

Cross-Port Inner View

2020 B BEECHMONT AVE. BOX 150

CINCINNATI OHIO 45230

Vol. 2 No. 9

An NGA Chapter

September 1986

NEXT MEETING September 18th at 7: 30

Wife/Girlfriend Support Meeting

September 25th at 7: 30

Cross-Port Basics

As Neil Diamond said, "It was a Hot August Night" but 20 people managed to brave the heat to come to the August meeting. New faces were Jeaninne, Yvonne a "Visitor from the East", well northwest really, Linda and George two counselors from Dayton, and Judy a local Psychology student. A welcome back to Dee Dee and Joni, and a thank you to every one who has made that extra effort to keep the summer going strong. With the attendance continuing to be strong through the summer even with the move, it is obvious that the new meeting place has worked out. We will continue to meet there on an indefinite basis.

The Wife/Girlfriend meeting is going ahead as planned on September 25 at 7: 30 Only a couple of the wives have said they are coming to the meeting, but remember, we started with 6 people.

A possible meeting in Indianapolis, with some of the Chicago Windy City Chapter was discussed, there was some interest but no dates were set aside at this time.

The Transpit Dinner Party is the 20th of September. Due to a schedule conflict I will not be able to attend though I was looking forward to it. Sharon and I went last year and had a great time. I recommend it to any one who can get away for the week-end. Contact Jonnie at Transpit for information.

The Paradise Club's Christmas Dinner has been move to December 6. There is a chance I may try to make this one. If any one else is interested please let me know.

The Good news is Marilyn is still around and can be reached through her P. O. Box listed in the back. The Bad news is, for the time being, Ann Cole will not be working with us for make-up help. If she again becomes available I will let "y'all" know. Until then, we will be searching for some one who is willing to work with us.

We are currently running an ad in the "Downtown". The current ad cost us \$21 for 3 months. Thanks to Karen for handling the details.

Linda, would like to get some people together for dinner, before the next meeting. At this time the plan is to meet around 6 at the Perkins at Exit 29 off I-75. If you would like to be there just show up, but you might want to check with me first to be sure it is

still on.

Judy, Linda, George and Yvonne all gave reports on their reasons for being there, most of these will be discussed under "GIRL TALK".

The meeting ended about 10 and every one proceeded to have a good time.

WHAT'S A G.G.

By Rosemary

Reprinted from Paradise Tales

You know I've been in Paradise for over a year. . . maybe it's stupidity. . . probably it's because my wife is not a member as of yet.

What is or what does G. G. stand for? All I know is that they are wives. . . very special and unique people. Not all women (mine included at this point) can accept a lifestyle out of the norm.

They have felt betrayed. . . probably a lot of hurt. . . much anger. . . and probable shed a lot of tears. But once the shock has ended they can still love and even try to understand us even when we can't fully understand our own selves.

I saw a movie once. . . the comment made by the wife was that she could battle an affair but how do I battle this. Reflections of this statement came to mind at the "Be All" weekend in Chicago.

Marriette, another beautiful lady who is a professional photographer specializing with our culture captured the aforementioned feeling with a picture of hands. The hands were those of a man and wife and then of man in femme and wife. In both cases the pictures expressed love but, to a different degree. In the second picture one could tell that the acceptance of femme was there but, there was an element of standoffishness or of love with a hurt that showed through.

During the "Be All" weekend I talked to wives as well as many of our sisters. Some wives knew going into their marriage about her cross-dresser. Another wife said it took her 10 years (her words, "I was a real bitch for years"). Still another felt her femininity was being threatened and another said that when she was to meet her husbands alter-ego it took hours of driving and tears just to go home for the meeting. Oh yes, there was even a lady there who's husband had muscular dystrophy. . . Love? Tolerance? Allowing the fulfillment of a dream, want or need?

Wow. . . wives are very special.

