

# THE TRANSGENDERIST

MAY 1994

A Publication of Transgenderist's Independence Club, Albany, NY

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - Winnie [REDACTED]

It is with sadness that we note the passing of Roger Peo this month. In honor of his memory, we are reprinting one of his last columns, dealing with the role of psychological professionals as "gatekeepers" for access to medical treatment. The topic is controversial in the transgendered community, but the medical community rightfully requires independent assurance that their treatment will be beneficial; that the patient has intelligently considered all options and consequences before reaching a final decision. Some people are able to do this without professional help; they are also likely to have the earning capacity to afford professional help. Unfortunately, those most in need of extended psychological counseling are likely among those least able to afford therapy.

As noted last month, President Clinton's health care proposal specifically excludes "sex change surgery and related services", probably because he figured its inclusion would provide ammunition to those opponents who would lump it together with other "immoral" services like abortion. I suppose, if it were possible to perform brain surgery and remove that portion which produces transgendered feelings, then such would be covered, even if it cost \$100,000! We can only register our dismay and hope for future enlightenment. However, we can actively demand, with good hope for success, that our legislators include adequate, extensive coverage of mental health services for those who seek help; why you need help is a private matter between you and your therapist, and no business of the government or insurance industry bureaucrats; if you think you need help, you do. The exorbitant costs of mental health "care" arise in

attempting to "cure" those who don't think they need help, it won't do any good; I know from personal experience with a family member.

This newsletter contains other material that may be of interest to the health professionals on our complimentary mailing list, notably a letter from Bonnie and the beginning of Tina's autobiography (which I intend to publish in 6 parts). Our multi-talented Tina writes frankly and includes some words unknown to my spell-checker. These articles underline the need for sound counseling as well as peer support, to repair the damage caused by upbringing. We need make no apologies to society; they should consider themselves lucky to get more crossdressers than serial rapists and murderers.

*If any health care professionals would like their availability publicized, please send us a business card for insertion in some future newsletters.*

**DINNER PARTIES:** For our April party, we had one "definite" sign-up and one "maybe", so I decided to make it a "go". Guess what? I ate alone! So, in the future, it will be "no go" unless there are at least **three "definite"** sign-ups by the Thursday before. The next date is **May 14**, 8 pm at the *Northway Inn*. Please sign up at the club room or call Joan by Thursday, May 12. Leave your number so we can call to confirm whether "go" or "no".

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### DR. ROGER PEO PASSES AWAY

At 7 am, Thursday, April 7, Dr. Roger Peo passed away quietly at his home in Poughkeepsie, less than two months after being diagnosed with lung and bone cancer.

Dr. Peo was a very good professional friend of the transgendered community, was actively involved with counseling for many years, and attended many of our conventions. He authored the popular column "Roger's Notebook" which has been printed in many gender community publications, including those of TGIC. Roger was a member of the first IFGE Board of Directors in 1987, and was a pioneer in building bridges between our community and the professional community. His untimely death is a shock to us, and he will be missed by all who knew him.

A memorial service was held on April 17 at the Unitarian Church in Poughkeepsie, NY, and Dr. Sheila Kirk gave a eulogy on behalf of the transgendered community. Condolence cards may be sent to: Mrs. Victoria Peo, PO Box 3445, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.



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The Transgenderist

TGIC

PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604  
(518) 436-4513 (live Thurs. 8-10 pm)

**Transgenderist's Independence Club (TGIC)** is a nonprofit, educational, non-sexual social support group for persons wishing to explore beyond the conventional boundaries of gender, including crossdressers, transsexuals and their friends.

#### TGIC Officers

President	Winnie
Vice President	Joan
Secretary	Joyce
Treasurer	Winnie
Newsletter Editor	Winnie

The **Transgenderist** is the newsletter of TGIC, published monthly and mailed First Class to members, prospective members, friends, professionals, and exchange publications.

