



GIRL TALK

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

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reminder

schedule for OZZ nights:
 saturday, nov. 4th & dec. 2nd
 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm - Happy Hour
 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Dinner
 9:00 pm to 1:00 am - Cabaret Show
 with Rudy
 9:00 pm to 2:00 am - Disco

Good Looks

Unsure where or not that Raven Red lipstick is for you? Wondering whether you need an A-line or pencil skirt? Add a jacket or leave it at home? Well ponder no more. Janine Cresap, image consultant, will be the featured speaker at our next Powder Puffs' meeting at the Artesia Best Western off Pioneer Blvd., Saturday, Nov. 18th at 7:30 PM.

New Group Forming

A new group focusing directly on the needs of the transsexual and transgendered amongst us has formed. The Los Angeles Gender Center is now offering monthly support & informational group meetings for the transsexual (FTM & MTF), transgender community, their partners, families and friends.

The inspiration for starting the meetings came from the international FTM conference held in San Francisco (see story on page 6). After coming away from that meeting, Elsie, Sandy, and Marie, organizers of the group, felt that there was a need for a format in Los Angeles dedicated to the needs of FTM and MTF transsexuals, and transgendered people, their families and friends.

The new group held its first meeting at, appropriately, the lovely Women's Center on October 8th. The day was spent determining the needs of the community expressed by the transsexual and transgender persons themselves.

Future meetings are planned at the Los Angeles Women's Center, 1512 S. Robertson Blvd. on the second Sunday of

every month, 3-5:00 pm; admission is \$5.00. The next meeting will be Sunday, November 12th. Each meeting will feature a program directly addressing some area of need ranging from family issues to legal or medical concerns to personal image questions, etc. Should you feel that this program will be of value to you, you are very welcome to attend. For more information about the group and/or program, please contact The Los Angeles Gender Center at [REDACTED].

A Woman's Place Is On Top

Southern California's own couples group, Ladies Knight Out, has elected what maybe SoCal's first all-GG board to head a transgendered group. Rondi, tearing a page out of President Truman's campaign strategy, ran against "a do-nothing board." When all the hoopla was over and the face powder final settled, Rondi landed on top as president.

Apparently, she must have had long skirt tails as she carried with her several other GGs giving LKO an All-GG board. Assisting Prez Rondi in managing the club will be Besti as their new President in charge of Vice, rather Vice-President; Yvette as Secretary/Treasurer; Kathy severing as Special Events coordinator; and Board Members Joyce and Becky.

Personally, I am very interested in what plans this new board makes for their meetings. Powder Puffs' Prez, DeeGrade, has expressed an interest in getting more spousal & SO interest here at Powder Puffs. Perhaps LKO can help illuminate the path. Best of Luck!

Powder Puffs' Officers

1995-1996 Officers

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Dee G.

Vice-President
Patti B.

Secretary/Treasurer
Joan G.

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Patti B., *Member-at-Large*
Diane D., *Member-at-Large*
Joan G., *Member-at-Large*
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Sue S., *Member-at-Large*

Outreach and Social Director
Diane D.

Newsletter
Cyndi Silk (editor), Diane D.

Librarian
Dee G.

California Dreamin' 96

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Membership rates. \$30/yr, \$12/meeting; \$150 covers dues & meetings for entire year. A Renaissance Education Affiliate.



Regular meeting for the rest of 1995:

Nov 18 — Best Western Motel,
Pioneer Blvd @ 91 Fwy, Artesia, CA
7:30 pm Buffet Dinner
8:15 pm Meeting with guest
speaker Image Consultant
Janine Cresap

Dec 16 — Beverly Garland Hotel,
Vineland Ave. near 101 Fwy & 134
Fwy, Studio City, CA - Hosted by
Alpha Chapter
Time - TBA
Cost - \$28.00 pp. Rooms @ \$79.00

**NO REGULAR MEETING at the
BEST WESTERN on DEC 16th**

California Dreamin' Enters Cyberspace

Well it seems the community is becoming one big, happy America OnLine family. Joan G. has announced that California Dreamin' has an e-mail box specially for the convention, Dreamin96@aol.com.

So, we now have a choice of people at the top to whom we can address ourselves. If you are interested in the transgendered community's "Greatest Show on Earth," and want to speak to the lady at the top, write to: Dreamin96@aol.com. This will connect you to Joan G.