Then I posed a question to myself in trying to understand how they feel. I asked myself, what if I was the lady and my husband was a cross-dresser? Or what if it was an affair?

I could not, as liberal as I am, really answer the question other than as a Christian. . . to ask God for continued love, forgiveness and the wisdom to search with my mate for the key, no matter the consequences.

For now my wife does not know Rosemary. Someday I hope that she will. On the other hand she may never be able to understand, which I pray will not be the case.

I feel, however, that my wife does know Rosemary somewhat and thus far she also is falling into that "very special" category. When the full story comes out? Only time will tell.

In the mean time, Rosemary has a lot of work to do. She not only has to prepare for the day of reckoning but, also has to become the best lady possible.

It's my opinion that the biggest insult to her would be to dress like a sleeze or look half-baked. The later meaning to be less than perfect - hair a mess, awful clothes, awful presentation, etc.

Further, I've heard of sister living their femme lives in the bedroom with their wives. My question is how can you? They married you as a man. . . in the same bed can't they have the dignity of man and wife rather than femme and wife?

Again, if this happens. . . wives you are very special.

It seems to me that when cross-dressed we (I) can be a sister or friend. We could do a lot together as did the many smiling faces at the "Be All" weekend. Why, I heard and was told in person what fun wives were having.

But, for these "very special" people we have to be our very best. As Rosemary, I want to be as real as possible. . . as Russ I want to be as real as possible.

Hopefully, my (our) gift to them, these "very special" ladies, is a better than great marriage through an understanding of their feeling, a sensitivity toward their wants and desires and a greater love for who they are.

What is a G. G. ? I don't know. The letters mean nothing but, knowing that those initials refer to our wives. . . they are indeed the greatest gift that God will ever give us.

Love them, make them proud regardless of lifestyle, for they are indeed. . . "Very Special People".

The Other Side of the Closet

By Sharay

There! I'm just about ready to leave. All dressed, nails done, makeup just right, grab my purse and off I go the the meeting. Just wait 'til the girls see my new dress they'll love it.

Oh, Oh. What's that? I heard someone in the Kitchen, but no one is supposed to be home this evening. If they see me, I've had it. I've got to hide, but where?

Ah, the closet, they'll have no reason to go in there. I've got to close the door quietly. There, I'll just wait in here 'til the coast is clear. . . .

Whew! it's kind of hot in here. I'd better try to sit down before I . . . ! "#\$%& . . . fall down. That certainly was a gracious fall. I hope they didn't hear me. Well, I think the coast is clear, I'll just crack the door a little and check. Wait a minute, whose voices are those and where did't all this light come from. It's so blinding, I can't see anything. Good thing I put that pair of sun glasses in my purse. Where the heck are they. Found them, maybe they'll help me see.

Where am I? This isn't my house, it looks like a different land. These glasses aren't the ones I brought either. One lens says LOVE on it and the other has COMPASSION. Why this is the meeting, somehow I got here. I sure don't remember, but wait 'til I tell them what happened to me.

Hey Debbie, your not going to believe what just happened to me. Deb? Deb? What's wrong? She doesn't seem to hear me. I'll just grab her arm. That's strange, I can't touch her, it's as if I were invisible. I can see and hear everyone but they can't see or hear me. This is really strange. Oh, there's Susan, I never cared much for the way she

dressed, but what's wrong? She looks so sad like she is going to cry. She is crying. Her cheeks are wet with tears. What happened? She's always joking and laughing, why she's the life of the party. There's Samantha, she always seems to know it all, but tonight she looks so lonely. . . and I can even see her heart, it's broken into so many pieces. Ann's face shows so much hurt and pain. Maybe that's why she is always getting so angry so often.

The light is getting dim. I'd better take off these glasses so I can see in here. Wait, everyone looks normal, without the glasses on.

