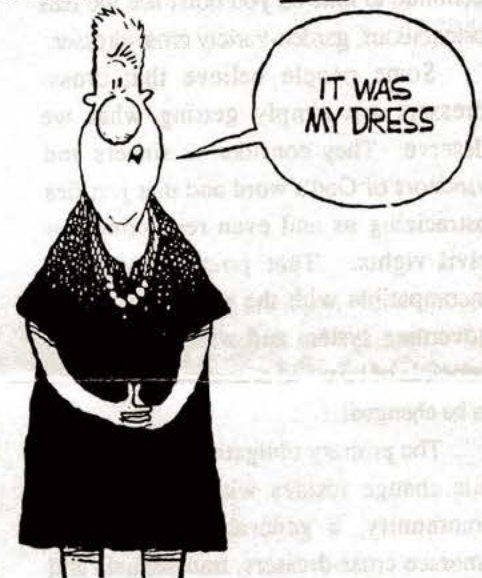
Standard Room \$89
Spa Rooms \$115
T-Spa/Exec. Spa \$130/150
Executive Suite \$140
One Bedroom Suite \$150

The hotel staff is delighted that we've chosen their hotel and is looking forward to working with us to make the 1999 event a memorable occasion.

"If it's on the dress, he must confess."

Rep. James A. Traficant Jr., an Ohio Democrat, overheard muttering to himself as he wandered a Capitol hallway.

CLINTON'S DEFENSE MAKES A BOLD MOVE ...



The following is a listing of products and services available to the Southern California gender community compiled from information furnished by the individual advertisers. Powder Puffs is providing this listing as a service and assumes no responsibility for ad content, nor does it endorse any particular business concern or product.

CLOTHING AND FASHION

Jim Bridges Boutique, 12457 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 103, Studio City, CA, 818-761-6650

Shana's: Shirely & Faye's designer clothing and fashion accessories. Discount prices. Call 714-854-4562

Lydia's T.V. Fashions, "Where Your Feminine Experience Begins," 13837 Ventura Blvd. Ste. 2, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423, 818-995-7195, M-W 12-7, Th-Sat 11-8

My Secret Place, "A Specialty Consignment Store for Size 14+ Women Only," 188662 Beach Blvd., #116, Huntington Beach, CA 92646 (between Ellis & Garfield), 714-963-4743.

Albert's Hosiery Stores, Full-fashioned stockings — special occasion hosiery, 6336 Hollywood Blvd. (Hollywood & Vine) Hollywood, CA 90028, 213-465-2834, mail orders accepted.

Second Time Around, "Distinctive Consignment Apparel for the Upscale Shopper," Jonella Tescone 298 E. 17th St., #B, Costa Mesa, CA 92627, 714-642-4700.

De 'An Drew Designs, Stockings & Pantyhose, 8884 Warner Ave., Suite 172, Fountain Valley, CA 92708.

Sizes Unlimited, specializing in sizes 14 and up, 5187 Lakewood Blvd. (next to Chucky Cheese) in Lakewood across from the Lakewood Mall, 310 634-2054. Ask for Rey between 9 to 3.

JEWELRY

Jewels by Parklane, Specializing in the highest quality ladies fashion jewelry — unconditionally guaranteed (ask about our \$100 free shopping spree for \$10), Jeani Adams, 714-533-4662.

Cookie Lee, Fine fashion jewelry — home & office shows, Genie Lalama, 818-246-2197 (by appointment).

MEDICAL SERVICES

Shirely Lampert, M.A., MFC. Professor of Human Sexuality, Psychotherapist, ASSET AND AMERICAN BOARD OF SEXOLOGY. Certified Sex Therapist. Specializing in working with the TS & TV community. (714) 833-7810, 1151 Dove St., Ste 105, Newport Beach, CA 92660

Brad Taylor, M.A., MFCC, 360 N. Bedford Drive, Suite 215, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, sliding scale. (310) 247-9955

Transgender Counseling & Research Center, 4545 Park Blvd., Ste. 207, San Diego, CA 92116, 619-929-2721, Jan Eder, Psy. D., Educator & Research Director.

