
TRANSgenderist

Monthly Magazine of the Transgender Independence Club

October, 1999

Death of A Sister

One of our own TGIC transsexual sisters, Rhiannon, died by committing suicide. She had just moved to the Boston area to find employment. A wake and memorial service were held at Emmanuel Baptist Church, and our own Robin [redacted] sang a duet with Marge. Our sadness and condolences are offered to her wife, father, mother and brother.

Suicide and suicidal ideation can strike anyone in the general population, but it is especially prevalent in the TG community. Please, please, please, if you or a loved one is feeling depressed or suicidal, seek professional help, preferably the providers listed in the TGIC newsletter, therapists well-versed in gender issues. And if you are feeling lonely, please call TGIC or come to a meeting. I speak from the heart on this; my own suicide attempt was only days before I came to TGIC and began therapy with Hawk Stone. Without Hawk and my sisters, I would surely only be a statistic today. --Vix

It sure does suck...doesn't say much about our quality of life, does it? Sad part is that I talked with Rhiannon just a few days ago, and she gave absolutely no indication that anything was wrong, with the exception of telling me that her car had just died... Why is it that we who embrace the feminine still have so much trouble being open and honest about our feelings...aren't women supposedly known for talking through their troubles? Stuff like this makes me mad and upset...why should this "gift" be such a burden to us? This has struck very close to home...I for one am going to do everything in my power to see that society gets an education, and that transpeople in general can become active, accepted members of society. --Julie [redacted]

I know that you all share in grieving with me about our loss of Rhiannon. Rhiannon's wife Aimee asked me to convey her invitation to Rhiannon's TGIC friends to attend the memorial services this weekend. Aimee had looked forward to moving to Boston after Rhiannon found work, and will need the community's support to get thru this painful time. --Arlene Istar [redacted]

It is hard to celebrate when your eyes are full of tears. Yet we go on....

Fifth and Sixth House Party a Success

Karen [redacted]'s house party was well-attended, and as usual different people showed up at it. This time it was Debbie and Bridget, and Vicky played the organ as Melodie and others sang. There was some dancing as well, I understand. Everyone enjoyed Karen's art also.

Evan Lawrence's party had a smaller number of people, but that was to be expected since Evan lives over an hour away from Albany. Even so, all who came enjoyed Evan and his dog, the wonderful Washington County air and bright color in the trees. Evan really enjoyed having people come to visit, as he wrote to me the day afterwards:

"Dear Vicky, I hope everyone had as much fun at the TGIC party last night as I did. It was the biggest group I've hosted in a long time -- I really would like to do it again! [Sounds good.]

"I'm sorry the Cambridge Hotel wasn't open. If the staff was 'redecorating,' I suspect they were setting up for the wedding train party, which apparently took over the hotel later that day. [See the article on our train ride.]

Maybe we can have a TGIC lunch at the hotel some Saturday this Winter. [Sounds good to me, how about the dog days of January? Dates, people?] The prices are reasonable, and the desserts have an excellent reputation. [Yum!]

"I hope everything went well at the Pride events last night. [It did; I played the piano for the Capitol Pride Singers at the rally, and was on channel 10 news that night.] Keep in touch! [That I will do, my friend.]"

[So there are benefits to HAVING a party as well as GOING to a party. Sign up today for the next party available, call the clubhouse.]

Train Ride Sets Record

Four TGIC people rode the Battankill Railroad before Evan [redacted]'s party on October 2nd: Vicky, Melodie, Bobbi-Jo and Stephanie. We had a very unexpected surprise; while we got on in Salem, rode to Cambridge and then returned to Salem, we were passed by the "wedding train" Evan mentioned in his letter. The wedding couple had hired an entire train to take them and the entire wedding party from Cambridge to Salem where they were married, and then back to Cambridge where they had their reception at the Cambridge Hotel.

