

*The Newsletter of Transgenderist's Independence Club, Albany, NY*

**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - Winnie [REDACTED]**

This issue of our newsletter is only eight pages long, to make room for an updated membership directory being sent to club members only.

A number of our TGIC members (Winnie, Fran, Karen, Monica, Edie and Donna) enjoyed the camaraderie of Tiffany Club's First Event at the end of January. This year, it was held at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza in Woburn. All parts of the program except the pool party were located in a very nice special meeting area on the third floor, which is a better arrangement than at the Crowne Plaza in Natick in previous years. I was quite active in the Tiffany Club some 10-15 years ago, and enjoyed seeing old friends and many more new faces.

**NO SPARE CHANGE**

The Pataki administration is seeking to end Medicaid coverage of sex-change operations for poor New Yorkers, which has been available since 1976. The cost can be \$10,000 or more, NY State Department of Social Services spokesman Terrance McGrath said, "We don't think it should be covered by Medicaid". Fatten your piggy bank, girls!

**DINNER PARTIES**

Again, our January party was cancelled because of a predicted storm and consequent lack of sign-ups by the deadline. We had a foot of snow to dig out that Saturday. Well, let's try again this month - the next dinner party is scheduled for *February 10* at 8 pm, at *Oceans Eleven* restaurant. Please sign up at the club room or call 436-4513 and leave a message for Joan by Thursday, February 8, or call Joan at 377-4546. Leave your number so we can confirm the location, etc.

*10th ANNUAL IFGE CONVENTION*

**MINNESOTA PRIDE CELEBRATION '96**

Sunday, March 24  
to Sunday, March 31

Marriott City Center Hotel  
Minneapolis, MN

**Featuring:**  
TG programs, workshops, panels, vendors,  
luncheon speakers, evening parties, and  
a general good time!

IFGE  
PO Box 229  
Waltham, MA 02154-0229

(617) 899-2212

**Contents**

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - Winnie [REDACTED] .....	1
GENDER GEMS - Gina .....	2
Life With Vanessa - A new book for couples .....	2
Lea DeLaria at Page Hall, February 17 .....	3
The Prince of Crossdressers Goes to Canada .....	3
Hundreds Mourn Chanelle [REDACTED] .....	4
Uncle Sam's Gender Cops - Jeff [REDACTED] .....	4
Address to the FTM Conference, San Francisco, Aug. 18-20, 1995 - Robert Bray (NGLTF) .....	5
TS Sues Employer for Discrimination .....	5
Template for Transexual Autobiography - Dallas Denny .....	6
New SRS video entitled "The Operation" .....	6
Second International Congress on Crossdressing, Sex & Gender Issues - First Call for Papers .....	6
The Frye Holiday Letter, 1995 - Phyllis Randolph Frye .....	7
ANNOUNCEMENTS .....	8
CALENDAR .....	8



From New Woman magazine January, 1996:

1- MALE PMS? Researchers at Georgia State University found that after a sporting event the male fans of the winning team had a surge in testosterone, whereas those of the losing team suffered a drop in testosterone. A surge in this hormone is known to have a rambunctious effect on behavior while a drop is correlated to depression.

2- NICE GUYS FINISH FIRST. A study from Wellesley College finds that dominant men do not necessarily go further in their careers than passive "nice guys". The research found that the aggressive men are generally so disliked, they are ineffective.

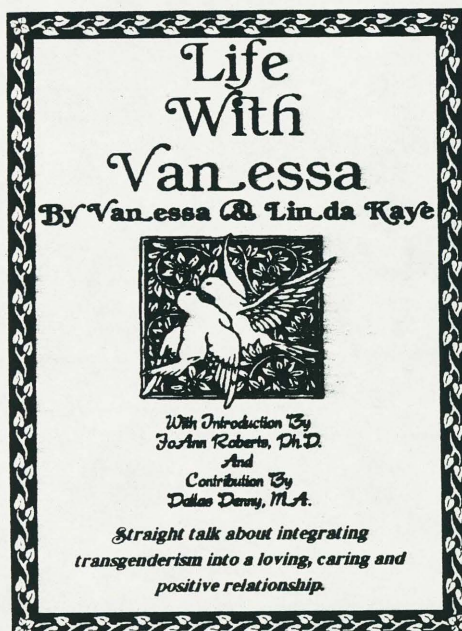
3- I SEE LONDON, I SEE FRANCE -- The U.S. Embassy has made a Brazilian lingerie company pull an ad that gave all of Brazil a sneak peek at Hillary Clinton's panties. A photo of the First Lady with her legs oh-so-slightly parted was taken by a reporter during her recent trip to Latin America.

