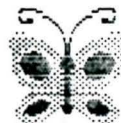




# TGIC, BUTTERFLY, EON



TRANSGENDERESTS INDEPENDENCE CLUB CALL 436-4513 OR WRITE TGIC  
P.O. BOX 13604 ALBANY N.Y. 12212 BUTTERFLY AND EXPRESSING OUR  
NATURE (EON) A COLLABORATION OF N.Y. STATE GROUPS

9/88

## Calendar Of Events

- 08/26/88 TGIC Business Meeting
- 08/26/88 TGIC Party
- 08/27/88 Butterfly Rap Group
- 08/28/88 Butterfly Party
- 09/03/88 TGIC Mate Support Group
- 09/10/88 TGIC Party 145 Club
- 09/15/88 TGIC Rap Group
- (We will hold the rap group only with one weeks advance notice.If you want to attend or have a rap group, please call one week in advance. No one will be present to hold the rap group if no advance notice is given)
- 09/17/88 EON Party
- 09/23/88 TGIC Business Meeting
- 09/23/88 TGIC Party
- 09/24/88 Butterfly Rap Group
- 09/25/88 Butterfly Party
- 10/01/88 Mate Support Group
- 10/08/88 TGIC Party 145 Club
- 10/20/88 TGIC Rap Group
- (We will hold the rap group only with one weeks advance notice.If you want to attend or have a rap group, please call one week in advance. No one will be present to hold the rap group if no advance notice is given)
- 10/22/88 EON Party
- 10/28/88 TGIC Business Meeting
- 10/28/88 TGIC Party
- 10/29/88 Butterfly Rap Group
- 10/30/88 Butterfly Party
- 11/05/88 Mate Support Group
- 11/12/88 TGIC Party 145 Club
- 11/17/88 TGIC Rap Group
- (We will hold the rap group only with one weeks advance notice.If you want to attend or have a rap group, please call one week in advance. No one will be present to hold the rap group if no advance notice is given)
- 11/19/88 EON Party
- 11/24/88 HAPPY THANKSGIVING
- 11/25/88 TGIC Bussiness Meeting
- 11/25/88 TGIC Party Loft
- 11/26/88 Butterfly Rap Group
- 11/27/88 Butterfly Party
- 12/03/88 Mate Support Group
- 12/10/88 TGIC Party 145 Club
- 12/15/88 TGIC Rap Group

Any questions on the above? Write or call us. TGIC PD BOX 13604 Albany N.Y. 12212-3604\*\*518-436-4513

## HELLO AGAIN

### NATIONAL NEWS

We are now able to sell you the Tapestry Magazine. If you are unable to get it please contact us for a copy. It's the only magazine in the community devoted to the issues that face us. It is now available to you locally. See Dawn or Ren'ee for your copy.

The long awaited book "TRANSESTITES and TRANSEXUALS, Toward A Theory of Cross Gender Behavior", by Richard F. Doctor PhD. is now available from IFGE for individuals for \$29.50 plus \$2.50 postage, there is a discounted price for non-profit organizations.

The Book The Transsexual Phenomenon by Harry Benjamin is now available in limited numbers from the Outreach Institute for \$39.95 plus \$3.50 postage and handling.

Both of these books are very good reading material and will help you understand yourself better. The "Transvestites Transsexuals" book is the first printing. The "Transsexual Phenomenon" is a reprint and only a limited number of copies are available. To send for your copies to IFGE P.O. Box 367 Wayland Ma. 01778

or The Outreach Institute Kenmore Station, Box 368 Boston, Ma. 02215 The Open House for IFGE was a huge success. IFGE opened its doors to the press and to the curious and was very successful in the endeavor. The three News Paper articles that were generated were very positive and not in the least bit disturbing to the community.