That's it! It's the glasses. The Glasses of LOVE and COMPASSION. When I look at my sisters through the eyes of love and compassion I can see them in a deeper way. I see the real person inside. I wish I could reach them, so I could pass these glasses around. Then they could experience what I've discovered. If only I could just be a friend and really show them how much I love them. . . how much I love them . . . how much I love them. . . SLAM!

What was that! Oh no, I must have fainted or fallen asleep in this closet. What time is it. Whoever came home must have left by now. What a dream that was. Maybe it wasn't a dream. It sure seemed real. Good, I'm not too late for the meeting. I can't wait to see the girls and tell them how much I love and care about them. Things are different now that I've been to the other side of the closet.

Oops! I almost forgot my glasses. I don't ever want to go to a meeting WITHOUT MY GLASSES!



G I R L T A L K

I want to thank, Rosemary and Paradise Club, for the uses of the article What's a G. G. ?. With the first Wife/Girlfriend meeting coming up this month I felt it was a timely article to reprint. For those that don't know G. G. stands for Genetic Girl or Genuine Girl and refers to a person born as a woman with the body of a woman.

Over the last couple of months we have been very fortunate to have had several Doctor's / Counselors visit our meetings. All of these people have expressed the fact that they are happy that a group like this has finally formed in this area. They have a strong desire to work with us and to handle our kind of cases when one of us needs them. As Virginia Prince points out in one of her books, only about 4 to 6 out of every 100 cross-dressers as ever sought the help of a medical professional for cross-dressing related reasons. This tends to leave a big hole in the medical definition of what a cross-dresser is and what we are about. So, many of the doctors are seeking out group like ours, to get to know us and to find out what a "well adjusted" cross-dresser is like. We thank them for their strong interest and support of the kind of lives we need to live. I also encourage you to take advantage of their services if you feel you need counselling for either yourself or your wife/girlfriend/parent. Many doctors are not prepared to deal with the problems of gender identity so it is best to go to the ones that you know are interested, prepared and capable of dealing with these special needs.

This leads me to my next couple of topics. Judy is a psychology student, friend of mine, who has decided to try to do a study about cross-dressing. In particular she would like to work with us, in an effort to reach as many TV's and TS's as possible. In the next month or two I will be sending out a questionnaire and a consent form. The consent form must be signed and returned in order to participate in the survey, however the forms will be returned to me in sealed envelopes and retained by me. They will not be opened. Judy will be explaining the nature of the survey and how it will be handled in an up coming news-letter. I mention it now only so you can be thinking about whether you wish to

participate or not. If any of the other groups would like to be a part of this effort, please contact me.

George and Linda have been working with one of our members for some time. They have decided it is time to get some real life experiences and will therefore be attending many of our future meeting. George is a psychiatrist and has something he would like to offer to members in the group. He will be telling you more about it in a future "InnerView".

Yvonne, was visiting from the Chicago area and as treasurer for the National Convention spoke about what the plans for the convention are. The main point she addressed is that this is not a weekend for the people who only wish to party. This will be an educational convention aimed at the TV/TS communities and the professional people. Some of the seminars will qualify for CE credits and all of them will be handled on a very professional level. The cost is not cheap, but then quality never is, so do some careful thinking about how much this kind of convention means to you and what an impact it can have on the future quality our all our lives.

All Saints Chapel will be celebrating it's fourth birthday on Sunday, Sept. 21 at 6: 00 p. m. with Rev. Wayland Melton as guest speaker. Everyone is welcomed. The Chapelettes will also be returning to the stage on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 9: 00 p. m. at the chapel for a show to benefit "Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays"(P-FLAG). There is no charge, but a \$3. 00 donation is encouraged.

Don't forget that Valerie and Marsha will be performing at the Hanqout on Oct. 18, at 10: 30 as part of the month long Saturday night shows to benefit AIDS Research.

