

Renaissance News



Volume 2, No.8

P.O. Box 1263, King of Prussia, PA, 19406

August, 1988

Renaissance Members Tape National Television Show

"We Survived Morton Downey"

Three members of Renaissance were the featured guests on the "Morton Downey Jr. Show." The hour-long program was taped July 5 and aired in national syndication later. Locally, the show was broadcast on WPHL-TV, Channel 17, on Thursday, July 14, at 10:00 p.m. Angela Gardner, Therése Aigner and Paula Sinclair were the intrepid trio representing the group.

Downey is known for his outspoken interviews, and his "middle American" studio audiences have the reputation for loudly expressing their disagreement with the views put forward by some guests. Although Downey was somewhat subdued on this show, the audience was angry, even hostile to the "ladies". So why why did they will-

ingly subject themselves to the animosity and verbal abuse?

"The show is syndicated nationally to about 65 percent of the television viewing public," Angela said after the program was taped. "There are a lot of transvestites across America who believe that they are the only ones who participate in this activity. This show gave us the opportunity to let them know that they are not alone, that crossdressers are not all ashamed of what we do."

"The middle name of our association is 'education,'" Therése said. "Although the audience didn't give us the opportunity to fully explain our need for crossdressing, we got some points across. That made it worthwhile. And, we learned some things too," she continued. "Our appearance and presence really bothered the audience at a deep psychological

level. I believe this says something about how well they accept themselves and others." "I wish I had seen a show like this when I was 'in the closet,'" Angela said. "There are support groups for transvestites all over the nation, and hopefully our appearance on the Downey show will give greater visibility to all of them."

Angela, who is straight, told Mort that "she" dates genetic females. Mort also conducted a brief telephone interview with Marilyn, a woman who is happily married to a transvestite, Lynda Frank - NJ Tri-Ess. Paula, who is gay, told of dating men regardless of whether "she" is in drag or not.

The three told Mort and his audience how their need to dress in women's clothes was first evident when they were young boys, and how they have been able to incor-

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York Area Member Featured In Sunday Paper Interview

Her response to newspaper article becomes outreach opportunity

An article in the May 21st York *Daily Record* (PA) about a transvestite involved in a stabbing brought an immediate response to the paper from York-area member Elsa [REDACTED]

The story told of a man, wearing women's clothing, charged with stabbing the owner and a patron of a local wig shop. The man was subsequently arrested by police when his wife tried to admit him to a psychiatric unit at York Hospital.

Elsa felt that, while the incident portrayed TVs in a negative light, the writer simply stated the facts

and did not sensationalize the event. To Elsa this deserved a letter to the writer. So, she wrote to Michael Argento, commended him on his coverage of the story and gave him the name and number of Renaissance for further information about TVs/TSs. She also sent a copy of her letter and the article to the Renaissance office.

Shortly thereafter, a call was received at the Renaissance office from Linda Weiner Seligson, the Lifestyles editor for the paper. Paula Sinclair, Director of Outreach & Public Affairs, spoke with

Linda and provided her a set of Background Papers. In the course of discussions, the editor suggested an interview feature with Elsa, who agreed to do it. The feature appeared in the *Living* section, Sunday, June 26th.

Elsa was quick to recognize an opportunity to do a little individual outreach/education and she acted on it. While she is at some personal risk with the interview, she feels that the potential benefit for closeted TVs and TSs in the area outweighs the risk.

We're all very proud of her.

Second AIDS Benefit A "Fashionable" Event

The second annual Renaissance AIDS benefit will be quite a fashionable event this year. Members and friends of Renaissance will participate in a Fall Fashion Extravaganza on October 8th at the Towpath Restaurant in New Hope, PA. The evening's activities will include a cash bar beginning at 6:00 PM, followed by a sit-down dinner at 7:00 and the fashion show at 8:00.

Angela Gardner, Event Chairlady, tells us that she has contacted two custom dressmakers who have agreed to provide

fashions, outerwear, lingerie and furs, for the show.