Merissa and Yvonne should be commended for the great effort and dedication to the community they have put forth. Thank you both for the dedication and perseverance you have given for us. People of the community, the open house would not be possible if not for the generosity of the people in the community. We tend to take there generosity for granted and expect IFGE to be there when we need it. The truth



is none of the groups or IFGE or any of the different organizations would not be possible without contributions from you! If you can find an extra few dollars send it to IFGE and see your money work to help you and outreach to others like you! Thanks for listening.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* THE 1989 IFGE CONVENTION IN \*  
\* SAN FRANCISCO CA. ENTERTAINMENT,\*  
\* FINE FOOD, LEARNING, WORKSHOPS, \*  
\* OUTINGS, A GREAT TIME FOR ALL, \*  
\* APRIL 4, 1989 through \*  
\* APRIL 9, 1989 ACT EARLY \*  
\* FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL OR \*  
\* WRITE TO REN'EE AT TGIC OR \*  
\* CONTACT MERRISSA SHERYL LYNN \*  
\* AT P.O. BOX 367, Wayland, Ma. \*  
\* 01778 Tell.617-358-2305 \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

The Names Project is something many of you haven't heard of. The project is very interesting. It was undertaken to help raise money to fight the disease called AIDS. AIDS has to this date taken the lives of more than 39,000 Americans, and is growing to epidemic proportions. The idea of the Names Project is to collect the names of every person who died of AIDS on a piece of cloth so a quilt might be made by sewing all the pieces together. The Quilt has been on display all over the country. Now the play on how the Quilt was brought from an idea to a reality. For more info call or write New Playwrights Theatre 1742 Church St. NW Washington, DC 20036.

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\* HELEN WOULD LIKE A ROOM MATE \*  
\* contact her through the club \*  
\* phone or the PO Box or at the \*  
\* 145 club its a way to save \$\$ \*  
\* \*  
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Thankyou Roberta your kind and generous contribution to the group of the many video tapes, wigs, and books. They will go far to help us, help others. We need all the help we can get, If you have the need to help others get in touch!

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* PARADISE IN THE POCONOS \*  
\* September 15th to the 18th \*  
\* Renaissance, P.O. Box 1263 \*  
\* King of Prussia, Pa. 19406 \*  
\* \*  
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LOCAL NEWS

by Ren'ee  
I recently read a article in Rhapsody the News Letter of Transpitt of Pittsburg and would like to reprint it for you.  
First though I would like to express my opinion. There have been many remarks made by many people counter productive to IFGE and to other organizations that are serving the gender community. Usually the people who make the coments are not involved in the community. They normally don't get involved. The people in the community welcome there involvement anyone who would like to become involved could take 400 hrs of backloged work off my hands, if you contact me I will gladly put you to work.

If you would rather comment on what you think the leaders of the community should do please present the idea to me and I'll see it gets to the proper people in the proper places.  
I happen to agree with Sheila Kirk and the article she wrote she was very much to the point and very accurate in her assesment. We as a community can not survive if we constantly ridicule eachother. please put your criticism into a positive vein, help each other and yourself bring us into the 90ties with a positive attitude you can help us and yourself. Much love to you all.  
From Me To You by Sheila Kirk  
Usually when I write a few lines in this column. I direct my comments to the members of Transpitt. I feel that our newsletter should be relatively provincial and pertinent to us here in Pittsburg. As you may know, however, we exchange newsletters with a number of

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\* HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU \*  
\* The Birthday's we have are \*  
\* Sept. Muffy, Oct. Brandon, \*  
\* Steffanie, \*  
\* HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!! \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

other clubs, and organizations. We gain insight into what they are doing and they have information about us as well. In the past several months, I have noted that some of our sisters in several organizations are using their publications as platforms for much larger issues. Comments and charges are being printed and directed at individuals who are active on a national level and who are involved in IFGE. I find no fault with the many of my