On the other hand, if your concerns are with Powder Puffs itself, write to PPOC@aol.com. This will connect you with Prez DeeGrade.

Change of Address

Good news! Brad Taylor, M.A., MFCC is no longer an intern serving under Dr. Rabow. He has set up his own practice at:

Brad Taylor, M.A., MFCC
462 Linden Drive, Suite 230
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

Nordstrom's Advice

by Linda Love

Reprinted from the Emerald City News,
September, 1995

Hi! Here's a quick insider look at Nordstrom's attitude toward the T-community.

A friend in the business sells higher end apparel to Nordie's Savvy departments. While discussing a fall line (and white leather clothing in particular), Nordstrom's buyers and sales staff commented on "transsexuals" trying on clothing in the stores.

The consensus was that T's were welcome, BUT many of them "wear too much foundation (or makeup in general)," and "they should learn to try on good clothes carefully, as real women (sic) do, leaving no makeup stains."

Our friend was amazed to run into a reference to the T-community, and the Nordstrom folks didn't know that her friend is a TS.

So girls, lighten up on the makeup! And help us further our good reputation by being careful with their clothes! Trying on clothes is good sport for many women, and we can be a welcome part of that with some awareness.

(Editor's note: I have not confirmed this with anyone at Emerald City or Nordstrom's. I pass it on for your own information. Should you decide to try your luck at Nordstrom's, you do so at your own risk.)

Verbatim

Taken from the Press-Enterprise,
October 9, 1995

Retired Seattle Seahawks linebacker Brian Bosworth: "Before, I couldn't let my feminine side out. I'm much more feminine than I ever have been. I'm much in tune with that."

It seems that the former Oklahoma Sooner great has been playing around with little purple footballs lately.

President's Message

by Dee Grady

I first met her when she was known as "Barbi". It was, oh, four years ago (?) at one of those old PPOC meetings. We were both chosen, by Jeani Adams of Parklane Jewelry, to be models. We were sitting next to each other wearing all kinds of jewelry and having a good time. I can still remember she was teasing me with the mirror Jeani used in her demonstration. I thought she had a great smile. Yes, four years ago and I still remember that evening.

Since then, we have both progressed and grown in with the Community. She, as a transsexual; myself, as a crossdresser. We have both found out who we both really are. She wanted so much to be involved with the "old" PPOC, but had a difficult time breaking into the old click. I can remember, too, one of the first things we both were involved with was back in late 1992 or early 1993, the group formed a committee to help bring guest speakers to our meetings. But, by then, she changed her name to Gina Ann. Yes, I still remember that evening.

After the 1993 California Dreamin' Convention, she and a group of concerned people from the Riverside area decided to try and start new group. And start a group they did. In October 1993, Born Free held its first meeting at what was then a Days Inn. Attendance was better than expected, although I don't remember exactly how many attended. They served a nice "sit down" dinner. Kathryn Robbins was their first guest speaker. Gina came up to me at the end of the meeting and asked me what I thought of the evening. I gave her one "thumbs up". Again, she smiled. Yes, I still remember.

At the 1994 California Dreamin' Convention, Born Free won the Alicia Lechy Spirit of California Award for Support Group of the Year. It was the same time I won the same award for Person of the Year. After the award presentation and banquet, we had our picture taken together. I had taken my award up to my room and someone had wanted to take my picture with it. Gina took her group's award, shoved it into my hands and said "Use this one, no one will know the difference". Later that evening when we left the Crystal Room at the Burbank Holiday Inn, Gina asked me what I was going to do with my award. I told her, I was just going to put it on my bookcase at let it collect dust. She laughed, then smiled. Yes, I still remember that evening.

Since the 1994 convention, Born Free has gone on to have one of the best Speaker's Bureau. They speak every semester at colleges from Riverside to South Orange County. Born Free has made inroads with the Inland Empire Gay And Lesbian Community. The groups marches with their friends from Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Two gentleman from the Inland Empire AIDS Project came to speak at one of

the Born Free meetings and end up joining the group. Born Free members have gone on to join in with the local Gay & Lesbian square dance group in the Riverside area. Born Free has also started a new TG support and rap group call Mariposa, in the Palm Springs area. All this, after they won the award.

