

South Eastern Regional Conference, Inc. presents
the Seventh Annual



Southern Comfort Conference

Wednesday, October 1 -
Sunday, October 5
1997

Holiday Inn
Atlanta Central

418 Armour Drive, Atlanta, Georgia 30324

Join your transgender family in
the cosmopolitan capital of the
South for four days of
exploration, celebration
and discovery.

To contact Southern Comfort Conference:

Write: P.O. Box 77591, Atlanta, GA 30357-1591

Call: **(404) 633-6470**

E-mail: sccAtl@aol.com

Or visit our web site:

<http://members.aol.com/sccatl>

**For hotel reservations,
call before Sept. 1:**

On-site reservations (regular business hours) at **(404) 873-4661**
Holiday Inn's nationwide 24-hr. toll-free reservations service
at **1-800-282-8222**.

Be sure to use Group Reservation Code "SOU"
to get the special conference rate.

You're Invited!

Southern Comfort Conference cherishes its reputation for being a well-organized, inclusive and economical conference serving the transgender community. Please join us for our Seventh Annual weekend of seminars and activities. Most of our programs apply to everyone in our community, though we don't neglect to address the specific needs of identifiable groups. We work hard to offer a valuable experience for everyone who attends—whether married or single; younger or older; FtM or MtF. It doesn't matter who you are—transsexual, transgenderist, crossdresser, spouse, straight, bi, gay, post-op, pre-op or non-op—if transgender is an issue in your life, or the life of a loved one, you are welcome at Southern Comfort Conference.

Transgender Town Hall Meeting

This year, Southern Comfort Conference again pushes the boundaries, presenting a Transgender Town Hall meeting, which we feel certain will be provocative, exciting and enlightening for all conference attendees. This moderated event will be held Saturday afternoon in the Grand Ballroom, and no other seminars or activities will be scheduled at that time in order to encourage everyone to attend and participate.

The theme of this gathering will be: "Transgender Mystery: Who Are We? Where Are We Going? How Do We Get There? And Who Can We Expect Will Help Us Along The Way?" A diverse panel of experts will share their respective views on these broad questions and then entertain questions and comments from the audience.

Issues to be addressed include: Who exactly do we mean when we say "transgendered," and how much do we all have in common? How do we best work toward preventing discrimination in employment, housing, parental custody, and access to medical care? Who are our allies in this effort, and how to we best work with them? How closely do we identify with the gay, lesbian and bisexual community and how does the leadership of that established civil rights movement respond to us? Who are the intersexed and how do they fit in this picture?

The discussion will be kept on this agenda by a moderator who will recognize audience participants and probe the panel for multiple perspectives. We anticipate a lively and informative discussion that will help everyone concerned with these issues to better understand all responsible points of view on these provocative questions.

Preliminary Schedule

WEDNESDAY

Noon On-site Registration Opens
Afternoon Informal socializing. No seminars or outings.
Evening *Optional* Dinner Theater with Sabrina Marcus.
Advance purchase required; see registration form.

THURSDAY

8 a.m.- 4 p.m. Registration open
Morning Seminar sessions
Optional Sightseeing tour
Lunch Speaker: New faces in the community
Afternoon Seminar sessions
Optional Shopping trip
Evening *Optional* Dinner at Hard Rock Cafe
Later SCC Nightclubbing (transp. & free adm.)

FRIDAY

8 a.m.- 4 p.m. Registration open
Morning Seminar sessions
Optional Sightseeing tour
Lunch Speaker: To Be Announced
Afternoon Seminar sessions
Optional Shopping trip
Evening Banquet and Southern Comfort Talent Show
Later SCC Nightclubbing (transp. & free adm.)

SATURDAY

8 a.m.- noon Registration open
Morning Seminar sessions
Optional Sightseeing tour
Lunch Speaker: TBA
Afternoon Transgender Town Hall Meeting
Evening Gala banquet, followed by entertainment program featuring the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus
Later SCC Nightclubbing (transp. & free adm.)

Partial List of Seminar Presenters *(subject to change)*

Richard Adler, Ph.D.
Maxwell Anderson
Max Beck
Anne Bolin, Ph.D.
Holly Boswell
Jim Bridges
Linda Buten
Sandra Cole, Ph.D.

Brianne Corbett
Jason Cromwell, Ph.D.
Dallas Denny, M.A.
William Drago, Ph.D.
Virginia Erhardt, Ph.D.
Daniel Greenwald, M.D.
Jan Heckler, M.A.
Daniel Helminiak, Ph.D.