AH- THE FALL. Summer, for many of us, is a time of mixed emotions. A time when we can get out of the house, work in the yard, swim, boat, fish and do all the things that we seem to long to do all winter. But with the sun, however, comes the heat, with the heat comes the shedding of clothes, and with the shedding of clothes comes a more exposed body. For many cross-dresser this also bring a lessening of dressing. The legs, underarms and chest are once again covered with hair. Kind of like the lawns in our yards should be, and the daylight hours, reduce the precious night into a few stolen moments. It's too hot for a wig, and the heat melts the make-up right off our faces. Let's face it, being a woman, isn't always fun. (That's what my wife keeps telling me also.) But, it is always exciting, except in the summer. I've had several people tell me they just don't dress in summer, and they wonder if there is something wrong with that. No, from most of the girls I've talked to, it is very normal, especially if the family members don't know.

For many of us girls, FALL is like Spring. It's the time when once again the clothes "spring" into bloom and the body begins to take on a new, fresh look. Start preparing for it now. Treat yourself to a new dress or those new shoes that have been lost in the back of your head during those summer months. Don't let the summer blues continue into the fall. Remember that summer is just 1/4 of the year the other 3/4 belongs to both of you.

And, as just a suggestion, if you do get a chance to dress in the summer months, do it, even if you don't really feel like it. For one, it will give you a little taste of what real woman go through and an appreciation of why it's not always easy to look your best. It may also help to keep the femme feeling alive and allow you to begin to enjoy the fall that much faster.

Letters to Heather

Dear Heather,

Greeting! I'm now settled in California, living in a small town about 5 miles from San Jose and 45 miles from San Francisco. The house I live in has been converted into 4 rental areas, each equipped with refrigerator and micro-wave.

I work for the owner doing secretarial work in his small, computer software firm, set up right here in the house.

It still appears that I am scheduled for surgery at Stanford this fall. My best to all my friends in Cross-Port.

Fondly ---- Sarah

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for the card letting us know how you are doing. We truly miss you and wish you every success on your surgery. We hope we will one day see you again. Thank you for all you did for us.

Dear Heather & Ladies of Cross-Port,

Joey and I want to thank you all for your prayers and to the Lord for listening during our Heart Attack. I say "our" because Joey was right there with me for 11 days in the hospital.

For those of you, who like myself, are afraid of the word "heart attack" it is not that bad. The breathing is where I had problems. For 26 hours I had the feeling of drowning & could not get but short gasp.

The hospital told Joey to call in the family, but she said "No, he's not going to die! and with the prayers of our minister, and you our friends, I was prayed back. If the Lord keeps listening to Joey, I'll be around for 470 years. Ha

Each persons love and concern was so great that in a sub-conscious state- I knew Jesus was in the room with me. When I would come to, I could see everyone but Him and wondered why.

Heather called yesterday and told me about mentioning it to you girls and about your prayers, love and concern of each of you for us. It's a blessing to have sisters who really care.

Joey & I just want to say "we Love you"- Oh! don't tell society we said that. They'll think we are all perverts. But the Lord knows what we are talking about and that's all that counts.

Loretta, Joey & Connie

Dear Loretta,

Thank you for sharing your story with us all. I hope you are getting better with each day and we will continue to pray for a speedy and full recovery. I really did enjoy the tape you sent, though it reminded me of a tape I have of my father singing and playing the piano.

I hope to see you soon. ----- Love

Heather

Bulletin Board

The Paradise Club's Schedule - For 1986 - Oct 18 (Meeting & Drag Show), Dec 6 (Christmas Dinner)

Write Paradise Club, PO Box 29564, Parma, OH 44129, Attn: Susan for Prices and Places

Transpitt's Meeting Schedule is the third Saturday of the month.

Write Transpitt, PO Box 59406, Pittsburg, PA 15211, Attn: Johnnie

Windy City Chapter's Meeting Schedule. They meet the Third Tuesday of each month at 8:30.

Write Windy City Chapter, PO BOX 2312, Chicago, IL 60690, Attn: Sharon [REDACTED]

TRI-ESS information Write Carol Beecroft, P. O. Box 194, Tulare, CA, 93275

Crossroads, Meetings April 5, May 3.