Last month, Born Free got a shock when Gina announced she had decided not to run for a second term as President. She went through the entire meeting with her usual smile and grace, knowing this was her last meeting as President. She hadn't said anything about not running until it came time to commence with the elections of the new officers and board members. Just before the election, she started thanking everyone associated with Born Free for their help. As she was speaking, I could sense there was something in this speech that made it sound like it was the last time we were going to see her. Then, she said the words she was not going to run, and Arlene R. would make a good President. A lot of us were very shocked.

Later that evening, I was talking with Cyndi. She told me the November newsletter was almost ready, except for Joan's Queenspeak column and mine. I hadn't really picked a topic for me to write about until then. I told her, my next column was going to be a tribute to Gina. Cyndi agreed it would be a good idea. I took me over a week to finally get my thoughts together to write this month's column. It has been the hardest one for me to do. So late on Sunday evening I finally started writing. The words just began to flow.

Writing about Gina and the accomplishments of Born Free under her presidency was the was easy part. Remembering the things which took place between Gina and myself was easy, too. Watching her step down as President wasn't so easy. Many people in the community believe Gina was (or should I say is?), the heart and sole of Born Free. Yes, Born Free will have still have excellent leadership with Arlene. Born Free meetings will still be fun to attend. Gina will still be there. But, when she can't be a the meetings anymore, she will be missed.

There comes a time when people have to move on. Gina has chosen this time in her life to do the same. She has a new love in her life, Linda. (Oh, by the way, Gina, she is adorable). Time is getting closer for Gina to have her surgery to become the person she really is.

Somewhere in the Bible it says, God has a job which each one of us has to do in this life. Has Gina fulfilled her "job"? Maybe. Maybe not. Only time and God will tell. If this was to be her's, then she did it and did it well. She can leave Born Free knowing she did as well as anyone could. Gina can be very proud of Born Free.

Gina has been one of my biggest supporters as I take on the job of President of Powder Puffs. I thank her for her support and encouragement. Years from now, I will still remember Gina. Our long talks. Our email. Her smile. Her support. Her friendship. Her hugs. Her love. Yes, I will still remember.

Hugs to all of you in the Community, *Dee*

QUEENSPEAK

by Joan Goodnight

Yorba Linda, CA - IFGE Chair Alison Laing told yours truly in a telephone conversation that she plans on visiting the Southland this coming January to help check out some potential hotel sites for the combined IFGE/California Unity Convention scheduled for Spring 1997. It was delightful conversing with Alison and exchanging ideas on the upcoming event. It made me almost forget that we still have to get through the 1996 California Dreamin show first. As anyone knows that's connected with planning an event of this magnitude, it does take an awful lot of time and energy.

I also invited IFGE to bring their bookstore to San Francisco and set up in the vendor area. IFGE has a wealth of publications and other communications that deal with the gender world and it would be a service to our west coast community to have them on site in '96.

Speaking of Dreamin '96 - you'll soon be bombarded with information/registration brochures. If you lose your form don't despair, I'll be most happy to send you another one.

Schenectady, New York - The nominees for the annual IFGE Virginia Prince Lifetime Achievement Award and the IFGE Trinity Awards were announced via reception of the official ballot. On the ballot for the Virginia Prince Award are:

Eve Burchert, IFGE Board Member
 Jose Sarria (The Absolute Empress Jose I of San Francisco)
 Peggy Rudd, Tri-Ess Board Member and Director of SPICE
 Phyllis Randolph Frye, J.D.
 Sheila Kirk, M.D., IFGE Board Member

On the Ballot for Trinity Awards are:

Anne Bolin
 Carl W. Bushong
 Cindy Martin
 Francis Vavra
 Jane Fee
 Janice Rupard & Mary Frances (Muffy Williams)
 Jayne Thomas
 Joan Sheldon
 Judy Osborne
 Kate Bornstein
 Riki Anne Wilchins
 Sandra Cole, Ph.D
 Kathy Helms - Tri-Ess Board and Alpha Chapter President

Don't recognize some of the names? You're not alone, however, did you happen to notice that a couple of well-known southland names are on the ballot - Alpha Chapters Kathy Helms and Dr. Jayne Thomas.

In the letter of instructions to the selections academy one of the things that puzzled me was that several candidates for the Virginia Prince award were not specifically nominated this year but were put on the ballot because they were "runners up" last year. I just report, I don't explain.