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**TGIC General Membership Dues: \$40/yr**

### CHOICES COUNSELING ASSOCIATES

*Lesbian/Gay Affirmative*



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266 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, New York 12054

**We need to put some S.P.I.C.E. in our lives!**

**Spouse/Partner International Conference for Education**

**July 6-10, 1994, Chicago, Illinois**

**Write to:**

**Linda Peacock  
PO Box 24031  
Little Rock, AR 72221  
501-227-8798**

**THE "GATEKEEPERS", REVISITED**

I recently had a rather unpleasant encounter with some transgendered persons who are activists for "the cause" which, in their terms, is that professionals simply do not understand their situation. In fact, it is presumptuous for them to claim that they do. Their arrogance and intolerance was such that I could not even respond to questions I was asked without being interrupted (really, I was shouted down). I respect other people's opinions and positions, so I would hope that mine would be respected in return. I was not trying to change anyone's mind, just present a different view.

This encounter began me thinking (again) about the issue of "gatekeeping" for hormone therapy and genital surgery. As a helping professional it pains me to see people put themselves in situations where they can be irreparably hurt. My ethical position is to ensure that, insofar as possible, persons who are my clients do not follow that path. Can/should my ethics extend beyond that boundary?

I believe that I have an obligation to disseminate information such as the Harry Benjamin Standards of Care to as many people as possible. It is my conviction that using them as a minimum set of guidelines can help people understand the consequences of their actions before the results are irrevocable. However, just as the activists above, there are some people who are firmly convinced that they know what is best for their particular life and do not want any impediments put in their way. Do I have any responsibility in such cases if they are not my clients? Probably not, however, I do not believe that all controls and standards should be removed, for these people do not speak for all transgendered people.

Endocrinologists and surgeons have a different perspective. In our litigious society, they can be sued if they make irreversible physical changes in their

clients. Some decisions are made and later regretted. Then people lash out at everyone who was involved. While I am not an attorney, I suspect that a waiver of responsibility given to the doctor before surgery will not protect him from a later lawsuit. This often comes down to the issue of informed consent. A attorney can argue that the person's state of mind at the time nullified the waiver. Many doctors want some assurance that their patient will benefit from hormones or genital surgery. This assurance can come from following the Standards of Care.

Are there surgeons who will operate without such assurances from a mental health professional? Of course there are. The people who regret having genital surgery often come from such situations.

In the end there is no simple answer. I do not believe that genital surgery and hormones should always be provided under the controls of the Standards of Care. If people want to have surgery without following them and there are surgeons that will perform it, then they should go ahead. Choosing "shortcuts" should be allowed but we can't have it both ways -- get what we want and then blame someone else if it turns out it is not advantageous for us. There are always consequences from the actions we take.

*Copyright 1993 by the late Roger E. Peo, Ph.D.  
Reprinted from Cross-Talk #52.*

WHY DO OUR SUBSCRIBERS CALL  
**CROSS-TALK**  
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Howdy. My name is Tina, and I'm a biological male and a heterosexual transvestite. I have a life as a male, and I also go out in public dressed as, and projecting the persona of a woman. As a member of T.G.I.C., there are places I go where I am known to be a guy impersonating a woman. I also go about in the straight world conducting my affairs and going about my business passing as a woman with very little difficulty.

I am 5' 3", about 145 lb., 52 years old with a small shoe size even for my small size, and presently a full shoulder length mane of very nice white hair, all my own. I rarely wear a wig. As Tina, I always wear a hat. My hair is thinning on top, but not receding very much.

I am presently not employed, but collecting S.S.I. disability. About two years ago, I had to leave the burning attic of a two story building by jumping out the window. I suffered a very badly broken leg, requiring the insertion of a bracket above the knee complete with six screws. Fortunately, the leg is healing very, very well. After a year and a half, I was finally able to walk without a cane or crutch. There were times I wondered whether that was ever going to be possible.

I am also blessed with a good deal of creative drive and talent. My strongest labor of love, which does offer competition with transvestite or crossgendered affairs, is my musical ability. I am a performing musician in the area. I sing and play folk music and some jazz, accompanying myself on the guitar, flute, fiddle, and pennywhistle. A friend got me into reading poetry and playing flute behind some of his poetry. I also do woodworking, including building and repairing stringed instruments. I've built three guitars from scratch. Serial numbers four and five went up in smoke in the attic I jumped out of.