sters and friends who express their opinions and concerns about IFGE and the Executive Director, Merissa Sherill Lynn, but I'm disturbed that a number of these articles have not been balanced with constructive criticism and with tact or even tribute to the vigor and hard work expended by Merissa and others for IFGE and ultimately for all the clubs that are in contact with this organization. IFGE is young, brittle at times, struggling at other times, perhaps making errors and maybe not always considerate of each single person's goal. Keep in mind what IFGE has accomplished, and the motivation and fervor of so many individuals from all over these United States. A great deal of energy and dedication flows in and out of board meetings, committee meetings, departmental meetings at all levels. The purpose is to encourage each and all of us within the confines of our own clubs to grow, to develop, and to present ourselves to a society that does not know us, but can come to know and accept us only if we can present a united front and a spirited cooperative effort to work together without pettiness and 'dart throwing.' Again, I say mistakes have been made and will continue to surface from time to time. Friendly cooperation can make the frequency and severity of these errors much less in time. Mistakes by well meaning, warm hearted individuals are far more easily remedied and forgotten than the mistakes of the cold blooded. I suggest strongly to you - the people working in IFGE for the education and advancement of us all, are far from cold blooded! They are sensitive and caring hearts working toward the growth and welfare of us all in the crossdresser community. Let's stop the nitpicking and the potshots. As it was stated so well at IFGE's inception- Let's come together!

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*                                     *
*           FANTASIA FAIR             *
* SPEND 10 DAYS AND NIGHTS FEM      *
* MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!      *
* Fanfair! # 14, October 14, 1988 *
*   to October 23, 1988             *
* You have heard your friends       *
* rave about the fair. Come find   *
* out what it is all about         *
* Write to: Fantasia Fair          *
* Lincolnia Station, POB 11254,    *
* Alexandria, Va 22312             *
* Write today. Dont miss your spot *
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*           THE INTERNATIONAL         *
*                                     *
*           FOUNDATION               *
*                                     *
*           For GENDER EDUCATION     *
*                                     *
*           This is an organization  *
*                                     *
*           for people and working to *
*                                     *
*           help you the people      *
*                                     *
*           Waltham Ma. come see your *
* New facility & IFGE at work for *
* you. Box 367, Wayland Ma. 01778 *
*           or call 617-358-2305    *
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NOTES FROM IOWA:

by Christina Marie Bouchier

My name is Christina Marie Bouchier, from Cedar Falls, Iowa. I've been enjoying the perspectives of my CGS sisters about their lives, their thoughts, in past issues of the newsletter. Since I'm unable to attend my functions, I thought I'd send you my thoughts.

I am a transsexual, 42 years of age, and with a story (in summary!) a little different from those that I read. In brief, I began crossdressing at age 6 and for the next 33 years I fought and repressed my feminine gender with my whole soul. I wanted to be normal and accepted and my feminine yearning were contrary to that. I wanted desperately to be normally masculine--so I tried to be. I grew up sad, alone, hostile, guilty, angry, embarassed, "macho"; all of those negative adjectives, until 3 years ago, when the adjective "suicidal" crept in.

In the summer of '86 I was finally able to tear away layers and layers of repression and "discoverd" me, Christina. Another year of self-analysis, reading, meeting sister TS's, and a roller coaster of highs and lows--I realized that indeed my gender was feminine, and I loved it. Another year of "what to do about it" followed. I vacillated among the options of continuing the dual role (married, masculine job), divorcing and proceeding towards full-time crossliving, and of course suicide. That year was torturous, mentally exhausting, and nearly my last. My last struggle to end it all was last May, with a loaded 12-gauge shotgun at



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* TEXAS TEA PARTY
* Beautiful setting 3 days fem
* Held in San Antonio Texas
* For more information contact
* Boulton & Park Society
* P.O. Box 159652
* San Antonio TX 78280-3252
* 512 657 2540
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my throat, pulling the trigger and hoping/not hoping the safety would malfunction. I wanted to die, but yet a spark of hope still remained.

In February of this year, I met my brother Kevin as Christina in a bar in Minneapolis. After 10 minutes of shock, he came around, and we had a wonderful 3 hour conversation about my life, ending in a hug and true acceptance. During that conversation, I used the analogy of a blind man who could finally see as how I felt when I discovered my true gender, buried under self-inflicted repressions. Several weeks later I wrote a poem entitled "The Darkness of Light". At that time, suicide was my certain choice.

