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Collector's Edition

January, 2000

1ST Edition of the Millennium!

GIRL TALK

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

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California Dreamin' 2000

April 27 -30, 2000
Golden Gateway
Holiday Inn
San Francisco, CA

January 2000 Meeting: "Myths and Facts About Crossdressing"

Happy New Year, New Century, New Millennium (U Pick). Now that we've gotten past the Y2K scam, I mean bug, all I have to do is figure out what to do with 1000 cases of Spam (any takers). Also, I have a used AK 47, Smith & Wesson, and slingshot I'd like to unload as well as a (slightly used) Humvee.

On bright spot, though, I did buy a end-of-the-world-as-we-know-it torchlight gown that I can put to good use at California Dream' 00 in San Francisco.

In any case, Powder Puffs, has an exciting schedule to kick of the New U Pick. This meeting, we will have world-renown scientist Dr. Richard Docter. This is a great chance to become acquainted with the latest hypothses, theories, guesses, bald-faced lies (U Pick) on the crossdressing and discover what direction future research is headed.

So please join us this JANUARY 29th - and come with your questions!

Date: Sat, Jan. 29, 2000
Time: 7:30 pm PDT
Place: Placentia Holiday Inn, 118 E. Orangethorpe Ave, Placentia, CA. Take 57 Fwy to Orangethorpe exit. Head east.

PPOC: A Renaissance Chapter

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Transgender Community News

The Transgender Community News is a monthly magazine published for the TG community by The Renaissance Transgender Association, Inc. of which we, PPOC, are a member. The magazine is stuffed full of interesting news about the community news, beauty tips (and who couldn't use those?), and other items of interesting presented in a clever and very readable fashion. For more information contact Renaissance. Contact info is located at the lower right-hand portion of this page.

California Dreamin' 2000
San Francisco

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San Diego's Exciting Transgender Space

By Melanie Yarborough

Taken from *Reflections*, publication of the Neutral Corner, December, 1999

A new oasis has sprung up in San Diego, a new and exciting transgender space called Wendy's Oasis. It's located in North Park at 3041 University Avenue. That's three blocks from the 805 Exit on University Avenue. It's on the south side of the street across from the Wigloo.

I had the opportunity to attend their Grand Opening and I can tell you that it is the transgender spot we've been waiting for. Hotel rooms are nice for meetings, coffee houses and nightclubs are nice for hanging out, but Wendy's Oasis is the place to get all dolled up or to rest and recuperate.

There are separate rooms for hair and wig styling, makeup, facials, waxing, manicures, pedicures and even massage. It is very spacious and has a convenient back entrance, free parking and lots of privacy.

It is a great place to change and get styled and there is an upstairs area which will soon be made into a lounge. There are plans for providing other services for the transgender community, such as personal shopping or make overs. It all depends on the demand for those services.

The staff has been specially screened and are caring and sensitive abvout transpeople. So you'll alwyas geta friendly welcome.

Wendy's Oasis is pen Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 7pm, and by appontment. They can be reached at (619) 220-8115 or by email at cromacrona@aol.com.

Gwen and Wendy have done a lot of work to create this transfriendly space for us. But we'll only contine to have this space if we make it economically viable for them. Wendy's Oasis is here to give us a transgender gathering place. Let's help it grow.

Neutral Corner Returns to Old Stompin' Grounds

Taken from *Reflections*, publication of the Neutral Corner, December, 1999

Beginning in January 2000, we (Neutral Corner) will return to our old stomping grounds, The Kings Inn in Mission Valley. Pam has booked the entire year with our first two meetings taking place in the Lancers Court meeting room. It is located downstairs next to the swimming pool.

New Cream Halts Hair Growth

By Phil Galewitz, Associated Press

They pluck, they bleach, they tweeze. they use hot wax, electric current and lasers. Some even shave daily. And still the hair comes back.

About one in six American women has enough facial hair that they remove it at least once a week.

Now, Gillette Co., the world's biggest manufacturer of razors, and pharmaceutical maker Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. have developed the first prescription cream that stops the growth of facial hair in women.

The drug could win Food and Drug Administration approval as early as next year.

Vaniqua (pronounced van-ih–KAH) is applied to the face like a moisturizer twice a day. It works by blocking the enzyme that makes hair grow. It must be used regularly or hair growth will resume. Studies show it helps most women and has no major side effects.

Please see **VANIQUA, Page 5**

(Joseph Heller is alive and working for the Department of Motor Vehicles - Cyndi)

"Sex change" goes officially amiss

By Diana Griego Erwin

(taken from the Sacramento Bee and emailed by Shirley Bushnell)
(Published Jan. 9, 2000)

The error started out as an embarrassing, minor inconvenience in Steven Brown's life.