Patricia Wojdowski, M.S.W. Licensed Clinical Social Worker, 4926 La Cuenta Drive, Ste. 200, San Diego, CA 92124, 619-292-0492 (by appointment).

Dr. Richard F. Docter, Ph.D., 17162 Sunburst St, Northridge CA 91325, 818-349-9709

Regal Opticians, 2402 W. 6th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90057, 213-382-7606.

Dr. T. Adam Coteson, M.D., Psychiatrist Providing Therapy, Medications, 116 roberston Blvd., Suite 702, Los Angeles, CA 90048, 310-659-8640, FAX 310-659-8642 (by appointment)

ELECTROLYSIS & SKIN CARE

Kathryn Robbins Electrolysis & Skin Care, located in Yorba Linda, 714-692-2747.

Beach Electrolysis by Gwen & Judy, 350 N. Sepulveda, Manhattan Beach, 310-318-9747.

Dana Point Electrology, 34213 Pacific Coast Hwy, Ste. G, Dana Point, CA 92629, 714-240-7709.

Layla's Electrolysis & Artistic Beauty, Westwood CA, 310-236-1010

Electrolysis & Permanent Makeup by Champa, R.N., R.E., Torrance, CA, 310-373-5682 (call after 3:30 pm)

HAIR & COSMETICS

World of Wigs, A Full Service Salon, 2305 E. 17th St, Santa Ana CA, 92701, 714-547-4461

Ricardo M. Hair Salon, 11620 Barrington Court, Brentwood. CA 90049. 310-472-4002

Sylvia's Wigs, 2612 S. Bristol St., Corner of Bristol & Central, Santa Ana, CA 714-545-1307

Jenny's Wigs, 384 S. Tustin Ave, Eldorado Plaza, Orange CA 714-771-3883

Judy's Creative Hair Design, 1815 W. Orangethorpe, Fullerton, CA 92633, 714-773-0200

Fantastic Hair & Nail Design, 11851 Gilbert St., #105, Garden Grove, CA 92641 (corner of Gilbert & Costco St.), 714-539-8020, Nancy Rodriguez is available on Wednesdays & Saturdays only.

Mary Kay, Terri Davis — Independent Professional Beauty Consultant, 4607 Ostrom Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713, 310-420-9933.

SPECIALTY SERVICES & PRODUCTS

Melody Products International, Melody Products International has added a full line of breast form products from a leading US manufacturer at competitive prices in addition to the flagship Melody Breast Forms. (Master Card/Visa Card accepted) (Check them out along with our other products at Website <http://www.melpro.com>) PO. Box 2142, Yorba Linda, CA 92885 (Fax) 714-693-9165.

Classic Curves, "Get the Maximum Curvature with a minimum of Effort," foundations by Espy Lopez, 2620 Carson St., Ste 55, 310-549-8787.

Waist and Stays Cosetry, The Goddess Shoppe, "Serving the Needs of the Craft," Erin Rado and Paul Rado — Owners, Phone: (800) 777-1185 Office), (714) 579-7514 (FAX), P.O. Box 6399, Fullerton, CA 92634-6399, <http://www.primenet.com/~goddess>, e-mail goddess@goddess.com

Victoria's Institute Hair, Skin, Body Non-Surgical Corrective Treatment 7360 Center Ave Huntington Beach, CA 92647 714-379-6156

Nighty's and Naughty's, 16112 Harbor Blvd., Fountain Valley, CA 92708. E-Mail @ Naughty@wdc.net

Income tax & bookkeeping - LOREN WINGERT, CPA (310) 925-8035

PUBLICATIONS

P. M. Publisher, mail order books & videos. for a list contact P.O. Box 5304, Katy, TX 77491-5304

NIGHT SPOTS

OZZ Supperclub, Restaurant, Hi-tech Danceclub, Cabaret Lounge, 6231 Manchester Blvd, Buena Park CA 714-522-1542

Powder Puffs Rap Sheet

Community Events and Other Happenings — "All Work and No Play Makes Jill a Dull Girl"

On the Local Scene

Places to go. Things to do. People to see.