I've been going to the University of Minnesota Gender Clinic since February, and I've finally met psychologists who are both empathetic and knowledgeable. A far cry from the hurtful shrinks that I

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* ***THE 145 CLUB***
*
* The 145 Club Presents
*
* A VERY SPECIAL
*
* EVENING
*
* Sunday Evening OCTOBER 9th
*
* Come see this great show
*
* A Judy Garland special
*
* The shows have been great.
*
* Call the Club ask for Jerry
*
* or Eve for Tickets. 370-9865
*
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* <<<<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> *
* TIFFANY CLUB MATE SUPPORT
* OUTING
* The fifth annual outing in
* Provincetown Ma.October 14
* through the 16th. A very
* good time can be had by
* everyone and your mate will
* enjoy the good times.
* Tiffany Mate Support P.O.Box
* 266;Allston, Ma.02134
* <<<<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> *
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saw in my teens and twenties who told me to fight "it", repress it, and eventually threw me into a mental institution for 6 weeks to cure me (haha, didn't work!).

I am hopeful now, as I've decided to pursue my once, dream, now, a reachable reality, of living in my gender and eventual SRS. My wife and I are in the process of a separation, having discussed, fought, cried together, and both recognizing the inevitable. I will be attending a series of "courses" at the U of Minnesota to make sure that my decision is correct, and to proceed towards the only way I wish to live, as myself, Christina.

I should mention that in my "masculine" performance (worlds greatest act!) I'm successful, PHD, well liked, career on the rise, and seemingly, I have it all. But my everyday life is an act and one gets tired and hateful of acting. I want happiness, which is continuous when Christina, and one can only be happy when you can be who you are and be able to relate to the world and the people about you in the manner in which you were born--feminine. I will either die as a guy or live as a girl, there's no other choice, and I've decided on living and mastering the problems ahead.

I've also been thinking a lot about the separate notions of acceptance, belief, and understanding. These are all words used by transsexuals about how the world should but does not in general react to us. But they are all different levels--acceptance being the lowest, while true understanding the highest. And sometimes we as TS's expect too much. We must recognize the imperfections in this world, this is not heaven on earth, and one cannot expect pure understanding of our dilemma.



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 \* \* \* \* \*  
 \* THE 145 CLUB AT 145 BARRETT ST. \*  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
 \* Sch'dy N.Y. Dance all night ALA \*  
 \* Fem or kick up your heels and \*  
 \* listen to piano tunes in the \*  
 \* Lounge. If its your 1st time, \*  
 \* don't be shy-introduce yourself \*  
 \* to Jerry or Eve. They will \*  
 \* help you in any \*  
 \* way they can, if you tell them \*  
 \* TGIC or Ren'ee told you to come \*  
 \* Have Fun \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Acceptance of us as transsexuals is the lowest level of normal world acceptance that we can expect. For example, my brother Kevin accepts me as Christina. He loves me, he knows me, and if I feel happy and right as a girl, he will accept (more than tolerate) me in that gender role. He may not believe that I'm truly a girl and may not (I know he doesn't) understand it, but he is willing to be with me and accept my being as my right.

Acceptance is the only level which we as TS's can hope for and expect from the normal world. To allow us to live our lives in the gender we have, opposite that of our sex and normal expectations. True acceptance is a bare minimum; Tolerance is not enough. Personally, I would never exist in a situation where I merely tolerated--I have more character and dignity to settle for that. But acceptance shows love and compassion and a trait of godliness in people--and I can live with that.