A state Department of Motor Vehicles clerk had just told the teenager and his mother that Steven's hospital-issued birth certificate wasn't official enough to get his California identification. So the Browns went to the Sacramento County vital records office and paid for a certified copy of the state's official record. At home later, Steven noticed a major problem.

The document erroneously listed him as being female. Steven, 6 feet tall and 17 years old, found little to laugh about in the error. Which also explains why I've changed the Browns' names in this column.

Having teased her son a bit -- hey, the Browns can take a joke -- Mrs. Brown sent the county an e-mail explaining the problem. "I can assure you he is definitely male, as I have seen his equipment and it's definitely outdoor plumbing, not indoor," Steven's mother wrote in part.

"My nightmare is that I will have to prove this to you. If this becomes necessary, we have his footprint, but you'll have to get someone there to check under the hood." Better yet, she offered, just send us a corrected document.

She and Steven returned to the DMV, hoping no one would notice the unfortunate error. The clerk did -- and, according to Mrs. Brown, insisted the agency had to list "female" as Steven's gender, even though the proof was right before her.

The Browns even had the hospital's original birth certificate that correctly identified his gender. A supervisor explained that the DMV is obliged to go by whatever the state's official birth certificate says. No thanks, Steven said.

As it turns out, he can get a California ID without it -- if he's willing to endure one more layer of embarrassment. Having researched the matter, DMV spokesman Evan Nossoff found his agency does have a form for the change. "It's called the DL-328," he said. "Normally, it is used by people who've had a sex-change operation, but there's no requirement that a person have a sex-change operation." Correcting the birth certificate is more problematic, however.

A few days after sending the e-mail, Mrs. Brown took a call from a county employee who said everyone in the office got a kick out of it. She also advised the Browns that only the state could make such a change.

The next stop was the state Department of Health Services, the keeper of official vital records.

Mrs. Brown said she was sure they'd resolve the problem, but she left with a stomach ache. According to her, the clerk made it clear the error was Mrs. Brown's; she, after all, had signed the document in the hospital following the birth.

What the clerk didn't know is that Mrs. Brown had experienced many complications after the birth, culminating in the need for emergency measures, including a blood transfusion. She doesn't remember signing any papers. The worse news was yet to come.

Mrs. Brown also learned that, even after filling out an affidavit that the state charges $19 to process, the error won't be corrected for up to six months.

Also, the word "female" won't actually be changed. Instead, an amendment attached to the original document corrects the error.

Or, as Steven and many 17-year-old boys might view it, makes it look as if Steven had a sex change.

By state code, birth, death and marriage records can be only amended, not changed, explained Patricia Andrews, a vital records manager. There are some exceptions, but correcting one's gender isn't one of them. Looks like it should be. None of these explanations is acceptable to Steven or his mother.

What the whole mess shows is that the new tyranny in America isn't kings, corruption or conspiracy. Rather it's large bureaucracies so muscle-bound by rules and regulations, they're unable to intelligently remedy tiny problems landing outside the system's neat little boxes. Imagine taking an obviously amended birth certificate in to enlist in the military, to apply at a police academy or file for elected office. "I guess he'll never be president," Mrs. Brown said.

(All you Fashion Mavens take note !!!)

Something for all you shoe lovers

When I was very little
All the Grandmas that I knew
Were wearing the same kind
Of ugly grandma shoes..

You know the kind I mean..
Clunky heeled, black, lace-up kind,
They just looked so very awful
That it weighed upon my mind,

For I knew, when I grew old .
I'd have to wear those shoes,
I'd think of that, from time to time
It seemed like such bad news.

I never was a rebel,
I wore saddle shoes to school,
And next came ballerinas
Then the sandals, pretty cool.

And then came spikes with pointed toes
Then platforms, very tall,
As each new fashion came along
I wore them, one and all.

But always, in the distance,
Looming in my future, there,
Was that awful pair of ugly shoes,
The kind that Grandmas wear,

I eventually got married
And then I became a Mom
Our kids grew up and left,
And when their children came along,

I knew I was a Grandma
And the time was drawing near
When those clunky, black, old lace up shoes
Was what I'd have to wear.

How would I do my gardening
Or take my morning hike?
I couldn't even think about
How I would ride my bike!
But fashions kept evolving
And one day I realized
That the shape of things to come
Was changing, right before my eyes.

And now, when I go shopping
What I see, fills me with glee
For, in my jeans and Reeboks
I'm as comfy as can be.

And I look at all these little girls
And there, upon their feet
Are clunky, black, old Grandma shoes,
And I really think that's neat.

