

# CROSS-TALK

THE TRANSGENDERED COMMUNITY'S NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1991

(ISSUE #28)



## 'EMERALD CITY' FOUNDER JANICE VAN CLEVE BIDS FAREWELL

(Seattle, WA) -- Citing the changes that have occurred in her life in recent years, Emerald City founder Janice Van Cleve has decided to concentrate on her transition to a lesbian lifestyle.

In a farewell message in the August "Emerald City News", Van Cleve said she "could not think of a better time" to step aside and let the organization continue to grow and serve the Seattle area TV community. She commended the current officers and the membership for its moves to strengthen the eight-year old gender community organization after last year's near-crisis ("Cross-Talk", December '90).

Van Cleve transitioned to a female lifestyle last year and says she is looking forward to surgery and entering fully into the lesbian community. However, in response to criticism she received from the gender community when she made her transition, she discounted claims that she was a role model for the community, pointing out that she had consistently rejected the TV/TS/TG labels and resisted pressure to conform with others' idea of what she should become.

Van Cleve was one of the three original founding members of Emerald City, and is the last founding member to leave the organization. [Kymberleigh Richards]

## HATE CRIME LAW AMENDMENT PROPOSED FOR TG PROTECTION

(Philadelphia, PA) -- An amendment to Pennsylvania's Hate Crimes Law is being proposed which would add penalties for hate crimes committed against sexual minorities in the state.

The amendment, which would define hate crimes as those committed because of a victim's race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or perceived sexual orientation, is sponsored by State Representative Babette Josephs (D-Philadelphia), who introduced an amendment last year -- defeated by a mere 20 votes -- that added only sexual orientation.

Jurists believe that the addition of "perceived sexual orientation" will give transgendered people a measure of protection. Paula Jordan Sinclair, who, as a member of the Philadelphia Mayor's Commission for Sexual Minorities lobbied Josephs to include the phrase in her amendment, said "Most attacks and assaults against transvestites and transsexuals are due to homophobia. It doesn't really matter if we are gay or lesbian; our attackers believe we are."

While the 1990 bill had little pre-introduction publicity, the 1991 bill has garnered much support across the state and is expected to pass if lawmakers know that their constituents support it. ["Renaissance News"]

## WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION REFUSES TO CHANGE 'MENTAL DISORDER' DEFINITIONS

(Philadelphia, PA) -- An expert has indicated that when the new edition of the World Health Organization (WHO)'s "International Classification of Diseases" (ICD-10) is released, it will continue to include both transvestism and transsexualism under the category of "gender identity disorders", despite the removal of homosexuality as a mental disorder.

The expert, a therapist and Ivy League university professor who has asked to remain nameless, said that the most likely reason for the continued classification is that TVs and TSs continue to seek therapy, and the ICD -- as well as its American cousin, the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-III-R) -- are used by insurance companies to authorize third-party payments for therapy. He said that if a condition isn't listed as a disease in the DSM, a therapist might not be paid for treating it. The DSM presently categorizes transvestism and transsexualism as mental disorders.

He said that the decision to drop homosexuality as a disease in the DSM was "political", and came after years of intensive lobbying by gay and lesbian activists and the American Psychological Association, which has been on record since 1975 as saying that homosexuality per se "implies no impairment in judgment, stability, reliability or general social and vocational abilities". WHO spokesperson Marjorie Dam said the change in the ICD classification of homosexuality was probably prompted "because we have more knowledge" about sexual orientation.

No date has been set for the publication of the new ICD, which would make the previous (1972) version obsolete. The ICD is used by psychologists and psychiatrists around the world for research, delivery of services, and third-party payments. ["Renaissance News"]

GET A FRIEND TO SUBSCRIBE,  
ADD A FREE MONTH TO YOUR  
OWN SUBSCRIPTION!

DETAILS ON PAGE 17

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSGENDERED LAW PROPOSED

(Houston, TX) -- Gender community attorney Phyllis Frye has circulated a proposal around the gender community for a national conference on transgender law, tentatively scheduled for August of next year at the University of Houston Law Center campus.

The conference, as Frye envisions it, would encompass both presentation by speakers, in order to present current status of the law and make the conference accessible by the media; and workshops to explore various areas of law and arrive at a consensus as to the present status of the law, current deficiencies, and strategy to overcome those deficiencies. Frye hopes that both aspects would discuss family, military, probate, housing, employment, insurance, criminal, discrimination and health law.

Frye, who has practiced law in Texas since 1986 and has been Phyllis for ten years prior to that time, is asking that any attorneys, paralegals, law enforcement officers, judges and magistrates, law students, and other interested parties write her at 5707 Firenza St, Houston 77035-5515.

[Kymerleigh Richards]

## TRANSSEXUAL WINS LAWSUIT AGAINST NEW YORK STATE

(New York, NY) -- A busty transsexual, who charged she was cruelly forced to serve a robbery sentence in men's prisons rather than women's lockups, has won a \$25,000 settlement in a suit against the state.

Jackie Farrell, 34, also received up to \$80,000 in legal fees and the right to serve her remaining jail time in the Bedford Hills women's prison.

The dark-haired, 5'7" woman said she had "mixed feelings" about the settlement, adding that gaining entrance to a female prison was the biggest victory.

Farrell had been convicted of a prostitution-related charge of robbing a John of \$530. She then sought to be placed in a women's prison, but state officials refused deciding that she was a man. She charged in her suit that she was shuttled between five men's prisons -- including the hard-boiled Clinton Correctional Facility in upstate Dannemora -- and was sexually abused by guards.

She was released in 1989 after serving nearly five years of her term, mostly in solitary confinement, only to be arrested for shoplifting a dress in a Manhattan store in February 1990. She was sentenced to one year on the petty larceny charge and one year for parole violation. She spent one day in the men's jail at Rikers Island before being transferred to a women's lockup pending proceedings on her suit.

Farrell, named James at birth, was the victim of a chemical deficiency and began taking estrogen injections at age 14, according to court papers. She became Jacqueline after breast implant surgery and removal of both testicles four years later.

In announcing the decision, Manhattan Federal Judge Robert Patterson wished Farrell "best of luck" in her new surroundings.

[New York "Daily News"]

## TRANSSEXUAL CLAIMS ARREST LED TO SEXUAL ABUSE

(Los Angeles, CA) -- Police officers and county sheriff's deputies have been accused in a federal lawsuit of beating and making sexual advances toward a pre-operative transsexual who claims to have been sexually assaulted after being placed in a cell with male inmates.

Alfonso "Rosio" Melgoza, in a lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court, said the law officers -- who are not named individually -- hit her and repeatedly touched her breasts and genitals with a nightstick and their hands. One of the officers made sexual advances toward Melgoza, who was handcuffed during the June 11 arrest, the suit states.

A sheriff's spokesman declined to comment because the suit had not yet been served on the department. An LAPD spokesman similarly declined to comment.

Two days after being arrested on robbery charges, Melgoza was incarcerated at the Hall of Justice jail facility downtown, where she was strip searched in front of 60 male inmates before being placed in a cell with them, according to the suit. Her breast implants were torn during a scuffle with the inmates, according to Melgoza's attorney, James DeSimone. Although his client still has male genitalia, DeSimone said she appears to be a woman from all outside appearances. DeSimone went on to say that "to place her in a cell with 60 inmates is certain to provoke verbal abuse at least, and did provoke physical abuse".

The suit, which seeks \$10 million in damages on claims of civil rights violations and officers' use of excessive force, says Melgoza was dressed in an orange jumpsuit worn by homosexual inmates, while the other inmates in the general population were dressed in blue clothing.

Melgoza, who worked at a medical clinic, was arrested after a wage dispute with a former employer who accused her of stealing papers. The charges were later dropped, according to DeSimone.

[L.A. "Daily News"]

IF YOU SEE AN ARTICLE IN A NEWSPAPER OR  
MAGAZINE ABOUT TRANSGENDERED BEHAVIOR OR  
FEATURING A MEMBER OF THE GENDER  
COMMUNITY, PLEASE SEND IT IN!  
"CROSS-TALK"  
P.O. BOX 944  
WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91365

## LEARN THE ART OF PERMANENT HAIR REMOVAL

DAY & EVENING CLASSES NOW FORMING

CLASSES ALSO AVAILABLE IN  
SEMI-PERMANENT MAKEUP

EYEBROWS - EYELINER - LIPLINER  
SCAR CAMOUFLAGE

CALL MARJORIE AT (818) 775-1952

WE ALSO OFFER THESE SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC  
AT REDUCED RATES.



**Lombard Academy of Electrology**

17646 Lassen St. #3  
Northridge, CA 91325

**WAXING  
BY  
GLORIA**

Follicologist—Cosmetologist  
25 Years Experience

**818-343-9039**  
By Appointment

18016 Ventura Blvd. Encino, CA 91316

A unique and private salon  
—specializing in one service—  
removing undesirable body  
hair from fastidious  
TVs and TSs

Legs—Thighs—Arms  
Underarms—Chest—Back  
Stomach—Bikini line—and  
any other area where you have  
unwanted hair.

## FIRE CAPTAIN ANNOUNCES PENDING SRS, STAYS ON JOB

(Los Angeles, CA) -- City Fire Department officials have resorted to sensitivity sessions to help colleagues cope with the decision of a veteran fire captain's decision to undergo a sex change.

Captain Michele Kaemmerer, who was hired by the department 22 years ago as Michael J. Kaemmerer, said the department has been supportive of her decision to be known henceforth as a woman and remain platoon commander at Station 62 in the Mar Vista area. "[Fire] Chief [Donald] Manning has been fabulous," she said. "This is my career, and I love it."

Fire officials confirmed that ranking department officers and a department psychologist have been counselling personnel at Station 62 and other firehouses in the city to make sure the transition is as smooth as possible. The men in Kaemmerer's platoon, who asked that their names not be used, all said they were glad to be working for the captain and had no objections to their commander's decision to become a woman. "It's his own thing," one of them said. "Whatever he wants to do, that's OK with me."

Kaemmerer, who said she had been asked by the department brass not to talk publicly about her decision, said she joined the department in 1969 because she found the work "very appealing". She was assigned to the Westside station about a year ago.

Manning issued a statement saying that the department "has no opinion or policy regarding the decision which has been made by Capt. Kaemmerer". The statement went on to say that the department expects all employees to continue to treat each other with the utmost professionalism, courtesy, and respect.

Kaemmerer becomes the second woman to reach the rank of captain in the Fire Department. [Los Angeles "Times"]

HELP "CROSS-TALK" GROW!!!

- \*\*\* ASK A FRIEND TO SUBSCRIBE
- \*\*\* RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION PROMPTLY
- \*\*\* ASK YOUR FAVORITE STORE TO ADVERTISE
- \*\*\* TELL OUR ADVERTISERS YOU READ US



**CROSS-DRESSERS**  
A Complete tv-is-cd Resource

FANTASIES  
CONFESSIONS  
PERSONALS  
CATALOGS  
SERVICES  
SHOP TALK  
CLUBS/GROUPS  
PRODUCTS

**1-900-HIM-2 FEM**  
446-2336

\$1.07 PER MINUTE  
PLUS CONNECTION FEE OF \$2  
BILLED DISCREETLY

## *Especially For Me* *A Boutique for TV's*

### FEATURING:

- Wigs
- Lingerie
- Hosiery
- Breast Forms
- Street Clothing
- Shoes to size 15W
- Garters to size 3X
- Make-up consultation

**In a Relaxed Atmosphere**

### LOCATED AT:

959-C NORTH CENTRAL AVE.  
UPLAND, CA, 91786  
(Above Mustang Books)

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

Mon. - Sat. 11 AM - 10 PM

Sundays 11 AM - 7 PM

OPEN MOST HOLIDAYS

**• MAIL ORDERS ACCEPTED •**  
**USE YOUR MC/VISA!**

CALL: (714) 946-6251  
FAX: (714) 946-5500 (NEW!)

# MONTREAL TG GROUP, DEAD 4 YEARS, BEGINS REFORMING

(Montreal, PQ, Canada) -- A 33-year-old crossdresser and social worker has taken on the task of reorganizing the defunct Travesti Au Montreal (TAM).

Genevieve Latella admits TAM is having trouble organizing regular meetings because of difficulty finding a place that everyone feels comfortable with. They had met briefly at the gay community center, but moved to private homes after several members indicated discomfort with the gay atmosphere.

TAM disappeared about four years ago, a victim of what Latella calls "poor leadership, (contributing) to a lack of stability in the group". She says people were too paranoid to get involved -- many of the current 25 members won't give their address or phone number -- and that previous screening procedures were too tough. She also admits that "getting people to donate their free time to support a non-profit club is difficult".

Latella hopes that the group will create its own identity, and is actively soliciting suggestions for a new name to replace TAM. She has already published two issues of TAM's quarterly publication "The Garter Press".

[ "Toronto CDC News", Toronto CD Club ]

IF YOU SEE AN ARTICLE IN A NEWSPAPER OR MAGAZINE ABOUT TRANSGENDERED BEHAVIOR OR FEATURING A MEMBER OF THE GENDER COMMUNITY, PLEASE SEND IT IN!

"CROSS-TALK"

P.O. BOX 944

WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91365

OR FAX US THE ARTICLE AT

(818) 347-4190

## NEWS BRIEFS

Brooke Shields is doing some unusual modeling, posing as a man for the cover of the forthcoming menswear issue of "Paper" magazine. For her masculinization, Shields took on the look of an urban tough -- hairnet, burnt-cork beard and her most sullen expression. Editor Kim Hastreiter said the actress-model "wanted to do something wild".

A Thai court has annulled an Italian man's marriage to a man he thought was a woman. Though Paolo Boeris and Riam Kuenjan had sex several times since their marriage last year, it was always in the dark, and apparently Riam was able to disguise the fact that he was a man, according to Boeris' lawyer.

According to one of the country's top models, flashy drag queens have a style to be copied. Naomi Campbell says she and her mega-model friends haunt clubs catering to TVs and drag queens, where they pick up modeling pointers. "I think transvestites are the ones who understand me best," she says. "I think they're the best runway models ever."

