



# GIRL TALK

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

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## Grand Opening

The first transgender support center opened in San Francisco. The grand opening was held fittingly on Valentine's Day, February 14th at Mr. Leonas, located at the corner of Turk Street & Leavenworth. For those interested or wishing more info, contact:

Transupport Group Center  
308 Turk Street, Unit 7  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415) 224-1189

## February Meeting: 911?

Prez Di (aka the [REDACTED]) is trying to contact the Placentia Police Department to talk with us about police/transgender relations (see related article on Page 2). However, as of this writing she has not been able to make contact with the Placentia Police.

As of this writing, she has already tried driving at night with one headlamp burnout. She has also broken one of her tail light and driven around at night also, but to no avail.

In her latest effort, Prez Di donned an ultra-short, tight, slinky skirt, stiletto heels and fishnet stockings, and walk in front of the Placentia Holiday Inn late at night. No police, but she did say she managed to make \$100.

In a last ditch effort, Prez Di reported that she had planned to set up a meth lab at the Placentia Holiday Inn which she believed would have brought the police; but Joan and Dee talked her out of it — just kidding. **Hint:** Use the phone.

Seriously, a meeting is planned so do show up. It is February, so it is a great chance to be that "Woman in Red!"

**Date:** Sat, February 20th, 1999

**Time:** 7:30 pm PST

**Place:** Placentia Holiday Inn, 118 E. Orangethorpe Ave, Placentia, CA. Take 57 Fwy to Orangethorpe exit. Head east.

## Sneak Preview: Linda & Cynthia

As you know, California Dreamin' 99 is scheduled for April 22-25th at the AirTel Plaza in Van Nuys. The Phillips' are planning on attending and Joan has turned on the charm and managed to get this dynamic duo to be our guest speakers for April.

The Phillips' are internationally known as a couple who have managed to make their marriage work with the added burden of a transgendered mate. Their story has been featured in many magazines. This meeting would be an excellent opportunity to invite the wives, S.O.'s, girl friends to share with the Phillips' their experiences.

The program is not cast in stone, yet. But it should feature a short program and hopefully a question/answer period afterwards. I will continue to publish updates in the upcoming newsletters.

We're hoping for a big turnout, so save April 17th on your calendar!

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## Quotable Quotes:

Miami Heat coach Pat Riley on Dennis Rodman: "I do not mind the clothes he packs in his baggage. I respect him as a basketball player, and I respect him as a winner. If he wanted to come and be a part of this and be equal, what he does away from the court and what his personality is is irrelevant to me. But it would have to be on equal terms."



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#### PPOC:

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

#### CA Dreamin:

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

## In the News

### The LAPD Comes to the Transgendered Community

Submitted by Shirley Bushnell

January 14, 1999

#### Los Angeles

The LAPD Community Relations Section(CRS) officers Alex Kordis and Howard Yamamoto presented to the Van Ness Prevention Division Transgender Program their desire to promote communication between the LAPD and the Transgender community. Their presence represents a growing commitment on behalf of the LAPD to foster mutual trust and respect between the Department and the transgender community. During their presentation Alex Kordis provided information regarding the functions of the CRS. These functions include: providing an orientation for recruit officers regarding community relations at the Police Academy, coordinating quarterly meetings between the Chief of Police and various community forums such as, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Hispanic, and African American. The CRS officers are also part of the LAPD's Vice Working Group, which meets monthly with members of the gay and lesbian community to deal with the thorny matter of enforcement of lewd conduct laws. The CRS has long served as the official Department liaison with the Gay and Lesbian community, and is now developing this relationship with the transgender community.

During the presentation the matter of Police Misconduct was discussed, especially as experienced by some Transgendered persons in the audience. Officer Kordis outlined some steps a person could take when faced with such conduct. He advised that the individual look for the name of the officer and remember it. Any individual can request to have a supervisor come to the scene and that the police officer has to honor

such requests. The individual can also look for the identifying number found on the door of the police car. Which division the officer is from is important, so the location of the incident will determine the division responsible. The next step could be to report the incident to the watch commander. During the day the individual can also go to the police division and ask to speak to the captain. At the division are pictures of all the police officers, which can help an individual who did not get the name of the officer. Also the incident can be reported directly to internal affairs.

Officer Alex Kordis and Ann Bozzi are the LAPD's official liaisons to the gay and lesbian community, and both officers are interested in working with the Transgendered community. Both officers are at The Village, 1125 North McCadden, Los Angeles on Monday nights from 6 to 8pm. You can reach Officers Bozzi and Kordis through their Gay & Lesbian Center voicemail, at 323-993-7491; at the LAPD Community Relations Section Office, 213-485-4101. The Community Relations Section Office is interested in working with the Transgendered community and invites you to call if you are interested in having them come to your organization.