Joan

Born Free: New Officers Plan Thanksgiving Feast

In an exciting bit of last-minute electioneering, Born Free has elected a new president to guide the club into 1996. Ms Gina Ann Glass, Born Free's co-founder and resident Guru, pre-empted the Republican-controlled Congress and term limited herself out of office. Following in the footsteps of George Washington (but in the shoes of Martha), Gina felt two years at the helm was enough (see Prez DeeGrade's message, page 3). My personal "Thank-you" to Gina for giving the wonderful gift of Born Free to our community.

Born Free's new Prez, Arlene R., ran on a slate of, "elect one and get two" as SO Besti has worked tirelessly for the club and will continue to do so. Officially, the list of usual suspects are V.P. Denise, Secretary/Treasurer, Patti P., and Board Members Becky, Cherry, Olga, and Veronica. Good luck to all!

Along with the new officers comes NEW ADDRESSES and PHONE NUMBERS for Born Free. For general club info call [REDACTED] (Arlene & Betsi). For membership, subscriptions and renewals call [REDACTED] (Patti). Mail should be addressed to Born Free, PO Box 3822, Riverside, CA 92519-3822.

To kick-off the new administration, the new Prez has announced a Thanksgiving Feast for the November meeting at the Hampton Inn in Riverside, Saturday November 11th. The word is, "Girl, leave the girdle at home," as the food fare will feature turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberry sauce, etc. Meeting fee is \$10.00 members, \$12.00 non-members. The feast is \$8.00 extra (and well worth it). Time is 7:30 pm.

Transgender Panel to Meet at Cal State Fullerton

University of California Los Angeles Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Faculty/Staff Network and Androgyny Present Transgender Issues Panel
 November 14, 1995
 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m
 California State University Fullerton
 University Center - Legislative Chambers (upper Level)

Shirley Bushnell

Shirley is a Chef at Dykstra Hall, UCLA. She is actively (See TG Panel, Page 8)



I Love LA

The purpose of this column is to inform the reader of the many places of interest in the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area for the transgendered person. Please note, this is NOT a Powder Puffs function. Any risk is all yours.

OK, so San Diego is not Los Angeles or even the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area. It still is only a short drive down the freeway and many Powder Puffs members attend the Neutral Corner meetings. So if you're down San Diego way, here something to see and do.

Dames Revue Continues High-Energy Performance By Melanie Yarborough

Although experiencing several cast changes and relocation to a slightly smaller stage area, the Dames Revue continues to thrill audiences every Friday Night with vibrant entertainment. The show is a definite must-see if you're spending a week-end in San Diego.

Cast members include Tootie, known for her dead-on performance as Cher and her sincere homage to Lena Horne, as well as her own wisecracking Queen humor. The resident Glamourpuss, Ladonna, showcases a spellbinding Annie Lennox, a seductive Gloria Estefan, and an amply endowed Dolly Parton. The troupe's newest member Dylan comes via Texas and Las Vegas, and wows audiences with such diverse acts as Ann Margaret, Reba McEntire, and Julie Andrews from Victor/Victoria. And *The Dames* male dancer, Rob, provides a refreshing diversion as a raucous David Lee Roth, and a shaggy-haired Debarge, among others.

The Dames Revue shows every Friday night at 9:30 and 11:30 at The Flame, a lesbian bar at 3780 Park Blvd. This is across the street from Crowning Glory Wigs. Admission is \$5, and we recommend calling ahead for a table reservation at [REDACTED].

Have your ID ready at the door. Don't worry, a femme appearance with your male ID won't raise any eyebrows — the staff is used to us by now! To get to the show area, make a hard left past the pool tables until you come to the wall. Follow the wall (right) toward's the ladies room. Entrance is at the end of the wall.

The ladies room is a women's-only space and the management asks that we respect that. The mens room is located around the corner to the right, just before the dance floor.

Be warned — the show area is compact, almost cramped. If you want to "tip" the girls, try to sit near the front or on the aisle. Bring lots of \$1s! And remember: for quality entertainment at a gender-friendly place, catch *The Dames Revue* at The Flame.

If you go

What: The Dames Revue

Location: The Flame
3780 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA

Time: Every Friday at 9:30 pm and 11:30 pm.

Call: Reservations recommended, [REDACTED]

The Black & White World of Crossdressing

By Melanie Yarborough

One thing I've noticed in the gender community is the ubiquitousness of black clothing. Frankly, some of our support groups meetings look like an undertakers' convention. but the reason for the popularity of black tells a lot about how we are socialized as males, and the things we need to learn if we want to appear female.