Now playing on a cable-access channel near you (if you live in the Chicago suburbs): "The Church of Human Kindness", starring Mary Ann Foster, aka local accountant Pat Foster. The show deals with TV and TS issues, as well as freedom of religion and metaphysics. The crossdressed host(ess) says his monthly appearance en femme is a way to make a point, and claims "there's nothing wrong with a male who comes to terms with his femininity."

PLEASE:  
WHEN WRITING ABOUT YOUR SUBSCRIPTION,  
INCLUDE THE 4-DIGIT NUMBER ON THE LABEL.

# BREAKTHROUGH

\*\*\*\* BREAST ENHANCEMENT \*\*\*\*

WITH NO-SLIP PADS!

\$9.00/PAIR (BLACK OR WHITE)

-----  
PUMPS ..... \$5/PAIR AND UP  
SKIRTS, TOPS & DRESSES

..... \$10 AND UP



1680 N. VINE ST. - #307-A  
TAFT BUILDING, CORNER OF HOLLYWOOD BLVD.  
(213) 962-7676

OPEN SATURDAYS  
NOON - 6:00  
MONDAY EVENINGS  
(BEFORE PEANUTS)  
AND BY APPOINTMENT





Let's talk about "lookism" for a moment. "Lookism" is the same as racism and sexism and ageism. It is discrimination on the basis of looks. "Lookism" has probably been around longer than any of the other 'isms. Lookism is as destructive to society as any of the other 'isms. People for whom it never occurs that the color of another's skin should make a difference are just as likely as another to say something like, "Gee, his nose is kind of big," or "She'd be so pretty without those acne scars," about a total stranger.

We (society) do judge people on their looks. We judge them before we know them, and that is prejudice. One only need look at how big an industry cosmetic surgery has become to know the truth of this fact.

It is also true that we become upset if our judgment is called into question either by confrontation or deception. If someone says something is so and we (the royal "we") tell them they're an idiot, and why, that person will likely get pissed off. If a man is excited by what he thinks is a woman, and then finds out he's been deceived that man may well react poorly, becoming violent or verbally abusive. This sometimes happens when a man finds out that the woman he thought was attractive is really -- by his definition -- a man. Not only is his judgment put in doubt, but so is his manhood. So, Miss Complainer, perhaps you should step back and take an objective look at yourself, and the world around you, only then will you be able to begin to find your niche.

It is not enough to look like a woman -- attractive or not. It is not enough to think you look like a woman -- attractive or not. It is not enough to think you act like a woman. To even begin to be believable as a woman (not necessarily pass, for some people will accept you as a woman even though they know you are male) you must first like women. Respect women. Have women friends. You cannot learn what it is to be a woman from female impersonators or drag queens or even other TVs, they either don't know, haven't a clue, but even if they did it wouldn't be first hand. You wouldn't ask Rich Little what it's like to be Carol Channing, you might ask him how to impersonate Carol, but to find out who Carol Channing is and what she thinks you have to ask her.

Do women worry about their looks? You bet! But, so do men. In our culture though, heaven help the homely woman, her value is nil unless she happens to be bright and/or motivated and competent (but then, of course, she must be a bitch) and even then she'll have a difficult time. Or an occupied womb.

If we expect tolerance we must show tolerance. If we want to be accepted we must show acceptance. If we want to be accepted as women we must accept women, real women, not the stereotypes foisted on us by a patriarchal society. [If on the other hand you only want to wear a dress, that's fine too.] If you want to be judged solely on your looks, you're in for a rough time. [Anne Blackwood]

#### UP ON MY SOAPBOX: ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ACCEPTED

[This editorial originally appeared in 1989.]

Not long ago, I received a letter, from a sister who was reinstating her Tri-Ess membership, expressing concern about retaining a low profile in the Community. She indicated that she'd had to do a lot of thinking about where she fits into the overall picture, not only as a CD, but also as a person in general. She apparently had decided that it was too scary, becoming publicly visible, and must have received the impression from somewhere that we expected more.

My first reaction was "Well, of course, no one will be pushing you to be more publicly conspicuous!" Then, I had to consider more deeply. I believe that nearly all of us like to encourage our sisters, especially the new ones, to stretch themselves out and "fulfill their femininity". Some of us can be our second selves so freely, that we may forget how terrifying it is to someone just out of their closet. Moreover, if the reports of numerous correspondents are to be believed, there is a marked tendency among many of those who are quite accomplished in their feminine pursuits to limit their interaction with those who are less deeply involved.

It is not my intent to chastise such individuals for an elitist attitude, although in some cases it would be justifiable. Rather, I would like to plead for caution on the part of the more experienced members in how they go about encouraging participation by the newer sisters. It is my hope that we will remember to respect the reservations that others may have, and yet continue to be available for help with their development. I firmly believe that we will grow, both personally and as a Community, only to the extent that we lift each other up.

Each sister among us has something to offer from which some others among us may benefit. Certainly, it can be a challenge discovering just what that might be, and when it is only what we may see as a "small" contribution, we may feel disappointed.

However, I would like to think that we can rise above those feelings, graciously accept whatever a sister can add to our Community, and make her feel good about whatever level of commitment she is willing to make. Let us work to make it so. [Eileen McClery]

#### GUEST COMMENTARY: EXPLOITATION AND HURT FEELINGS

(from "La Femme Silhouette", Alpha Omega Chapter Tri-Ess)

I wonder if the day will come when someone will write "The Great Crossdressing Novel". If and when that happens, who will write it?

I get a little tired of seeing television programs, movies and books that seem to thrive on portraying a crossdresser as being a crook, murderer, male hooker or some other kind of perverted character. Casting a crossdresser as a "good" guy doesn't happen very often, and a lot of times it's done for comedy's sake.

Now don't get me wrong; I don't believe crossdressing should be treated as Shakespearean tragedy, either. (Though that may be closer to the truth for many of us.)

I still haven't found any words to really express to someone about the peace and happiness that I feel as Gloria. Many facets of Gloria's personality are now a part of Martin's, as they should be. And yet, at times when I look in the mirror, I still need Gloria's image to feel complete.

How do I tell someone how good it feels to wear a pair of pantyhose? How do I explain that I enjoy the way a brassiere feels on my chest and shoulders? Why does wearing a pair of high heels feel so natural? Why does wearing a pretty dress make me feel pretty? Why do makeup, jewelry, and yes, even a wig seem so right to have on? Why does carrying a purse seem so much more proper than stuffing everything in my pockets?

Three words will give you the complete answer I have developed over the past forty years: I DON'T KNOW.

I guess maybe I'm still a long way from writing "The Great Crossdressing Novel", but it's a thought I play with. Could you imagine a play or movie with a real crossdresser in it? Not just an actor (or in some cases, an actress) playing the part, but a real crossdresser? How can actors know how it really feels to be this way if it has never been a part of their lives? I don't see how they could portray the joy and happiness, mixed with the fear, guilt, frustration, tears, and other emotions that are a part of our everyday existence. This is the same reason that most people cannot understand or accept us. They have not experienced what we have been through.

I'm tired and angered at the exploitation associated with crossdressing. It's no wonder so many of us become confused and unsure of ourselves. It frustrates me that many of us -- including myself -- have been so afraid of having a close relationship with a woman because we were afraid of more rejection. It unsettles me that there is a part of my life and existence as a human being that I have to keep hidden,

---

YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME.  
PLEASE SEND THEM TO:  
"CROSS-TALK"  
P.O. BOX 944  
WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91365-0944  
... OR FAX THEM TO US AT (818) 347-4190

not just for me but for those I care about. I cling to a hope that, by doing what we can, someday things will be better for everyone.

Maybe someday I will write that book ... [Gloria Fenton]

#### VOX POPULI: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: Kymberleigh's Clipboard, June '90 ...

Leaders, not only in our community, but everywhere are noted usually because of their contributions for which they seek or ask no particular credit. As to the "high cost of doing business", there is always a cost to be paid for anything that is worthwhile.

You try to add creditability to your statements by listing some of the people you consider to be our leaders, movers and shakers. With the exception of two people they are all members or alternates to the IFGE Board of Directors. As these people are elected to that position I guess you could say that seals their position as "recognized leaders" within the community.

It was noted that since you cited so many IFGE leaders and your article was directed toward IFGE sponsorship of your self-centered idea, that you failed to include 60% of those persons IFGE has seen fit to honor as recipients of the "Virginia Prince Award", the highest community service award that IFGE bestows.

I do agree that we all need to work as hard as we can for a unified front to our efforts. I do not believe that raising oneself to lofty places brings unification, but rather, contempt. [Charlene Stanley, San Diego CA]

I am not the one to say whether a person is or is not a national leader. I feel it is the community at large that determines this. Whether or not a high-recognition factor, which your position on the Tri-Ess board and "Cross-Talk" certainly gives you, qualifies you as a national leader is a question I just can't answer, although a high-recognition factor is certainly a first step into the leadership limelight.

But there must be more to it than that. I think that concrete accomplishments help. The more people recognize your name and associate it with accomplishments, the more likely you are to be considered one of the "leaders" in this community.

I am sure that there are many who consider me a "national leader", yet I lead nothing. I don't even have any responsibility on the Renaissance board any longer. But I have the respect of my peers here and that is important to me.

I thrive on recognition not from the big-shots, but from the many letters and calls I get from the unknown readers who praise the magazines and the books that I publish. Those are the people that matter to me.

[JoAnn Roberts, "Ladylike", King of Prussia PA]

Re: Roger's Notebook #57, June '90 ...

My wife and I were one of the couples mentioned as representative of the minority of the gender community in which the wife did not have a problem with her husband's crossdressing.

I truly believe one of the biggest problems we have in our community is our tendency to try to solve our guilt and paranoia by going to "professionals" for a solution to an inborn condition the therapists not only don't understand, but usually gauge their interest in by the numbers in your bank account.

The main problem with the majority of women involved with crossdressers is NOT the actual act, but the way these men present it to their partners. They wait until the relationship is well underway, then, filled with guilt and apprehension, they tell their unsuspecting mate about this "horrible infliction" they are cursed with. Is it any wonder the woman in this relationship is turned off?

Since my wife and I have talked with more women involved with crossdressers than most therapists see in a lifetime, I

"Cross-Talk" is published monthly as an information and entertainment resource for the gender community. For subscription information, please see page 17.

EDITOR & PUBLISHER: Kymberleigh Richards

CONTRIBUTING REGULAR COLUMNISTS:

Anne Blackwood, Valerie Driscoll, Ricky Hunt, Eileen McCleary, Roger Peo Ph.D., Cynthia Phillips.

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS THIS ISSUE:

Phaedra Kelly, Wendi Seabreeze.

CONTRIBUTING CARTOONISTS:

Sherri Belmar, Karen Ann Michaels, Lyn T.

CONTRIBUTING GROUP NEWSLETTERS THIS ISSUE:

Alpha Omega Chapter, Tri-Ess  
Indiana Crossdressers Society (IXE)  
Rainbow Gender Alliance (RGA)  
Renaissance Education Association  
Toronto CD Club

OTHER CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS:

J2CP Information Services

Copyright 1991 Kymberleigh Richards. Permission is granted for the reprint in any non-profit transgender publication of any original article appearing in "Cross-Talk", provided proper credit is given to the author and source.

For information on advertising in "Cross-Talk", please call (818) 776-8503.

SUBSCRIBER #. PLEASE INCLUDE THIS NUMBER WHEN WRITING TO US ABOUT YOUR SUBSCRIPTION.

SPECIAL CODES. A \* HERE INDICATES YOUR SUBSCRIPTION INCLUDES THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA "YELLOW PAGES".

EXPIRATION DATE. THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE YOU WILL RECEIVE BEFORE RENEWAL.  
(ADVERTISERS: THIS IS THE FINAL MONTH OF YOUR CURRENT AD CONTRACT.)

1101 \* JAN92

KYMBERLEIGH RICHARDS  
PO BOX 944  
WOODLAND HILLS CA 91365-0944

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND US ANY ADDRESS CHANGES NO LATER THAN THE THIRD WEEKEND OF THE MONTH PRECEDING THE FIRST ISSUE THE ADDRESS CHANGE APPLIES TO.

know from personal experience that most women do NOT have a problem with crossdressing per sé. They DO have a problem being involved with someone who believes himself to be a pervert!

Are we all so stupid as to not understand that if society accepts us, the Roger Peo's of this world will have to find other fish to catch? That if we stand up and "do our thing" and refuse to be labeled as "sick" the professionals will flee from us like rats from the proverbial ship?

[Linda Phillips, Bulverde TX]

[Your letters are welcome, but we request that they be brief and stick to a single point of view. Letters considered to be too lengthy or unclear in viewpoint will be subject to editing. You may mail your letters to "Cross-Talk" Letters, P.O. Box 944, Woodland Hills CA 91365, or you may fax them to us at (818) 347-4190.]

## PROPERLY APPLYING MASCARA

by Valerie Driscoll

**Dear Val:** I have trouble with mascara. It always seems to make my lashes stick together if I use more than one coat, but stopping after the first application looks too skimpy. Should I use an eyelash curler with less mascara? Would wearing more on my lower lashes help? -- Diane, Texas

**Dear Diane:** You brought up some excellent questions about the application of mascara. Even if your lashes are long and thick, one coat can show off your beautiful asset. Whether short or long however, the application remains the same.

If you use an eyelash curler, do it first, (or after the first application). Hold the apparatus in front of your eye, press close to the eyelash base, press for ten seconds and release. Now apply mascara.

Don't fall into the trap of pumping the wand into the mascara tube several times. Pump it once and make sure to accumulate a concentration of mascara on the tip (don't wipe it all off!). By the way, I find that a Christmas tree-shaped wand seems to work best. Start at the outer corner of the top lashes and touch the tip of the wand to the base of the lashes. Pump the wand again and, holding the wand sideways, apply at the base again, then carry it out to the ends. **IF THE LASHES STICK TOGETHER HERE, SEPARATE THEM IMMEDIATELY OR THEY'LL STAY STUCK!** Apply the highest concentration of mascara to the outer lashes, and use it sparingly on the lower lashes.