The first time the wedding train passed our train set a record for that rail line. It was the first time two trains had passed each other on that line since 1934. We got to wave to the couple-to-be and the wedding party on the way out, and on the way back we got to wave to the newly-married couple as well.

In Cambridge we had a snack at Stewarts, then went to the co-op and store in town to find some neat gifts and craft items, all the way from plastic hair ornaments at 25 cents to hand-crafted one of a kind earrings. Everyone agreed it was a memorable outing.

More details on the Halloween Party October 23 from 7-3: the DJ will be John Gish, a JD regular, there will be prizes & snacks, cost is \$10/1 or \$15/2, and Yours will open at 6 for people to dress as needed. Y'all come! Thanks, Karen!

Ani DiFranco Concert

Karen, Denise and Charlene attended the Ani DiFranco concert on October 3rd at the Palace Theater. They initially met at the China Buffet for a scrumptious Chinese-American buffet and then attended the concert which had opening acts of Bitch and Animal. The lesbian theme of the evening had the crowd on their feet at times, and the concert was very well-received.

Susan's Seventh House Party

I am having a party on Saturday November 6, 1999 from 5:00pm till 12:00am. I will be having things to eat and drink but feel free to bring a dish if you like. The party is being held at my home the address is [redacted] Hudson, NY. If you have any questions feel free to call me. My number is [redacted].

The directions to my home are as follows, [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] I would like to thank and hope to see you all there. Please Come, Thank you, -- Susan.

Eighth House Party is in the Works

Details will be in the next issue; can't wait!

Closet Available

We still have one closet available in the clubhouse. This allows you the maximum flexibility of having your clothes in a locked closet, free of all of the problems associated with keeping clothes in a suitcase. It includes a key to the clubhouse, permitting you 24-hour availability of your clothes. And it provides you a safe space to change and relax, any time you would like. This is a great bargain at \$40 a month; call the clubhouse to reserve it today.

Once this closet is gone, it's back into your suitcase for all of your wonderful clothes!

Travelers & Tourists

by Callan [REDACTED], reprinted with permission

"There are two types of people in the world: those who divide the world into halves, and those who don't." --Mark Twain

What have I seen from over 15 years of TGIC? I have seen that there are two types of people there.

I'm not talking about TV and TS, or young and old, or rich and poor, or full-time and part-time.

The split I see is between those who see themselves as on a journey, and those who do not. It's between those whose eyes are on the future, the possibilities, and those whose eyes are on the past, what they have lost or stand to lose. It's between tourists, who don't know where they have been and travelers, who don't know where they are going.

It doesn't really matter what path people are on -- physical, emotional, mental or spiritual, though in the end, all true journeys take us through all those places. What matters is that they see their life as a journey, a sequence of new experiences through which they learn and grow, rather than as a series of destinations, where they want to bring all the comforts of

home.

Travelers want to encounter the new, to strike out and see the world in a new way, facing new cultures & challenges which enlighten them. Tourists want to encounter the familiar, to see new things in a comfortable way, facing new cultures and challenges which merely amuse them.

In TGIC I have met people on many journeys, and I know that while all paths are different, they all lead to the same place, a better understanding of self, a deeper connection with the universal in all of us. I have also met lots of tourists, content to stay placated, who are focused on understanding how they can stay static by keeping up walls and defenses against the forces of change and growth.

Transpeople get good at defenses. We have a history of having two distinct faces, one public and one private, and to show that hidden face we have to face the assault of a world which wants our queerness silenced. We know that we are blanketed with stigma, with ignorance, fear and hate, and we need to learn how to build a life in the shadow of that ignorance. This is what we share, knowing that to be exposed is to face a world that wants to silence and erase us.

Our differences are in the choices we make to deal with that hatred. Do we split our life, compartmentalizing it? Do we run from one closet to another? Do we use our own nature only to enlighten other journeys? Do we do it for the performance or for the sex?