The recipient of this year's benefit will be Childrens Hospital of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. The money generated from this event will be designated for children with AIDS and ARC.

The cost for the Dinner/Fashion show is \$30 per person. Since this is a charitable benefit, the \$5 Full Member discount does *not* apply.

Please send your check or money order made out to Renaissance by September 10th. Come out and support a great cause!

Newsletter Expands, New Items For Sept.

Beginning with this issue the Renaissance News expands to eight pages per month. More than enough material is coming in to warrant the extra space. New features will be added next month.

One such item will be a "Dear Abby" type column called *Ask Angela* edited by our own Angela Gardner. She's just chock full of tidbits, so if you've got a question on anything at all, ask Angela care of the Renaissance office. *On The Town* will be a review of the nightlife scene in the area. Our wandering mystery reporter will tell us where we can go for dining and dancing. *Hot Stuff* will keep you informed about the latest trends in fashion, makeup and styles.

We will be using more photos in the coming months and we will have space available for chapter news if and when it is required.

The Board approved the expansion at its meeting in May. The *News* will also begin accepting paid advertising in the September issue. The Board would like all members of Renaissance to patronize our advertisers whenever possible.

In a related move, the Board is actively promoting the *News* as a vehicle for small merchants who wish to develop a business base within our community. A shopping resource guide will be available in the near future, which will list those businesses that welcome us.

And Don't Forget About...

- We have a commitment to the Philadelphia Community Health Alternatives (PCHA) Food Bank. Please remember to bring non-perishable and canned goods to the meetings. Joanne [REDACTED] has graciously volunteered to deliver the items to the food bank.

- We are trying a weeknight meeting next month, September 19th, for those who cannot make the Saturday meetings. If we get a good turnout this time, we'll try it again later. Starts at 9:00 PM.

- The Ari Kane/Outreach Institute workshop on September 24th. Make sure you register by August 12th. Fees are \$25/person or \$45/couple.

- The Benjamin book project with Outreach Institute. Deluxe editions: \$33.50, Regular: \$28.50.

- We are always on the lookout for new places to shop or spend some leisure time. If you've found a new place, let us know so we can share it with your sisters.

Renaissance

News

Staff

Senior Editor: **JoAnn Roberts**
 National Editor: **Paula Sinclair**
 Overseas Editor: **Trudi Henry**
 Photo Editor: **Angela Gardner**
 Admin. Assistants: **Susan P., Beth and Rachel M.**
 Copy & Layout: **Creative Design Services, King of Prussia, PA.**

For the latest information about events call: (215) 640-9449, 24 hrs. a day.

Business Report Thru July 31st

July Attendance: 75
 Paid Members: 160

Starting Balance: \$2542.14
 Income:

Donations	\$242.00
Publications	\$65.00
<u>Member Dues</u>	\$33.50
Subtotal	\$340.50

Expenses:

Meeting	\$73.00
Newsletter	\$159.00
<u>Office Expenses</u>	<u>\$217.59</u>
Subtotal	\$449.59

Ending Balance \$2433.05

Coming Events:

August
 No Meeting This Month.

September
 15-18, "Paradise in the Poconos" weekend
 19th Ren. Weeknight Meeting starts 9:00 PM
 24th Ariadne Kane Workshop
 24th Renaissance Meeting Ari Kane guest speaker.

October
 8th 2nd Annual AIDS Benefit Dinner/Fashion Show
 15th Renaissance Meeting
 14-23, Fantasia Fair, P-town Outreach Institute

November
 19th Renaissance Meeting

The Opinion Page

Praise & Thanks From A Member

Dear Renaissance,

The last few months my life has changed from being married to now living alone. That was the third, and hopefully the last, time. All my life I felt as though I was crazy, weird, queer, etc., because of my desires as a female. To accept myself was out of the question thinking that the only other crossdressers were in the smut mags.

Today my thanks go out to Renaissance, and its members for the help that is offered. The acceptance and warmth from all of you is

helping me to develop a different attitude about myself.