I make a lot of my own wood jewelry. I also draw. I can draw anything the eye can see, and some stuff you ain't never gonna see in real life! I do cartoons, caricatures and portraits. How come I'm not rich and famous with all this talent and skill, I ask myself? For one thing, I'm not a hustler. Living on talent requires the ability to hustle and sell yourself. Salesmanship is NOT one of my talents. How ironic! Also, my life has had some very serious madness in it over the past seventeen years. The madness had nothing to do with being a transvestite, but it certainly affected my life. To leave it out of this biography would cheat you out of an accurate picture of who I am today and why. I did learn much from this madness.

I live alone as a single person. I have a wife that I left two years ago. We aren't even legally separated; couldn't afford it. That was one of the stretches of madness, six long years of it! It was only after I compulsively left her for good and allowed my head to clear that I got a clear picture of what was really going on. She drove me nuts! I'll get into that a little deeper later. Transvestism didn't blow this marriage. I told her I was a transvestite at the beginning, and she did not regard it as any big thing. She even wanted to explore it with me but I was the one who declined, telling her, "I don't do it anymore. God won't allow it." Now the plot thickens.

The other severe madness I went through was a hideous, wretched religious trip. For four years from the beginning of 1976 to the beginning of 1980, I was a born again Christian. It was madness in the truest sense. It was the most horrible, most wretched, most torment filling, most obscene, most hideous and diabolically maddening horror that I ever experienced in my entire life! It was not only psychologically devastating, but also was an occult experience. It was truly horrible. This is nearly eighteen years later, and I still get worked up and have a tough time maintaining

my composure when I have to just think about and recall that part of my life. It was a genuine trauma with deep scars still.

At this time of writing, I've been out of the closet as Tina for two short years, and boy, is Tina having a party! Tina was not only slammed into the closet, but driven all the way into the fantasy land of the mind only. But I did dress up at times and stopped. I know beyond all doubt that this transvestite phenomenon is an absolute compulsion.

Nor was that the only time that Tina got slammed into the closet. There was another time, back in 1966 when I got arrested. That was traumatic enough at the time. I was hauled in, booked, given six months suspended sentence and probated to a psychiatrist. He got me and him off the hook by listening to my life story, and saying at the end of it all, "You're all right." Thinking about it now, his aim really was to get me off the hook. In this strange gender bending phenomenon, whether transvestite or transsexual, WE are the experts as much as anybody. We are the cutting edge. We know as much about ourselves as any learned behavioral theoretician with letters after his or her name. Our input is at least as valuable as all the theories that have come down the pike. I will presently get to what I think made a transvestite out of me. In the meantime, I will tell what I think is a hell of a good story.

Now I will finish taking you back in time to my childhood and start back up the ladder. Actually, my childhood experience seems no different from any other early childhood cross-dressing experience. When I was four years old, I would get up early in the summer right after my father went off to work, while my mother was still asleep, and put on one of her dresses. It was a rush. It felt so great. It never was any big thing really until puberty hit, WOW! That crazy teenage hormone thing! I don't remember the exact age at this point; eleven, twelve, thirteen? I'll never forget the first time I masturbated and had a climax. It was scary. I thought I broke something.

And I was awash and totally consumed with incredible guilt and shame afterwards. I said to myself, "That is the end of that. I'll never do that again as long as I live. It feels so awful". Of course, I did it again, maybe even later the same night, I'm not sure now, but that was the setting of a pattern to stay with me. I never mentioned any of this to my parents or anybody else. I was too ashamed.

Years, and years, and years later, like only a few years ago during my wretched marriage, I was doing a great deal of soul searching and digging into my psyche, and after all these years, came up with what I believe to be the reason why I am a transvestite. First of all, in the probing process, I have nothing but feelings and impressions to go on; so I must take those feelings and construct probable scenarios to explain where the impression came from. In my teenage days, sex was dirty, naughty, and repulsive. Where did that come from? Somehow it seemed very nasty and repulsive that the sex act consisted of putting my pisser into the hole where a woman pees. Ugh! How nasty! Why did God make us that way? I certainly won't go into the religious philosophy of that, but from where did those thoughts come into my head? They did not come from the boys behind the barn! That was nirvana to them. I had to have gotten it impressed into me from early childhood from a parent or parents.