All of us face that choice: do we focus on what we don't want to lose, or on what we might be? Do we blow off steam and stay in place, or do we harness that energy to move forward into unfamiliar and scary territory? Do we focus more on what we are not -- not gay, not a woman, not a man -- or on what we are?

The people I have met at TGIC who have moved me are the people who were open, on a journey, moving themselves. The people I have met at TGIC who have galled me are the people who are in denial, who hide from themselves, who act up and act out rather than

engaging the challenges of life.

Travelers have compassion and openness, tourists have judgments and suspicion -- or at least that's how I have found it to be. Travelers understand we each have different views of the same shared reality, tourists have a need to believe that only their view is real. Travelers move though engaging the new, tourists stay in place though denial, dismissal and determined ignorance of the challenging.

Moments can change us forever, if we let them. To be changed forever, though, is terrifying to those who only want to stay the same, to follow an illusion of consistency and not a path of discovery.

I have changed and grown though moments at TGIC, both moments when I met travelers who shared their journey, and moments when I met tourists who, stuck in their own mud, gave me signposts of what directions not to take.

The challenge has always been to be a traveler on my own path, and not to fall prey to the knot of tourists who gather to scare people off from moving ahead, who stay in the village near the jungle and say no one who entered the jungle has ever returned alive. I need to remember that there is no need to return to the same village after entering the jungle -- there are new sights to see, new people to be.

I say this as a traveler and not a tourist: don't be scared by the people who hang around the edges and speak of the terrors of the jungle. Listen to the people with the scars who have been on their own journeys, and then find your own path and take it, take it here, there, take it far away, just go.

When TGIC is a waystation for explorers, it is a glorious place. When TGIC is a hovel for long-time tourists, it can be stifling, depressing and soul-killing. The dreams go to the travelers, who can always expect a life better than their wildest imagination. Everyone knows that the most wonderful things in their life are things they could never have imagined before they happened, and the terrors of their dreams have never fully come true.

Even the biggest challenges offer big rewards, as people faced with fatal illnesses report everyday. Explorers know that there is a special poignancy to a life lived on the edge of it, an openness, an awareness, an intensity that delights. Travelers, when faced with a long and dull life or a shorter and more full one, tend to go for living life, not just passing time.

There are many journeys. There is one destination.

If I only have one life, let me live it as a blonde (or in my case, as a redhead). But let me live it.

May the spirit of the traveler, the explorer, always be around TGIC -- at least enough to persuade traveling souls to move on, along their path, and live a rich and full life.

--Callan

News Briefs

Carla Cruzan, a teacher at Southwest High School in Minneapolis, **said she was shocked to discover a male librarian -- dressed as a woman -- exiting from a stall in the women's faculty lavatory as Cruzan was about to enter.** When Cruzan complained to her superiors, she was told that the school had left it up to the librarian to decide which restroom was "gender appropriate." "This case is a perfect example of tolerance run amok," said Francis J. Manion, Senior Regional Counsel of the ACLJ - Midwest, who is representing Cruzan. "Neither Carla Cruzan nor any other woman or girl should have to live and work in fear of this kind of crude invasion of their privacy." [But, of course it isn't an invasion of the librarian's privacy....] **The librarian in the case describes herself as transgendered.** David Nielsen, who was married and has children, began coming to school in May 1998 dressed in women's clothing and referring to herself as Debra Davis. **Davis said she is using the proper bathroom and has no plans to change: 'It's too bad people are so unaccepting and intolerant.'**

"Homophobia is a disease which desperately needs to be cured. **We need to get beyond this fear, ignorance, and bigotry and move on to a mature society in which we recognize that all people deserve dignity and respect, regardless of their gender, color, religious beliefs, or sexual orientation.**" --Barbra Streisand to the Advocate, Aug. 17.

According to first-person reports at the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association Bi-annual Symposium in London, it is no longer permissible to require RLT before hormones. It permits the use of hormones as a "diagnostic tool" even at a very early stage. It also recognizes that some people may be satisfied simply by hormones and the effects thereof and not need to transition or have SRS. [Note: these are unofficial.]