### NYPD Brutalizes Transsexual and Her Family

Sarah D. Quill

January 14, 1999

In an article in this week's *The Village Voice*, "Knock-Down-Drag-Out," Karen Houppert speaks to the fears of transsexuals everywhere. Her article recounts a vicious assault on an innocent transsexual woman in the Bronx, NY.

The Victim, JoLea Lamot, was guilty of taking Benadryl capsules for her allergies and being so difficult to arouse that her family made the mistake of calling 911. For that crime, she and her family suffered a frenzied attack at the

*Please see NYPD, Page 5*





**You've Got Mail:**  
The latest in Powder Puffs E-mail Box

Mention of company names or products is for the benefit of the reader and does not imply endorsement, guarantee, or preferential treatment by PPOC.

*Looks like all those wigs we've donated are being put to good use. And it's nice to know that Maria and the LA Wig Bank keep us in mind!*

Hi,

I was just at a hairshow and saw the greatest thing! It's a mannequin head with holes all over it and an opening for a blowdryer for drying wigs. I think this will be a great item to sell at your convention. I got the guy's information and brochures. Stop by the shop or, if you can't, I'll forward the information to you anyway. I got really excited over it. I think it will be perfect for anyone who owns a wig. It makes styling all wigs quick and easy. I told him about your organization and he is interested.

Also, I will be forwarding a lot of the wigs to a couple of areas who are in need of them. I can't tell you how much we appreciate the wigs you have gathered for us. Thank you again, and please forward our appreciation at your next meeting.

Talk to you all soon,  
Maria

Editor's note: Powder Puffs will be conducting a wig drive at California Dreamin' 99 for the LA Wig Bank. For those of you who are not aware, the LA Wig Bank collects old wigs, refurbishes them, and donates supplies them to cancer patients who, like many of us, are in need of spare hair. So bring any old wigs you have to Dreamin' 99 to aid other folliclely challenged individuals — Cyndi

\* \* \*

Hello,

We have started an online cosmetic company that is geared for the transgender. In fact, my business partner is transgendered. We would like to be listed with you. I also give personal makeovers as well as seminars. I would be glad to give a seminar to your group.

Thank you for your time,  
Julie  
<http://www.ultrafemme.net/>

## We're Invited!

Hello, my name is Jacki and I am authorized to extend to you the following invitation. We put on a play every Sunday evening at 7 p.m. at the Third Stage Theater in Burbank. It is a 50-seat theater and we usually reserve it for groups. We have done special evenings for many diverse groups including nudists, men with AIDS, bisexuals, and other organizations who prefer to keep their social identity private. I know that you have a special need and I would like to offer you a special activity which would be completely discreet. We have several open Sundays in February which you could book for your members. We provide snacks and drinks and a fantastic play. For more information about the play itself, visit our site GAY GOODENOUGH FAN CLUB (Keyword to:

<http://members.aol.com/darkuma/GOODENOUGH/home.htm>

Just let me know when you'd like to come.

Thank you,  
Jacki

You may call at 323- [REDACTED]

\* \* \*

Hi Cyndi,

I was told of a dressmaker in LA that might be of interest to you readers.

Estela Gayton  
3821 S. Vermont Ave.  
L.A 90037  
323-733-9197

She's worked with crossdressers in Mexico, I was told. She has been making dresses for 25 years. Maybe a good source.

Sincerely,  
T.

## Speakers Needed

DeeGrade informs me that speakers are need for various human sexuality classes on the following dates and locations

April 27th @ 4:00 p.m. at Cal State Fullerton

April 28th @ 11:00 a.m. at Irvine Valley College

Anyone interested should e-mail Dee at PPOC @ aol.com or speak up and talk to her at the meeting.



## QUEENSPEAK

by Joan Goodnight

### A WORD OF THANKS

Linda and Cynthia Phillips have informed me that the next issue of the Boulton & Park Gender Euphoria newsletter will also be the last one they'll be publishing. After toiling in the trenches for the past ten years, I can fully understand why they want, and need, to take a respite. Besides producing the newsletter, these good people have put on so many of the annual Texas T Party events that I've lost count.

#### Burnout?

More than likely, yes. But there was also definitely a need for a break in order to pursue some personal pleasures and priorities for a change. I for one want to personally thank them for the many years of dedicated effort in service to the transgendered community. They've been both praised and belittled over the past decade. Those that really know them are heavy on the praise side, while the others? Suffice it to say I'll be kind enough to say they're entitled to their opinions.