I remember my paternal grandmother was the one with super Victorian, weird, weird notions. Sex was bad, it's taboo, you don't even talk about it. All that down below bathroom stuff had to have code words that didn't even sound bad. One time, I was in the bathroom with my grandmother. She was on the pot. I asked her, "Are you pooping?" I was three years old. She said, "I'm doing a lot." That was her code phrase. Even "Poop" was too nasty a word for her. Even then, I saw how meaningless that was. My own parents managed "poop" and "pee" without difficulty, but when I was there, we lived with grandparents and had to go by their rules too. So there was lotsa Victorian taboo that got you outta needing to explain stuff. Just explain it away with

a senseless code. My grandmother used to say, "What are little girls made of? Sugar and spice and everything nice. What are little boys made of? Snakes and snails and puppy-dogs' tails." Did I get the impression that girls are more desirable than boys? And did the Victorian gag rule get passed on to me at this impressionable age?

I am only going by feelings that I dug deep to get, and try to reconstruct a scenario, and it's the best I can do right now, and a simple fact stands out. I had NO SEX EDUCATION. I am the victim of no sex education, folks. Not from my parents, certainly not from school, just the boys behind the barn, and that was years, and years later, after Victorian prudishness had become a mole in my system! So normal sex was dirty and being a girl was desirable though shameful because all that stuff was shameful. You didn't dare talk about it to anybody, ever; just keep it hidden inside yourself, and stay entrapped until it finally blows up in your face, one way or another, like getting arrested.

*(To be continued next month)*

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#### LETTER FROM THE CLOSET - Bonnie

Dear TGIC,

Hi! My name is Bonnie and I'm interested in possibly becoming a member of your organization. Please send to me an application for membership as well as whatever info you can about TGIC.

As a general introduction, allow me to tell you a little bit about myself. I'm 32 years old, single and never married, white male; I'm 5'10" and 195 lbs with brown eyes and dark brown hair, medium in build. I'm heterosexual but I'm also very open minded to people with various lifestyles and orientations. Currently, I'm a full time college student working on my B.A. in social work/ sociology with a minor in addictions counseling. I hope to eventually earn my M.S.W. as a therapist working with people who have trauma histories such as sexual abuse and childhood injuries.

For more than nine years I worked for a local industry where I eventually became an associate V.P. - a very good paying but highly stressful job where I was constantly being used and abused by a boss who cared only for money. In time, I was able to leave this job and return to college to finish up on my degree I had earlier abandoned. Currently, I'm unemployed.

More personally, I love to work, enjoy all kinds of music and going to movies, the company of a good friend and conversation, and quiet nights at home - all of which I try to find time for with a heavy college load. I don't drink or do drugs and I am in recovery from both and have been for more than 10 years now!

Now as far as being my "fem-self", Bonnie, I'm not all too sure just what exactly I am - that is, a cross dresser, a transvestite or a transgenderist. Perhaps my most honest answer is that I'm all of the above and that it really depends upon how I'm feeling, either at a particular time or a period of time. Generally speaking, I'm OK about being a male (that's really the best I can say) but often enough I truly wish I were a real woman; sometimes even though I'm OK with my male gender, I truly enjoy just dressing up and being Bonnie for a while; sometimes my dressing up is incredibly sensuously and sexually arousing and fulfilling. What I can definitely say whenever I dress up as Bonnie I always very, very much enjoy it intensely; so perhaps the key to it all for me are the emotional rewards I derive from it, even when there is a "sexual" component to my dressing up.

My sexual orientation is heterosexual, yet at times my dressing up does take on a "fetishistic" quality, leaving me "unsure" as to whether I might have not a "homosexual" repressed side but a kind of "confused lesbian quality" - it's all so hard to figure out sometimes and the more I try to "figure it out", just all the more confused and unsure I become!!! This is certainly an area I need understanding and support with and I hope TGIC will be able to help me out with! I really need others like

myself for support. I guess then that the best, most honest answer I can give is that I'm "identity confused".

