



"Great Lakes"  
Area Edition

JULY, 1981

# Chi Tribune

Editor: Donna IL-11-S

President: Deanna IL-35-G Vice-President: Karen IL-3-M Secretary: Donna IL-11-S

Miss Donna Martin  
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## CHI'S JUNE MEETING . . . . .

After our excursion to Mitzi's for our meeting in May, and enjoying the warm hospitality of her home, we found ourselves "back in the motel" again last month. We hope it was only the start of the "dog days" of summer, but our attendance was reduced from what we had come to expect during the winter months. But, even with the lure of vacations or other summer activities, we were glad to see: Joan IL-6-C and Pat, Mitzi IL-8-C, Donna IL-11-S, Betty Ann IL-17-A, Deanna IL-35-G, Kiki IL-207-M, Naomi IL-212-O, Barbara IL-230-C, and Lois WI-13-V; Prospective members Alicia and Cindi, Jackie, and Dee; and special guest Jackie from Toronto, who was visiting in the Chicago area.

Although there is no special program planned for July, we do have hopes of resuming our regular programs of special guests, lecturers, or demonstrations starting in September. If you have any suggestions or special interest in a particular type of program, or know of anyone who would be willing to provide a special program for us, please let one of your Chapter officers know. We will welcome your suggestions! On the subject, though it will not be held during a monthly meeting, George of "Custom Wigs" has extended an invitation for us to visit his establishment again as a group. The date is tentatively set for September 9th, from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. The shop will be closed to the public, and George and his assistants will be available to assist us with any of our wig needs or problems. The firm date, and full details, will be published in the September newsletter.

Deanna announced that the next monthly Chapter "Social" will be held at the Lite Factory on July 8th. Even though there will not be a Chapter meeting in the month of August, there will still be a "Social" on August 12th. Mark both of these dates on your calendar now, so you don't forget!

## A REQUEST FROM CAROL BEECROFT . . . . .

"We will have to make a permanent change in the 'nick-name' for our organization. Many of you will remember that in an Editorial, printed some time ago (in the Femme Mirror), I said that there is another organization, for females, called Sigma, Sigma, Sigma. They had heard that we were using the terms Tri-Sigma, Tri-Sig, and rarely Sigma, Sigma, Sigma. They asked that we stop using those words. Well, we did -- for awhile, but one thing lead to another and we gradually went back to using those words again. I recently heard from the sorority for girls, and they demand that we stop using their name -- which is legally their name to use. They've had it since the 1890's.

So I am asking, OFFICIALLY, that all members not use the names Tri-Sigma, Tri-Sig, or Sigma, Sigma, Sigma as our sorority name. Please use the name TRI-ESS (Tri-S) from now on. Sigma, in Greek is 'S' but we can still use the three 'S's (Society For The Second Self), but we will use the Roman letter instead of the Greek letter. That's the only change that I am asking you to abide by -- but we must comply or we could have problems on our hands."

Since this name change is a necessity to avoid future complications (legal or otherwise), the officers of CHI Chapter will fully support Carol's request. We hope that each and every member of the Chapter, and the many friends of the national organization, will also fully support Carol's request and refrain from using the "old" name either verbally, or in writing. Remember, we are now TRI-S!



As many of you know, I've been involved in a wonderful romance for the past year. During this past year Judith (my sweetie) and I have discussed my TV-ism many many times, with generally good results. We chose last weekends (May 16th - Ed.) Chicago Tri-Sigma meeting for her maiden voyage into the live TV world, and for her first live encounter with me en femme. Here, in her own words, is how it went.

\* \* \* \* \*

"I came to my first Tri-Sigma meeting with my friend and lover, a member of the group. For quite some time he has been telling me how the group wants to include wives, lovers, and other sympathetic non-TV friends in their activities. He has assured me that the TV's want nothing more than to be known and accepted by their friends and the community-at-large. He told me that I would be most welcome at this gathering.

What I experienced, though, was quite the opposite. Not one TV present made more than bare minimal effort to talk to me. Not one asked me anything about myself, not even social chitchat questions, let alone anything about my interior self. No one, except two biological women (both TV wives) made any effort to draw me into a group or a conversation.

Upon entering the room the first time, I felt from the TV's the same sort of vibrations that I have received in years gone by from certain competitive women -- checking me out, looking me up and down, to see what kind of competition I might be. And although several people said they were glad to meet me, glad I came (this mostly when we were leaving), this was not corroborated by any actions. Indeed one TV, on his way out, said "Goodbye, whoever you are."

My response? Well, I certainly felt unwelcome. Intrusive. Uncomfortable. It was a difficult act for me to attend my first TV gathering. (Actually it was also the first time I was seeing my lover in drag). My reception didn't make it any less difficult. I felt as if I had no reason to attend any more TV events of this nature -- why push myself in where I am not wanted?

I also felt saddened that the clothes, shoes, make-up and body-padding used to emulate women didn't bring with it any of the nurturing, caring, sensitive cultural characteristics of women. I was oftentimes jarred during the evening by the contrast between the visual and the actual. Clothes do not a woman make, I suppose. You were all so damned masculine!

I wrote this article the morning after the meeting. I was feeling tired, angry, and sad. to be fair, I can understand that many of the TV's may have been uncomfortable meeting me. Maybe they were paranoid, anxious about my response, uncomfortable being in drag in front of an unknown woman. Maybe I was unwittingly sending out some sorts of subtle vibrations. Maybe I appeared hostile. (Certainly I was wary and anxious about being there myself. And I am essentially a shy person -- social small talk is not my strong point. Maybe people found me aloof).