Belief is the second level; that is, truly believing that gender is distinct from sex and that it truly possible for a male person to have a feminine gender and to identify with being a girl. That it actually happens, it is not a fantasy, is not a mental illness, but by some twist of fate, transsexualism is real and it happens. It is hard for a normal person to truly believe in transsexualism, because the normal person typically equated one's sex (male) with being masculine--"that's the way I am", "It's always been natural", "I've never given it a second thought". My wife doesn't believe in it. As she said, "If I was a guy, I'd like being a guy and enjoy being one." She cannot comprehend how one can identify with being of the opposite sex.

The difficulty in "belief" is that there is no way to prove one has the opposite gender. There is no acceptable test for

transsexualism; dressing and acting like a girl doesn't "prove" it (he's mentally ill, perverted, gay, or living in a fantasy), it's just to unreal, too abnormal to believe in.

One can believe in God, but one cannot prove his existence. One can believe in gender being distinct from sex, but one cannot prove it. One has to have faith in the person telling it, in the transsexual, and people are reluctant to do so.

Does my brother Kevin believe in it? I doubt it, not really. And I understand the difficulty in believing, it took me a long time to realize it.

Understanding, true understanding of what a TS goes through and how a TS feels is extremely rare, if not impossible, for the normal world. I'm beginning to believe that the only people who understand transsexualism are transsexuals.

Transvestites, a group of people closer to us than probably any group, don't understand. There has always been, unfortunately, a barrier, an understanding barrier, between TV's and TS's. The recent talk by Virginia Prince (at the Be All weekend) proves that point. (the editor agrees, but feels you cant judge all tv's by Virginia please).

Transvestites would never deny their masculinity, and take pride and comfort in their masculine gender. TV's have a great deal of trouble in understanding why a TS's wants to change sex--"Why not just enjoy the dressing as a hobby, as an other part of your personality??"

It's a hobby, a fantasy, a good time-dressing-which is all well and good. But they don't understand that for TS's it's not a game or a hobby, it's totally what one is. Dressing is a small part of it-the real part is the knowledge that one is a girl, not acting as one, and it involves feminine relationships with people (not necessarily sexual), with the world around, and the masculine exterior (if one has it) is an act, created in order to exist in and please the normal world. I know a woman named Katy who comes to the Iowa Artistry Crossdressers socials. She loves coming, does our hair and is a good friend to the TV's. She accepts TV's completely, but she once told a TV friend that although she loves the people and really enjoys them, "She really dosent understand why they do it."



Acceptance without understanding-it may be the best, the most, that we can ever expect.

Acceptance, belief, understanding.

Acceptance can come quickly, as with my brother accepting me (I also have another brother, a Catholic priest, who just recently met and accepted me!).

Belief-true belief, takes consideration, thinking about it, an attitude that is willing to reach for belief. Belief is possible, but rare in the normal world.

Understanding hardly ever. Don't even expect it. Some people may really try to understand, but it's too abnormal, too complex, and in some cases too much past history to ever get there.

Understanding transsexualism is nearly, if not completely, limited to the TS society.

### MATE SUPPORT GROUP!

The Barbecue was a great success, lots of good food and great

conversation, we were very pleased to see Steffanies wife, Mindy, Karyn and Tamie, we all had a great time.

Remember we are here if you need someone to talk to or even write to, use the post office box and address and don't be afraid to call us, we will get back to you. Just remember you are not alone, we know it is hard at first to believe, but we were there at one time also. Believe me it is great to have someone to talk to, or even write to. So let us hear from you soon. It doesn't seem possible but Christmas is just around the corner,

so why don't we plan a get together!

Lets hear from you with some ideas.

Remember we are here for you. Love,

Karyn and Tamie

### WE MISS YOU WHERE ARE YOU

We miss all of you, we would like to hear from all the people who were unable to attend any meetings or functions for awhile: WE MISS YOU!

We need more information for the newsletter.

Remember the P.O. box is yours to use. Feel free to use it for

correspondence you are not sure of.

Send mail to: TGIC, P.O. Box 13604, Albany, N.Y. 12212-3604 ATT. your fem or masculine name first and possibly last name initial.

Remember BE ALL YOU CAN BE!!

REN'EE and KARYN