I like to apply mascara after face powder since this will help your lashes look thicker. You can also experiment with different colors, but make sure you complement your eye color and eyeshadow colors. I can recommend colors and specific products for your needs, if you contact me; any good cosmetologist in your area should be able to do the same.

Remember that if you choose a good quality mascara, it will make a tremendous difference.

[If you have questions about makeup, please write to Valerie Driscoll at the address below. Questions of general interest will be answered in this column.]

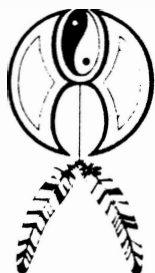
**HAIR TO WEAR WIGS**

1716 Andreo Avenue, Torrance, CA 90501

- High Quality Wigs
- Home Delivery Service
- Private Appointments Available

Also Featuring: *Joe Blasco Cosmetics**Valerie Driscoll*

213/320-5015



Dr. Karen Magarian  
Chiropractor

**WOMANSPiRiT**

consulting

Compassionated down-to-earth  
pathways toward:

- women's health care
- stress and pain management
- personal empowerment
- sexual enhancement

by appointment: 818-348-4788

P.O. Box 25978, Los Angeles, CA 90025

## DRESSED TO THRILL

by Kimberleigh Richards

Sooner or later, we all face having to get more dressed up than the norm. This commonly occurs around New Year's Eve, but it's not uncommon for occasions to arise at other times of the year. Whatever the occasion, the potentially high cost of adding a fancy dress outfit to our wardrobes can send many of us into shock. Despair not! Dressy outfits for under \$100 are easier to find than you might expect. It's all a matter of using creative thinking and clever shopping.

No matter what your size, there are bargain-hunter's paradises for you. If you're fortunate enough to wear junior sizes (typically 5-13), you'll find velvet cocktail dresses for less than \$40 and sweaters trimmed in gold ribbon for less than \$30 at such places as Clotheshime, Judy's, or Contempo Casuals. Those who wear misses or womens sizes (8-20) will find similar bargains at such outlets as Lane Bryant or Petries Plus.

But if your budget best fits a new accessory and not a whole new outfit, the favorite wardrobe reviver is the shoe ornament. You can find elegant clip-on ornaments, encrusted with faux pearls, rhinestones, bows and other items, priced from \$8 to \$50 at Nordstrom, Bullock's, and at upscale shoe stores.

You might also think about a scarf in a festive fabric to dress up a plain sweater, tunic, or evening jacket. A solid sequined scarf by Oscar de la Renta sells for \$60 at Robinson's; imitators that look just as good without the designer name can be had for a small fraction of that price.

You can also combat outfit fatigue by mixing the old with the new. Pair a chiffon-sleeved black jacket already in your closet with a new black lace skirt, and you can even afford to buy a new hat to complete the ensemble for a total investment of less than \$80.

Another way to save money is to shop resale stores. It's not uncommon to find a Donna Karan wool jersey dress, gently worn, for \$100 -- a fraction of the original cost.

And for the most temporary yet trendiest looks of all, rental stores such as Dressed To Kill in West Hollywood will loan big-name designer chic, such as a Bob Mackie black velvet short cocktail dress with gold lamé trim, for about \$150 a night. This store in particular has been very kind toward the transgendered community in the past, but remember that they operate by appointment only.

**NEW! NEW!****TUCK-AWAY GENDER CHANGER**

(POUCH &amp; THONG PANTY)

TOTALLY CONCEALS YOUR MALENESS.

ENABLES YOU TO WEAR TIGHT SKIRTS, SLINKY DRESSES, EVEN LEOTARDS WITHOUT DETECTION.  
ADJUSTS TO FIT EVERY SIZE BODY. VERY STURDY.  
HOLDS YOU TIGHTLY BUT COMFORTABLY ALL DAY AND EVENING. NO EMBARRASSING SLIPPAGE EVER.  
DIRECTIONS INCLUDED. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR YOUR MONEY BACK.

\$20.00 PLUS \$1.00 SHIPPING.

ORDER DIRECT FROM:

T. DANIELS & CO.  
DEPT. CKT  
861 N. ALEXANDRIA AVE.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90029



Patent pending.



# TRANSSEXUALISM AND THE CHURCH: UNJUSTIFIED MUTILATION?

## PART 2: IN HIS IMAGE

by Sr. Mary Elizabeth, SSE  
(Courtesy J2CP Information Services)

The central question which many gender-conflicted persons have to face at one time or another is: "Does surgery on one's sexual organs constitute a sin against God?"

In part one of this series, we began to explore the contemporary view that "sex reassignment surgery is unjustified mutilation" and therefore a sin. In this segment we continue our journey of exploration, seeking to answer that which may very well be unanswerable.

The theological argument against sex reassignment surgery appears to stem in part from the Biblical emphasis that man is made in God's own image and that it was good -- i.e., "Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.' God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." [Genesis 1:26-27, 31 NIV], and a lack of objective evidence that a biological conflict between body and mind exists. They allege that gender dysphoria is a psychological phenomenon, which by its very nature is based on subjective experience."

The preceding Creation narrative from the book of Genesis, supported by the medieval church's certainty that the only valid criterion for determining gender identity is our genitals, has left an indelible mark on many, regardless of their individual belief systems. But, what does "in His own image", mean?

Some interpret the image of God in man as a reference to our bodily appearance. But, given the variance of our creation -- i.e., black, white, red, yellow, or olive skinned, not to mention that some of us are fat, skinny, tall, or short, just what does "in His image" mean?

During the age of enlightenment, we were assured the image of God was our ability to reason. The great thinkers of the Renaissance age located the image of God in one's artistic creativity. Later, the Pietists identified it as spiritual faculty, while the Victorians claimed it was our ability to make moral judgments. More recent, it has been suggested that it is more of an intangible, rather than a physical, likeness of God.

Philosophers and theologians have speculated for centuries on all that can be contained within the mystery of this single phrase. They have projected onto their definitions the principal concerns of their own era. And, despite centuries of debate, no consensus of opinion has been reached.

A more substantial argument might be found in "God created man ..." (Genesis 1:27). "If God is Creator, if this Creator -- as the Bible says -- created persons as male or female", does this not hint at Divine or Supreme ownership of our bodies? If Divine or Supreme ownership exists, then do we have the right to make even the most insignificant changes to our bodies -- i.e., face lift, nose reconstruction, etc? Springer points out that "many believers have settled [this question]", and provides the following in support of their argument.

Humanity falsely believes that its life and the life of creation are at its disposal to do with as selfishly desired. The first act of this rebellion is directed toward a tree in the garden ... the threats presented by both nuclear weapons and genetic engineering spring from the conviction that humanity has the right to manipulate, create and destroy creation as it sees fit. Life is its own to possess. By contrast the biblical picture presents the creation as God's gift to be preserved, nurtured and treasured ... such actions claim prerogatives for humanity that rightly belong only to the Creator.

Springer cites Leviticus 19:19 -- i.e., "Keep My decrees. Do not mate different kinds of animals. Do not plant your field with two kinds of seed..." -- as additional support of their argument.

Both arguments -- i.e., "in His image," and "Supreme ownership" -- appear to fail in light of God's continuing revelations in medical science. These revelations allow physicians to ease physical and psyche pain in a variety of ways -- in particular, the correction of physical deformities.

Our nature has brought us to equate "ugly with bad and beautiful with good." As every burn victim, handicapped person, and leprosy patient has painfully learned, "We humans give inordinate regard to the physical body, or shell that we live in." Our cultural commitment is to a "tall, handsome, and confident male or a slender-yet-shapely, smiling female (Brand)". Those who do not meet this cultural standard are judged and treated harshly. As a result, hundreds of thousands of surgeries are performed yearly to correct physical deformities, with little, if any, consideration to the notion that we are tampering with the image of God or ownership of His creation. The surgeon's goal is to bring wholeness to his patient. Cannot the same standards of judgment be applied to sex reassignment surgery?

Canon Jones raised the issue of wholeness in his paper "Theological Questions/Pastoral Responses": "If the human being is made, as Biblical language states, 'in God's image,' then it would seem that it was God's intention that human beings should experience wholeness, since surely the Divinity is One and is Whole." Answers to life's complicated problems are not easily found, but abundant life and wholeness seem to be what the Gospel is all about.

The life, teaching, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth persistently speaks in terms of healing physical and emotional anguish, touching and being seen among social outcasts, freeing individuals from the bondage of guilt and frustration, and including them within God's unyielding love. Jesus was not a stone caster. He was always eager to restore health to those who were blind or deaf, or palsied, or taken in the act of adultery.

The dominant theme of the Gospels is a Divine Person actively engaged in bringing wholeness and equality to people who are trapped. How then does one justify denying therapies and surgical procedures capable of bringing completeness, wholeness, and oneness to a person desperately in need?

GET A FRIEND TO SUBSCRIBE,  
ADD A FREE MONTH TO YOUR  
OWN SUBSCRIPTION!  
DETAILS ON PAGE 17

On the cutting edge of contemporary  
TV fiction!

**EFFICTION Magazine**

Published 6 times a year

Classy • Original • Thought-provoking

Single issue: \$7.00

Subscription: \$30.00

Send check or money order to:

**EFFM**

1977 N. Olden Ave., Suite 205

Trenton, NJ 08618





## THE INFLUENCE OF LANGUAGE

## IS MY TV BOYFRIEND GAY OR BI?

by Roger E. Peo, Ph.D.

We often are unaware of the significance of the tools we use every day. For example, we take the telephone for granted and yet, less than 50 years ago it was a plaything for the rich. The most significant tool we have -- language -- is so ingrained in our daily lives that we are oblivious to its impact. This dependency is made visible when we travel to a foreign country where we do not speak the language. How helpless we feel. How uncomfortable.

At this spring's IFGE convention, one of the luncheon speakers was a woman who had some very unique credentials. Among them, she was fluent in three very different languages -- English, Spanish and Navajo. Her presentation was structured to show how the use of English shapes the way we think. Her theory is that English is a very polar language (and I don't mean cold!). English does not support a middle ground. There is hot or cold, white or black, dark or light, true or false, war or peace, gay or straight, etc. One of the key polarities is male or female.

What this language structure does to our perception of the world is striking. Because we do not have many words to describe being "in between" we do not tolerate ambiguity very well. This can make us ill at ease when people do not fit into one of the language's pre-defined boxes.

I suggest that this discomfort is not a conscious reaction. Language is learned very early and quickly becomes automatic. Only the linguist really studies language and few of them study its influence on our thoughts and behavior. As we all have experienced, the right (or wrong) words can easily move us to sadness, peace, or violence. In our everyday lives language moves and shapes us.

Nowhere is this inadequacy of our language more visible than in the area of human sexuality. It is even more obvious in the transgendered community. There are transvestites or transsexuals. While the term transgenderist describes people who live in the other gender role without genital surgery, it does not fit many persons who struggle with their gender identity.

The problems such language weakness creates for the transgendered person are uncountable. Because we (subconsciously) insist on polar categories, the person "in the middle" is lost. He or she has the unconscious need to have a label for their feelings, yet none exist. Perhaps the most difficult is having to make a choice to live as a man or a woman when neither really fits.

Obviously this polarity also creates some of the social problems that the transgendered person encounters. Society understands masculine and feminine, but not some mixture of the two.

Is there a solution? Probably not, because to change the constructs of the English language is nearly impossible. The best we can do is to accept each person for whom they are and not try to force them into a labelled box to ease our own discomfort.

[If you have something you would like Dr. Peo to write about or have a rebuttal send it to P.O. Box 4897, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602 or call (914) 452-8405. All communications are confidential. This column may be reprinted in any non-profit organization's newsletter so long as Dr. Peo's name and address appear in the reprinted version. All others must obtain written approval.]

## HELP "CROSS-TALK" GROW!!!

- \*\*\* ASK A FRIEND TO SUBSCRIBE
- \*\*\* RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION PROMPTLY
- \*\*\* ASK YOUR FAVORITE STORE TO ADVERTISE
- \*\*\* TELL OUR ADVERTISERS YOU READ US

by Cynthia Phillips  
with Ted (Buffy) and Ann

Dear Cynthia: I have been in a long-term relationship with Pat (he uses this both in the feminine and male mode), who has just told me about his crossdressing. Frankly, I am extremely confused. All the males I have seen in female clothes have either been in female impersonator shows or were (I thought) gay. My boyfriend assures me he is not gay, and I really do believe him, but I have certain doubts as to whether he is bisexual. I really am concerned about this, mainly because of the real danger of AIDS. I understand one of the main ways women get AIDS is through contact with "bi" males. It is extremely difficult for me to believe a male that dresses as a female doesn't have some desire for men. I have seen Pat dressed as a female, and while he is quite good looking (which was a shock) he seems to want to dress as a young hooker, and this worries me.

He assures me he is straight and I am the only one he wants as a sexual partner, but when I see him this way I wonder. Also, in sex he now wants to have more of what I consider lesbian sex. I am not sure of my feelings in this regard. We have great sex, but sometimes I feel slightly guilty even though I do enjoy it. I am afraid this is bringing out some sort of lesbian tendencies in myself. We have talked of marriage, but I don't want to do anything until I feel confident of my feelings. -- L.W.

Ann: Gosh, some of these feelings sound like some of the problems I've had at one time or another in my own relationship! I think most women feel that if a man wants to dress in female clothes, he must want an affair with another male. After the length of time I've been married to Ted, one thing I know he is not is gay. He has often told me that if the world were just composed of women and him, with no men at all, he would be happier!

The way your boyfriend dresses is really up to you. Almost all crossdressers, if given their options, will dress in the most outlandish costumes you can imagine. It reminds me of when I was 15 years old and my friends and I would see who could put on the most eyeshadow and eyeliner and get past our mothers to go out! He only dresses this way because he wants to be flamboyant -- probably not for the reason you think.