As men, most of us shun bright colors and prints as too "effeminate". We wear blue, brown or gray suits to work. Usually, we wear solid-color shirts or slacks. Our necktie is the only splash of brightness we're allowed to have, and even that has its own limits.

When crossdressers start to go out in public *en femme*, they are confronted by a bewildering variety of colors and patterns. Add to that the pressure of having to coordinate shoes, hose, jewelry, purses, makeup and outfits! Genetic women learned this gradually through their teen years, and were allowed to make mistakes. Crossdressers have to learn this all at once as adults and face less tolerance for error. It's no wonder many retreat into the "safety" of black; it goes with everything, so you don't have to make as many choices. Moreover, it's said to be slimming. So many of us are conscious of paunches and broad shoulders.

Yet, if we want to be in public as women, we have to recognize that women aren't afraid to mix and match patterns and use bright colors. A genetic female wardrobe consultant is a must. Color analysis is also, an investment well-worth it. Also, one needs to spend a lot of time observing how the women around us coordinate colors and prints.

Black may be beautiful, but there's a world of colors out there equally as beautiful.

SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE: HISTORIC FIRST FOR TRANSGENDER MOVEMENT

By Kaz Suzat

Via Workers World News Service Reprinted from the Sept. 28, 1995 issue of Workers World newspaper

The first international female-to-male transgender conference took place in San Francisco Aug. 18-20. It was a big step forward for the gender movement. Nearly 400 female-to-male transsexuals and partners and supporters came from all across the United States and from Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

Females to males (ftm) are people who are genetically female but who identify wholly or in part as men. They represent half the transgendered population, yet are among the most invisible and unrecognized elements of the gender community. This conference was the first gathering to specifically look at the issues and concerns of ftm's.

The conference was titled "A Vision of Community," and Jamison Green detailed that theme in his keynote address. Green is the editor of the FTM Newsletter, the only publication specifically for the ftm community, and a nationally known activist in the transgender movement.

Green issued a call to activism, calling on ftm's to organize, come forward and demand to be seen.

A message of solidarity from the National Lesbian and Gay Rights Task Force was delivered and a proclamation of support from the San Francisco mayor's office was read.

Cultural presentations and a self-defense demonstration followed.

Leslie Feinberg, author of "Stone Butch Blues" and Workers World contributing editor, closed the opening session with a call to recognize diversity within the ftm community.

The second day of the conference was dedicated to workshops. One on political organizing addressed the struggle to outlaw discrimination in San Francisco and how to carry that recent victory to other cities.

Gay and bisexual ftm's along with supporters and partners met in a workshop discussion of the diversity of sexuality in the

ftm community. A recent survey showed that 40 percent of ftm's identify as gay or bisexual men. A workshop for bi-gendered, androgenous, butch lesbian and otherwise non-transsexual ftm's discussed these identifications and their position in the gender community.

A workshop on fighting racism took up the issues faced by ftm's of color. The experience of an African American woman transitioning to a man was contrasted with that of white ftm's. Attendees discussed violence baiting and police harassment.

Asian and Pacific Islander ftm's discussed the importance of community and family in their cultures, and the difficulty in finding therapists and other providers sensitive to that need. An Arab-American ftm talked about the racist stereotype of Arab men and a Latino ftm raised the racist stereotype of "macho" Latino men.

On the third day, the conference took up medical and surgical issues. Health-care providers discussed current medical options and answered questions.

Dr. Donald Laub reported that China is making the most progress in the area of sex changes. Chinese surgeons pair female-to-male with male-to-female transsexuals and transplant the hormone-producing glands. This approach greatly reduces medical risks and costs.

The closing session included a talk about Brandon Teena, an ftm who was murdered by bigots in rural Nebraska in 1994. Speakers recognized and condemned the complicity and role of the police in his murder.

As Jamison Green delivered the final closing remarks, he paused and then said that he was going to cry. A thunderous ovation greeted this comment--interrupted only by the participants' need to wipe their own eyes.

Everyone realized the historic significance of this first-ever ftm conference.

The coming forward of the ftm population represents a very significant deepening and strengthening of the transgender movement, just as the coming forward of lesbians into the women's and gay movements greatly propelled the fight against sexual oppression. Ftm's add new and essential perspectives and strength to the struggle for gender freedom for everyone.

Calvin and Hobbes

I HAVE A HAMMER!