Really, as I believe to be true for me, the origins of my fem self Bonnie come from my childhood experiences of being raised in an extremely abusive, violent and sexually exploited family - I am a survivor of incest. But also at the same time I endured through many, many terrible things and throughout my early childhood and teens as well, I was made up as a "sissy" and put into frilly dresses and girls things and was utterly humiliated in a variety of ways, not only with this "forced petticoating" but other humiliations as well. Curiously enough, I not only began to enjoy it secretively to myself but soon I began to dress myself up and fantasized being a girl/ woman as I grew. By the time I was 15, I was hooked on being Bonnie and I came to intensely enjoy it all very, very much!

While undoubtedly at the time, and for some time afterwards as well, this "dressing up" had innumerable emotional rewards and safeguarding coping benefits to me for my horrific past experiences, even after I sought help for that pain my dressing up continued on. It just grew stronger and more intensely enjoyable for me! With help for my past experiences the "reason" for my dressing up and being Bonnie - at least the reason I thought I had - became more and more "cloudy" and emotionally it all became much, much more painful. You see, I've never been able to reveal my dressing up to anyone except to a therapist once, but even then it was extremely difficult to say the least!

By the time I was in my late teens, and ever since then, I've been deeply unsettled about my dressing up in female clothes and being a woman. For years I've suffered with an agonizingly painful and pervasive sense of utter shame and guilt, secretiveness, isolation and alienation, confusion and doubt and a general sense of it and me as being somehow "bad" - yet, all the while, it remained intensely enjoyable, emotionally satisfying and rewarding; a paradox I'm sure you'll be able

to identify with. Often, I'll have these feelings just thinking about dressing up, yet only to be obsessed with dressing up and how wonderful it is for me, only to "relapse" into these awful feelings after I have enjoyed dressing up and being Bonnie for a while.

At no time is this greater for me than when I go out to shop. I'll go walking through the malls and stores with all intent on doing some shopping and just yearning to buy that pretty little dress or blouse or nightie, yet it's almost impossible for me to actually go in and buy it! It's torture!!

It's all those feelings of shame and "badness" that overwhelm me - the feeling that if I did go in, that everyone in the store would look at me like some kind of "perverted freak" or something and that with all eyes upon me, they'll know it's for me! Only rarely can I ever buy anything that I want and need for Bonnie, and then it's usually at some out-of-the-way shop with no customers in the store or at some thrift shop at the most opportune moment like when they're just opening up. Believe it or not, I don't even know any of my "female sizes" and often enough I'll buy something only to find out later that I can't fit into it! What few items I do have, I've gotten around Halloween which provides a "nervous cover" for me if I'm asked questions by the store girl!

I guess the worst of it all for me is the utter loneliness I feel. I don't have, nor have I ever had, anyone to talk to about all of this, much less to share my dressing up with. Only twice have I ever dared to trust a girlfriend enough with my "little secret" and on both occasions, despite my hopes for their understanding, I was met with ridicule and rejection and it even cost me my otherwise wonderful relationship with them who I had cared for very much.

Without some way to go shopping or a way to get my clothing items, and without anyone to share in my "fantasy" dreams with me, being Bonnie and needing to be Bonnie - even for just a little while - just drives me crazy and longing all the more.

Other than a few, boldly daring and extremely nerve-racking Halloweens have I ever dared to go out publicly as Bonnie and I think it will take me a while in all honesty before I could ever get dressed up as Bonnie for one of your meetings or events, if you do accept me as a member, so I hope you'll be patient and understanding with me. To tell you the truth, I'm very, very nervous (!) about joining you - so much so I had to write this letter rather than to call you - yet I'd really like to!!!

For me, as Bonnie, my clothing interests really reflect the kind of woman Bonnie is. Everyday sort of female clothing doesn't particularly interest Bonnie. Her clothing is very soft and "ultra-feminine", like soft silks and taffeta with lots of frilly laces and ribbons - her favorite color is white or pink - she loves fanciful and pretty gowns and dresses and lacy lingerie - all very symbolic of her gentle and tender nature and all of the best of what makes a good woman caring and gentle and nurturing. She could never wear a simple summer dress or a "business suit". She loves "Victorian-like clothes" - things that exude with femininity and softness - when I'm Bonnie and dressed up in such things my true feminine side truly feels "whole and united", an expression of completeness!!! Of my true self!