When Ted first showed me how he looked as Buffy, I didn't know whether to laugh or cry, he looked so bad. He knew nothing about color coordination, the correct clothes to wear in what season, etc. When it came to makeup, he went under the theory that if "some were good, more was better". He still has his favorite clothes which really don't look

(CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE)



**Vernon's Specialties, Inc.**  
*Your one-stop place to shop. By mail or in person.*

- \* Clothing - Regular & Full Figure Sizes
- \* Leather & Latex Clothing & Accessories
- \* Cosmetics & Professional Makeup Lessons
- \* Shoes & Boots - Sz: 4 - 14WW / Heels to 6"
- \* Basics to Exotic Lingerie for Women and Men
- \* Corsetry - Wigs - Jewelry - Hosiery - Breast Forms
- \* Videos, Books, Magazines, Marital Aids/Novelties

**FAX your order  
617-647-4082**

*Something 4 every lifestyle - because we care!*

**Send \$20 (U.S. Funds) for latest catalog(s) & Newsletters**

Mon./Tues/Thurs. 10 am - 6 pm Wed & Fri Noon - 8 pm Sat. 10 am - 5 pm  
*Special Assistance & Private Appointments - Anytime.*

386-CT Moody St., Waltham, Ma. 02154 (617)894-1744

**WE'RE NOT #1 YOU ARE**  
*Mail Order Specialists Spanning the Globe Catering to the Needs of Everyone!*

**TAPESTRY #58 FEATURES "FANTASIA FAIR":** A ten page section on last year's "Fantasia Fair" leads off this issue, including an interview by Merissa Sherrill Lynn with Ariadne Kane, founder and director of both the Fair and its sponsoring organization The Outreach Institute, and four pages of photographs.

Also featured is an editorial by Merissa Sherrill Lynn written on the eve of her SRS explaining her philosophy on the subject, which I feel should be required reading for anyone who ever thought they were a TS.

Articles on being a transgenderist (the third alternative), taking better photographs, how to choose a therapist, and self defense are also included, as well as a ten page feature on the 1991 IFGE convention.

**LADYLIKE #10 PROFILES COMMUNITY SOCIAL LEADER:** My good friend and social butterfly Marlayna Lacie is the subject of this issue's profile, which features four pages of photos and interview. For those who don't live in L.A., Marlayna is the founder of the monthly "On The Scene Nite" parties at the famous Queen Mary nightclub.

There are also articles in this issue on a wife's viewpoint, the crossdressing community in Germany, female impersonator Michael West, JoAnn Roberts' advice column, and of course, lots and lots of reader photos.

S.O. THERE! ...

that good on him. (He refuses to get rid of his miniskirt.) We have an understanding that he can wear these only at home, and I really prefer that he does it when I'm not home. The sexual activities most CDs prefer are still a problem with me. The nightgown issue never bothered me, because I know what's under the gown. However, the lovemaking style bothers me, and it is still something we need to work out. Sometimes this type of sex can be fun, but it scares me to think of a steady diet of it. I really don't feel like a lesbian, because I do know, regardless of what he wears or how he acts, that he is still a male.

**Ted:** I still think I look good in a miniskirt! The problem of how a crossdresser comes across as a woman is much more serious than most of us think, especially those of us that go out in public. Most of my CD friends are still trying to get it right when it comes to dressing. You can always tell when a wife or girlfriend gets hold of them. All of a sudden she gets style and a certain amount of class, which I admit I'm beginning to like. None of us WANT to look like a hooker (except the drag queens). It's just that most of us really are confused about the difference between the "slut look" and a sexy look. If women would stop and think about the fact that we had no teenage years to experiment in as girls, they would understand why we do this now. We want so badly to express our feminine side, we sometimes come off looking like clowns.

When it comes to sex, it's true that we usually want to act like we think women act. Most of us dream of a woman to woman romance. If you say "male lesbian" to a group of us, watch the eyes light up and heads nod in agreement. Unfortunately, all the women I knew had a problem with this style of lovemaking. I have a good friend who has a very loving relationship with a lesbian. I wonder sometimes if that isn't the type of woman we should find to have a relationship with. Most of us usually meet and fall in love with very conventional, straight women and they do have a problem with this. Even if they can accept the way we dress, they can't always accept the way we prefer lovemaking, and that seems to cause problems. I really wouldn't worry about your boyfriend being gay. If he was gay he probably wouldn't be going with you or wanting sex with you. We have had a few gays in our organization, and some that went with women. This type of gay crossdresser is uncommon, but does exist. He usually goes out with women out of guilt and sometimes marries for the same reason. (We had one gay male who stayed married strictly so he would have someone to STOP him from

INTRODUCING A NEW AND EXCITING MAGAZINE  
ON SALE NOW

# TV CONNECTION®

A caring, supportive publication and contact magazine for crossdressers, TV's, and TS' and those who wish to meet them.

## Free Personal Ads

Listings of support and social groups worldwide

Feature articles, fantasy stories, humour, Coming Events, and more.

We welcome and encourage you to submit your photos, stories, letters, & artwork to us.

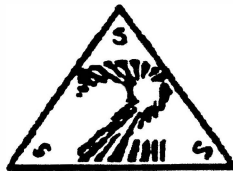
Available now by mail or at your local adult bookstore (if not, please send us their name, mailing address, and phone and we'll contact them).

DM INTERNATIONAL

P.O. Box 19515, Seattle, WA 98109, USA

Fax (206) 282-7339

*The Society for the Second Self*



**Tri-Ess Sorority**

P.O. Box 194, Tulare CA 93275

*... for heterosexual crossdressers and their families ...*

having gay relationships.) Of course this doesn't work, and is very unfair to the woman involved. You can usually spot this type of CD. They almost always give themselves away one way or another. Remember the percentage of gays in our world is probably not as great as in the general population. Most gays really don't want a male dressed as a female; they want a "real man". Gay males may occasionally pick up drag queens for sex, but behind closed doors it's usually male to male sex.

[Cynthia Phillips is married to a crossdresser and is involved with two gender support groups in Texas, as well as being the current wives and partners liaison to the Tri-Ess board of directors. You may write her with comments or suggestions for future columns at P.O. Box 17, Bulverde TX 78163. Ted (Buffy) and his wife Ann are a young couple in their mid-thirties, married over five years.]

## MUSINGS ABOUT SECURITY

by Ricky Hunt

The issue of security came up recently in a letter to one of my sisters. Security must be of overriding concern for many transvestites, and many of us would be in a poor position if they were found out. To me it seems that the security issue can be broken into two parts, public and personal.

I have never given too much thought to public security. I simply could not pass in public, so being read and ultimately embarrassed has never been a concern. Since I am in a rural area I am unable to join one of the many groups around the country so there is one more aspect of security that can be checked off.

No, if my public security were to be breached it would be thru the mail. When I first started out to contact my sisters, I used my own name in correspondence. Ricky is a childhood nickname and I now get a secret charge when an old friend or relative calls me Ricky. I would do it differently now, but the die is cast and cannot be recast. I simply have to trust my sisters to be discrete, and unless one of the employees of the Post Office is out of line there is no problem. At least there has been none for the past five years.

While I would be unhappy to be exposed, it would not be the end of the world. My ability to earn a living would not be affected greatly, I am in electronics, and there are more oddballs per capita among us techs than any other occupation I know. Granted the jokes and ribaldry would be difficult at first, but it couldn't go on forever.

My wife and son are in the know and we will tell my daughter when the time comes. Should I be exposed I think they would have it worse than I would. Being teenagers they are both greatly concerned with public appearance. I already have a reputation as an eccentric, but this is a different order of eccentricity.

My greatest regret would be that I would no longer be able to continue in Scouting, but even that is drawing to a close. There are other things I wish to do with my life, and I have moved on to other things to a great extent. But knowing that I could never return to a movement that has brought me great rewards would be a lasting sorrow.

As for friends and family, I am an eccentric sort of fellow, and so are the bulk of our friends. Neither my wife or I have ever been into the status or appearance trip, and as I write this, "hippie" seems to define much of our lives. While a few eyebrows would be raised, I think that my status as the Bearded Lady would not lose us many friends.

So all in all being publicly exposed would be difficult, but not a complete disaster. I strongly suspect that I would become one of those sisters that would take the chance in appearing publicly to educate the uneducated. But I have no driving need to go public, believe me.

There is another aspect of security that needs to be dealt with, and that is internal. We all have a need to be secure within ourselves, and the guilt that this lack of security can cause is well known. This internal security must also consider the woman who has graciously chosen to share my life. I have been most fortunate to have a wife whose love is unconditional. There are many areas of our lives where there are profound gaps between us, but we have found ways to bridge or walk around those gaps. My wife is a born again Christian, and I am agnostic. I am completely able to find the faith that she says sustains her and the inability to share this faith has been one of those gaps. However my philosophy of life is virtually the same as those of the Christian faith except for the belief in God and Jesus, and I am active in her church in those ways that do not conflict with my personal philosophy. I even get dressed as the apostle Andrew each year and take part in the annual Easter play, and in doing so I hope I am able to enhance a faith I cannot share in the audience. I am not sure if it is a quote or if these are my words: "We may disagree about the destination, but we are walking on the same road." This is an accurate description of the situation.

## AND NOW, MISS EMILY LAELLA

by Kim McKennen  
(from Neutral Corner newsletter)

I want to know: what do railroads have to do with wearing the clothes of the opposite sex? Do boxcars and locomotives really have anything to do with gender?

Then why are we called Trainssexuals and Trainsvestites?

This question came to me the other day. I was all dolled up, wearing my nicest evening gown, changing the transmission in my car and it dawned on me -- What do boxcars and locomotives have to do with propelling my automobile? I figured it had to do with the drive train of something, but the question stuck in my mind about Trainssexuals and Trainsvestites. And how do Trainsgenderists feel about this? How does Amtrak feel about this?

Why do we have to stay on the ground? Why not Planesexual? Or Planesvestite? Or even Spacesexual? This is the space age! How about Spacegenderists? How about ...

(Uh, Kim, it's "trans".)

What?

(It's "trans". Transsexual. Transvestite. Transgender. Not "train".)

Not "train", huh? Transsexual, huh? Transvestite, too?

(You got it.)

Oh. Nevermind.

*Beach*  
**ELECTROLYSIS**  
*by Gwen & Judi*

350 No. Sepulveda • Manhattan Beach • 318-9747

**WRITE DIRECT! to WOMEN**

WHO WISH TO MEET SHEMALES

No forwarding FEES ever!  
\$25.00 postpaid

**SALMACIS WIMMIN'S GUIDE**  
P.O. Box 1604  
Eugene, OR 97440-1604 USA

I think my wife approaches my transvestise in much the same way. In this case, Marriage is the road we are traveling, and we are traveling until death parts us at that unknown destination. I cannot share my joy in wearing women's clothing with her, but she accept and helps in what ways she can. She will never understand by compulsion any more than I will understand her faith in God, and the inability to share will always be a space between us. What has to be said is that it need not divide us or drive us apart. The love we share can bridge that and many other gaps that occur between us if we both work at it. And that, my sisters, is the security that counts.

**CON TRIES ESCAPING DRESSED AS WOMAN:** A handsome convict nearly escaped from jail after trying to wiggle past prison guards disguised as a woman.

Antonio de Azevedo was captured just as he was about to strut out the gates of Rio de Janeiro's Helio Gomes Penitentiary and become a free man. His lipstick, makeup, bra, matching white blouse and high heels just couldn't do the trick.

According to prison guard Alberto Torres, "She was very glamorous, but it looked like she'd never walked in high heels before. She walked like a man." Torres said that de Azevedo's attempt to escape by blending in with the other inmates' wives and girlfriends when they left after visiting hours "was a good one, but she stood out like a sore thumb by the way she walked."

The 24-year-old convict, who is serving a ten-year sentence for armed robbery, was one of a dozen inmates who tried to escape by helicopter from the penitentiary's roof three months earlier. ["Sun"]

**WORLD'S FIRST GAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE BEGINS PLAY:** The linebackers wore hot-pink lipstick and the quarterback wore a primrose gown ... at the opening game of the new Gay Football Federation in Zamora, Spain.

American football is so much the rage in Spain that even gay players wanted to get into the act, only no straight team would play them, so they formed their own league. Said one American-born fan, "This is the weirdest game I ever saw. I don't remember Johnny Unitas every throwing a pass in a little pink dress, and I don't think Mean Joe Greene ever blew in anybody's ear after he knocked the stuffing out of 'em."

In response, quarterback Gonzo Guerrero, decked out in blonde wig, false eyelashes and a low-cut gown, complained of "no respect", a claim countered by beer vendor Francisco Bango, who said the team "runs like a bunch of girls and stamp their feet and cry every time the refs call them for offsides."

Bango also said the crossdressed quarterback "has got to be the worst passer I've ever seen in my life." ["Weekly World News"]

**TRANSSEXUAL KANGAROO HUNTER FROM DOWN UNDER:** A crack rifleman who can drop a kangaroo from 300 yards is being hailed as a king by fellow hunters, but prefers to be called Sharon.

The macho transsexual, still called Darren Davis by her fellow hunters, came out of the closet after growing tired to leading a double life. She leads a different lifestyle from the hard-drinking, hard-living men who spend their evening swilling booze after selling their kangaroo pelts, but they say they respect her. Says fellow hunter Chuck Horne, "He's not a bad guy, but I wouldn't want to date him."

Horne says some hunters used to tease Darren/Sharon when he/she began wearing a blouse and earrings, but the teasing stopped when Sharon knocked out a 6'6", 250 pound hunter with one punch. ["Sun"]

**MOTHER DEFENDS DECISION TO PERFORM SEX-CHANGE ON HER BABY:** A woman who is raising the boy she gave birth to as a girl is finding herself having to defend the difficult decision to

(CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE)

# 1991 "Raised Skirt" Photo Contest

NOVEMBER 11, 1991

AT  
"THE VICTORIAN MANOR"  
EDISON, N.J.

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAY AND CONTEST. JUDGING WILL BE BY PUBLIC VOTE.