4- WHO ENJOYS SEX MORE? Women- with other women- says a comprehensive new sex survey. Among lesbians, 39 percent said their most recent sexual encounter lasted more than one hour- as opposed to only 15 percent of straight women. What's more, 32 percent of lesbians claimed that the last time they had sex, they had multiple orgasms, as compared with only 19 percent of straights.

---

## *Announcing a new book for couples!*

"Life With Vanessa" is a new book just being released. Written by Vanessa and Linda Kaye (formerly Linda Peacock), a couple in a transgendered relationship, it deals with many of the issues facing couples in similar relationships. Some of these issues are: The Woman



Within; Developing the Woman Within; Sensuality and Sexual Issues; Religious Issues; Friends and Family; Support Groups; Shopping and Money Issues; The Other Woman; and, Celebrating the Similar. The book includes a chapter by Dallas Denny, M.A., founder and director of AEGIS, "Why Is Your Partner This Way," and an introduction by Jo Ann Roberts, Ph.D., co-founder of Renaissance, author and publisher.

To order your copy of this unique new book, send check or Money Order for \$11.50 (this includes 1st Class postage within the USA, \$1.00 additional for international orders) to:

M. Kull  
6957 NW Expressway  
Ste. 121, Oklahoma City, OK 73132



# Lea DeLaria at Page Hall, February 17

"A great queer priestess in a coconut bra," was how Miss Take described Lea's last appearance at Page Hall. "Lea's energy electrified her audience, a glorious celebration of being queer in the 90's. From 15 year olds who know they are lesbian to gay men's (and Lea's) love of showtunes, when we feel safe enough to laugh at ourselves, we know we are strong and whole."

This year, it's time for you to show up and join in a room full of laughter and hot jazz to warm up your February. You may have seen Lea on *Friends*, or *Matlock* or even *Saved By The Bell*, but until you see her pump a room full of honesty and energy, you will have missed the magic she brings.

The concert is produced by Michelle Crone's EIWord productions. Those of you who know Michelle will know that she is an important voice in the local queer community, but what you might not know is that she even owns a *Transsexual Menace* t-shirt.

You must join in this celebration! Tickets are on sale at the door for \$15, and there will be open seating, so get there early if you want to sit up front for the in-your face humor of Lea! Her love and exuberance will fill the room, and make you feel like part of a queer family of choice, part of a great group of people who are working hard to find the happiness of simply being themselves, not who they are supposed to be. Be at Page Hall on Saturday February 17, with or without your valentine, in a pretty dress or casual jeans and enjoy a moment of queer space in Albany that can help get you through this long cold winter.

---

## The Prince Of Crossdressers Goes to Canada

There is only one, the legendary Virginia Prince, who single handedly created the notion of a heterosexual-crossdresser in the late 1950's and early 1960's. While Prince notes that Hirschfeld and others had identified the phenomena before the war, it was the creation of The Hose and Heels Club, Femme Personality Expression, and later The Society for the Second Self (Tri-Ess), and her publications, like *Transvestia*, that provided the model for "femiphiles" who dressed in women's clothing while retaining "healthy masculine expression."

On the weekend of February 9-11, 1995, *Take A Walk On The Wildside*, Paddy Aldridge's TV boutique and transformation parlor in Toronto will bring in The Prince Of Crossdressers to talk about the history of crossdressing.

Joining Prince will be "CD pundit," JoAnn Roberts, the CyberQueen of CDS publishing, a founder of Renaissance, one of the largest TG organizations in the country, and a gal with a finger in every TG pie, from AEGIS to GenderPAC (Political Action Committee) to The Second International Congress on Sex and Gender coming to Philadelphia in June 1997. JoAnn works in every area from education, to politics, to funding, to research to beauty tips, and is a gold mine of information for experienced and novice TG people alike.

Together they will dine with leaders on Friday night atop the CN Tower, the worlds tallest freestanding man-made erection, host a party at Wildside on Saturday, and share the podium for a presentation at Buddies In Bad Times Theater, known for their fabulous dungeon parties, on Sunday evening.

The 83 year old Prince, a convicted felon, appeared on well over 100 radio and TV shows in the sixties and seventies. "I allowed myself to be found out so that isolated crossdressers could realize that they were not alone in their interest. Television shows featuring crossdressers are commonplace today, but I was the first to do them and broke the ground for public presentation of the subject." Prince was the model for all crossdressers who appear today on talk shows.