First Tuesdays

Pathfinders, monthly support group for genetic females involved in the gender community. Hotline 24 hrs/day 714-325-2938. Write Pathfinders, P. O. Box 2973, Corona, CA 91718-2973

Come Taste the Night at Marlayna's T- Party. Tommy Tang's, 7313 Melrose Ave., West Hollywood. Reservations: 213-937-5733.

First Fridays

Peal — TS support group, 12832 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, 7:30 pm. Call 714-534-0862

First Saturdays

Ladies Knight Out (Heterosexual couples in a committed relationship only) for information write to: LKO, P.O. Box 19608-0179, Irvine, CA 92713

Second Saturdays

Alpha Chapter of Tri-Ess: Meets at Burbank Holiday Inn. Contact Kathy Helms, 818-████████ or Virginia Prince, 213-████████ for information and requirements.

Born Free: University Room of Hampton Inn, 1590 University Ave., Riverside. 8:00 pm. Contact Born Free, P.O. Box 52829, Riverside, CA 92517, or call 909-875-2687 for info.

CHIC: CHIC emphasizes strict security. Meetings are closed except to members and invited guests. Write to CHIC, P.O. Box 8487, Long Beach, CA 90808 for information and requirements.

Second & Fourth Saturdays

"On the Scene Night" and "Fetish Night," presented by Marlayna at the Queen Mary Show/Lounge, 12449 Ventura Blvd., Studio City. 818-606-5619.

Third Saturdays

Powder Puffs of California, Placentia Holiday Inn, Placentia, CA. 8 pm. Contact P.O. Box 1088 Yorba Linda, CA 92885. 714-779-9013.

Fourth Saturdays

Neutral Corner, meets at King's Inn, Hotel Circle, 7:30 pm. Contact P. O. Box 19008, San Diego, CA 92159. Contact 619-685-3696. WEBSITE:

<http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Village/4718/> (This is a case sensitive address! Please capitalize.) E-Mail: neutral-corner@geocities.com

Third Sundays

The Los Angeles Gender Center, monthly support & informational group meeting for the transsexual (FTM & MTF), transgender communities. The Women's Center, 1512 S. Robertson Blvd., LA. Contact The Los Angeles Gender Center, 310-475-8880.

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

Androgyny, meetings Tuesday nights from 8:30 pm-9:30 pm in Santa Monica, CA; Wednesday nights from 8:00 pm-9:30pm in Riverside, CA. Contact Androgyny, P.O. Box 480740, Los Angeles, CA 90048. Call between 9:00 am-9:00 pm, mention your call is concerning Androgyny, 213-████████ (ask for Shirley or Sheila) or 909-████████ (ask for Paula)

On the National Scene

From Sea to Shining Sea

Oct 16 -18 Transfest '98 Burbank, CA (818) 352-9448 or (310) 798-5637, e-mail ██████████@earthlink.net

Nov 5-8 Paradise in the Poconos. Fantasy getaway weekend. Contact CDS, P O Box 61623, King of Prussia, PA 19406, call (610) 640-9449, or e-mail to poco@cdspub.com

Nov 8-13 Dignity Cruise X and Holiday at Sea II. Miami to Key West and the Bahamas. Contact Cruises Inc. Barbara Ardent at (800) 621-6699 or Mike Sinn at (800) 818-7830.

Apr 22-25 California Dreamin 99. Contact PPOC, P. O. Box 1088, Yorba Linda, CA, or e-mail Dreamin96@aol.com or PPOC@aol.com

1999

California Dreamin' 99
AirTel Plaza Hotel
Van Nuys, CA

(I know, some of you just can't wait)

Much of this information was provided by the American Educational Gender Information Service (AEGIS)