ALL ENTRIES MUST HAVE A SUBJECT WEARING A DRESS OR SKIRT, SHOWING THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF ONE LEG.

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE IN COLOR AND NO LARGER THAN 4" x 6". ONLY THREE PHOTOS WILL BE PERMITTED TO BE DISPLAYED BY EACH PHOTOGRAPHER.

A \$1.00 FEE IS REQUIRED FOR EACH ENTRY AND NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER NOVEMBER 1, 1991.

"CASH" PRIZES: \$100 FIRST PLACE, \$75 SECOND, \$50 THIRD, FIVE \$5 COMPLEMENTARY

T.O.M. PO BOX 53, EDISON NJ 08818



**NEW SELECTIONS EVERY MONTH**

Send for free brochure.

Send order to:  
**SANDY THOMAS**

P.O. Box 1327  
STUDIO CITY,  
CA 91614-0327

All mail sent first class in plain envelope.

**FAST SERVICE!  
ASK ABOUT THE "TVIA" SERIES!**

- PLEASE SEND THE FOLLOWING:
- |  |       |     |
|--|-------|-----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> IDEAL MARRIAGE TVIA #13 | 10.00 |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MY SON, BRIDESMAID #22  | 7.00  | NEW |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WOMAN'S WORK #21        | 7.00  | NEW |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VIRGIN VOWS CTV #8      | 7.00  | NEW |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THAT'A GIRL #20         | 7.00  | NEW |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHANGING VOWS TOO       | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TIT FOR TAT             | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCHANGING VOWS         | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NEAR MISS               | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SKIRT FOR A FLIRT       | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOING A BROAD           | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DRESSED TO DANCE        | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MAID UP                 | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACTING LIKE A GIRL      | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALL DOLLED UP           | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SCHOOLING IN SKIRTS     | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JUST LIKE A WOMAN       | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LIKE MOTHER, LIKE SON   | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHEERLEADER MASCOT      | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MISS-ING PASSPORT       | 7.00  |     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MODEL HUSBAND           | 7.00  |     |

First class mail shipping- 1.00 per book. (5.00 maximum)  
Calif. resident add sales tax

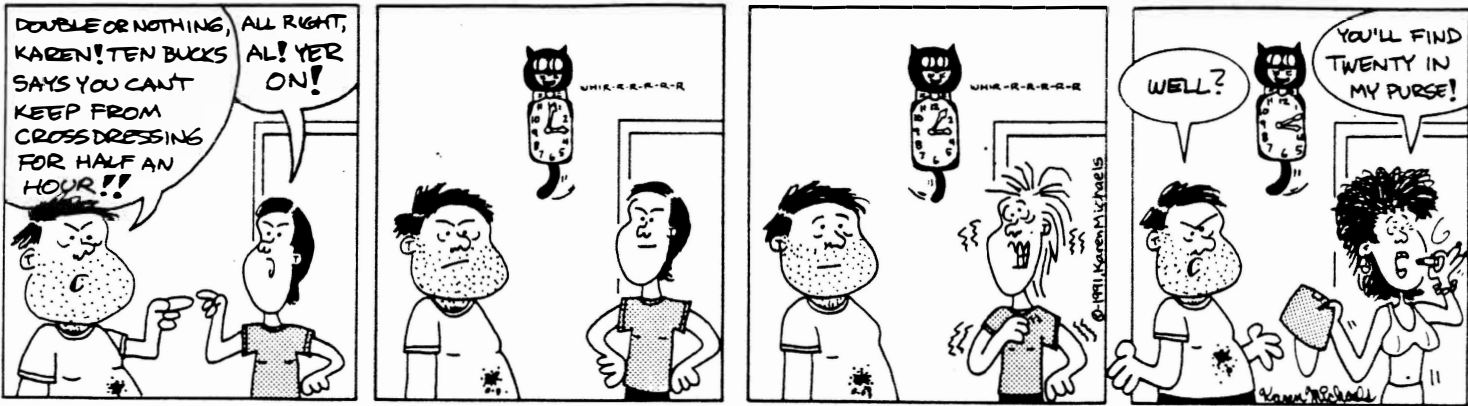
Total order -AMOUNT ENCLOSED

Make checks payable to: SANDY THOMAS ADV  
Mailing Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I am over 21 years old.



THE SERCHANGERS - BY LYN T



The mad bugger asked if he could work stripped to the waist. How was I to know?"

6:00 TV NEWS ...

have genital surgery performed on the infant. Margaret Kendle, who split up with the child's father three months into the pregnancy, was told the day after she gave birth that her son had an imperfectly and inadequately formed genital organ. It took doctors three weeks of reviewing the case before they recommended that Travis John would be happier raised as Kylie Anne. Kendle said she made the agonizing decision after doctors indicated that normal sex as a male could never be possible, but as a female it would be. Kendle maintains that she honestly thinks she has done the best for her child, even though she realizes that many potential obstacles still lie ahead. ["Weekly World News"]


TS KILLER ATTEMPTS CASTRATION TO GET OUT OF MEN'S PRISON: A pre-operative transsexual serving a life sentence in a Canadian prison was so desperate to be transferred to a women's prison, she attempted to castrate herself with an X-acto knife. Synthia Kavanagh, who looks female after sixteen years of taking estrogen, wants prison officials to increase her dosage to prevent her breasts from shrinking and her muscles from returning to their genetic male proportions. Officials at Millhaven Penitentiary near Kingston, Ontario, say they don't have the authority to increase the dosage, and say she'll remain in a cell isolated from other male prisoners until a federal court decides otherwise or she reaches a parole date in 13 years. Kavanagh, who was convicted of crushing her best friend's skull with a hammer in 1987, was rushed from her cell to the infirmary before she could finish the botched castration job. ["Weekly World News"]

*Me Chér*  
Creations



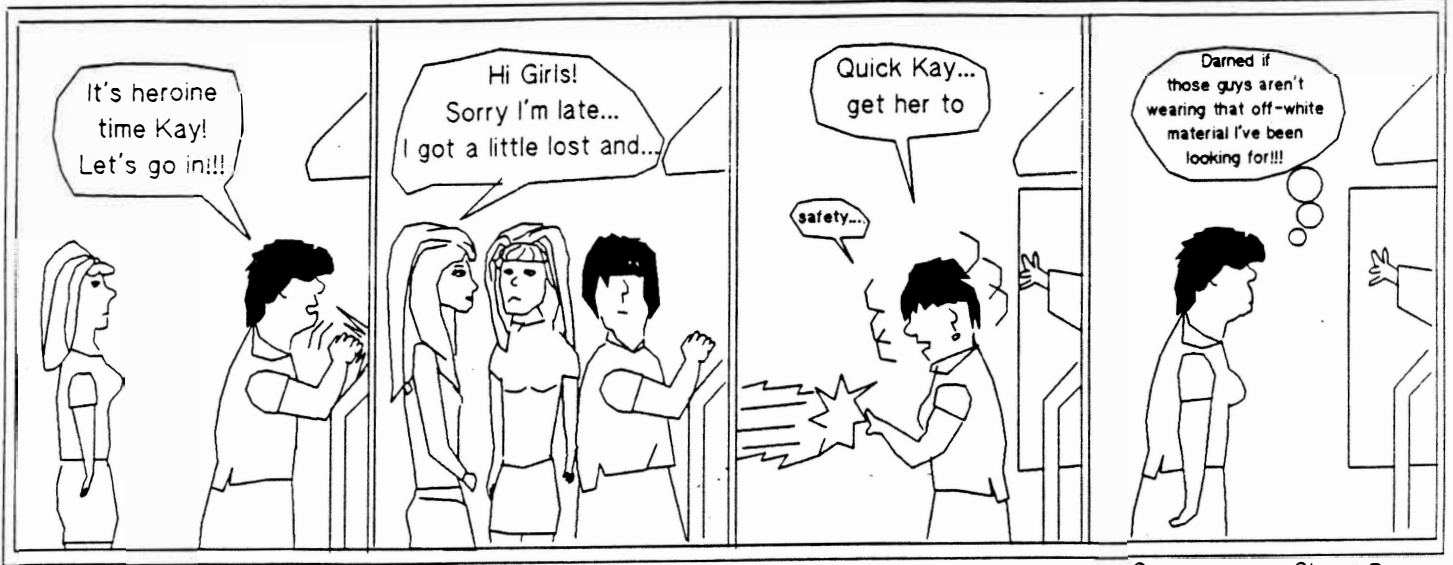
Tailoring • Costumes • Fashions  
• Complete Bridal Service •  
• Total Sewing Needs •  
(714) 823-7613

Helping my big sisters' metamorphosis over the past nine years, I understand the joy, the triumph and the frustration you experience along the way. I am the only Electrologist in L.A. using the 32 multiple needle method, which has proven especially effective and comfortable in the removal of coarse facial hair. My salon is gay owned and operated, providing a supportive environment to serve the many needs of the TV/TS community with pride.



**MARY'S**  
Electrolysis & Facial  
• Waxing  
(213) 651-0202/656-0913  
2344 W. Beverly St., Los Angeles  
4 Blocks East of La Cienega





Copyr gnt © Sherri Belmar

NOTHING YOU ARE ABOUT TO READ IS TRUE ...

We have, in recent months, been involved in a feud of sorts with the staff of the Indiana Crossdressers Society (IXE) newsletter. Most recently, they claimed that our failure to run their opening paragraph to the "Dear Bobbie Sue" parody we reprinted in June's "Pulling No Punchlines" humor column somehow made us as irresponsible as they had been when they fabricated news stories and passed them off as fact. (For the record, the omitted paragraph was, in my judgement, in poor taste.) As they claim that "Cross-Talk" is unable to reprint anything without severely editing it first, we present for your reading enjoyment the entire contents, verbatim except for re-formatting and correcting spelling and punctuation, the entire text of IXE's July parody issue.

-- Kimberleigh Richards

casual touch, such as a handshake. Victims are oblivious to their loss until they remove their clothes. The police and medical community remain baffled. Reminiscent of witch trials of years past, angry mobs have chased and beaten many people they suspected of being genital thieves.

A curious side note is that many men desiring to have sex change surgery have traveled from distant countries to Lagos in hopes of having their genitals stolen and thus avoid the painful medical procedure. Ironically, the witch doctors want nothing to do with them -- they say their potions require the parts of a virile man.

[API]

COSMONAUTS EXPERIENCE MORE THAN ZERO-6

At last month's international symposium on space medicine in Genoa, Italy, the Soviets were accused by the French delegates of withholding information. Dr. Kristina Geneva Bekov, leading the Soviet delegation, adamantly denied the charge and said her government has freely shared all

(CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE)

GENDER FARCE MAY COME TRUE


Following an idea that was recently parodied in the IXE Newsletter about mandatory sex changes in the state of Arkansas, the U.S. Senate today passed SB15943 with a bipartisan vote of 78 to 15. The proposed law, which is expected to pass in the House, would require any male found in public dressed in female attire, to under go extensive counseling for a period of not less than 6 months. Second time offenders would, like the Arkansas farce, have to undergo a sex change operation or face a minimum of 5 years in a psychiatric hospital. Said the bill's sponsor, Jesse Helms of North Carolina, "It's time we treat these perverts like the criminals they are! We've got to get them off our streets before the children of this nation come to harm."

["Washingtonian Post"]

DON'T SHAKE HANDS IN AFRICA

(Lagos, Nigeria) -- Stories of black magic and witch doctors are common in Africa, but this one is causing quite a stir. Men in Lagos, Nigeria live in fear of having their genitals stolen by those who practice witchcraft. A recent surge in the demand for male genitals by witch doctors and others like them has resulted in numerous thefts committed against unsuspecting people. The thieves are apparently able to remove the victim's genitals with some magical power and a

IF YOUR BOYSELF WEARS GLASSES  
YOUR GIRLSELF NEEDS THEM TOO.  
GIVE HER THE CONSIDERATION A LADY DESERVES  
GET HER A PAIR OF BEAUTIFUL FEMININE GLASSES.



We offer complete optical service  
at reasonable prices. Over 300 styles

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT  
ASK FOR ELLIOTT AND SAY THAT YOU ARE A  
FRIEND OF KYMBERLEIGH.

We have private fitting rooms and are understanding  
of the needs of TVs. No embarrassment or complications

**REGAL OPTICIANS**  
2402 W. 6TH ST., LOS ANGELES  
(213) 382-7606

information concerning long duration stays in space. The French disagree, claiming that an unnamed Soviet delegate admitted to three French biochemists that the cosmonauts, and all the in-flight test animals, had undergone some changes of the endocrine and reproductive system that have remained permanent even after return to earth. The scientists stated that changes only start to occur after four to five months of zero-gravity exposure and that "final endocrine metamorphosis maturation is reached three months later."

The French biochemists did not press the matter since they felt the Soviet endocrinologist would continue to discuss the findings at a lecture he was scheduled to give the next day. At breakfast the next morning they found out that the lecture was cancelled and that the speaker was already on a "Aeroflot" flight back to Leningrad.

Dr. Bekov appeared agitated as she explained that the scientist was rushed home to comfort his father who had just been bitten by a rabid sable. Only after being pressed did she admit that there were some minor changes noted in the cosmonaut's blood chemistry, but that it only had to do with a slight imbalance in the thyroxine baseline. She stated that the problem has been studied for over five years and a treatment would soon be developed. Dr. Bekov refused to answer any further questions on the matter. The French were not pleased with the explanation and promptly made a stern protest to the conference steering committee.

["Indianapolis Times"]

MOSS HORMONES

(Bloomington, IN) -- A team of cave researchers from Indiana University discovered a previously unknown species of moss growing in the opening of a small Indiana cave. The moss is of interest not only because it is a new species, but also because of its pharmaceutical potential.

A sample of the moss, which has become known as Hoosier Green Goddess, was sent to the IU botanical lab for study and it was found to contain significant quantities of an estrogen-like compound (hence its name). Scientists have been able to extract and refine the estrogen and have made a number of interesting discoveries about it.