Linda and Cynthia have pitched in and helped at every California Dreamin event since 1992 plus at the combined Dreamin/IFGE convention a couple of years ago. They have graciously done so when asked and without demanding or expecting any compensation other than a thank you. Thanks kids, you've earned your stripes many times over.

### PPOC & CALIFORNIA DREAMIN

This April will mark the ninth time PPOC has put on a California Dreamin' event. For the past several years we've split the event between the Burbank Holiday Inn and the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn in San Francisco. This formula has worked well because it has allowed the major transgender organizations in the Southern California and in the bay area to work together towards a common goal and increased the communications between the various groups. It's a concept that was pioneered by PPOC in the first days of the California Dreamin' event in order to foster a positive interchange between the Southern California groups. It was carried one step further a few years later by inviting the Bay Area groups to participate in the event hosting.

This year we'll be going to a new hotel for the event. The AirTel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys has laid out the welcome mat and is eager to host our event. The event organizers are working on an interesting and informative set of workshops and are also emphasizing more social activities this year with outings to

some fun locations in the San Fernando Valley area.

So don't be a stay-at-home. Come join us this April 22nd and enjoy yourselves, and pardon the expression, kick up your heels.

Joan

## Aunt Samantha Wants You !

While the Phillips' have always graciously pitched in and helped at our California Dreamin conventions, there still are many ways you can contribute to the effort. The California Dreamin organizing committee (Is there one?, Well, whomever they are) are looking for van drivers. As many of you already know, there are several outings planned as follows:

1. Thursday day trip to Universal City Walk.
2. Thursday visit to Lydia's TV Fashions sometime after lunch. They plan on having a reception complete with gifts and a drawing for a free makeover. Time (and of course Mr. Bridges) permitting we could stop by Jim Bridge's Boutique.
3. Thursday night trip to Wizardz Magic Show.
4. Obligatory night trip to pay our respects to that mecca of transgenderism, the Queen Mary Lounge after the Friday night dinner.

What's the plan, Stan?

The Plan is to rent a couple of nine-passenger vans for Thursday and Friday and return them early Saturday. What is needed are van drivers. You know the type — sharp-eyed, possessing the instincts of a fighter pilot, but at the same time kind, gentle, and willing to answer questions from the tourists.

So how 'bout it, girls. Interested? See Joan at the meeting, or contact her via e-mail at [Dreamin96@aol.com](mailto:Dreamin96@aol.com) or via snail mail at PPOC, P O Box 1088, Yorba Linda, CA, 92885.

## New Mag to Debut

Hello! I am Kerry Sorrell with Renaissance. As you may know, our newsletter is about to be transformed into a national monthly magazine. Check it out at <http://www.ren.org/rnv.html> for a preview of the first magazine cover and lots more.

We encourage you to e-mail us details of any upcoming events you would like us to consider for the Transgender Community News calendar page. Send all pertinent information to me [\[redacted\]@aol.com](mailto:[redacted]@aol.com).

Thanks — I look forward to hearing from you!

Kerry



## 1944 REVISITED

While rummaging through my late parents documents I came across their 1930 marriage license which was rolled up inside two pages of a January 29, 1944 edition of the now defunct Los Angeles Daily News. The front page of the newspaper was devoted to stories of actions in the Pacific Theater during World War II which were interesting to read considering the history of fifty four years ago. But to me the most fascinating part of the paper was an advertisement on the last page for the May Company department store. Prominently displayed in the full-page ad are three dress and coat styles for women. The advertising verbiage is as follows:

- A. Heading for a new success high - the trig little Shortcoat with more lives than a cat! All wool, in Rose, Lilac, Aqua, and Blue. Half sizes, 16 1/2 - 24 1/2.....\$8.95
- B. Makes and average figure good, a good figure perfect! Pleated frill, white edging, on black or navy wool. Half sizes, 16 1/2 - 24 1/2.....\$10.95
- C. Dove-soft velvet-suede full-length coat - 100% wool! Beautifully detailed in elm-leaf green, lilac, milk chocolate, powder blue. Sizes 10 - 18.....\$29.95

It was amazing to me how in style these fashions would be in this day and age. A little outdated to be sure, but not that far out, and the fabrics were 100% wool, not some polyester blend.

The prices?