I also wrote this article in the spirit of constructive criticism: some feedback that you might be able to use to advance your own acceptance in the larger community. Personally, one uncomfortable evening will not prove to be traumatic to me. But if you truly want to welcome non-TV's into your world, then you must be the ones to reach out and make some special efforts. This is your turf, after all, alien territory to most of the rest of us. You must be more consciously inclusive of new guests -- more sensitive to their initial discomfort and possible alienation. You must do more than wear the trappings of woman -- you must extend your admiration and emulation to include taking on some of our most deeply-rooted and most treasured social traits: sensitivity to others, nurturance, conversation, emotional awareness.

I invite and encourage your response to this letter. Please address them to the Editor of the Upper Midwest TV Times newsletter."

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Whether we like it or not, this is how we appear to one interested bystander. Any of you who wish to reply to Judith's open letter may do so thru: Ruthann [REDACTED], P.O. Box 813, Madison, Wisconsin 53701.

CORRESPONDANCE FROM RUTHANN . . . . .

As most of you know, Ruthann WI-14-L, a long-time member of CHI Chapter, publishes a quarterly newsletter for the "Wisconsin TV Network," for those in the Madison, Wisconsin, area. The following is reprinted from the latest newsletter, at her request, for the edification of CHI Chapter members:

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A TV MATE STEPS OUT  
AN OPEN LETTER --- IMPRESSIONS OF MY FIRST TIME

As many of you know, I've been involved in a wonderful romance for the past year. During this past year Judith (my sweetie) and I have discussed my TV-ism many many times, with generally good results. We chose last weekends (May 16th - Ed.) Chicago Tri-Sigma meeting for her maiden voyage into the live TV world, and for her first live encounter with me en femme. Here, in her own words, is how it went.

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# CHI TREASURER'S REPORT . . . . .

Balance on hand, May 31st:	\$ 98.92
Meeting Fee:	+ 91.00
Regular Member Dues:	+ 6.00
Associate Member Dues:	+ 4.00
Donations:	+ 25.00
Withdrawal from Reserve Fund:	+150.00
Meeting Room:	-184.40
Refreshments:	- 24.00
Postage:	- 31.56
Supplies (Envelopes):	- 2.50

Balance on hand, June 30th: \$132.46

## CHICAGO GALA WEEKEND . . . . .

Although the details are still not firm, reserve the weekend of July 24-26 for the second annual Chicago TV Gala. Last year's Gala included a trip to the Paton Club (an excellent drag theater), to a friendly downtown boutique and hairstylist, a buffet dinner and variety show at the Lite Factory, and our own good company. This kind of affair is invaluable, especially for those of you who want to be out of the closet but can't risk it in your own home town; plus, it's one more opportunity to make new friends. There won't be another newsletter before the Gala, but you may obtain the final information by contacting Sharon IL-25-H or one of your Chapter officers.

## NEWS FROM DELTA CHAPTER (MICHIGAN) . . . . .

The Delta Chapter meeting on May 16th was attended by 15 TV's and 4 wives, including 6 current Tri-S members (two with their wives), and one former member. A full report on this meeting and its implications for future Chapter activity will be prepared and sent to those who attended, to other Tri-S members in the area, and for inclusion in the Area Edition of the CHI Tribune.

/s/ Elaine MI-16-W

## VACATION TIME . . . . .

Due to vacations, with many people out-of-town, CHI Chapter does not have a formal meeting during the month of August. This is the time of year when your Editor also takes a vacation from her various duties, so there will be no newsletter published next month and replies to any correspondence directed to your Editor might be somewhat delayed. The next regular newsletter published will be dated "September," and mailed about the first of that month. Enjoy your vacations!

## CHI'S JULY MEETING . . . . .

The next meeting of CHI Chapter will be held on the third saturday of the month, July 18th. Details of the meeting place and time will be found on a separate sheet (Chapter and Associate members, and invited guests, only). Regular members please return promptly the post card enclosed with this newsletter; Associate members who plan to attend the meeting please telephone Deanna, so we will know to expect you.



*Deanna*



Our July 18th meeting is scheduled for the Midway Motor Lodge, 1600 Oakton Street, Elk Grove Village. The motel is located just northwest of the intersection of Route 83 (Oakton Street) and Route 72 (Higgins Road), just a few miles northwest of O'Hare Airport. We have reserved a Suite (Rooms 160/162/164), on the first floor with access through the entrance marked number "6" on the northwest side of the motel complex. (Alternate Suite will be Rooms 166/168/170). Our rooms will be open after 2:00 P.M. for the convenience of our members who are traveling long distances, with the usual sign on the room door for identification. Although adequate changing rooms will be available in our Suite, any member who wishes to reserve their own room should make arrangements directly with the Motel; tell them that you are with the Tri-Sigma group, and you will be given a room as close to the meeting Suite as possible.

If you have a last-minute problem, or change of plans, please telephone Deanna (Dave) at (312) [REDACTED], or call the motel and ask for the "Tri-Sigma Room." If you received a post card with this newsletter, please fill it out and return it promptly so that we can make the necessary arrangements for the anticipated attendance; Associate Members please telephone Deanna in advance, for the same reason, if you plan on attending.