I do have a great deal of shyness, no matter if I am Vince or Vicki, which, in turn, makes it more difficult to make friends. Also, I carry a lot of emotional scars from my three wives. I like and need friends, but these scars hold me back at times. Angela, Susan, Thérèse, Joanie, and you have shown me hope in the present and future, of being myself.

Again, my heart and prayers go out to all of you. God bless you all.

Vicki, Bensalem PA

Newsletter Policy

You, the reader, are entitled to first rate, first quality news. Therefore, this newsletter will not print any material without the permission of the author or legal copyright holder, and will not resort to cutting and pasting of general circulation newspaper articles or syndicated cartoons to fill space.

This newsletter is committed to upholding a quality standard set by the *TV/TS Tapestry*.

Every reader is encouraged to make a contribution to the newsletter. The staff will polish and edit, as needed. Your thoughts and ideas are welcomed. - The Editors

Having A Hair Transplant: What To Expect...by Jackie K.

If you are not aware of the process involved in hair transplants I will describe it so you will have an idea of what you'll be getting into.

Hair transplants are just that; moving hair from one place on the scalp to another. It usually takes several sessions, is expensive, and IT HURTS!

I went to the *Cleveland Hair Clinic* in King of Prussia for a consultation. My too tight scalp disqualifies me for scalp reduction surgery, where they reduce the size of any balding areas. It was determined that I needed about 330 plug grafts. At \$16 per graft, that amounts to \$5280, about the price of a Yugo or Hyundai.

I arrived for my appointment on Friday and was seated in a chair, not unlike a barber's chair, in front of a television (to keep you occupied, I guess), pumped full of laughing gas til I was stoned, given a couple of locals and they were off

In an hour they drilled 180 little holes in my head and gave me about 10 stitches, which they said is unusual. They wrapped my head in a compression bandage, all the

while keeping up a constant banter of BS to keep me from thinking about the pain. I had 90 plugs put in that sitting.

I drove home that night feeling ridiculous with my Ramar of the Jungle turban, slightly violated and a little lighter in the purse (about \$1300 lighter). Sleeping that night was difficult, even with Tylenol and codeine to keep the pain down to a dull thud.

Saturday I went back and had the bandage removed to my great relief (imagine your head in a vase).

I wore a hat the next few weeks to cover the surgery and no one was the wiser. My scalp and hairline swelled a little on day 4 and I had some bruising on my neck and head. The stitches came out on day 5 and the seepage from the wounds stopped on day 7.

I washed my hair every day after the stitches were out and patted alcohol on my scalp three times a day. In 3 weeks the scabs fell off and in 6 weeks the hair fell out. By 12 weeks it grew back and is permanent now.

The whole process will take

three or four sessions over a period from 6 months to a year. By the end of the second session my hair will look more natural. No more wigs! My own hair to comb, color or perm to my heart's content. It will be worth the time, cost and pain.

(Jackie is about to enter the Real Life Test prior to reassignment.)

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Subscription & Associate Membership is \$12/year. Full Membership is \$30/year.

Renaissance is a non-profit corporation which has the purpose of providing education about transgendered behavior.

Renaissance meets once a month, on the 3rd Saturday of the month, unless otherwise noted. Starting time is 9:00 PM in the late Spring/Summer, and 8:00 PM in the Fall/Winter. Regular meetings are held in the Valley Forge area.

News & Notes

Edited by Paula Sinclair

Eagles fans who watched a recent Morton Downey Jr. Show may have been upset by a story told by one of Mort's guests, a local female prostitute who said one of her regular clients is an Eagles player who like to have her dress him up in women's clothes. The prostitute wouldn't reveal the player's name, and she wouldn't say what position he played either on or off the field.

Here's news from the *New England Journal of Medicine* if you're looking to change your career and possibly your gender. The prestigious publication recently reported that embalming creams and pigments used by morticians can decrease the testosterone in workers if the chemicals are absorbed through the skin.