Prince worked hard to make it clear that crossdressers are not gay, not psychopathic, don't want a sex change and are mostly married men and fathers. Making sure that people understood the separations between gay men, transsexuals and normal heterosexual crossdressers has been the foundation of all her work, and it continues today.

The 47 year old Roberts has also appeared on many television shows since 1986. On a breakthrough *Donahue* show, facing the same issues as Prince, she explained why, on a panel of TS, Drag Queens, Intersexed and others, that she as the crossdresser, was the "pervert." Her publications include being special editor of "Becoming A Sexual Person."

Both Prince and Roberts are pleased to claim Ph.D. in biochemical related fields, Prince in pharmacology in 1939, and Roberts in analytical biochemistry in 1974. Other similarities are more difficult to determine.

There is no doubt that Prince and Roberts have been two of the most influential voices in the crossdressing community, and Roberts continues her influence into the transgender community. This is an opportunity to meet and chat with history in the "Toronto The Good," once known as the last outpost of the Victorian British Empire.

If you would like to join in the "HotBuzz" this February 9-11 in Toronto and meet these "living legends", in person, call Wildside at (416) 964-8824 for details and reservations.



## Hundreds Mourn Chanelle Pickett

[December 22, 1995 - BOSTON, MA] In the wake of the Nov. 20 murder of Chanelle Pickett and the murder of Deborah Forte in Haverhill May 15, Boston's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender communities joined in actions designed to heighten awareness of transgender violence.

On Sunday evening, December 10, approximately 250 people gathered at the Arlington Street church to pay tribute to Chanelle Pickett and voice their outrage. The service was organized by Sue Hyde of NGLTF, Robb Johnson of the Fenway Victim Recovery Program, and Nancy Nangeroni of The Transexual Menace. Represented were both queer and straight people of all classes and colors.

Chanelle's twin sister Gabrielle, also transexual, spoke movingly of her sister's energy, spirit and goals. In a show of poise and strength, she called those present to work toward change in the aftermath of the her twin's murder.

Following the memorial service, a candlelight vigil processed through the Public Garden and across the Common. The procession ended at the State House, where Nancy Nangeroni addressed the crowd, calling for the education of elected representatives to the hurt visited upon those who transgress gender "norms." The vigil concluded with the hanging of a memorial wreath for Chanelle on the State House front gate.

In a followup action on December 18, activists calling themselves the "Remember Chanelle" committee announced formation of several task forces, including a Media task force to monitor media coverage of transgender issues and violence, a Legislative task force to lobby state legislators for bias crimes legislation, a Community task force to reach out to the local GLBT community, and a Victim Recovery task force to provide aid to victims, survivors and their families.

Contact: Nancy Nangeroni (617)497-6928  
NRN@world.std.com

### TGIC

PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604  
(518) 436-4513 (live Thurs. 8-10 pm)

**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 & Directors

President	Winnie
Vice President	Joan
Secretary	Joyce
Treasurer	Winnie
Newsletter Editor	Winnie

The **Transgenderist** is the newsletter of TGIC, published monthly and mailed First Class to members, prospective members, friends, professionals, and exchange publications.

Copyright 1996 TGIC. No part may be reproduced without prior permission from the originator.

TGIC General Membership Dues: \$40/yr

## Uncle Sam's Gender Cops

### FOR STARTERS

by Jeff Lynn, Chicago Tribune

The Newts among us gripe about federal intrusion into our lives, but I confess that until now I thought the Feds' meddling was limited to forcing ranchers to accept the return of wolves to Yellowstone and making M.D.s take less pay to fix Grandma's gallstones.

That was before I learned that Washington has begun telling people what sex they are.

For the first 40 years of his life, Daniel M. was a typical, if overly macho, guy. He was a Marine. A pilot. A rock-climber. He's been married twice and has three children.

Then Dan (we're withholding his surname in the interest of his kids) had his midlife crisis. But instead of running off with a babe, he decided he wanted to become one.

"Ever since I was a child, I've felt I was in the wrong body," he says, explaining why he's pursued a sex change over the last year.

First he underwent counselling and hormone therapy, overseen by Dr. Fred Ettner of Evanston. When his blossoming breasts and vanishing beard evoked interest from his wife, he broke down and told her of his plans. "She cried for a couple of days," he said, "mourning the loss of Dan the Marlboro Man. But she's wonderful. She said, 'I truly love you and want to support you,' and she's decided to stay married to me. She's taught me to walk, talk and dress as a woman and to do makeup."