Write Crossroads, P. O. Box 1298, Flint, MI 48501

Genesis- meets the second Saturday of the month.

Write Genesis, P. O. Box 0954, Elyria, OH, 44036-0954

Tiffany Club, Tapestry, and International Foundation for Gender Education.

Wife Support Group Weekend at P-Town, Oct 3-5

1st International Convention March 4-9, at Chicago IL.

Write to Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

North West Gender Alliance, PO Box 4928, Portland Oregon, 97208 (503) 641-6736

Connecticut Gender Alliance, PO Box 744, Branford, CT 06405, % Wendy [REDACTED]

Boulton & Park Cultural Society, PO Box 169652, San Antonio, TX 78280

ETVC, Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101, ATTN: Suzanne

12th Annual Fantasia Fair October 17-26 at Provincetown. Write to Fantasia Fair Ltd., Kenmore Station, Box 368, Boston, MA 02215

Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Weekend Sept 9-12, Write Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76th St., Jackson Heights, NY 11372 or call (718) 335-3048

PUBLICATION NOTICE

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CLASSIFIEDS

Offered Free to those places that support us. Please support them.

Places to GO

The Hangout, 13 Old St. [Monroe OH], 534-4381, Cross-Dressers are welcome.

Jacobson's Downstairs Bar, 36 West Fifth, Dressing is OK, Drag shows Saturday night at 11:00 and 12:30.

Metro Lounge, Ruth Lyons Pl. & Gano Alley, [Off Vine near the square], Dressing is OK, Drag shows on Fri.

1470 West [in Dayton], 1470 W. Dorthy in the Hill and Dale Shopping Center, Off I75 take Exit 47, go east until you come to the shopping center. It's on the right side of the center towards the back. Dressing is OK, Drag shows every Sunday night at 10:30 and 12:00.

The Subway - at 604 Walnut. No cover. Cross-dressers are welcome anytime.

Golden Lion - at 340 Ludlow, 281-4174. Cross-dressers are welcome anytime.

The Dock - at 603 Pete Rose Way [241-5623]. Open every night during summer. Cross-dressers are welcome.

Side Door Lounge - at 614 Walnut [721-4551] Cross-dressers are welcome.

Simon Says - at 428 Walnut [381-8146] Cross-dressers are welcome.

Spurs - at 318 E. Eighth St. [721-4007] Says No one is refused.

2601 Club - at 2601 Vine St. [221-3410]

Shoes

Paula Lee Shoes, 7332 Kenwood Rd., Has large sizes but is not open to men trying them on in the store.

Payless Shoe Source - Near 7th and Race, Large size shoes to size 13.

Hair

Recent Fashion Wigs, 118 W. 7th St., Very open and willing to help fit you.

Hairworks, Hamilton Ave, 681-8222, Call for appointment.]

Worship

Dignity Catholic Services, Call Jerry 621-4026 or Bev 541-7026 for times and places.

All Saints Chapel - Worship Service Sunday at 6:00 p.m., 1222 Ida St. in Mt. Adams. We are welcome to come dressed. For more information call Associate Pastor Don Hicks at 381-2328

Make-Up

Marilyn's Make-Overs - Write P. O. Box 632, Vandalia, OH 45377

Ann's - Make-up, custom clothing and wig styling. 358-7161 for appointment.

Clothes

One Stop Bra & Swim Shop - 4217 Reading Road, Call 764-6020 for appointment.

Counselling

Behavioral Science Center, Inc. - Doctors : William Wester II, Richard Baum, Paul Bishop, Carolyn Rowatsch, & Joseph Wicker - 2522 Highland Ave., 513-221-8545

Indianapolis

21 Club - 2101 N. Talbott, 317-427-4000: Cross-Dressers are welcome but must show proper I. D. Shows on Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat nights starting around 10:00 pm