An **Islamic court** in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, **fined 22 transvestites \$210 and one transvestite \$105** on July 27 as punishment for competing in a beauty pageant in the northern state of Kedah. Judge Sheikh Zainol Embon declared: "Based on the photographs taken [at the pageant], all of you as participants of the beauty pageant wore women's clothes and lipstick." **Crossdressing is illegal for Malaysian Moslem men.**

Joe Lopez checks his nails, straightens his nylons, pulls on a little black dress and heads for the Lion's Den, a Costa Mesa club that caters to a gay and cross-dressing clientele on Friday evenings. Lopez, who prefers the name Josie when dressing as a woman, is a gay man who often dresses as a member of the opposite sex. But tonight he is not out for a night on the town. Rather, he is one of hundreds of people on the front lines battling AIDS in California, whether that means hanging out at the beach to hand out condoms or talking about safe sex at a local gay club. **Nationwide, AIDS intervention programs are abandoning the one-size-fits-all approach that was popular for years and instead using HIV prevention workers like Lopez to target specific populations.**

[The **controversy** surrounding the **Michigan Womyn's Music Festival** still continues. The organizers are still affirming their position that the event is solely for women born women (womon), and even post-op transsexuals are not welcome. Camp Trans, the transgendered protest camp across the street from the festival, may become a regular occurrence.]

Colorado Springs might be one of the few cities that could vie for the title "Christian Mecca of the United States." So it was apt that **gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) religious leaders from around the nation** would make a pilgrimage to the Springs for the third official convening of their new advocacy organization. **The Roundtable's mission to promote understanding of and respect for GLBT people within communities of faith led them to this city to open a dialogue with one of the nation's most anti-gay religious groups, Focus on the Family.**

Montreal's Aug. 1 gay-pride parade attracted half a million spectators, making it one of the world's largest pride events. Ninety-five groups and 30 floats took part in the procession. In June, Quebec's National Assembly unanimously passed a law that gives gay and lesbian couples all the rights of common-law heterosexual couples. Law 32 altered 39 provincial laws and regulations to recognize same-sex pairs in areas such as taxes, workplace standards, car insurance, pension benefits, retirement plans and social assistance. And in addition, 200 people marched and 500 watched Sarnia, Ontario's first gay-pride parade Aug. 21.

People who undergo sex-change operations will be allowed to remain in the British military, the Daily Telegraph reported Aug. 2, citing confidential new Defense Ministry guidelines. The policy change followed publicity in the case of Sgt. Major Joe/Joanne Rushton, 38, who has begun "gender realignment." A former boxer who served in Ulster and Bosnia, Rushton joined the army at age 19, has been married four times and has a son.

BETTER THAN CHOCOLATE, a Canadian movie by Anne Wheeler is a romantic comedy that covers all bases -- lesbians, transsexual, bisexual, heterosexual, and auto-sexual -- as it follows the erotic adventures of a group of Canadian women and one young man in a bohemian town in British Columbia. Maggie, a college dropout, meets Kim, girl of her dreams, just hours before her mother and brother show up on her doorstep. Featuring a raft of eccentrics, each of whom works out her/his own conflict-ridden issues in harmless liberating ways. Although the film poses genuine problems, **ultimately it's an upbeat, comic valentine about the possibility of finding a soul-mate and living in happily ever aftersville.** Soundtrack features Sarah McLachlin and Ani DiFranco. [Expected to open at the Spectrum soon.]

According to a report from the Bergen Record, a 21-year-old **transgendered individual**, with the birth name of Kareem Washington, **was found murdered in Passaic, New Jersey** on the 29th of August. When found by two employees of a nearby trucking company, Washington was wearing women's clothing, had been stabbed several times in the back and throat. [Moral: Be Careful]

On September 1, the Housing, Human Services and Civil Rights Committee of the **Seattle City Council voted unanimously to make gender identity a separate protected class of citizens**, separating it from the definition of sexual orientation. "I don't know why it has taken so long to get to this point," council member Peter Steinbrueck said after the vote. Steinbrueck is the chair of the committee that voted to send the issue to the full council for a vote on August 30. There, he expects it to pass without incident.