In those days the May Co. was considered more upscale and pricey than say, Sears or J.C. Penney's; plus there was a world war going on at the time. Nylon was around during those years too, but it was strictly for use by the military for parachutes and other fabric needs. Nylon stockings were items generally not available to the general public along with real butter, rubber tires, and most products made from metal. I also remember gasoline rationing, meatless Tuesdays, and certain food products, especially meat, that took government-issued coupons to purchase. My mother used to take bacon grease to the butcher shop and sell it. To this day I've never gotten an answer why the Government was buying bacon grease. I did ask my mother before she passed away but she couldn't remember the reason. So if there's anyone out there that knows the answer I'd appreciate it if you'd drop me a line at the PPOC PO Box.

Getting back to the nylon stockings - hey, I'm a crossdresser, okay? Nylons were the items, along with chocolate, the G.I's brought home if they wanted to get on the good side of the women folk. A woman that wore nylons out in

public during the war years was the absolute, and I mean absolute, envy of every other female she came in contact with. Shade didn't matter, and if memory serves me correctly, only full-fashioned seamed stockings were available. During those turbulent war years women took to wearing leg makeup and penciling a seam with eyebrow pencil on the back of their legs to simulate hose. Can you imagine going without pantyhose or stockings in this day and age? Unthinkable for any crossdresser worth her salt.

It was fun looking at that old paper and reminiscing, but you know, nostalgia ain't what it used to be.

## NYPD

*Continued from Page 2*

hands of the Bronx police and are now under multiple charges that could land them in jail. JoLea, in particular, could serve 15 years for her being beaten by the police. For a transsexual woman, that's almost certainly a death sentence.

You can find Ms. Houppert's poignant article at the following address:

<http://www.villagevoice.com:80/features/9903/houppert.shtml>

After you've read it, if you're as outraged as I, you may want to write to somebody to tell them your thoughts about New York's "finest." Might I suggest....

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007  
212-788-9600  
[giuliani@www.ci.nyc.ny.us](mailto:giuliani@www.ci.nyc.ny.us)

Howard Safir, Police Commissioner  
email page:

<http://www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/misc/html/mailnypd.html>

NYPD Internal Affairs Bureau  
P.O. Box 1001, New York, NY 10014  
(212) 741-8401  
[IAB@NYPD.org](mailto:IAB@NYPD.org)

These people need to understand that we of the TBLG community are human beings and will not tolerate such treatment at the hands of the people we pay to protect us. They also need to fear for their jobs when these sorts of things happen. The NYPD has too much blood on its hands, and the bloodshed must stop!

Speak out, people! Let's not go into the 3rd Millennium as victims!





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*Joan Goodnight and The Members of P.P.C.C*  
*For Sponsoring Another Successful*  
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#### To Start a New

*Taking a look at my life,  
 Seeing the shell it has been.  
 Realizing its time,  
 To Start a New.*

*Taking the key,  
 To my heart  
 Steadying the lock,  
 To my soul  
 To start a New*

*My hands shaking,  
 My nerves on edge,  
 My mind racing,  
 To Start a New*

*Opening the door,  
 Look out world  
 Here I come.  
 To Start a New*

*By, Venus T.*

#### Trans-Murder in Austin

Sarah D. ■, Quill  
 January 14, 1999

Austin, TX

The body of Donald Fuller, 18, also known as Lauryn Paige, was found murdered last Friday in a wooded area of southeast Austin. Two men in a white van were seen earlier that morning near the spot where the victim's body was found. A description of the two men led to composite sketches that were shown on television.

The Austin American-Statesman reports that one of those men, Frank Santos, called police when he saw his picture. He told them he had last seen his brother-in-law, Gamaliel Mireles Coria, and Fuller drive off together Friday morning. Coria's girlfriend subsequently told police that he had confessed the murder to her. Coria, 28, was arrested Wednesday and remains in jail under \$1,000,000 bail.

The victim was dressed as a woman. Said his father of Donald's cross-dressing, "He's been that way all his life. We

always knew he was a little different, and we pretty much accepted it, but we didn't allow it around the house. We just knew he wasn't happy unless he dressed up."

As Lauryn, the victim had often been seen walking along South Congress Avenue, an area where police regularly conduct prostitution raids. Before Coria's arrest, Police Commander Gary Olfers had said, "We are dealing with sadistic killers. There was more than one [stab] wound, and they were brutal in the application of those wounds." The autopsy revealed a cut across Lauryn's throat 9 inches long and 3 inches wide.

"The police description of this murder is heartbreakingly familiar," said Riki Anne Wilchins, of GenderPAC. "Sadistic killers, multiple stab wounds, bludgeoned and/or shot repeatedly... it's a familiar litany of brutally violent acts done to gender-different people: Chanelle Pickett, Brandon Teena, Christian Paige, Deborah Forte, Vianna Faye Williams, Jamaica Green, Jessy and Peggy Santiago, Tasha Dunn... and the list goes on."