The article says that several morticians who did not regularly wear rubber gloves when using the chemicals said their sex drive was reduced. One man even began growing breasts.

Just when you thought that there could be no more surprises about television evangelists, comes word from Portland, Ore. where Pauls Neilson claims to be the first transsexual host of a televised religious program.

"I don't really care for the term 'drag evangelist,'" Neilson said in a newspaper interview, "but so far it's all I've come up with to call myself."

At a recent medical conference in Chicago, a physician told his colleagues about a woman who got more than she bargained for after her male-to-female sex change. The unexpected development? Breast cancer and a mastectomy.

Dr. Timothy Pritchard of the University Hospitals in Cleveland, Ohio, said that while conducting a self-administered breast exam,

the individual discovered a lump on one of her breasts and consulted a physician who confirmed that it was malignant. Even though the breast was removed and the cancer with it, Pritchard said that there was a possibility that cancer could return.

He told his colleagues at the conference that the breast cancer could have been the result of the hormones the transsexual had taken prior to surgery and during the 10 years after the operation. He added that this was only the third such case he was aware of.

Meanwhile, a French magazine reports on the less serious tale of woe of another male-to-female transsexual. Colette DuPuissac has asked her doctors to change her back into a man because she hates housework.

According to the article, shortly after her surgery in 1981, Colette met and married Roger DuPuissac, the father of three children from a previous marriage; a boy 11 and two girls, 5 and 1. At first, Mme. DuPuissac was delighted with her instant family, and enjoyed her role as a wife and mother.

But it didn't take long before she realized that the new dual role was more than she could cope with. Not only did she have to clean the house, take care of diapers, and cook all the meals, but she had to put up with men who, she said, bossed her around. She told the magazine that she had made a mistake in becoming a woman and wants to correct it by becoming a man again.

Her doctors say that instead of returning to the operating room, she should see a counsellor who will help her deal with the problems of her new sexual role.

According to *Women's Day* magazine, most American women don't feel the way Mme. DuPuissac

does about the female role. According to a recent survey, 85 percent of those responding said they were happy being women and wouldn't change their sex even if they could.

One famous woman—Dolly Parton—probably didn't participate in the Woman's Day survey, so she made her views on being a woman known to members of her television studio audience. When asked if she ever wished she had been born a man, she said, "I've always been a sissy. If I'd been born a man, I'd have been a drag queen! 'Cause I love to primp."

Linda Hammond of Berea, Ky., was not happy being a woman, and after 25 years was relieved to learn that she is really a man.

Because of a rare birth defect, the genitals of the Hammond baby appeared to be female. For 25 years, the child was raised as a girl and lived as a young woman, even though her mother and aunt had noticed that her genitals were not normal. Further suspicion arose when she did not begin to menstruate or grow breasts. But Linda did not consult a doctor because she was too shy.

She graduated from high school and got a job as a shipping clerk. At work she was accepted as a woman, but her co-workers noted she was the strongest woman they had ever met. She was aware of her differences, but believed that she was an hermaphrodite. It was not until she got a strong physical attraction to other women that she sought medical help.

The doctor who examined her discovered that she had no female sex organs but had undeveloped male sex organs that were still inside "her" body. Folds of skin in the external genital area had caused the gender confusion.

Within months of the discovery, Steve Hammond had surgery to correct the problem. Shortly afterward he got married. Because he is sterile, the couple cannot have children, but they hope to adopt.

More on Mort

porate their crossdressing—to some degree—in their everyday lives. They lead successful and satisfying lives as men. They have no desire to become women through hormone treatments or sex change surgery. But, as Paula says, "Crossdressing fills a need in my personality that can't be satisfied any other way."

Also appearing on the program was Dr. Robert T. Francoeur, a professor of human sexuality at Fairleigh Dickinson University and a columnist for *Penthouse Forum* magazine. (Renaissance has been working with Dr. Francoeur on his *Future Sex* column in *Forum*.) Most transvestites, Dr. Francoeur says, are heterosexual or bisexual, very few are gay. When the audience said that "men are men and women are women," Francoeur warned they were making a common mistake by believing that there are only two destinations in gender development—male or female—and by ignoring the possibilities in between.