Sue [REDACTED], a postgraduate student at the University of Hull is **collecting transsexual people's autobiographies and experiences as part of her masters thesis on TS narratives.** She writes, "While interested in all aspects of

transgender, part of my dissertation hopes to demonstrate that there is an essential 'feminism' as opposed to a socially constructed set of feminine attributes," and she would like people to contact her to discuss her views.

[REDACTED]
**BRIDE WHO WAS ONCE A GROOM
WEDS GROOM WHO WAS ONCE A BRIDE.**

When David Willis and Janeen Newham were married recently, either one could have been the groom or bride -- they're transsexuals. David was another man's wife before he switched sexes -- and Janeen was the man of the house during her first marriage. **But both had sex-swap operations before marrying each other -- and now they couldn't be happier.** "Marrying the man I love is wonderful," said blushing bride Janeen, 52, speaking after the ceremony. "This is the second best day of my life -- the first was nine years ago when I had the operation to have my body changed into that of a woman. "It is wonderful that I can call myself Mrs. Willis." Added David, 39, "I am over the moon. It's a wonderful day for us. Janeen looks beautiful."

Six men who are in the process of having their gender changed to female have filed a complaint with the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission saying their employer, RGIS Inventory Specialists, has discriminated against them. Venetia Carpenter-Asui, attorney for the six, said they are living "their lives 24 hours a day as females. Their outward appearance is female and each is pre-operational," she said. They were hired separately by RGIS Inventory Specialists and said on their job applications that they were men. "Each inquired of RGIS at the initial job interview whether their outward appearance was an issue for RGIS. Each was reassured that their appearance was not an issue," Carpenter-Asui said. But on June 17 **they were told to alter their outward appearance to "coincide with the sex indicated on their job applications or be terminated from their jobs."** The six have been getting hormone treatments, psychological counseling and resocialization as women.

A technician in a city office, who was once a man but now identifies herself as a female, has caused a stir among some other women employees. **Eight women in the Kansas City Public Works Engineering Field Office recently filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Kansas City, Kansas, over whether the technician may use the women's restroom.**

In Spain on September 25th the national health service voted to pay for SRS as being a needed medical procedure.

An attack on two transgendered individuals in Chicago left one dead and one severely wounded. On July 27, 1999, Baretta Williams and a friend of hers, known as "Pebbles," was viciously attacked by an as-of-yet unnamed assailant. Baretta was shot sixteen times, as well as pistol whipped, tied up with speaker wire, and gagged with a sock taped into their mouth. Baretta was pronounced dead at the scene. Pebbles was also shot in the face on the left side of her jaw. Pebbles, who has since been discharged from the hospital, had to have a metal plate placed in her jaw, and undergo a tracheostomy, leaving her unable to speak.

In New Zealand, **sex-change mayor Georgina Beyer** attempted suicide three times in her youth because she was so depressed at living in the sexual twilight zone. "I had such a negative outlook I thought I would like to slash my wrists. But a girl wouldn't do that. It was pills and alcohol." The book, "**Change for the Better: The Story of Georgina Beyer**", as told to Cathy Casey, charts her squalid former life as a prostitute and stripper., and her sexual rebirth.

The 4th Court of Appeals in **San Antonio** heard oral arguments Sept. 2 in a case of first impression involving the marital right of transsexuals and the right of people to alter their gender legally. **At issue in Littleton v. Prange is whether a transsexual can legally marry a person of the same sex in which the transsexual was born.** Same-sex marriages are not permitted anywhere in the United States, but attorneys for

Christie Lee Littleton, a male-to-female transsexual, argue that she was not a man when she married Jonathan Mark Littleton in 1989. The attorneys against argue he was still a genetic male.