One Halloween I got dressed up as a "little girl" in a costume I rented: in a little pink dress and lacy petticoats and a white pinafore apron, a "little girls' wig" and hair ribbons and Mary Jane shoes and truly it brought out my youthful little girl aspect! I once had a gorgeously beautiful wedding gown and lacy petticoats and never did I ever feel so feminine! All just expressive symbols of femininity I enjoy and that Bonnie helps create in me - the type of woman she and I am.

All I want to be is that woman and I need your help.

Perhaps I've said too much or I haven't fully explained accurately enough all I desire to be. Please if you have any questions feel free to contact me. Maybe

TGIC can help - maybe not - but I look forward to hearing more about TGIC in the near future and perhaps even becoming a member. In addition to receiving your info packet, I would like very much to hear from you or a member to gain a better understanding of your organization - I'm sure your info will leave me with a lot of questions - perhaps, you will have some for me, so I look forward to hearing from you if what you have read here at all qualifies me for membership.

Thank You Very Much,  
Bonnie

Dear Bonnie,

Thank you for your nice long letter and permission to publish it. You are exactly the type of person that TGIC is here to help, as explained in our info packet. You have eloquently put into words the feelings that many of us have felt. However, most of us have not had the horrible childhood experiences you indicate. We found our way into dresses with no help from our family, and active discouragement if caught. I am sure you will feel among friends at our meetings, and hope you will come soon.

Sincerely, Winnie



"You haven't lost any weight, my dear. That's my bra and panties you're wearing."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**POLICY:** Short announcements and advertisements from Club Members are published free for two consecutive months, unless cancelled by the originator or a specific request to continue is made.

### SUNSHINE CLUB WEEKEND IN VERMONT

The Sunshine Club, our sister group in Western Massachusetts, is holding its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Weekend in Warren, Vermont on June 10-12. If you are interested in joining them, contact Roberta [REDACTED], PO Box 149, Hadley, MA 01035-0149.

### F-to-M GROUP MEETING

The East Coast Female-to-Male Group (ECFTMG) will get together on Saturday, May 7, 6-9 pm at 146 Riverbank Road, Northampton, MA to meet Leslie Feinberg (author of *Stone Butch Blues* and *Transgender Liberation*) after the Pride March. Dinner is potluck. For more information or directions, call Bet Power at (413) 584-7616 or write to:

ECFTMG, PO Box 60585, Florence Station  
Northampton, MA 01060

### DRESSED TO THRILL, May 20-21, 1994

If you are interested in exotic fashions and are going to be in Southern California this weekend, you may want to attend this banquet and ball in Long Beach, sponsored by *Versatile Fashions* and hosted by *Mistress Antoinette*. Contact TGIC for more information, or write to: *Versatile Fashions*, PO Box 1051, Tustin, CA 92681; Tel: 714-538-0257.

### STONEWALL 25, June 26, 1994

To mark the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the *Stonewall Rebellion*, there will be a March & Rally in New York City on Sunday, June 26 and other activities between June 23-27. A block of rooms for transgendered participants has been reserved by the **Greater New York Gender Alliance (GNYGA)**. Contact TGIC for more information, or call Linda Frank of GNYGA: (212) 765-3561, Monday through Thursday evenings from 6 to 10 pm EST.

## HORMONES BOOK

The last few copies of this book by Shiela Kirk are on sale for clearance @ \$5 if picked up in the Club Room, or \$6 by mail. Ask Winnie.

## ANONYMOUS HIV ANTIBODY TESTING

Your regional HIV Counseling and Testing Program provides free HIV counseling and antibody testing, support and referral. No names will be asked. (NYS Health Department) **Albany Area:**  
(518) 486-1595 or 1-800-962-5065.

## RELIGIOUS RIGHT REVIEWS

As noted last month, certain organizations publish movie and TV reviews and encourage their readers to lobby the producers, networks and sponsors against what they consider objectionable, which includes *anything to do with cross-dressing*. Here's another example:

The Christian Film and Television Commission gave the award for best family picture to Disney's "Home-ward Bound: The Incredible Journey," a movie starring two dogs and a cat. "The Remains of the Day" was deemed the best film for mature audiences. "The Age of Innocence" and "Much Ado About Nothing" were runners-up in the mature category.