The appearance on "The Morton Downey Jr. Show" is a part of an extensive program of outreach being undertaken by Renaissance.

The three members have had interesting experiences with colleagues, friends and strangers since the show. Paula reports that co-workers made many favorable comments and congratulated her on her courage and aplomb in dealing with Downey and the audience. (Paula is "open" where she works, both about being gay and a TV-Ed.) Angela, confided in a friend before the show so that her friend might watch and comment. Seems her friend's mom got the word as did the rest of the female population in the small upstate NY town. Angela is now somewhat of a minor celebrity there. And, Therese tells us that she received many, many kudos from both gay

men and women while she was attending a function at the Cartwheel in New Hope, PA. She says, "About 25 people came up to me on Sunday night and commented on how well we came off compared to the audience! I was stunned. Almost all of these people were strangers. I now have a whole new set of acquaintances."

So far, public reaction to the show has been all favorable; no "crank" mail has been received, yet. Here are just a few samples of the mail prior to press time.

Dear Ms. Sinclair

I should very much like to commend your tremendous courage and superb comportment regarding your appearance on the Morton Downey Jr. program tonight. Rarely have I been privileged to witness such phenomenal degrees of calmly articulate, intelligent and perceptive nobility, bravely holding forth against the brewing storms of these paranoid neofascistic media circuses today known as "tabloid television".

Your accomplishment was truly phenomenal; Downey himself was quite at a loss when his mechanically manipulative, mob-mental, inflaming lasershot one-liners were aimed at a person as clear as crystal; as relentless as a mirror.

In times as terrifying and dangerous as ours, it is truly an inspiring experience to see someone, such as yourself, guard and tend an archetypally wonderful and mysterious light against the darkness.

I am a writer, a painter, an actor, an artist. So capable of being deeply touched, so I was. Thank you.

T.R.C.
West Chester, PA

Dear Renaissance:

I am writing to obtain more information about your organization. Although I absolutely hate Morton Downey, I watched the program broadcast last night. I was somewhat amazed that a transvestite would be willing to appear there, as it was bound to be difficult.

I was particularly moved and impressed by how sensitive and competently Paula and the others presented the facts about themselves. I was glad to hear of a group such as yours and would appreciate receiving any information you can send me. Thank You.

C.G.

Central New Jersey

Dear Renaissance

I recently saw Paula Sinclair, Angela and Therese on the Morton Downey Jr Show. I think that Paula was very eloquent not to mention stunning. I took great pleasure in watching her face down that lynch mob; I couldn't do it!

I would appreciate any information on Renaissance you could give me and any similar organizations in New Jersey. Thank you.

Sincerely,

D.W.

Southern New Jersey

Dear Friends,

Today I saw an episode of the Morton Downey, Jr. show which featured transvestites and the problems we all share. Can you send me some information? It would be greatly appreciated, and might I add that I am glad that there is such an organization like this, because we are so often abused and misunderstood.

K.R., Maryland

Proposed Changes To By Laws

General Changes

1. Replace "Director of the Education Committee" everywhere with "Director of Outreach/Public Affairs"
2. Replace "Director of Membership Committee" everywhere with "Membership Director"

Specific Changes

Article 2. Membership

From: G. Classes of Membership: There are two classes of membership in Renaissance; Full and Associate. A Full member shall have all the rights and privileges as set forth in these By Laws. Full member fees shall be \$30 for memberships effective January 1st and \$15 for memberships effective June 1st. An Associate member shall have all the rights and privileges as set forth in these By Laws except the right to vote. Associate member fees shall be \$12 for memberships effective January 1st and \$6 for memberships effective June 1st.

To: G. Classes of Membership: There are two classes of membership in Renaissance; Full and Associate. A Full member shall have all the rights and privileges as set forth in these By Laws. An Associate member shall have all the rights and privileges as set forth in these By Laws except the right to vote. Membership and other fees shall be set by the Board of Directors as required.