In September, the people at work (he manages new computer systems for a suburban electronics giant) had to be told. "I literally left on Friday as Dan and came back Monday as Dana Marie. People gawked for a couple of days, then accepted me.

So did Illinois and Arizona when he, now she, sought a change of name and sex on her driver's license and birth certificate. But then she ran into the U.S. Passport Agency's gender cops.

Urged by her firm to travel internationally, she sought a new passport as a woman.

But the agency balked. It demanded that Dana change her name legally in court, which she did. Then, to keep things kosher, she moved her sex-change surgery up by a few months. On Oct. 30, Dr. Eugene Schrang of Neenah, Wis., removed two of Dana's male appendages and some of the third.

But again the agency rejected her petition. This time they wanted a letter from the surgeon. So now Schrang verified in print that he'd performed "sex reassignment" on Dana.

A reasonable person would now say, 'She wears a dress, she's been permanently streamlined, and her doctor says she's a woman. Who are we to argue?' But on Dec. 11, an agency lawyer in D.C. ruled that Dana could get a new passport, but only as a male. "They told me it's because Dr. Schrang said he'd 'performed' the operation, not 'completed' it," says Dana.

"Great, huh? I'll be visiting sticky places like Columbia with a ticket that says I'm Dana Marie and a passport that says I'm a man."

Passport officials couldn't comment. They were home due to the government shutdown. Which gives me an idea of where we can cut some money from the budget.



# Robert Bray of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Address to the FTM Conference

Thank you very much. It is a great pleasure to be here with you. It's been a long time coming. . . .

I stand with you today in unity and solidarity. We are here to honor your work and your lives, and the brave and courageous paths you have traveled to arrive here.

I believe the time has come for transgendered people to take their rightful place at the forefront of our struggle to end discrimination. I believe the time has come for the gay and lesbian movement to overcome its transphobia and prejudice. In my opinion, our struggle for equality is not complete unless you are involved and are helping us lead it.

I know that is an opinion not shared by others in the "mainstream" gay movement. I have heard the comments that "those" people – you – harm the movement. That you should disappear or be just like everyone else.

Indeed, when the wall of homophobia is too high, and the mountain of intolerance too wide, there has been the tendency to drop off some weight to make the load easier. That means people of color. That means queer youth and the elderly. And eather folk and other sex radicals. And drag queens. And transgenders.

And this is wrong. I say explode the damn wall and all go through it together. Ascend the mountain and go over it together.

There is no dress code for civil rights in this country. I don't care what you're wearing or what's under what you wearing, as long as you bring your energy and passion and courage into our struggle. The true test of a democracy is how it embraces those who look, act and think differently, not just those who are the same.

My message today is of inclusion. The powerful Radical Right doesn't discriminate: they target gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people alike. Why then should the gay community discriminate? Why do we include some and exclude others?

I assert transgender people should be included in anti-discrimination laws on the national and local levels – including the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) – so we can end job and housing discrimination and other injustices against transgenders.

I maintain that transgender people must be included in hate crimes provisions to stop the loathsome bashings and beatings of MTFs and FTMs that plague our country.

I believe that transgender people can and must use their power to change how gays and lesbians view our world, and how society treats all of us.

Because you hold in your hands a transformative power to create change, to expand our knowledge of gender, of sexual orientation, of sex, of the human experience. This has dramatic implications for our movement, our laws, our society, ourselves.

I know this has been a long, hard road for you. I know that often you have felt alone, isolated, fearful.

But I am here today to tell you that you are not alone.

That your brothers and sisters of San Francisco – the queerest city in the world, and I mean that with a big and small "Q" – and around the country support you.

I have traveled 150,000 miles to small towns and big cities throughout America in the last two years, organizing queers and battling the Radical Right. I can tell you that at every stop there have been fearless transgenders who have come forward, and against all odds, made a difference in their communities.

People like the FTMs in Idaho and Arizona who are protecting their towns against the oppressive rhetoric and attacks of the traditional values coalition...

...And the MTF cross dresser in rural Wyoming who attended our FTR training and is now helping with rural organizing in that state.

And even young Tacy Hans, a 22-year-old FTM transgender queer from a small town in Pennsylvania who – as we gather tonight – is attending an NGLTF Youth Leadership Training Institute in Marin County just north of here. Tacy is the present and the future of our movement.

These folks, and people like you, share in our everlasting dream.

Our dream of a world free of transphobia, homophobia, AIDSphobia. A world free of injustice and intolerance.

A world where never again:

– Will we be fired from our jobs just because of who we are and whom we love.