The moss estrogen seems to have none of the harmful side effects that are hazards with the current prescription hormones. Eli Lilly & Co. has offered to sponsor continued research at Indiana University in hopes of developing the moss estrogen into a new product.

Research volunteers are being sought by the IU Medical School and the Kinsey Institute. Interested individuals may call 1-800-555-MOSS. [API]

ELAINE EDWARDS EXCOMMUNICATED FROM GENDER COMMUNITY

(Indianapolis, IN) -- Due in large part to her lack of repentance regarding her publication of several phony "news

stories", Elaine Edwards has been banned from any further activities in the North American gender community. Numerous complaints about her conduct were received at the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE). "We just can't let someone like this undermine all that we have worked for," said an IFGE spokesperson. "We decided to put a stop to her ever being able to do something like this again." The action taken by IFGE, with the support of gender groups across the continent, will undoubtedly set a precedent that will help protect gender people everywhere. "We petitioned the courts to rescind Edwards' First Amendment rights. We won, of course. We have also denied her entry into any gender conventions or club meetings. Now the future is safe from her type. We can control exactly what we want our community to read.

"Thus we will gain the uniformity of thought we will need when we start our fight to gain legal rights and liberties in society. There is too much at stake to risk one person spoiling it." [IXE]

IXE TO BUY OUT IFGE

By I.B. Leave, staff writer

In its efforts to strike out for freedom for its members and for all of the gender community, to be able to speak their opinions, IXE took the bold move and initiated the first steps to buy out the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE).

Said Shannon Michael, spokeswoman for IXE, "We don't have anything against IFGE itself. We just feel that certain members have been going too far to make sure only their ideas are presented to the Gender Community. Now we feel that it's 'our' turn to apply the screws. Our first order of business will be to nip a few people in the bud. Let's see how 'they' like having their rights curtailed."


IXE, a support group with some 80+ members in the central Indiana area, has always felt that the gender community was always too hard on itself and decided they would try to show a "happier" side for the gender community.

Many articles by its members have been picked up by other newsletters across the country. IXE has always encouraged this. However, there have been instances where certain newsletters took things out of context and/or highly edited the articles so that their true meanings were lost.

Elaine Edwards' were a favorite with many groups until her infamous "Arkansas" article put her into hot water with various west coast editors.


"Elaine's articles were to prove a point," says Michaels. "They were made to show that most people in the gender community will believe anything, even the most obvious falsehoods. There were hints all over the place that the articles were false, including a fake news organization. The true crime is not that we published the articles, but that people will accept as true anything that is in print! We had

(CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE)



A revolutionary new way to purchase femme eyewear. No need to explain your lifestyle or feel uncomfortable in a retail store. Buy with complete anonymity. Our mailing list is never sold or shared. Prism Optical has been selling eyewear by mail for over 32 years. Prices are 30% to 50% less than retail stores. You will have one month to wear your prescription eyewear; if not completely satisfied return it for a 100% refund.

**Send for a free color catalog today.**



**Prism**  
Optical, Inc.  
P.O. Box 680030  
Dept. XD1  
N. Miami, FL 33168

one of our members write an article on how people were going to the vet to have certain 'things' taken care of. From the context of the article anyone could see that her tongue was so far into her cheek that it was poking out. One group rewrote it so that it sounded like it was true! Now how stupid can you get? Any vet who did that would lose his license."

IXE plans to re-name IFGE to "IFGE, a subsidiary of IXE Worldwide." ["Indianapolis Times"]

**NEW FASHION TREND AMONG CROSSDRESSERS**

By SueAnn Button

A new style of clothing has finally hit the CD community years after it was made popular by many of the New York fashion houses. Men's clothing has become all the rage for CD's in most of the major U.S. and Canadian cities. After talking to some of the style setters from all four points we have found that the trend is by no means locked into one simple pattern. Friends from Toronto say skirts are out and permanent press trousers are in. Some New Yorkers told me that all the avant garde are into sport coats and black

Florsheim shoes. Our girls in Texas have gone to straight Levis and cowboy hats without feather headbands. Stores in Southern California have been mobbed every time the word gets out that some Johnny Carson suits are still in stock. The word is that our friends in Seattle are just desperate for camouflage fatigues. In the Midwest the girls just cannot get enough polo shirts and rugby jerseys.

Outer clothing is not the only new face we are showing the world. Our ladies in Orlando have been at the front of a revolution to give the boot to Bali, and make Fruit of the Loom the only acceptable lingerie. Panties are out -- boxers are in! Stockings are gone -- blue knee length socks are it!

Accessories have also made a major shift. The girls of Atlanta have dumped their handbags for executive style briefcases. Fat gold nugget jewelry has become the uniform item of some of the CD groups in Chicago.

The movement to men's clothing has not been as smooth as some would hope. A number of cases of divorce have been reported because the CD husband has been spending money like mad on new men's wardrobes. An unnamed group in the southern U.S. has lynched one of their own members by her own tie when she arrived at a meeting in a Navy Blue blazer. The

(CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE)

**THE "GET A FRIEND TO SUBSCRIBE, GET A FREE ISSUE FOR YOURSELF" OFFER CONTINUES ...**

As "Cross-Talk" continues to expand its readership in the national gender community, we are always aware that there are potential subscribers who we don't reach through our existing marketing, but who our present readers have regular contact with.

We know you enjoy and appreciate "Cross-Talk" ... after all, you're reading this, aren't you? What we would like is for you to share your enthusiasm with your friends and correspondents in the gender community. And we do like to be able to say "thank you" when someone does get one of their friends to subscribe, so our "free issue" offer continues.

Here's how it works. Simply write, type, or otherwise inscribe your four-digit subscriber number (from the upper left hand corner of the mailing label) into the brackets in the lower right hand corner of the form below. Now xerox as

many copies of the form as you have friends and correspondents, and make it a point to hand one to them when next you see them, or enclose one with your next letter to them.

If they subscribe, we'll look up the four-digit number and extend that subscription by one issue. There is no limit on the number of extensions any subscriber can get in this offer, so feel free to circulate as many forms as you want.

As those famous wine cooler pitchers are famous for saying: "Thank you for your support."

[By the way, you can also use this form to renew your subscription, or to add the "Yellow Pages" to your subscription if you live in the L.A. area.]

**"Cross-Talk" CONFIDENTIAL SUBSCRIBER INFORMATION FORM**

Mailing Name \_\_\_\_\_ Subscriber # \_\_\_\_\_  
if renewal \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: We cannot mail to "Occupant" or "Boxholder"

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- One-year "Cross-Talk" subscription (\$24 / 12 issues)
- Two-year "Cross-Talk" subscription (\$42 / 24 issues)
- Southern California "Yellow Pages" (add \$2/yr. to subscription)

Mail to: "Cross-Talk"  
P.O. Box 944  
Woodland Hills, CA 91365

[ ]

(Please make check or money order payable to Kymberleigh Richards.)

NOTHING IS TRUE ...

group's president said, "We know how to take care of them there perverts down here!" The "Church of Our Lady in Skirts" has been formed in Vancouver B.C. with the goal to save their sisters to the south. Organizations in Europe, Australia, and New Zealand have been forming to combat what they conceive to be no less than gender heresy growing in North America. While they espouse the only proper clothing for the CD is the traditional femme fashion, a highly reliable source has informed me that more and more flats and sensible wool skirts suits are being seen on members of the New Zealand CD community. ["Frostbite Falls Pickyune"]

### IXE CROSS-TALK By Paul Harby

A copy of a recent letter sent to me by a confidential source confirmed what months of investigation had not been able to do: IXE owns "Cross-Talk"! IXE Worldwide, a multinational conglomerate with headquarters in Indianapolis, is the owner of vast oil reserves in Saudi Arabia, has large holdings of a special Indiana moss and is the publisher of several national gender newspapers. A letter sent by Morgan Garcia of the Gender Alternatives League, talked about a recent article found in the "IXE Cross-Talk". When asked, the IXE Board said, "No Comment", but one member was overheard saying, "Boy is the shxt really going to hit the fan now". ["Chicago Tribulation"]

### A THREE DOLLAR SEX CHANGE By Bambi Deer (from Krystalport)

Yes, you heard me, a three dollar sex change...!!! Now that I have your attention, let me tell you my story. This morning started out like any other morning. I had a basic plan for the day which was to stop at the License Bureau. Like all Ohio License Branches, I walked in and "took-a-number" and sat down. As my number was called, I approached the clerk and explained to this gentleman that I had recently moved to the Wickliffe area and decided that I needed to have my drivers license reflect my new address on it. He agreed, and proceeded to type in the appropriate information into his computer terminal to be able to process my request. I then told him, "Oh, by the way, there is another mistake on my license that has been there ever since I was sixteen years old." The clerks immediate response was, "A little house cleaning, huh...???" I didn't reply to that semi-funny statement, but as he brought my license closer to me so I could show him the mistake, I just pointed to the gender box with my index finger by tapped it gently in the offending area. The nice gentleman looked at my license, and then at me, and then at the computer terminal, and said, "You're right... I can fix that obvious mistake right here..." I thought to myself, ("Now, that sure was easy"). He finished typing in all of the information he needed to complete my license, and hit the "enter" key on his terminal. Exactly at that point, the computer terminal started beeping "error" messages at him. Like, "BEEP - BEEP - BEEP - BEEP - BEEP". You know, good and loud error beeps...!!! He looked at his terminal screen, frowned and whispered as he read his terminal, "You can not change the applicant's last name, applicant's sex, applicant's age, or applicant's license number, unless there has been prior approval from the Ohio License Bureau." At that point I knew I was in trouble...!!! I really did not know what to do next. I could usually figure out something like this dilemma and work around it, but this time I didn't know what to do. This nice gentleman didn't know what to do next to be able to help me, so he asked the lady in the adjacent clerk station what to do about this apparent "computer error". She looked over the divider at his computer terminal screen, then she looked at me, then at my license. She then said, "Well, she is obviously NOT a man!" He then asked her, "So, then what do I do in this case?" She replied, "Well, ya gotta force

## ELECTROLYSIS BY ANDIE

Electro-Blend & Flash Methods

(818) 709-7767



A MEMBER OF THE GENDER  
COMMUNITY, PROVIDING A  
NEEDED SERVICE TO HER SISTERS

WHO IS HE?



YOU'LL FIND OUT  
SOON ... IN

**CROSS-TALK**

HAVE YOU ASKED A FRIEND TO  
SUBSCRIBE TO "CROSS-TALK"?

it" (meaning, the computer). She then reached over the divider and pounded on his terminal, and she walked away. The computer then began to process my NEW license. Wow... it worked...!!! I could hardly believe it...!!! It actually worked...!!! Total cost of this "Trans"action, three dollars.

[Editor's note: Bambi is an Ohio TV who likes to fool Mother Nature, the I.R.S and herself.]

This special section was sponsored by SPSNS, the Society for the Prevention of Stupid News Stories, JoAnn Roberts and Kym Richards, co-chairpersons.

# CROSSDRESSING AND SUSPENSION OF DISBELIEF

by Ivy Stone  
(from "Rainbow", Rainbow Gender Alliance)

Most people involved in the dramatic arts are familiar with the concept of suspension of disbelief, which I hope to convince you very shortly is an important factor during our apparent gender transformation, and its continuance for however long we choose to remain in that role at that time.

What is suspension of disbelief?

Let's start with an everyday example. You go to a movie house or live theatre to be entertained, to escape the "real" world and most importantly, because you want the experience.

Live theatre is a better example because you have live people on stage, and they might have a set that merely suggests the setting, leaving more to your imagination. It's up to the actors to convince you that they are the characters they present themselves to be, and together with all the people behind the scenes produce an artificial reality for your entertainment pleasure.

From that point on, the degree of acceptance of that reality depends totally upon the willingness and the ability of the spectator to suspend their disbelief for a while in order to have a stimulating experience.

How many of you felt the excitement as if you were there with Indiana Jones when the huge stone ball came rolling after him in the temple? Or have your heart strings tugged a little in "Love Story"?

Each of us goes to a movie or play and gets something different out of it, and most times what we got out of it was proportionate to what we were willing to do to get it. We can suspend our disbelief to a very minimal extent and merely feel like we are witnessing something... while total suspension of disbelief can make you really feel as if you're there, totally immersed to the point where that is your only reality, regardless of its authenticity.

A good portion of our personal reality is composed of what we see and how we react to it. The principle is really a personalization of an old axiom: "The world is as you perceive it. Change your perception and you change the world."

But, "Hey!", you say, "this is supposed to be an article on crossdressing! What does all of this have to do with that?" Quite a bit, actually.

When we crossdress we change our perception of our gender. In order to accomplish this, we have to suspend our disbelief in order to make the transformation.

As we all know, there's more to crossdressing than slapping on a dress, a wig and some makeup and then expect some mysterious, magical event to occur that completes the spell without any further effort on our part.

The effective use of clothing, wigs and cosmetics only creates the external half of the personality. The other, and I think the most important part, is that of getting into your gender role psychologically and emotionally. You have to look female, you have to act female, and you have to feel female.

The most basic requirement is to have a good imagination. Some are so good that they can get into a role almost instantaneously, while others find props, devices and mirrors to be helpful. A prop could be something like a woman's dressing table, a device something as simple as a glass of flavored sparkling water that is imagined by you to be a magical or pharmaceutical feminizing potion that, once ingested, will bring out the essence of the lady within you.

The use of mirrors is probably the most useful of all props. It provides visual feedback that allows you to associate and identify yourself with the reflected image. Special effects lighting can be very effective too. A red or amber light bulb, used to supplement a dimly lit room, can produce some amazing effects... not to mention the fact that most people look younger under those color lights.

I'm sure most of you practice suspension of disbelief without having realized what it was called. I didn't either, until about a year ago when an actor friend explained to me the basics that I have attempted to pass on here.

Suspension of disbelief is a powerful psychological tool that we can use. If we can believe we have become female to the extent that we can convince ourselves, then the projection of that image to others will be that much more convincing to them and satisfying to ourselves.