I CAN PUT THINGS TOGETHER!
I CAN KNOCK THINGS APART!
I CAN ALTER MY ENVIRONMENT
AT WILL AND MAKE AN INCREDIBLE
DIN ALL THE WHILE!



AH, IT'S GREAT
TO BE MALE!



By Bill Watterson

First Annual Transgender Lobby Days A Huge Success!

Over 100 TG People Represented 35 States

by JoAnn Roberts

The Transgender Community made history this month. On Sunday October 1, 1995, over 100 transgendered people gathered in suburban Maryland to plan their activities for the First Annual Transgender Lobby Days. Then, on Monday and Tuesday, October 2 and 3, they walked the halls of Capitol Hill visiting members of Congress and Senators, educating them about transgender issues.

The event, conceived by Riki Wilchins (Transsexual Menace, NY), and organized by Wilchins with assistance from Phyllis Frye (TRANSGEN Law Conference, TX) and with the help of Sarah DePalma, Karen Kerrin, Jane Fee, and Jessica Xavier of It's Time America!, was the first time the grassroots transgender community worked together toward a common goal. Overall, about 35 states were represented and almost all the members of House and Senators were visited during the two days of lobbying.

An organizing meeting, held Sunday evening, helped the budding lobbyists with advice on how to conduct their visits. The group was addressed by Wilchins, Frye, DePalma and Dawn Wilson (TN), representatives of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), and a representative of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF).

Ironically, it was the HRCF that sparked the idea for the lobbying effort. The HRCF worked to introduce a bill into Congress to prohibit employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. That bill, The Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) did not include coverage for transgendered people. Further, HRCF seemed unwilling to work with the transgender community to amend the bill to be transgender inclusive.

Reacting to the rebuff by HRCF, transgender activists, many led by Wilchins and "Menace" members, began a series of demonstrations at local HRCF fund raising functions and started planning to lobby Congress on behalf of the transgender community. The local actions were so effective in raising the consciousness of gays and lesbians and the HRCF itself, that by the time the Lobby Days arrived, HRCF was providing proactive advice.

Did it make a difference? Most certainly, according to many of the people present. Several reports were extremely heartening. Gloria Fredericks of Iowa was able to have a face to face discussion with one of her state's Senators, who reacted favorably to the discussion. In fact, he kept a Russian delegation waiting for about 10 minutes, while he spoke with Fredericks. Colleen Harper (MD) reported a very favorable discussion with the staff of a North Carolina congressman. Linda Watson (UT) accompanied by JoAnn Roberts (PA), Frye (TX), Sharon Stuart (NY) and Alison Laing (PA) were fortunate to speak with the

Chief Counsel for Utah Senator Orrin Hatch, Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Not all the meetings were productive or cordial. Bobbie Lennox (MD) visited Senator Jesse Helms' office and was told no one was available to speak with her. In the office of an Oklahoma congressman, staffers laughed at the delegates and stated there are no transgendered people in Oklahoma. Fortunately, not all Oklahomans feel that way attested to a report from Stuart who was well-received in the office of another Oklahoma congressman.

Thanks to Frye's administrative capabilities, the transgender delegates were well-prepared for their visits. Each person was provided with a data sheet indicating the name of member of Congress, their phone number, office building and room number and the committees on which they serve. The data sheets included a questionnaire which the delegates completed after each interview and returned to the event organizers. These data sheets provide a database for future lobbying efforts and indicate who is sympathetic, who is a "swing vote" and who is opposed to transgender inclusiveness.

Information packets were left with each office visited. These packets contained basic information about transgender concerns including ENDA, Hate Crimes Reporting Statistics, Health Care issues, Military Service issues, Imprisonment issues, and the International Bill of Gender Rights. Also enclosed was a copy of the brochure developed for the National Association of Social Workers conference providing resource information about AEGIS, ICTLEP, IFGE, Outreach Institute, Renaissance & Tri-Ess.

Although only 35 states were represented, organizers were extremely pleased at the turn-out. Everyone conducted themselves like ladies and gentleman (yes, the FtMs were well-represented). Some of the better-known members of the transgender community were conspicuous by their absence. But one delegate was heard to opine, "Cut them some slack. Everybody has an excuse why they're not here. But that only works this time. Next year, no one has an excuse not to participate."

Some Personal Comments: It is clear this was a major milestone for community cooperation. Riki is to be commended for her skill as an "evangelist." There is no doubt that her personal visits to tg events all over the country were a major factor in the turn-out. Riki also helped raise \$10,000 in GenderPAC money, just since June. No one else in this community has enjoyed such wide-spread support.