– Where never again will our children be taken from us because we are "unfit" parents.

– Where never again will we be bashed just for walking down the streets of own towns.

– Where never again will young FTM transgenders like Brandon Teena of Falls City, Nebraska, be raped and murdered just because she was a woman who lived and loved as a man. Because HE lived and loved like a man.

This is the world we dream of. A more compassionate society. A more loving, tolerant society. A society that values the worth and human dignity of all people, including you and me.

Thank you.

Robert Bray <[rbray@ngltf.org](mailto:rbray@ngltf.org)>

---

## TS Sues Employer for Discrimination

JERSEY CITY (AP) – A Hoboken police lieutenant planning to have a sex-change operation to become a women is suing Hoboken and its police chief, saying he was harassed after he declined to discuss his "gender transition."

Lt. Janet Aiello, 45, who recently changed his name from John and began dressing as a woman, charged in a lawsuit filed in Hudson County Superior Court this week that Hoboken Police Chief Carmen LaBruno tried to make him discuss his experience before the entire police department.

When Aiello refused, he was assigned to duty in a cold, smelly police trailer, the lawsuit charges. It says Aiello supervises no one in the trailer and spends most of his time watching television and reading.

The lawsuit asks for unspecified damages.

On Nov. 3, the police department charged Aiello with 48 in-house offenses, including charges of insubordination. Aiello was hit with the charges a month after returning to the job from seven months of sick and vacation leave.



## Template for Transsexual Autobiography

Dallas Denny

For those who wish to write a transsexual bios of their own, I have constructed a template for the patterning of the typical transsexual autobio:

<prenatal event which explains and justifies everything>  
    <birth>  
    <childhood>  
<first memory of being of the opposite sex> <pain>  
    <adolescence> <pain>  
    <depression> <ridicule from peers>  
    <pain> <early sexual experience>  
<pain> <unsuccessful suicide attempt>  
    <early adulthood> <pain>  
    <marriage> <pain> <depression>  
<pain> <unsuccessful suicide attempt>  
    <pain> <therapy> <diagnosis>  
    <begin transition>  
<pain> <unsuccessful suicide attempt>  
    <pain> <divorce> <real-life test>  
    <pain> <depression>  
    <surgery>  
<joy!> <hearts!> <stars!> <flowery!> <happiness!>  
    <the end>

Not to belittle the terrible <pain><depression><suicide attempt> experiences we have all had, but these bios are typically written right after SRS, which is portrayed as a magical, transforming experience. In one book I read, which shall forever be nameless, there were 340 pages of anguish, with a suicide attempt on p. 337 or so, and then one page about surgery and three pages about how wonderful life is after surgery-- as if the author would know!

Our journeys are terrible, and wonderful, but each much like the other. I wonder if most of these autobiographies are not attempts to justify what the individual did.

We need more long-term survivors to write their autobiographies -- people like Christine Jorgensen, who didn't write hers until 1967, 15 years after her transition.

Sun, 10 Dec 1995

## New SRS Video entitled "*The Operation*"

A new video has been released by Nu-Woman Video Productions which details the surgical procedures of male to female sex reassignment surgery entitled "*The Operation - Sex Reassignment Surgery and Breast Augmentation by Eugene A. Schrang, M.D.*" This presentation sets a new standard for video production quality for the transgender viewing audience as "*The Operation*" was created using professional editing and production techniques.

The video opens with an introduction by Dr. Carl W. Bushong, a Tampa, Florida, based psychotherapist who deals extensively with the gender community. Dr. Eugene Schrang, the renowned SRS surgeon, then narrates these complex surgical procedures that transform male anatomy into female anatomy in a straightforward, easy to understand way.

As he goes through the surgery, Dr. Schrang also makes note of the important refinements in this ever improving field of genital plastic surgery. Labiaplasty (a follow-up procedure which refines the external appearance of the genital area), and breast augmentation are also shown. Afterwards, before and after comparisons are made showing several of Dr. Schrang's patients. The most asked questions about SRS are also answered by Dr. Schrang.

For anyone contemplating this surgery, or those who are curious about SRS, this video will provide the necessary education to fully understand the risks, benefits, and likely outcomes provided by sex re-assignment surgery.

More information about *The Operation* is available at the Nu-Woman Transgender Cabaret WWW site: <http://users.aol.com/nuwoman1/>

or from the video's producer, Kimberly L. Westwood, CPE, CCE, 102040.116@compuserv.com <or> NuWoman1@aol.com

"*The Operation*" is being carried by:

International Foundation of Gender Education (IFGE)

P.O. Box 229, Waltham, MA 02154-0229.