The so-called **Unisex Bandit**, the cross-dresser suspected of 34 bank robberies in four Canadian provinces totaling some C\$80,000 over two years, on September 16 **pleaded guilty** to one in Belleville, Ontario. Transgender Christine White, 49, also known as Anatoli Ivan Misura of Edmonton, Alberta, will be sentenced in mid-November. White's ability to change gender presentation made her seem to vanish after leaving a crime scene and contributed to confused eyewitness reports, allowing her to keep robbing banks even after police and bankers had security camera photos.

On **April 30th, 2000**, more than a million gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people will descend upon Washington, DC for the **Millennium March on Washington for Equality.**

A **Hungarian husband and wife** in the western city of Szekesfehervar have **decided literally to trade places and each is now undergoing a sex change operation** at the local hospital, local media reported Friday.



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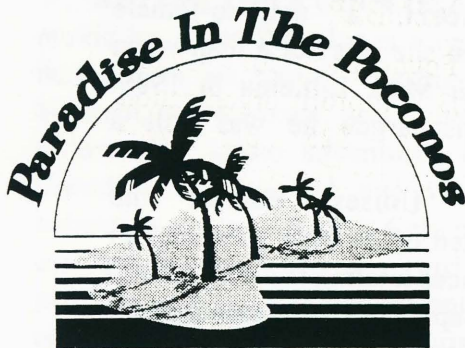
4 Executive Park Drive
Albany, NY 12203

(518) 458-2611
FAX (518) 489-1914

Q: Sir, what is your IQ?

A: Well, I can see pretty well, I think.

Fantasy Crossdresser's Weekend



Nov 4 - 7, 1999

It's time for another all new *Paradise In The Poconos* weekend. We have a fabulous facility with an indoor heated pool & jacuzzi, game room, an authentic English pub, a night club and it's all *ours* for an extended 4 day/3 night weekend of pure crossdressing fun!

This year we will again have a special vendor with clothing, wigs, breastforms, lingerie and more, plus two makeup artists, a hair stylist and a nail artist. We'll also have seminars, and we'll have our world-famous parties (including our special surprise reception), tag sale, and talent show.

Cost: \$350* per person, double occupancy. Includes all activities, 3 parties, seminars, room, meals, tax, and gratuity. No hidden charges! Register now before we fill up. Full details at our web site <www.cdspub.com>. Couples Welcome! (* Single rooms \$475)

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(518) 436-4513 (live Thurs. 7:30-10 PM)
<http://homestead.com/TGICAlbany.html>

Transgenderist's Independence Club (TGIC) is a nonprofit, educational, non-sexual social support group for persons wishing to explore beyond the conventional boundaries of gender, including crossdressers, transsexuals and their friends.

TGIC Officers

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| President | Tina [REDACTED] |
| Vice President | Raechel [REDACTED] |
| Secretary | Karen [REDACTED] |
| Treasurer | Cheryl [REDACTED] |
| Den Mother | Denise [REDACTED] |
| Newsletter | Vicky [REDACTED] |
| House Parties | Leslie [REDACTED] |
| TGIC On-Line/Web | Raechel [REDACTED]/Petula |

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Readers are invited to submit articles relevant to the Transgendered Community for consideration. You may bring or mail typed pages for publication to the TGIC clubroom. Format should follow that shown in the current newsletter. You may also e-mail the articles to [REDACTED]. The article should be part of the body of the e-mail.

Regular Meetings are held every Thursday at the TGIC Club Room on Central Avenue in Albany, 7:30 PM to 10 PM. Some come earlier and stay later, but it is wise to call if you are not a Keyholder or if it is your first visit. Come dressed either way, meet and talk with friends. Many continue to socialize at one of the local night spots after the meetings.

Q: What is your date of birth?

A: July fifteenth.

Q: What year?

A: Every year.