Sheila Kirk, M.D.
Maryann Kirkland
Alison Laing
Delia Van Maris, M.D.
Jessie McGowen
Neila Miller, M.S.W.
Terry Murphy
Douglas Ousterhout, M.D.

Zantui Rose
Eugene Schrang, M.D.
Mirha-Soleil Ross
Martine Rothblatt
Marilyn Volker, Ph.D.
Riki Anne Wilchins
Vikki Wilcox
Callan Williams

What Does It Cost? *(For full details, see the registration form on the opposite page)*

The full-day conference fee for one attendee includes a lot: five meals (three luncheons and two banquets), three days of educational seminars, free admission and free transportation to nightclub events, access to the Vendors Marketplace and all open areas of the Conference Center, as well as invitations to all special receptions.

The cost is \$205 and various discounts are available. Individuals who pre-register by Sept. 1 qualify for a \$10 discount. Couples who pre-register by that date receive a \$30 discount (\$15 each). (Mailed registrations must be postmarked by 9/1, e-mail forms must be received by 11:59 p.m. 9/1.)

Costs for two-day and one-day registration are priced accordingly.

For those on a strict budget, a special low seminar-only registration fee (which does not include meals) is available.

Scholarships: Recognizing that transgressing gender can lead to financial distress for some, the organizers of Southern Comfort have always maintained a policy of never turning away any person in need of information and support. Anyone facing such issues is encouraged to contact SCC to make suitable arrangements. We regret that we cannot provide assistance with transportation, housing or meals.



Seminars and Activities

For 1997, the organizers have put together a seminar schedule that includes many topics of interest to everyone. Also, we offer programs of particular concern to those who identify as crossdressers, transgenderists or transsexuals and their significant others—whether MtF or FtM.

From basic presentations for newly out crossdressers concerned with beauty and appearance, to nitty gritty legal, medical and political issues, to informative seminars on family relationships, sexuality and spirituality—our schedule of programs reflects a deep commitment to serve the diverse needs of the transgender community and to probe the cutting edge of thought and action on gender issues.

Every attendee at Southern Comfort is welcome and encouraged to attend any and all programs they may find of interest.

A detailed schedule of seminars and activities will be available by Aug. 1. Those who are particularly interested in presentations on hormones and gender reassignment surgery (both MtF and FtM) should plan to be in attendance Saturday morning. Dr. Eugene Schrang will present his MtF surgery technique, and Dr. Daniel Greenwald will address FtM surgery. Sheila Kirk, M.D. will speak about hormone therapies and other issues for men & women.

Activities

There's lots to do outside the seminar room as well. Many attendees spend a lot of time casually visiting with old friends and meeting new acquaintances in the safe confines of the hotel/conference center. There's also plenty of time to shop the large **Vendor's Marketplace** for everything from makeovers, jewelry, clothing and shoes to wig comb-outs, manicures and prosthetics.

Sightseeing/Shopping

SCC organizes daily outings to sightseeing venues and some of our renowned shopping malls. In the past we've taken folks to tour CNN Center, the World of Coca-Cola, the

High Museum of Art and other local attractions. Tickets for these optional activities are priced to cover our expenses and they will be available at the registration desk at the conference..

Optional dinners

Wednesday night we present an old SCC favorite, a night of dinner theater in the company of our own Sabrina Marcus at **Agatha's A Taste of Mystery**. This popular downtown destination presents a campy comic mystery in four acts, along with an all-inclusive five-course dinner (wine and soft drinks included). Tickets (which include transportation) must be ordered in advance (Sept. 1 cut-off) and can be purchased on the attached registration form.

Thursday night, SCC will visit Atlanta's **Hard Rock Cafe** for a group dinner. Your ticket price includes transportation and a three course meal with choice of entree. Last year we took 72 folks to Planet Hollywood on Thursday evening and had a ball. Tickets for this dinner may be ordered in advance on the attached registration form, though a limited number of tickets will be available at the conference.

Friday Night Talent Show

Preserving a favorite entertainment event, SCC will once again present some of the most talented and creative amongst us in an eclectic presentation of song, dance and comedy. Those wishing to participate should sign-up in the registration area as soon as they arrive at the conference and be prepared to meet with the show coordinator in advance of Friday night for planning/auditions.

Late night celebration

After hours, Southern Comfort keeps right on going, moving into Atlanta's vibrant night life with special parties at local nightclubs. You'll enjoy free admission to the clubs and travel there via free, regularly scheduled mini shuttle buses that leave and return to the front door of the hotel approximately every 20 minutes. And they run into the wee hours of the night, so there's no worries about driving.