## International Foundation for Gender Education, TV/TS Tapestry Journal

*Serving the Crossdressing/Transsexual Community since 1978*

I.F.G.E. is a non-profit tax-exempt organization working cooperatively with and in support of organizations serving the CD/TS Community through representation, communications, conventions, referrals, outreach, and public education.

The TV/TS Tapestry Journal is intended to be our community's "house organ". It is a tasteful, comprehensive, 150+ page magazine containing articles, editorials, letters, references, and the world's largest TV/TS personal listings directory.

Single Copy \$10.00 Subscription \$40.00 (\$50.00 1st class & Canada)

I.F.G.E., P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778 (617) 894-8340



### ● CLASSIC PUMPS ● ● STAGE PUMPS ●

SIZES 9 to 14

RED & BLACK LEATHER  
OR PATENT LEATHER  
5" or 6" HEELS

Just \$95.00 includes S & H  
*California residents add 6 1/2% sales tax*

Phone orders with M/C or Visa

**MANY OTHER STYLES OF  
SHOES IN STOCK!**

**We Carry:**  
Dresses, Skirts,  
Lingerie, Shoes,  
Wigs,  
Beard Cover,  
Make-Up,  
Garter Belts,  
Waist Chinchers,  
Corsets,  
Maid Uniforms,  
Breast Forms,  
Bras,  
Nylon Hose,  
Pantyhose  
(Crotchless &  
Garter Belt)

**\* MAKE-UP \*  
LESSONS**  
By Appointment

## Lydia's TV Fashions

CALL (818) 995-7195  
\*FOR CATALOG (SEND \$5.00)\*

13837 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 2  
Sherman Oaks, California 91423

### Store Hours:

Monday through Friday - 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday - 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.



by Wendi Seabreeze

"Oh, get a life!" Has anyone ever said that to you? Or have you ever said this to yourself? If so, then this article was written with you in mind. If not, and you're not satisfied with your status quo, then these following paragraphs may hold your interest. And for those that are on a natural high and contentedly fulfilled with all life's pleasure, this subsequent message may assist you in maintaining that satisfaction.

But before you can "get a life", you need to define what the "meaning of life" means to YOU. To do this, you must know what it is you wish from your life. Many of you reading this may say "I want to be a beautiful woman", or you may want to be able to at least look and act like one and be alluring. The few of you that have accomplished this still may not be satisfied -- therefore, not happy, hence not having a LIFE (unless, of course, your definition of life is being lost and lonely, sad and scared, or without satisfaction, which I doubt it is). LIFE should be adventurous and filled with love and joy!

For some of you to live the LIFE of your dreams, you need money. And how true this really can be; nevertheless, you can have a life without having a lot of money. Some of us, and I can include myself, need friends who we can share ourselves with. We need to be needed, because we love helping others discover their life and being successful in it. We also need excitement and adventure. We need and/or have a spiritual awareness.

Once you know what you desire in life to make it suitable and wholesome, then you can make plans to guarantee that you obtain what you want. But when you make plans, you need to be reasonable. You need to select a plan that can complement your occupation (if you can't change it), your environment and financial budget. You also need to acknowledge the fact that you may never get everything you wish for and strive to possess. This includes material objects as well as knowledge and enlightenment. You must make plans that are compatible with your immediate goals. Then, once you have reached that goal or level, you can make more plans to increase your satisfaction and to step up to a higher level. Having a LIFE isn't going from the bottom to the top overnight. Life is filled with progressions which are harmonious to the amount of knowledge, experience and change there is in your LIFE.

There are plenty of things that contribute to a GOOD LIFE, but for right now we'll focus on knowledge, experience, and change. For everything that occurs either with the passing of time or spontaneously is connected and engulfed within these three factors. Everything: Love, beauty, strength, courage, pride, rewards, trials, errors, friends, and even sexual satisfaction.

Through experience comes knowledge. As an example, if you put on makeup day after day and week after week, you'll

gradually gain the knowledge of how to do it better. By mixing and matching and experimenting with your wardrobe, you'll gain the knowledge of what looks the best on you: colors, fabrics, fashion, style. If you wish to pass, either in public or in your own world, you'll gain the knowledge and confidence through experiencing that gratification and errors.

Experience not only leads one to knowledge, but knowledge will lead to experience. For once you have the knowledge to do what pleases you, then you will have the confidence to experience events in life that you were afraid of before. Through knowledge you'll be shown different avenues of life and how to be adventurous.

Now let's add the third part of this equation. Changes in your LIFE may happen through both experience and knowledge, plus unforeseen factors. Once you've experience your femme self to the furthest extreme that was within your first and immediate goal, then you will change in more ways than I could write about in the limited space of this article. And changes can also occur that bring about more experience and knowledge. For example if you work for a company and are transferred to a more adaptable city, that's a change in your occupational life which may lead to experiences that couldn't have been obtained where you lived before. You can also be changed through the simple awareness of mental power, an opened heart, spiritual consciousness and physical transformations.

Let's say, for the sake of getting my point across to you, that YOU wanted to create a new life. How would you go about it? First, take my own equation of LIFE:  $L=E+K+C$ , in which (L) is for life, (E) for experience, (K) for knowledge, and (C) for change. To create a LIFE using this equation, you must have a certain amount of changes in your life, so you won't be in a rut or a slave to routine. You need knowledge, not only of how to appear and act more feminine, but of the importance of your heart, mind, body, and soul. You need experience so that you'll be better prepared for how to cope with each new situation that may confront you, and how to improve on your personality and general appearance.

Have I lost you yet? I hope not, because there is much more to the equation. To (E) and (K) we can add (H) for heart, (M) for mind, (B) for body, and (S) for soul. These are four parts of your own personality (P) and appearance (A). While heart and soul are more or less interwoven, they are separate attributes. When someone says "you have heart", they are probably seeing into your soul. To have heart is not only to be loving and compassionate, sincere and nurturing, but to be spirited, alive, lively, happy, exciting, interesting and friendly. To have soul isn't only

(CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE)

## Coping with Crossdressing

Tools & Strategies  
For Partners  
In Committed Relationships

JoAnn Roberts

# HELP!

Is Here From CDS

***Coping With Crossdressing***—Too often, a woman is expected to simply accept her partner's crossdressing without understanding the behavior or the issues involved. JoAnn Roberts looks at crossdressing from both sides of the relationship and discusses the problems that arise for both partners. She suggests ways in which to positively deal with the behavior.

**Available Now - \$10.00 postpaid**

**Write: CDS, PO Box 1263, King of Prussia, Pa. 19406**

being able to dance, or to be "hip" or metaphysical, or mystical. It's having knowledge of the spirit and how that manifestation is related to your material world. To have mind isn't only being intelligent or analytical, but also being able to receive intuition and possessing the wisdom to differentiate between the objective and subjective worlds we live in. To say you have body isn't only knowing how to paint your face or transform your anatomy or clothe it in woman's apparel. It's to be satisfied with the form you have to work with and to cherish your flesh-covered bones as a temple for the heart, mind and soul.

I didn't say this was going to be easy -- the equation has now lengthened! Excluding (P) and (A) we still have  $(H+M+8+D)(E+K+C)=LIFE$ . And while we could complicate the equation further, because there are almost an infinite amount of possible factors, let me stop here. Life is a complex subject, and of course we all have one (even if it may not be the one we desire). To get the LIFE you wish to have, you need to study this equation to reap your immediate and lifelong goals.

God created mankind in his own image, we've been told. If you create a life, in whose image will it be? And some of us need TWO lives! The equation could get so complex that even writing about it wouldn't make any sense. Some are torn between two different worlds -- one for the masculine half, the other for the feminine. I believe that if you are unsatisfied, you need to develop the male-job life first (the one that usually supports the femme within you) before you can create the fulfilled, happy and meaningful femme-life. If you put too much energy and time into just your feminine-life, then you'll lack the energy and time needed to sustain your male working half and you'll be headed for a lot of trouble! Some of us, including myself, have eliminated most of our male ego, but it didn't happen overnight. We all have specific circumstances and timetables (it's taken me nine years to reach the pinnacles of LIFE).

Now if, for some reason, you can't create a life for yourself, then let others help you. "What good is sitting alone in your room ...?" Get the LIFE you wish by participating in the lives of others. Take action! Get involved with your community and support groups. Share what you can offer, even if it's simply being YOU and being there. I know I love the friendship, the charm, and the conversation of another sister, and I'm sure there are others like myself around YOU. When you share your LIFE with

(CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE)



## PRECISION HAIR WORKS

ASK FOR ELLIOT ROGERS

Personal Hair Care Services

644 N. Fuller Ave.

at Melrose

213/ 939-8936

when in L.A.

come be yourself

Queen Mary

SHOW LOUNGE  
KINGS & DEN  
Said Bar

12449 VENTURA BLVD. STUDIO CITY, CALIF.

Marlayna and Melisa present

"On The Scene Nite"

Second Saturday of each month  
and

"Fantasy Fashions"

Fourth Saturday of each month

10:00pm 'til 2:00am

## FEMALE IMPERSONATION SHOW

FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS: 9:00 & 11:00  
WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & SUNDAY: 9:30

Call for Reservations  
(818) 506-5619

# CROSSDRESSING IN BRITISH THEATRICAL HISTORY

by Phaedra Kelly

"... And when we speak of Victorian we are speaking of England, the only place in Western culture that banned women from the stage." -- Anne Blackwood, "Human Nature and Human Nurture" (February 1991 "Cross-Talk").

Wrong. It was the Roman Catholic Vatican of Rome that decreed it in poor taste to allow women to "tread the boards" -- or, to enter the stage life as anything more than a prop-shifter and costume maker -- their idea being that it would tempt the "weak daughters of Eve", who in their view were responsible for "original sin" into licentious behavior. Prostitutes and courtesans already had a wide reputation for playing and roleplaying in private, but no honest woman could be trusted to follow the theatre profession and not be led into that other oldest one as well.

What ensured that women would not play was that the majority of touring theatre troupes were engaged in religious education, through the medium of the Miracle Play. Biblical stories were represented to a simple common people of the land, in ways that aided them to bypass a lack of education, since only priests spoke Latin or were able to read or write (contrary to popular belief, even the aristocracy could yet be without those faculties). The church was the secret, but true, ruler then.

So it was that an English Kabuki emerged, a guild of male actresses which took all the feminine roles specifically. But even this specialization was not enough. It became noticeable that the people were confused when two or more different troupes with different actors passed through the same area offering new and changing faces to familiar characters which were otherwise taken literally at face value. A Papal decree was issued to curb this puzzlement; that the job of performing the baddies' roles (Death, the Devil, Judas, Pilate, etc.) should fall to one family -- the Deaths, or Dearthes, which remains a quite common family name in the world today. The goodies (like Jesus, Mary, the Saints, Apostles and Disciples) fell to the Laker family, and Laker (which happens to be my male surname) was then a proper word meaning actor, to be found now in the Oxford English Dictionary as such: "the Middle English word from

which actor is derived".

By the time of the Bard Shakespeare and his contemporaries, although the familial link had long since lapsed and plays were then more general in theme, the guild of boy or male actresses was still intact and functioning. It took the upsurge of Protestantism, born from Henry VIII's distrust of and distaste with Rome, to eventually end the guild forever, towards the end of the English Civil War in the 1700s. Women were instated on the British stage for the first time, and in a lyric prologue the now illegal male actress was scorned as primitive, with the closing line of couplet "... we have intent to civilise our stage".

Undoubtedly the boy actors had enjoyed some vice on the

(CONTINUED, NEXT PAGE)

HAVE YOU ASKED A FRIEND TO  
SUBSCRIBE TO "CROSS-TALK"?

OUR  
SORORITY



Now  
FOUR Issues  
Each Year

THE HUMAN OUTREACH AND ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE  
IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT:

**OUR SORORITY**

WILL BE PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR FOR SUBSCRIBERS  
NON-SUBSCRIBERS WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE OUR  
ANNUAL GROUPS AND NATIONAL EVENTS ISSUE  
AS A SERVICE TO THE CD/CG COMMUNITY

Subscribe for \$20 a year to : OUR SORORITY  
POB 11254, Lincolnia Station, Alexandria, VA., 22312

EQUATION FOR LIFE ...

others, you'll not only enhance their, but yours as well.

If you're not involved with support groups because you don't desire (or need) any support, go to some of the meetings anyway. You will find inexperienced and frightened sisters that need you. In other words, don't be selfish with your life, share it.

And for those of you that seek sincere guidance and understanding, don't be too afraid of our forwardness and willingness to help you. Don't be ashamed to accept what we have to offer.

You know you have a life when you're willing to give some of it away. I know that I have an unlimited supply of love, hence LIFE, because I know that LIFE is an endless event of experiences, knowledge, and change. With heart, mind, body and spirit, you can create a life, and you'll then know that the LIFE you've created in all its grandeur doesn't end with death ... it only then begins.

So what are you waiting for? GET A LIFE!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
SUPPORT OF "CROSS-TALK" !!!

PLEASE:

WHEN WRITING ABOUT YOUR SUBSCRIPTION,  
INCLUDE THE 4-DIGIT NUMBER ON THE LABEL.

## CHARTING THE LEGAL JUNGLE

What are the legal risks of crossdressing? When is it advisable to obtain a court-ordered name change? Can you get veterans' benefits toward sex reassignment? What about Medicaid and Medicare? How do you go about having your Social Security card and your driver's license altered? These and scores of other puzzlers that plague the transsexual in transition are answered with brevity and lucidity in an amazingly useful little paperback by Sr. Mary Elizabeth, SSE.

LEGAL ASPECTS OF TRANSEXUALISM is an updated and expanded version of an earlier edition. The 1990 edition is neatly printed in pamphlet form. Within the space of its 108 pages, author Sr. Mary Elizabeth, of the Sisters of St. Elizabeth of Hungary, manages to tackle most of the legal questions you're likely to ask, and the answers she gives are based on thorough, documented research.

I recommend this booklet without hesitation to every person who starts out on the transsexual route, as well as to all crossdressers who go public or plan to. It is available from J2CP Information Services • P.O. Box 184 • San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693-0184 for \$11.00, (\$10.00 + \$1.00 postage and handling).