VOICE (617)899-2212 FAX (617)899-5703.

## Second International Congress on Crossdressing, Sex & Gender Issues

### FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

The Second International Congress On Crossdressing, Sex and Gender Issues is co-sponsored by the Human Sexuality Program in the Graduate Department of Education at the University of Pennsylvania, and The Renaissance Education Assoc., Inc. The Center for Sex Research at the California State University at Northridge (CSUN), organizer of the first Congress, endorses this second gathering.

The Congress will be held at the Park Ridge Hotel in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, USA from June 19 to June 22, 1997. Activities will begin Thursday evening, June 19, with a Welcome Cocktail Reception at the Hotel. The Program will begin at 9:00 AM Friday, June 20, and will conclude on Sunday, June 22 at Noon. Registration fees will be announced at a later date.

The Park Ridge Hotel is located in King of Prussia, Pa., about 30 minutes from Philadelphia International Airport. The hotel is served by several limosine services for which the cost is about \$US18. The hotel is located close to Valley Forge National Park and the now-famous King of Prussia Shopping Mall.

Rooms rates are \$US90/single, \$US100/double (1997 rates) + 8% occup. tax. Free Parking.

### INFORMATION FOR PRESENTERS

#### Themes of Interest:

Transgender Behavior in Adolescents  
Recent Progress in FtM & MtF Genital Surgery  
Gender Identity in The Next Millennium  
Diagnoses & Management of Intersexuality  
Recent Advances in Hormonal Therapies (MtF & FtM)  
Counseling Issues & Methods for Gender Clinics/Teams  
Recent Findings Regarding Morphological Differences in the TG Brain  
STDs/HIV in the Transgender Community

#### Format

Three General Morning Sessions: Fri., Sat., Sun. (Jun. 20-22)

Four sets of 50-minute concurrent sessions

Workshops; one and two hour formats (optional)

Each conference day will be structured to provide ample time to attend sessions and conduct general discussions. Meetings and workshops will take place between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Social and business functions will be in the evenings.

#### Papers

Papers offering research data and theoretical positions are preferred. Experimental work is particularly desired. Clinical material is welcome particularly to illustrate how counseling helps resolve transgender issues.

#### Workshops

There will be opportunity to present significant material in workshops. Submit topic, length of time required, goals of the workshop, and facilities required for presentation. Workshops will be open to all conference registrants.

### HOW TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR PAPERS/WORKSHOPS

1. Abstracts of papers and workshops must be submitted to one of the Program Committee Co-Chairs:

Papers to: Vern Bullough, Ph.D., R.N., 17434 Mayall St., Northridge, CA 91325

Workshops to: Sheila Kirk, M.D., c/o IFGE, 123 Moody St., Waltham, MA 02154.

2. Abstracts and Workshop Descriptions should contain sufficient information to adequately judge the proposal. Those proposing a workshop are not required to submit an Abstract but rather include information about the format of the workshop, e.g., experiential, demonstration, discussion, et al., and what the workshop will accomplish.

3. Proposals should be typed on 8 1/2" by 11" paper, one side only, double-spaced. Send four (4) copies. Proposals may also be submitted by email to <cngs2@cdspub.com>.

4. All proposals must include:

Title

Author's name, position and/or title, address of affiliation or institution, phone#.

Specific area of contribution (educator, therapist, counselor, researcher)

Objectives of presentation

Methodology of presentation

Outline of presentation content

Time needed to make presentation

A list of equipment and aids required: slide projector, overhead projector, chalkboard, newsprint pad, etc. This information should be included even though it may be tentative.

Questions, ideas, or general correspondence may be directed to:

JoAnn Roberts, Ph.D., PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, Pa 19406.

Phone: 610-640-9449, Fax: 610-648-0257; Email: <cngs2@cdspub.com>



## The Frye Holiday Letter, 1995

We did a lot of travel this year. In January we went to San Francisco and worked to obtain a unanimous resolution from the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association stating that transgenders must be in the upcoming federal ENDA -- Employment Non-Discrimination Act. Wow, the Golden Gate Bridge is fantastic! In February we were in San Antonio, once at Trish's convention and once at the Texas T-Party where Phyllis did several workshops. In March we went back to SA for Randy's college graduation (honors, occupational therapy). Next we went to DC for what has come to be known as the First National Gender Lobby Day. Four transgenders and two spouses met with many Members of Congress. We stayed over and saw Manassas Battlefield, Monticello, Fredricksburg and Annapolis. Somehow we got in the spring vegetable garden which was bountiful in May/June.