BECOME AN IFGE MEMBER

The International Foundation for Gender Education is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Basic membership is \$25 per year. Subscriptions to Transgender Tapestry are \$40. Brochures and forms are available in the TGIC Club Room. Call or write to:

IFGE (617) 899-2212

PO Box 229

Waltham, MA 02154-0229

ANONYMOUS HIV ANTIBODY TESTING

Your regional HIV Counseling and Testing Program provides free HIV counseling and antibody testing, support and referral. No names will be asked.

(NYS Health Department)

Call: (518) 486-1595 or 1-800-962-5065.

TGIC On-Line

All transgendered people are invited to join TGIC On-Line, an informal e-mail network sponsored by Transgenderist Independence Club (TGIC). Messages exchanged on TGIC On-Line focus on events of interest to transgendered people in a region from Lake Placid to Newburg. If you are interested in joining the network, or want more information about TGIC, send an e mail message to: TGIC-request@hartebeest.com with any subject line and in the message body, the text:

JOIN TGIC

STOP

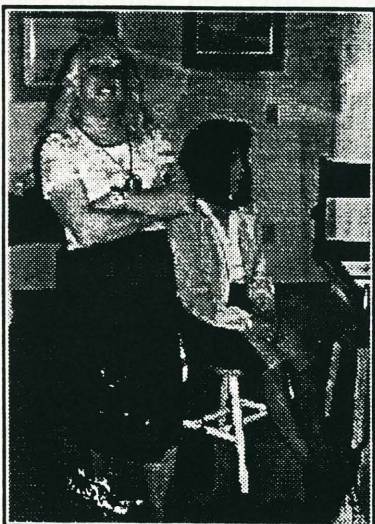
(Please note: JOIN TGIC must be on line 1. STOP must be on line 2) You will receive an automated acknowledgment (Journal) of your request, which must be approved with the list moderator.

Calendar and Events

TGIC meetings are held every Thursday from 7:30 to 10:00 in the clubhouse. *See explanation in this issue.

- October 9, 2-5 Twenty Club, TS Support
Hartford, CT
- October 9, 7:30-10:30 Gender-Free Contradance
Unitarian Church, Albany
(5 blocks from our
clubhouse)*
- October 16, 9 on Tri-Ess at Yours, Barrett
Street, Schenectady
- October 23, 2-5 Twenty Club, TS Support
Hartford, CT
- October 23, 7 on TGIC Halloween
Party, Yours*
- November 4-7 Paradise in the Poconos
King of Prussia, PA*
- November 6, 5-12 Susan & Spouse TGIC
House Party, Hudson*
- November 13, 2-5 Twenty Club, TS Support
Hartford, CT
- November 13, 7:30 Capital Pride Fall
Concert, Page Hall, Albany
- November 20, 9 on Tri-Ess at Yours, Barrett
Street, Schenectady
- November 27, 2-5 Twenty Club, TS Support
Hartford, CT

Time to chat about a Christmas party. How about it? Won't you come and help?



Tina plays Chesire cat

Tracy Oppelt

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Gender-Free Contradance

The Unitarian Church in Albany sponsors a wonderful program for GLBT people. It is a gender-free contradance, essentially a social gathering and dance for people of all sexual preferences. Hey, even heteros are accepted! <ggg> There is a caller who instructs people on how to dance the particular dance, and occasionally a live orchestra as well. I attended three of these dances and enjoyed them a lot, dancing with both men and women. It is a high-energy affair, water is served (you will drink plenty!), and the cost is usually in the \$10 range, sliding scale usually. If you would like to explore that side of yourself and have a knockout social evening, I recommend it highly!!! --Vix

SAVE THE DATE

MARCH 22-26, 2000

TRANSGENDER 2000

the Next Millennium

14th annual IFGE National Convention
Hilton Crystal City, Jefferson-Davis Hwy.
Arlington VA

Comments? Vicky Steele, vicky_s@juno.com, or
c/o TGIC, PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212
All the news that fits.