Accommodations

Attendees are responsible for securing and paying for their hotel rooms. At \$62 (plus tax) per night (single or double occupancy), rooms at Holiday Inn Atlanta Central are the best bargain in Midtown. This will be our third year at this very welcoming hotel, which was completely renovated in 1994. It is comfortably and securely located in a small office/industrial park nestled in its own snug corner of Midtown-Atlanta's most colorful and trans-friendly neighborhood.

Important Hotel Reservation Info & Deadline

Each year we increase the number of rooms set aside at our special rate and each year that "room block" sold out, forcing some to make alternate plans. Don't be left out! Make your room reservation as soon as possible, even if you are not going to register for the convention until you show up.

In any event, make sure you reserve your room before Sept. 1, when SCC's room block reservation expires.

Call the hotel's in-house reservations department at **(404) 873-4661** (during East Coast business hours), or you can call Holiday Inn's nationwide toll-free reservations service at **1-800-282-8222**.

In order to get the special rate of \$62 (plus tax) per night, tell the operator you are attending Southern Comfort Conference and the Group Reservation Code is "SOU."

1997 Southern Comfort Conference Registration Form

Mailing Name _____ Badge Name _____
 Partner' _____
 Mailing Address _____ Badge Name _____
 Telephone # _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ (Optional) _____

Conference fees (Circle one and enter amount)

- Full Conference (3 days seminars/5 meals)
 - Before September 1
 - Single -----\$195
 - Couple -----\$370
 - After September 1
 - Single -----\$205
 - Couple -----\$400
- Friday & Saturday only (2 days/4 meals)
 - Single -----\$170
 - Couple -----\$325
 - Seminars only -----\$75
- Single Day (Friday or Saturday):
 - With meals -----\$85
 - Seminars only (negotiable) -----\$50

Optional Dinners (Circle one, or both, and enter amount.)

- Wednesday: Dinner Theater with Sabrina Marcus** (4 acts w/audience participation, 5courses, soft drinks & wine. Cash bar. Transp. included)-----\$45
 - Thursday: Hard Rock Cafe** (chips&salsa, choice of entree, dessert, coffee, soft drinks. Cash bar. Transp. included.) -----\$29
- Indicate entree preference: (not absolutely final)
 Fish Steak Ribs Veg.

Total Payment Due _____

Please indicate on a separate sheet any special arrangements you may require (such as hearing impaired, wheelchair access, diet restrictions, etc.). We'll do our best to accommodate registered attendees.

Mail completed form and payment to:
 Southern Comfort
 P.O. Box 77591
 Atlanta GA 30357-1591

Register by phone: Call (404) 633-6470 and have your credit card handy.

Register online. Request an e-mail brochure from sccAtl@aol.com or get one right now at our web site—<http://members.aol.com/sccatl>. Also, check there for updated info!

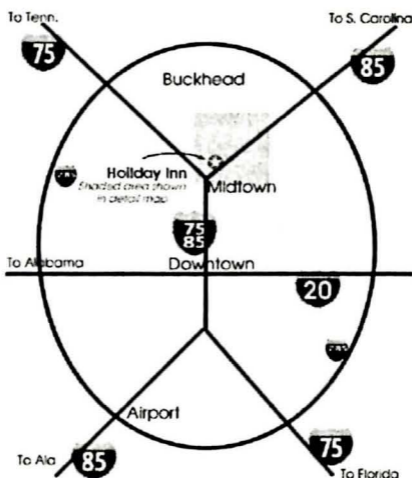
Refund policy: Requests must be received in writing via U.S. mail (no calls or e-mails) and postmarked by dates indicated. Full refunds if postmarked by 9/1; 50 percent if postmarked 9/2-15. No refunds after 9/15. Checks mailed approximately one month after conference ends.

Payment Method (circle one):

- Check Money Order Credit Card
 (Visa, Mastercard only)

Credit Card Number _____
 Expiration Date _____
 Signature: _____

Getting Here



From the south:

Follow I-85 north into the city. Take Exit 28 (Buford Hwy./Ga. Route 13). From Service Road, exit at Monroe Drive/Piedmont Rd. Turn right at the traffic light. At the next light turn to the right. This is Armour Drive. Proceed back under the interstate and through the next traffic light. Hotel entrance is half a block further on the left.



From the north: Follow I-85 South into the city. Take Exit 28 (To Peachtree St./Buford Hwy). From Service Road, exit at Monroe Drive and turn right at the traffic light at the bottom of the exit ramp. The entrance to the hotel is half a block on the left.