You'll be pleased to have it with you all the way to the operating table.

**Southeastern  
Regional Conference  
Presents**

*Southern  
Comfort*  **Atlanta  
1991**

**October 3-6, 1991**  
For information write: Linda Peacock  
Sigma Epsilon  
P. O. Box 7241  
Tallahassee, FL 32314-7241


*Live the  
Fantasy!*

*17th Annual Outreach Institute*

# Fantasia Fair

October 18-27, 1991 in Provincetown, Mass.

For more information  
write:  
Fantasia Fair  
Kenmore Station,  
Box 368  
Boston, MA 02215



**TRI-ESS  
HOLIDAY  
EN FEMME**

**November 20-24, 1991**  
*O'Hare Plaza Hotel*  
 **Chicago**



WRITE FOR INFORMATION:  
TRI-ESS/HOLIDAY EN FEMME  
P.O. BOX 342  
CHICAGO, IL 60690  
OR CALL (708) 364-9514

### The Texas 'T' Party

Fourth Annual  
*A fun weekend for cross-dressers and their friends*

February 28, 29, and March 1 of 1992  
in San Antonio, Texas

*Come for:  
a weekend to dress with the girls  
the Texas sun and warm weather  
the activities, the outings,  
meet friends, new and old.*

**Boulton & Park Society**  
Texas 'T' Party  
P.O. Box 17  
Bulverde, TX 78163  
or call: (512) 438-7604



THEATRICAL HISTORY ...

side, much as did the Kabuki of Japan when they were, in reverse of the West, ordered to replace women (and did so fully, inclusive of cavortings after hours). But if so, the British ones must have been subtle and circumspect, because there is no conclusive documentary evidence beyond theory to support that they did. Much like Queen Elizabeth I, known as the Virgin Queen, they could have written in their diaries "Much suspected of me, but nothing can proven be".

However, the so-called "civilised" women who replaced them quickly set up an infamous legend of their easiness with men, and often rejoined the flowergirls and laxmaids of the streets by night, returning to the roots from which they were hailed. Few kept their reputations intact at all, or even so much as tried to.

Chauvinistic as the Pope's encyclicals might now seem, they suggest that there may have been some truth in those fears, beyond what some would call "middle class sensibilities". The ban on women actresses, which was always less a ban than a lapse in their inclusion, was extended throughout continental Europe, thus including all of the then known western cultures -- long before the Americas were stolen from their natives. A ban continued in France much longer -- closer to their Revolution, in fact -- and it is still celebrated in a province of Milano, Italy by a resident troupe of male actresses grant-funded to keep alive a rare and ancient dialect of Italian through their plays.

I was slightly surprised to note Ms. Blackwood's error, since she seems otherwise quite educated. Perchance America's lack of ancient tradition caused her a Freudian slip of memory that Britain enjoyed crossdressing, even throughout the Victorian age in Hummer's plays, and that even fetishistic transvestism was given credit in newspaper columns of the period, as a contemporary author on GI studies here has discovered.

"Trifles light as air are to the jealous confirmation strong." -- William Shakespeare, "Othello".

*Powder Puffs  
of  
Orange County*

in association with  
**CROSS-TALK**

*present*

**APRIL 29 -  
MAY 3, 1992**

**CALIFORNIA**

# DREAMIN'

— The Golden State —

FOR INFORMATION, WRITE: CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'  
c/o P.P.O.C.  
P.O. BOX 9091  
ANAHEIM, CA 92812



## ESPRIT 92

You are most cordially invited to enjoy the fun and frolic of the Pacific Northwest at

The Red Lion/Bagshore Inn  
Port Angeles, Washington  
May 13 through 17, 1992

Come and enjoy an ocean cruise, High Tea in the proper British tradition, Las Vegas Night, Jim Bridges boutique, classes, speakers, dining and dancing. Sponsored by The Emerald City (Seattle), NWGA (Portland), and Cornbury (Vancouver BC).  
For reservations write:  
ESPRIT 92, POB 1054, Sumner 98340

*Catch the Spirit!*

ADVERTISING IN THIS SECTION IS DONATED BY "CROSS-TALK" AS A SERVICE TO THE NATIONAL GENDER COMMUNITY. ANY NON-PROFIT GROUP PLANNING A NATIONAL EVENT IS INVITED TO SEND AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR INCLUSION.

## NATIONAL HOTLINES

Alpha Chapter Tri-Ess, Los Angeles:	(213) 876-6141	My Choice, Baltimore:	(301) 732-4546
Atlanta Educational Gender Info. Service:	(404) 325-7055	Neutral Corner, San Diego:	(619) 236-1586
Beta Chi Chapter Tri-Ess, Mississippi:	(601) 982-7678	Northwest Gender Alliance, Portland:	(503) 774-8463
Boulton & Park Society, San Antonio:	(512) 657-2540	Powder Puffs of Orange County, Anaheim:	(714) 779-9013
CD Network, Rochester NY:	(716) 251-2312	Rainbow Gender Association, San Jose:	(408) 984-4044
Chi Chapter Tri-Ess, Chicago:	(708) 364-9514	Renaissance, Philadelphia:	(215) 630-1437
Chi Delta Mu Chapter Tri-Ess, New York City:	(201) 663-0772	Renaissance LSV Chapter, Harrisburg PA:	(717) 780-1578
Chicago Gender Society:	(312) 434-5445	Rhode Island Society, Newport:	(401) 847-1035
City of Lakes Crossgender Comm., Minneapolis:	(612) 933-5288	Sacramento Gender Association:	(916) 441-8379
Cross-Port, Cincinnati:	(513) 299-1353	Serenity, Hollywood FL:	(305) 921-8738
Crystal Club, Central Ohio:	(614) 237-4321	St. Louis Gender Foundation:	(314) 567-8615
Crossroads, Flint MI:	(313) 446-0782	Tau Chi Chapter Tri-Ess, Houston:	(713) 988-8064
Delta Omega Chapter Tri-Ess, Dallas:	(817) 261-3253	Tiffany Club, Boston:	(508) 358-2305
Educational TV Channel, San Francisco:	(415) 763-3959	Toronto Crossdressers Club, Canada:	(416) 864-0420
Emerald City, Seattle:	(206) 822-6953	Transgenderists Independence Club, Albany:	(518) 436-4513
Expressing Our Nature, Rochester NY:	(716) 251-2316	Transpitt, Pittsburgh:	(412) 781-0257
Gender Identity Center, Denver:	(303) 458-5378		
Harriet Lane's TV Set, Connecticut:	(203) 237-1968		
Hawaii Transgendered Outreach, Honolulu:	(808) 529-5634		
Heart of Texas Gender Alliance, Austin:	(512) 892-6454		
Heart of Texas Gender Alliance, San Angelo:	(915) 944-1381		
Hierarchy, Philadelphia:	(215) 425-5240		
Iowa Artistry, Cedar Rapids:	(319) 842-2654		
Long Island Femme Expression, NY:	(718) 446-6753		

### HELP "CROSS-TALK" GROW!!!

- \*\*\* ASK A FRIEND TO SUBSCRIBE
- \*\*\* RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION PROMPTLY
- \*\*\* ASK YOUR FAVORITE STORE TO ADVERTISE
- \*\*\* TELL OUR ADVERTISERS YOU READ US

### Good Neighbors Thrift Store

2700 W. Magnolia, Burbank, CA 91505  
(818) 566-7701



Good Neighbors Inc. is a nonprofit organization which raises money to support hospice and health care programs for people with AIDS.

# *Alicia's Fashions*

**5405 Arrow Highway, #110  
Montclair, CA 91763  
(714) 931-1515**

*Lingerie (Sizes Small - 4X)  
Full line of Clothing (Small - XL)  
Prosthesis (Nearly Me III & So Soft)  
Shoes (thru size 15) (3" & 5" heels)  
Accessories*

***Visa & Mastercard Accepted***

Tuesday thru Saturday 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Sunday: 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
Closed Monday



# IT'S ALL IN THE HAIR ....

(... or, How to Pass Without Really Trying)

by Jennifer Higgins  
(from "La Femme Silhouette", Alpha Omega Chapter Tri-Ess)

For the past year, I've been considering attempting to use my own hair instead of a wig. The big problem has been my penchant for long, wild blonde hair. God, I love that stuff! But how could I ever get away with it at work? Well, the answer was frustratingly obvious -- I couldn't.

As I considered the options, the thought kept haunting me. My own hair is just as full as when I was young but it's fine and somewhat limp. I decided to approach Pat (our local hair stylist) for her feelings on the subject. Her view was totally positive: "All you need to do, Jennifer, is pump up the volume with a perm." Being "middle age crazy", I said "Why not? As long as we're at it, we might as well frost it too." (Next best thing to blonde.)

So, I went in for the perm. Gosh, it looked cool. For the first time in my life my hair stood out away from my head. Pat informed me that we would have to wait a couple weeks before coloring it.

Now, for anyone who has never seen a frost job, believe me, it's a trip! Pat placed a rubber skullcap on my head that has about a million tiny holes in it. She then proceeded to use a crochet hook to pull little tufts of hair through all the holes. "This is weird," I thought.

After Pat applied the juice that turns the little tufts blonde, I sat under the dryer for about 25 minutes. At the end of that time, Pat rinsed off the solution and removed the cap. "Holy Cats, Pat! I think we overdid it!" But, deep inside I loved it!

I told her to think of my hair as if it was a woman's and go completely crazy with the styling. Amidst the stares of the women in the shop, Pat created the most beautiful hairdo that my "boy" hair every had. I mean, we're talking ultrafeminine here, gals!

On the way home, I stopped at a drugstore to pick up something. The checkout girl made the change at her register without taking her eyes off my hairdo. She couldn't look away from my hair! Later that evening, I attended a Paradise Club meeting, and believe me, I was IN Paradise! Everyone loved it.

Now for the rest of the story. It's Sunday afternoon and I have to go to work the next day. My options are to wash my hair to remove the spray and teasing so it's just permed hair with a ton of blonde frost -- or go into work with the most puffed-out, feminine styled hair anyone has ever seen on a guy; almost totally blonde with beautiful bangs. The decision was difficult but I made it. There was no way I could bring myself to wash out this beautiful hairdo!

Later that day, I had to go to the mall to buy a birthday gift for a lady friend. Now, mind you, I'm wearing jeans, a sweatshirt and sneakers. No makeup or anything like that. Totally male clothing. No attempt to "pass".

Into the store I go. In the lingerie department, I pick out a beautiful flowered bra as the gift and take it to the saleslady. She rings up the sale, commenting on how beautiful the bra is and that it is the last they had in that size. I hand her the money, she gives me my change, looks at me and says -- get this -- "Thank you and have a nice day, MA'AM." I started to correct her but stopped and thought to myself, "Why? Eat it up, Jen!"

I walked out of the store on cloud nine. There's something about real hair, as opposed to wigs, I guess. It even worked in male clothing. Wait till next time!

## RINGS AND EARRINGS GALORE AND MORE!

Our popular Austrian Crystal earrings in dazzling colors, glitter just like real diamonds. And if your ears aren't pierced yet.....don't worry.....Many earrings are clip-ons, those that are not, can be, with a free pair of ear-ring converters!! Our catalog is also crammed full with oodles and oodles of beautiful rings to complement any of your fashion statements....some rings are even made up to sizes 11 and 12!!

\*Ring size card included\*

To receive our 94 page colored catalog send \$5.00 (refunded with order) and your name and address to:

Sister Sastoeze

Box 1423

San Jose CA 95109

~~professional same day service~~

(discretion assured)

Another service from S.I.S

## CALL THE

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRANSGENDERED COMMUNITY INFORMATION LINE

FOR RECORDED INFORMATION ON EVENTS,  
ACTIVITIES AND GROUPS IN LOS ANGELES,  
ORANGE AND VENTURA COUNTIES



FREE ... 24 HOURS A DAY  
(818) 776-8504

GET A FRIEND TO SUBSCRIBE,  
ADD A FREE MONTH TO YOUR  
OWN SUBSCRIPTION!

DETAILS ON PAGE 17

THE GENDER COMMUNITY: A POLITICAL AND SOCIAL DISCUSSION

An extensive look at the gender community, both as a socially oriented culture and as a potential political force. Based on Wendy Parker's keynote address at the 1990 I.F.G.E. convention and originally presented in a ten-part series in "Cross-Talk", subjects discussed include minority issues, past and present divisiveness in the community, the issue of potential acceptance vs. homophobia, crossdressing organizations and their role, and peer pressure.

THE TONI COMPENDIUM

Now available in one collection are all of the "Toni" cartoons, as presented in "Cross-Talk" between October 1989 and February 1991, plus five cartoons never before published. With an introduction and self-portrait by the cartoonist, Angel.

HEY DAD ... DO I HAVE TO WATCH THE TV?

A publication designed to ease the stress and pain of a teenager who has discovered that his/her father is a crossdresser. Written by "Cross-Talk" columnist Ricky Hunt, the subject is treated honestly and with subtle humor, presented in a format of typical questions and straight answers.

THE BEST OF "CROSS-TALK"

A compilation of articles from the first two years of "Cross-Talk", covering subjects ranging from being "read" to possible metaphysical reasons for transgendered behavior; religious conflicts and legal conflicts; helpful articles on fashion and makeup; and many other topics of lasting interest. Whether you're a new subscriber catching up on the early years or a long-time reader filling the gaps in your library of back issues, this is the definitive set of reprints.

To order any of these publications, use the form below.

-----  
"CROSS-TALK" PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

- "The Gender Community: A Political and Social Discussion"  
 "The Toni Compendium"  
 "Hey Dad ... Do I Have To Watch the TV?"  
 "The Best of Cross-Talk"

Enclose \$5.00 for each publication ordered. Include \$1.00 postage for each publication (maximum \$3.00 postage per order).

Mailing Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: "Cross-Talk"  
 P.O. Box 944  
 Woodland Hills, CA 91365

(Make check or money order payable to Kymberleigh Richards.)