In April Phyllis brought the local Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) into national focus as an organization that would not reach out to TG's. That is now changing both locally and nationally. Later in Austin she joined with a handful of transgender activists that she'd been guiding who challenged over 5,000 lesbian and gay marchers to bring attention to transgenders being left out of the Hate Crimes Bill being pushed by the Texas Lesbian and Gay Rights Lobby (LGRLL). Later that month, she and four others testified before the Legislature on a transgender specific bill that she had drafted. The committee vote was 7-2 YES, but the bill got lost in the crunch of the closing weeks. Next year it will be pre-filed. In May Trish's springtime school program came off without a hitch. Later we were guests of a wonderful San Diego transgender coalition that flew us in for Phyllis to speak and then showed us the sights. We were treated like royalty and shown every sight there was. San Diego is a nice place.

June was a blur for sure. In a two week period we had the death of Trish's dear father, a small addition to our home that had been previously scheduled and Phyllis' fourth annual transgender law conference. During that conference the news broke that the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) have reintroduced the ENDA bill, again intentionally omitting transgenders. The day after the law conference she and several others began to mobilize the national transgender community to action. All over the USA, transgenders picketed HRCF fundraisers. The internet had 100+ messages each day. She wrote, spoke, travelled and e-mailed. Her law practice suffered; we figure we lost about \$23,000 in unrealized income from her nonstop community efforts that went through into October.

During July we did escape for two days at the lake house, and we drove to Lubbock to visit Randy and Estee in their locale. Great kids, those two! Phyllis went to Columbus for the National Organization for Women Convention and added to several workshops. Next was Chicago for the NLGLA Board and consolidating the January progress. The school year started early for Trish in mid-August. She'd had kids in classes well before her August 20 birthday. September 4th was the first Transgender Employment Day that Phyllis organized around Labor Day weekend.

In September, after Trish was back in school, she discovered that with a new law, she is eligible to retire at the end of this school year. With all of Phyllis' high profile, that will be a relief when Trish no longer has to worry about being fired for being the spouse of a transgendered person. In mid September, Phyllis was the initial moderator for a group of nine transgenders at the HRCF's DC offices. After a four hour, heated discussion, HRCF recognized that we had a legitimate complaint, that we had "paid our dues" and that transgenders did need to be amended into the bill. This was a dramatic and major victory for the future of our job rights!

Ending September Phyllis was in Atlanta for Southern Comfort and gave six workshops. From there she flew directly to DC for the 2nd National Gender Lobby Days that she and two others had organized. Over 100 conservatively dressed transgenders from thirty-five states came for the two day event. With Phyllis's organization and handouts, they entered and lobbied on transgender

issues of jobs, health care, imprisonment mistreatment and basic rights without any negative incidents in the offices of 520 of the 535 Members of Congress.

Beginning with the second week of October, the rest of the year has been a slide. Phyllis returned from DC exhausted and shortly thereafter depression set in. She has not fully recovered; her moods swing widely and frequently. During her routine annual physical examination it was also revealed that she had a form of anemia (idiopathic sideroblastic) with treatment but no cure. Thankfully after more tests, we learned that cancer was not part of the picture. In November, she put herself together once again for a previously scheduled trip to Detroit for the National Gay Lesbian Task Force "Creating Change" Conference for a workshop. She was honored on Sunday of that event with two standing ovations from a mealtime crowd of 2,000 for her work described as "standing the lesbian and gay community on its head" for the recognition of transgender rights and inclusion. We again made it to the lake house one weekend. We had Thanksgiving for the first time ever since 1975 with some kin. This was in Tivoli (a one traffic light town south of Victoria). We did turkey and some double-nine dominoes with Phyllis' Uncle Lindsey, Aunt Alene and cousin Steven. (During the year, we also saw her Aunt Marian, her cousins Margaret, Hal and Georgia, Trish's Aunts Hazel and Ruth (and Paul), her cousins Tom and Jim, and Randy's grandmother Jeanne.)

Because of Phyllis' depressions, we do not know what is coming in 1996. Our best guess is that her being continuously on "the point" for the rights of herself and other transgenders, lesbians, gays and bisexuals for over twenty years is just taking its toll. It is being compounded with the fact that the demands of the law conference continue to grow, but monthly pledges and donations continue to lag. (There are forty kind souls with monthly pledges and several dozen with donations and about ten who donate some serious time and effort, but there just isn't enough predictable cash flow to get a real Law Conference office and hire a real secretary to get about 85% of the load off of her shoulders.) She has decided to fulfill, as best as she is able, her obligations for her Spring round of lectures and travel and the July law conference. After that, we'll see.