(Author Unknown)

(*I believe HAL was male - Cyndi*)

QUIZ: Computers, are they male or female!

A language instructor was explaining to her class that French nouns, unlike their English counterparts, are grammatically designated as masculine or feminine. Things like 'chalk' or 'pencil,' she described, would have a gender association, although in English these words were neutral.

Puzzled, one student raised his hand and asked, "What gender is a computer?"

The teacher wasn't certain which it was, so she divided the class into two groups and asked them to decide if a computer should be masculine or feminine. One group was comprised of the women in the class, and the other, of men. Both groups were asked to give four reason for their recommendation.

The group of women concluded that computers should be referred to in the
masculine gender because:

1. In order to get their attention, you have to turn them on.

2. They have a lot of data but are still clueless.

3. They are supposed to help you solve your problems, but half the time they ARE the problem.

4. As soon as you commit to one, you realize that, if you had waited a little longer, you could have had a better model.

The men, on the other hand, decided that computers should definitely be referred to in the feminine gender because:

1. No one but their creator understands their internal logic.

2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else.

3. Even your smallest mistakes are stored in long-term memory for later retrieval.

4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories for it.

Californian Dreamin' 2000
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VANIQUA

Continued from **Page 2**

Vaniqua appears to work in men as well - but the makers are trying to prove themselves with women first.

Facial hair in women has several causes, including an excess of male hormones. Genetics can also play a role. For instance, women of Mediterranean or Hispanic descent tend to have more facial hair.

The condition, known medically as hirsutism, can damage a woman's self-esteem.

"It's very destructive, psychologically," said Dr. Richard Azziz, professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

Azziz said current treatments are only moderately successful, and Vaniqua may be preferable because creams cause fewer side effects.

No one has to convince Ingrid Reyes, 29, chemist from New York City. Reyes said she has had sideburns and dark hair above her lip since she was a teenager. "I've been on a date and suddenly he notices it and says, 'You have a lot of hair.' He doesn't mean any harm, but it makes you feel uncomfortable," she said.

Reyes tried waxing to remove the hair. But that dried out her skin. She tried plucking it. But the hair only grew back thicker.

Lately she has been receiving electrolysis, which gets rid of hair permanently by delivering electric current thorough a needle placed into the hair follicle. But multiple treatments are required and - at $75 each - they are stretching her budget.

Other methods also have shortcomings. Shaving causes stubble and skin may become irritated. Depilatories, or creams that remove hair, can irritate the skin.

Some doctors have prescribed birth control pills, but many women won't want to take them because they can cause weight gain and other side effects.

Doctors recently started using lasers to kill hair follicles, but that is also expensive, and can cause scarring.

"It will be nice to give women something they do not have to take by mouth, and it's certainly less painful than electrolysis," said Dr. Ken Washenick, a dermatologist at New York University who helped study the drug. The only side effect was a rash on some women, he said.

The companies have not set a price for Vaniqua. Like other "lifestyle" drugs such as those that fight baldness, the cream probably won't be covered by insurance.

The following is a listing of products and services available to the Southern California gender community complied from information furnished by the individual advertisers. Powder Puffs is providing this listing as a service and assumes no responsibility for ad content, nor does it endorse any particular business concern or product.

CLOTHING AND FASHION

Jim Bridges Boutique, 12457 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 103, Studio City, CA, 818-761-6650

Shana's: Shirely & Faye's designer clothing and fashion accessories. Discount prices. Call 949-854-4562

Lydia's T.V. Fashions, "Where Your Feminine Experience Begins," 13837 Ventura Blvd. Ste. 2, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423, 818-995-7195, M-W 12-7, Th-Sat 11-8

My Secret Place, "A Specialty Consignment Store for Size 14+ Women Only," 188662 Beach Blvd., #116, Huntington Beach, CA 92646 (between Ellis & Garfield), 714-963-4743.

Albert's Hosiery Stores, Full-fashioned stockings — special occasion hosiery, 6336 Hollywood Blvd. (Hollywood & Vine) Hollywood, CA 90028, 213-465-2834, mail orders accepted.

Second Time Around, "Distinctive Consignment Apparel for the Upscale Shopper," Jonella Tescone 298 E. 17th St., #B, Costa Mesa, CA 92627, 714-642-4700.

De 'An Drew Designs, Stockings & Pantyhose, 8884 Warner Ave., Suite 172, Fountain Valley, CA 92708.

Sizes Unlimited, specializing in sizes 14 and up, 5187 Lakewood Blvd. (next to Chucky Cheese) in Lakewood across from the Lakewood Mall, 310 634-2054. Ask for Rey between 9 to 3.