## **VOICE AND THE TRANSSEXUAL: A CLINICAL PROSPECTIVE**

**Lynn Gold, MA CCC  
Voice/Speech Center  
Irvine, CA**

### **INTRODUCTION**

"I am a woman. If I can only speak with a man's voice, my whole identity is shattered." This conflict of visual vs. auditory image is faced by most male-to-female (M-T-F) transsexuals. Because hormone treatment for male-to-female transsexuals does not feminize their voices, as testosterone virilizes the female-to-male larynx, I have treated only the M-T-F transsexual and will focus on this population. An even more profound conflict is their gender identity, described by sexologist Dr. Millie Brown (1996) as the "...deeply held conviction and deeply felt inner awareness that we belong to one gender or the other." The transsexual client experiences a profound "gender dysphoria" because gender identity doesn't match her body. Her chromosomes, hormones, sexual organs, and gender-related messages and expectations of society conflict with her sense of herself as female, even as a child.

Similar gender dysphoria was just reported by Dr. William Reiner, (1997) concerning infant "John" whose penis was accidentally destroyed in a 1964 surgery. Believing gender identity to be neutral prior to hormonal and environmental influences, physicians performed SRS (sexual reassignment surgery), counseling John's parents to raise him as a female. He was not told of his history, yet rejected everything feminine. He felt like a freak. Despite his female anatomy and estrogen treatment, he suspected that he was indeed a boy. His doctors reversed his SRS surgery, and he is reported to be well adjusted with a family and adopted children.

One area of the hypothalamus has been found to be 44% larger in males than in females. However, several studies of M-T-F brains reveal that area to be of the smaller female size, apparent biological basis for gender dysphoria.

There is widespread occurrence of transgender in nearly 1% of the world's population. Written history for centuries before Christ documents transgendered people including Dr. James (Isabel) Barry, the first woman physician under Queen Victoria who lived her full life as a male.

### **TREATMENT**

Brown & Rounsley (1996) describe how the treatment process for transsexual clients is guided by the 1979 Harry Benjamin Guidelines for Standards of Care named after one of the first physicians treating this population. They contain built-in time restraints and safeguards to include intensive counseling before hormone treatments and at least a year of full-time living as the identified gender before optional sexual reassignment surgery.

### **Speech and Voice**

There are several types of vocal cord surgery available to raise voice pitch but with mixed results.

In therapy, increase of **fundamental frequency** is a controversial goal with concern that it can be potentially damaging. However, I find practicing a soprano "head voice" to be effective in raising pitch while avoiding the thin falsetto and vocal strain. Playful experimentation with a "Queen Mother" dialect or role playing as Julia Child often elicits the head voice with expanded resonance of a yawn. Gradual adjustments from the dialect to more natural prosody yield a natural feminine voice. Role playing, especially in group therapy and regular practice, with both audio- and videotape feedback, when possible, are valuable. There is about an octave of overlap of the male and female pitch ranges where most of my transsexual clients function well. In fact, the most feminine M-T-F voices I've computed from several private practices approached female mean frequency and pitch range.

Most therapists who treat transgender are more concerned with other speech markers as gender cues.

### **Speech Markers Targeted in Therapy include:**

1. Increase fundamental frequency.
2. Increase functional intonation range and pitch variability.
3. Use rising intonation after declarative sentence sometimes.
4. Increase breathiness with variability.
5. Add tag questions for consensus; e.g., "Don't you think?" "Okay?"
6. Increase use of modals (can, will, may, must).
7. Use light, yet precise articulation.
8. Use a wider range of qualifiers; e.g., "Such a little," "quite cute," "really rather violent."
9. Use compound polite requests; e.g., "Would you please?"
10. Speak with assured confidence.

(cont'd. next page)



Non verbal visual markers include maintaining eye contact, attending to speaker's non verbal cues, using more hand and upper body gestures, sitting closer and occasionally touching the listener.

Clients enthusiastically describe improved interpersonal relations and response when they practice their feminine communication style: Using question forms, seeking accord, and listening more actively rather than giving orders and directives.

## PROGNOSIS

Success in therapy is enhanced when the client cross dresses for the therapy sessions, has a discriminating ear and vocal flexibility, and allows herself to experiment with unusual, non habitual voices.

Incorporating the new voice with speech markers both verbal and non verbal, into her "new true self," the transsexual is able to cross with greater success into her new gender.

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