Trish's December school program went very well. Joyfully, in just a few days, Randy and Estee will be in our home for the holidays. Those two are going to make us both into grandmothers come next May, and we are very happy with all the love and honors associated. We will take them to The Nutcracker Ballet and then the next day to the largest baby-stuff store that we are sure they have ever seen. We will do the lake and mostly rest for the remainder of the holidays.

We love you all, Trish and Phyllis Frye in Houston

Several days have passed since I posted my Holiday Letter. The responses were most kind and loving. Even so, and even with the significant court tg success of today (which I have told some about and will probably speed quickly), I continue to find that I am mostly exhausted and depressed. All day today, I've been signing off e-mail as *Phyllabust@d* because the handle fits the way I feel.

I must take a sabbatical. I'm not angry, I'm just sick, and I am worn out.

My plans for 1996 are being trimmed back. Right now, I will do a workshop at the T-Party, I will do the Employment Law gig for the NGLTF and I will do a workshop at the IFGE and Omaha fundraiser. Obviously, I will do the 5th ICTLEP 3-7 July. Everything else is up in the air.

I will accept individual e-mail and respond as best as I can. Please keep it personal and do not flood me with requests for help or information. I will answer the phone and try to be helpful, again please don't overload me with requests for information or help. Until ICTLEP gets the financial support of enough monthly pledges to support a real office and a real secretary, that is the way it will have to be. I just cannot handle the load anymore.

Sorry,

I love you all, *Phyllabust@d*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TRI-ESS MEETINGS IN SCHENECTADY

The Lambda Chi Lambda Chapter of Tri-Ess holds monthly Saturday meetings at a motel in Schenectady. The planned schedule is: Feb. 17, Mar. 16, Apr. 20, May 18, June 15.

### INVESTMENTS VALENTINE PARTY FEB. 10

At Holiday Inn, Hyannis, MA. \$30 per person. Call Jessi Martin at (508) 240-5771 or Candy Scott at (508) 563-3160

### 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

(note: their old PO Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778 is now closed)

### TRANSGENDER AWARD WINNERS FOR 1996

IFGE has announced the recipients of the annual community awards to be presented at the IFGE Convention in Minneapolis-St. Paul, March 24-31:

**Virginia Prince Outstanding Service Award:**

*Dr. Sheila Kirk*

**Trinity Awards:**

*Sandra Cole*

*Jane Fee*

*Joan Sheldon*

To get a Convention Registration form, call Yvonne at (617) 899-2212

### NEW ADDRESS FOR SUNSHINE CLUB

Our sister group in Western Massachusetts has a new address:

**Sunshine Club**

PO Box 564

Hadley, MA 01035-0564

Their newsletter, *Muliebrity*, is available for reading in our club room.

### 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) **Albany Area:**

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

## CALENDAR

Regular Meetings are held every Thursday at the TGIC Club Room on Central Avenue in Albany, 7:30 - 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 Central Ave. night spots after the meetings.

### FEBRUARY 1996

Feb 8 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Feb 10 **Dinner Party**, 8:00 pm

*Oceans Eleven, Rt. 20*

Feb 15 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Feb 22 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Feb 29 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

### MARCH 1996

Mar 7 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Mar 9 **Dinner Party**, 8:00 pm

*Location to be announced*

Mar 14 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Mar 21 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Mar 28 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

### MAJOR COMING EVENTS

2/27-3/3 *Texas T-Party*, Dallas, TX

Mar 24-31 *IFGE Convention*,  
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN

Mar 29-31 *XPRESSIONS Spring Gala*,  
Niagara-on-the-Lake,  
Ontario, Canada

Apr 25-29 *California Dreamin'*,  
San Francisco, CA

May 16-19 *Paradise in the Poconos*,  
Canadensis, PA

June 6-9 *Be-All*, Detroit, MI

June 13-16 *Tiffany Club Spring Fling*,  
Provincetown, MA

July 3-7 *TRANSGEN'96*, Houston, TX

July 24-28 *S.P.I.C.E.*, Wilmington, DE

**JOSEFINA A. SPECKERT M.Ed.**

**PSYCHOTHERAPIST**

**(413) 499-5858**

**30 EAST HOUSATONIC ST. SUITE #3  
PITTSFIELD MA 01201**