Phyllis' contributions were invaluable. Without her organizing skills, we would have been simply a mob roaming the Capitol grounds. She gave us purpose, information, tools, and moral support.

This community owes a huge debt of gratitude to both Riki Anne Wilchins and Phyllis Randolph Frye for pulling us together under a common cause. I look forward to working with both of them.

TG News: "From Around the Corner to Around the Globe"



Loves the Sport, Hates the Skirt

Taken from the Press-Enterprise, October 25, 1995

The Philadelphia Central High School girl's field hockey team trots onto the turf, feet jogging, ponytails swinging. Hockey sticks are clicking against the ball when, suddenly, shuts erupt from a small gauntlet of teenage boys hanging on the fringes of the field behind Roxborough High.

"Duuu-uuude in a skirt!"

"I'm gonna beat that boy up!"

The object of their derision, 17-year-old George Zameska, hoists his shoulders in a determined shrug of indifference. He is the first and only male to play on a girls' field hockey team in the School District of Philadelphia.

"I just put it on and take it off," Zameska says resignedly of the skirt, a maroon, kilt-like affair with a slit in the front. "This is the toughest part of the whole thing."

The international rules for field hockey say: You play the game, you wear the uniform. Zameska wears the uniform with his white polo shirt pulled as long as it will go over the pleats. Sometimes he has waited until the last minute, after the starting whistle has blown, to suit up.

Of the abuse he must endure, Zameska is nothing if not understanding. "I'd be the first one out there doing the same thing," he says.

A long-time hockey player, Zameska joined the team last year as a junior, after he did not make the football team.

However, the winner of the, "I'll say/do anything to wear women's clothing in public", goes to Moshen . . .

Man Posing as Woman Loses Bet, Gets 20 Lashes

Associated Press

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TEHRAN, Iran

A man who bet he could get away with dressing as a woman and riding in the female section of a public bus not only lost the wager but was sentenced to 20 lashes, a newspaper reported Sunday.

The Farsi-language Salam newspaper said the 31-year-old man, identified only as Moshen, told an Islamic court in Tehran that women sitting in the segregated section were infuriated when they recognized him as a man, and some hit him.

Under Iran's Islamic laws, men and women sit in different sections of state-owned buses. Women must be covered head to ankle in public.

Salam quoted the man as saying he had tried the prank to win a 100,000-rial (\$33) wager with his father.

He said he was recognized because he wore his own shoes under his robe.

The court sentenced him to 20 lashes, saying the prank was "obscene and against social norms," the newspaper reported.

Right, dressed in women's clothing because of a bet. I bet he told his wife the same thing. Well, if anyone's believe's that, I've got a bridge in Baghdad I can sell you, real cheap. I guess it just illustrates that even when covered head to ankle, some men just can't pass! Give it up, Moshen. But then again, here we have another great example of the difficulty of finding larger size women's shoes. My advice to Moshen, don't try to sneak into the Michigan Womyn's Festival. If caught, you probably won't get 20 lashes; but the rumor is Lorena Bobbit will serve as Sergeant-of-Arms (just kidding).

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involved in raising awareness of Transgender issues at UCLA. She is the director of Androgyny a gender support Group in Los Angeles

Lynn Edward Harris

Winner of the 1968 Costa Mesa Junior Miss Pageant, and now legally a male addresses biological and cultural issues surrounding indeterminate gender "from the point of view of an unaltered, unoperated hermaphrodite". Lynn will examine the effects of genetic programming on lifestyle and on sexual orientation, as well as the cultural significance of changing gender social roles.

Talia Bettcher

Talia is a fifth year Ph.D. student in the Department of Philosophy at UCLA. She is currently working on philosophical issues concerning the Self. This will be her first year studying and teaching as a woman.

Jeff Shevlowitz

Post-Op Female to Male whose first surgery was in 1984 and his last surgery was 1992. He has lived full time since 1983 and identifies as a Bisexual male that is single and looking.

Michelle Stanton

Dr. Michelle Stanton is an Associate Professor in the Radio-Television-Film Department at Cal State Northridge. Dr. Stanton's professional focus is in the area of media management including electronic media law, marketing and audience analysis. Michelle is a post-operative transsexual who lives in Playa Del Rey.

~ Shirley Bushnell