Among the movies deemed unacceptable were "Mrs. Doubtfire," the movie that has Robin Williams as a divorced father who dresses up as a nanny so that he can spend time with his children. The Christian commission noted that the movie, among other things, flaunts the admonition in Deuteronomy 22:5 that men not wear women's clothes.

3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL  
TRANSGENDER LAW AND POLICY CONFERENCE

**TRANSGEN '94**

**August 17-21, 1994  
Houston, Texas, U.S.A.**

**Phyllis Randolph Frye, Attorney  
5707 Firenza St.  
Houston, Texas, 77035-5515, U.S.A.**

## CALENDAR

Regular Meetings are held every Thursday at the TGIC Club Room on Central Avenue in Albany, 7:30 - 10:30 pm. Some come earlier and stay later, but it is wise call if you are not a Keyholder or if it is your first visit. Come dressed either way, meet and talk with friends. Many continue to socialize at one of the Central Ave. night spots after the meetings.

### MAY 1994

May 5 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm  
May 12 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm  
May 14 Saturday, 8 pm  
*Dinner Party, Northway Inn*  
May 19 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm  
May 26 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

### JUNE 1994

Jun 2 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm  
Jun 9 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm  
Jun 11 Saturday, 8 pm  
*Dinner Party, Northway Inn*  
Jun 16 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm  
Jun 23 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm  
Jun 30 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

### MAJOR COMING EVENTS

Contact TGIC for more information. Some registration brochures are available in the Club Room

May 19-22 *Paradise in the Poconos*, PA  
May 20-22 *A Taste of Esprit*,  
Port Angeles, WA  
5/31-6/6 *Tiffany Club Spring Fling*,  
Provincetown, MA  
June 8-12 *Be All You Want To Be*,  
Pittsburgh, PA  
June 10-12 *Sunshine Club Weekend in  
Vermont*, Warren, VT  
July 6-10 *Spouses & Partners  
International Conference for  
Education (SPICE)*, Chicago, IL  
Aug 17-21 *3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Transgender Law  
and Policy Conference  
(TRANSGEN '94)*, Houston, TX  
Oct 4-7 *Dignity Cruise V*, Pittsburgh  
Oct 16-23 *Fantasia Fair*, Provincetown

**Vogue**  
*(formerly Tawny's Boutique)*  
A store welcoming the transgendered  
community

- \* Regular & full-figure clothing
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- \* Understanding, helpful & confidential

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*Note: Vogue is on the first floor and open to the public.  
If you wish complete privacy, call first, ask for Rick, and make an appointment:*

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### CALL FOR PAPERS

### INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

ON

### CROSS-DRESSING, SEX, AND GENDER

This is the first call for papers to an International Congress on Cross-Dressing, Gender, and Sex being organized by the Center for Sex Research at California State University, Northridge, California.

The Congress will be held in the San Fernando Valley section of Los Angeles on February 23-26, 1995, and is being sponsored by a number of different organizations in the scholarly and cross-dressing community. Papers are invited on transvestism, transsexualism, and all aspects of non-conforming gender expression. We are soliciting and anticipate wide-ranging viewpoints summarizing and criticizing current research in biological, psychological, sociological, cultural, and historical aspects of gender crossing. Organized sessions are particularly encouraged which will allow widespread discussion of where we have been, where we are going, and what we need to do to come to terms with a variety of gender behaviors.

Interested participants should submit four copies of an abstract of the proposed paper or session. The abstract should be no longer than 500 words. Personal identification of submitter should be on a separate sheet attached to the first copy.

Deadline for abstracts is October 1, 1994.

Send abstracts or requests for information to my private mailing address. Alternative numbers and mailing address will be available when California State University, Northridge reopens after earthquake repairs.

Professor Vern L. Bullough  
17434 Mayoll Street  
Northridge, California 91325  
Telephone: 818-885-0869  
Facsimile: 818-885-5561