Article 4. Board of Directors

A. Membership -

From: The Board of Directors shall be composed of the five (5) officers of Renaissance who are: the Managing Director, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Director of the Membership Committee, and the Director of the Education Committee.

To: The Board of Directors of Renaissance shall be composed of the Executive Committee and Local Unit Directors. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the offi-

cers of Renaissance: the Managing Director, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Membership Director, and the Director of Outreach/Public Affairs. Each member of the Board shall be a Full member of Renaissance.

B. Elections -

From: At the annual meeting the officers shall be elected to fill one year terms commencing January 1st.

To: At the annual meeting the officers of the Executive Committee shall be elected to fill one year terms commencing January 1st. Local Unit Directors shall be elected by the Local Unit.

C. Duties -

From: 5. Director of the Education Committee: The Director of the Education Committee is responsible for (a) calling and chairing meetings of that committee, (b) representing on the Board the full range of views existing on the committee, (c) preparing and submitting to the Treasurer at the end of the fiscal year a proposed budget for the committee for the succeeding year, (d) conducting educational activities at membership meetings, (e) preparing for each issue of the Newsletter a description of the education activities that have been approved by the membership for forthcoming meetings, and (g) preparing and submitting to the Board for its approval, and then to the membership for approval, a description of the membership activities planned by the committee for each membership meeting; such submissions to be presented to the membership according to the following schedule...

To: 5. Director of Outreach/Public Affairs: The Director of Outreach/Public Affairs is responsible for (a) the development of an effective and proactive outreach program, (b) the coordination and execution of the outreach program, (c) contacts with the print, radio and television media, (d) preparation of outreach materials, (e) preparing for the Newsletter descriptions of the planned and accomplished outreach activities and (f) the formation of Ad Hoc committees to meet the

needs of the outreach programs.

From: 6. Director of the Membership Committee: The Director of the Membership Committee is responsible for (a) preparing and maintaining the membership lists, (b) calling and chairing meetings of the Membership committee, (c) representing on the Board the full range of views existing on the committee, (d) preparing and submitting to the Treasurer at the end of the fiscal year a proposed budget for the committee for the succeeding year, (e) conducting educational activities at membership meetings, (f) preparing for each issue of the Newsletter a description of the education activities that have been approved by the membership for forthcoming meetings, and (g) preparing and submitting to the Board for its approval, and then to the membership for approval, a description of the membership activities planned by the committee for each membership meeting; such submissions to be presented to the membership according to the following schedule...

To: 6. Membership Director: The Membership Director is responsible for (a) making initial contact with prospective members by mail, telephone, and other media (b) preparing and maintaining the membership and mailing lists, (c) planning and conducting member activities at membership meetings, (d) preparing for the Newsletter descriptions of the planned and accomplished meeting activities, and (e) the formation of Ad Hoc committees to meet the needs of the membership programs.

Add: 7. Local Unit Director: The Local Unit Director shall be responsible for (a) representing the the full range of views of the Local Unit to the Board, (b) communicating, coordinating and implementing decisions made by the Board which affect the Local Unit, and (c) preparing for the Newsletter descriptions of

Proposed Changes To By Laws

planned and accomplished activities of the Local Unit.

New Articles

Article 11. Official Logo

The official logo of the Renaissance Education Association, Inc. shall be a likeness of the "Mona Lisa" by DaVinci.

Article 12 . Local Units

A. Definition of a Local Unit

Members of Renaissance, Full or Associate, may be grouped into incorporated or unincorporated Local Units formed upon the basis of geographical or territorial areas.