JEWELRY

Jewels by Parklane, Specializing in the highest quality ladies fashion jewelry — unconditionally guaranteed (ask about our $100 free shopping spree for $10), Jeani Adams, 714-533-4662.
website: www.jewelsbyparklanesocal.com

Cookie Lee, Fine fashion jewelry — home & office shows, Genie Lalama, 818-246-2197 (by appointment).

MEDICAL SERVICES

Shirely Lampert, M.A., MFC. Professor of Human Sexuality, Psychotheraptist, ASSECT AND AMERICAN BOARD OF SEXOLOGY. Certified Sex Therapist. Specializing in working with the TS & TV community. (714) 833-7810, 1151 Dove St., Ste 105, Newport Beach, CA 92660

Brad Taylor, M.A., MFCC, 360 N. Bedford Drive, Suite 215, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, sliding scale. (310) 247-9955

Transgender Counseling & Research Center, 4545 Park Blvd., Ste. 207, San Diego, CA 92116, 619-929-2721, Jan Eder, Psy. D., Educator & Research Director.

Patricia Wojdowski, M.S.W. Licensed Clinical Social Worker, 4926 La Cuenta Drive, Ste. 200, San Diego, CA 92124, 619-292-0492

Dr. Richard F. Docter, Ph.D., 17162 Sunburst St, Northridge CA 91325, 818-349-9709

Regal Opticians, 2402 W. 6th Street, LA , CA 90057, 231-382-7606.

Dr. T. Adam Coteson, M.D., Psychiatrist Providing Therapy, Medications, 116 roberston Blvd., Suite 702, Los Angeles, CA 90048, 310-659-8640, FAX 310-659-8642 (by appointment)

Ms. Lynn Gold, MA CC, Voice Speech Center, 30 Corporate Park, Suite 306, Irvine, CA 92606-5133, 949-222-0303-, FAX 949-222-0478, e-mail: lynngold10@aol.com

ELECTROLYSIS & SKIN CARE

Kathryn Robbins Electrolysis & Skin Care, located in Yorba Linda, 714-692-2747.

Beach Electrolysis by Gwen & Judy, 350 N. Sepulveda, Manhattan Beach, 310-318-9747.

Dana Point Electrology, 34213 Pacific Coast Hwy, Ste. G, Dana Point, CA 92629, 714-240-7709.

Layla's Electrolysis & Artistic Beauty, Westwood CA, 310-236-1010

Electrolysis & Permanent Makeup by Champa, R.N., R.E, Torrance, CA, 310-373-6346 (call after 3:30 pm)

HAIR & COSMETICS

World of Wigs, A Full Service Salon, 2305 E. 17th St, Santa Ana CA, 92701, 714-547-4461

Ricardo M. Hair Salon, 11620 Barrington Court, Brentwood. CA 90049. 310-472-4002

Sylvia's Wigs, 2612 S. Bristol St., Corner of Bristol & Central, Santa Ana, CA 714-545-1307

Jenny's Wigs, 384 S. Tustin Ave, Eldorado Plaza, Orange CA 714-771-3883

Judy's Creative Hair Design, 1815 W. Orangethorpe, Fullerton, CA 92633, 714-773-0200

Fantastic Hair & Nail Design, 11851 Gilbert St., #105, Garden Grove, CA 92641 (corner of Gilbert & Costco St.), 714-539-8020, Nancy Rodriguez is available on Wednesdays & Saturdays only.

Mary Kay, Terri Davis — Independent Professional Beauty Consultant, 4607 Ostrom Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713, 310-420-9933.

SPECIALTY SERVICES & PRODUCTS

Melody Products International, Melody Products International has added a full line of breast form products from a leading US. manufacturer at competitive prices in addition to the flagship Melody Breast Forms. (Master Card/Visa Card accepted) (Check them out along with our other products at Website http//www.melpro.com) PO. Box 2142, Yorba Linda, CA 92885 (Fax) 714-281-0371.

Classic Curves, "Get the Maximum Curvature with a minimum of Effort," foundations by Espy Lopez, 2620 Carson St., Ste 55, 310-549-8787.

Waist and Stays Cosetry, The Goddess Shoppe, "Serving the Needs of the Craft," Erin Rado and Paul Rado — Owners, Phone: (800) 777-1185 Office), (714) 579-7514 (FAX), P.O. Box 6399, Fullerton, CA 92634-6399, http://www.primenet.com/~goddess, e-mail goddess@goddess.com

Victoria's Institute Hair, Skin, Body Non-Surgical Corrective Treatment 7360 Center Ave Huntington Beach, CA 92647 714-379-6156

Nighty's and Naughty's, 16112 Harbor Blvd., Fountain Valley, CA 92708. E-Mail @ Naughty@wdc.net

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