B. Formation/Approval of a Local Unit:

(1) Any Full member of Renaissance may petition the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors to create an incorporated or unincorporated Local Unit. Such petition shall contain statements to the following effects: (a) The Local Unit shall agree that its main purpose is the education of the transgendered community and the general public as set forth in Article 1 of the Renaissance By Laws; (b) The Local Unit shall agree to an open membership policy as set forth in Article 2 of the Renaissance By Laws; (c) The Local Unit, whether incorporated or unincorporated, shall agree to operate on a not-for-profit basis; (d) The Local Unit shall agree to establish and engage in a proactive public education/outreach program within 90 days from approval of the petition by the Executive Committee; (e) The Local Unit agrees that it shall not represent itself in any official capacity for Renaissance without the prior approval by the Board of Directors and as set forth in Article 8 of these By Laws.

(2) The Executive Committee shall approve or disapprove the petition, in writing, within thirty days (30) from the initial request.

C. Use of Renaissance Name and Logo: Upon approval, the Local

Unit shall be permitted the use of the name "Renaissance" in conjunction with a Local Unit name of its choosing and further the Local Unit shall be allowed the use of the Renaissance logo. The use of the name and logo is subject to the review of the Board at all times.

D. Local Unit Organization and Representation: (1) An approved Local Unit shall select a Local Unit Director to represent its members at any general or special membership meeting and at Board of Directors meetings. The Local Unit Director shall be a voting member of the Board of Directors as specified in Article 4 of these By Laws.

2. Other than the requirement for a Local Unit Director, the Local Unit shall select its own form of governing body and shall not be required to follow the organizational structure of the Renaissance Executive Committee.

E. Local Unit Finances:

1. An approved Local Unit shall be permitted to collect both Full and Associate membership dues in accordance with Article 2 of these By Laws.

2. The Local Unit shall forward immediately to the Executive Committee Treasurer all Associate Membership dues collected and an amount equal to the Associate Membership dues for all Full Membership dues collected. The remaining funds shall be authorized for use by the Local Unit Director in operating the Local Unit in accordance with the goals and purposes of Renaissance as set forth in these By Laws.

3. The Local Unit shall be responsible for developing a Local Unit operating budget and submitting said budget to the Executive Committee Treasurer for inclusion in the Renaissance annual budget.

4. The Local Unit shall be solely responsible for all debts incurred by the Local Unit and shall have available to the Executive Committee, at all times, the financial records of the Local Unit for review and audit.

5. The Local Unit shall not have the authority to incur debt in the name of Renaissance without the prior written approval of the Board of Directors.

F. Local Unit Autonomy:

1. An approved Local Unit shall be self-governing, self-sustaining and shall not be dependent on the Board of Directors for implementation of local membership and outreach programs.

2. The Local Unit shall have full access to all official Renaissance publications including, but not limited to, Background Papers, Community Outreach Bulletins, and The Renaissance News.

3. The Board of Directors shall make available to the Local Unit its experience and expertise in developing membership and outreach programs.

G. Revocation of Local Unit Status:

1. The Board of Directors may, at any time, but with due cause, revoke the permission to use the Renaissance name and logo by a Local Unit. A simple majority vote of the Board of Directors shall be required to revoke Local Unit status. Upon revocation, the Local Unit shall cease to exist as an entity of the Renaissance Education Association, Inc.

2. Revocation of Local Unit status shall be delivered in writing to the Local Unit Director within thirty days of the decision by the Board of Directors.

3. Upon notice of revocation the Local Unit Director shall cease to be a member of the Board

4. Upon notice of revocation all funds at the Local Unit shall be immediately turned over to the Executive Committee Treasurer.

5. Revocation of Local Unit status shall have no effect upon the rights and privileges of individual Renaissance members at the Local Unit level.

These amendments will be put to a vote at the September membership meeting.

More Photos From The Renaissance Scrapbook



Joanne [REDACTED]
PCHA rep



*The Renaissance Board of Directors:
JoAnn Roberts, (seated). Standing
(from l. to r.) Paula Sinclair, Angela
Gardner, Trudi Henry & Alison
Laing. Photo by Mariette Allen.*



*Mariette Allen visits
during our Birthday Party*



*Teri [REDACTED]
our Princess of the Poconos*



*Sitting Room Only at a typical
Renaissance meeting. Photo by
Mariette Allen*