

The E.O.N. Newsletter

Expressing Our Nature



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ISSUE # 5

DATE September, 1990

From the Editor

Here it is, time for another fantastic E.O.N. newsletter and as you can see, there have been some changes made. Our sisterhood has seen a large number of those changes occurring in the past month. Our membership has doubled, we have a new meeting place, a constitution is being drafted, and it is now my honor and privilege to be the one who brings all of this news to you. As the new editor of the E.O.N. newsletter it will be my policy to keep you up to date on all the latest developments that affect both our sisterhood and the community. I will try to keep you abreast of any and all upcoming events. I would also invite any and all of you to contribute to the success of this newsletter by submitting articles, poetry or anything you as members would like to be included in the newsletter. Remember, this is your newsletter. It exists for the sole purpose of informing and entertaining you. Without your support this newsletter would not exist. I hope that I can maintain the level of professionalism that was established by the previous staff. Thank you.

Your sister
Diana J. Askew Editor

E.O.N. Welcomes New Members

The E.O.N. organization wish to extend a heartfelt thanks to the new members who attend our last meeting. We would like to welcome Marsha, Melissa and Cathy, our newest members and we hope that we can provide the love and support you need. I

recently had the good fortune to be included in a new screening and met Michele who will be joining E.O.N. at the next meeting. Welcome to you, Michele, as well.

Autumn Accord Progressing

Work on the Autumn Accord is progressing by leaps and bounds. Jackie, our Program Director, is doing a super job. She is going to need our help, however. We need people to work in the reception area, staging and lighting, videotaping, tour guides, go-fers, set-up, etc. If you can help, please let us know. Let's all chip in and make this an affair to be remembered.

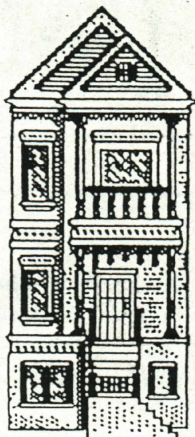
The telephone number of the E.O.N. Hot Line is 1-716-241-2361. If you have any questions, comments or special needs and you don't know who to talk to, call the Hot Line and leave a message. Someone will be in touch with you.

The E.O.N. Newsletter is a publication of E.O.N., P.O. Box 6293, Camillus, N.Y. 13031. E.O.N. is an affiliate of the International Foundation for Gender Education and the N.Y.S. Gender Coalition.

Editor Diana J. Askew
Contributing Editor Cathy Napier
Board of Directors:
President Charliss D.
Membership Director Audrey M.
Secretary/Treasurer Molly
Outreach Representative .. Angela S.
Program Director Jackie A.

Our New Meeting Place

When we walked into the large yellow Victorian mansion, our first sight was that of the main entrance room and we were startled by its size. With a dimension of at least 50' by 30' there seemd to be enough room to park a dozen cars and still have room left over. A high ceiling, chairs and couches surround the perimeter of the room and a movable partition can be closed to block of approximately 30% of the area, creating two separate rooms.



Passing through the entrance room, we found ourselves in a winding corridor with coat racks on the left, and a doorway on the right that led us into a kitchen that can only be described as gigantic. Steam tables, two stoves, refrigerators, freezers, chopping blocks, three bowl sinks, hanging utility racks; in short an institutional sized kitchen held us in awe. We also found place settings for 1500 people.

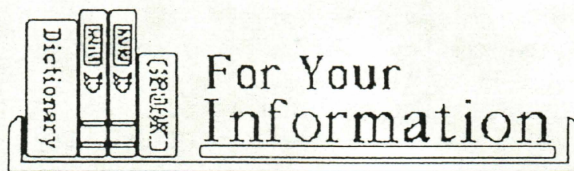
After leaving the kitchen area, a short walk up the winding corridor, led us to another doorway. Walking into the grand room for the first time, I almost dropped my corset. We were standing in a huge room with a thirty foot cathedral ceiling. The entire room was framed in Tudor style wood mouldings and we stood on a finely finished wood floor. Moveable church pews were lined up facing an elevated stage area where a makeshift alter/podium was set up. Walking up the stairs I pulled back a large curtain backdrop and exposed a working fireplace that looked as though it had been shipped over from Windsor Castle. It was amazing. As I looked at Charliss and Molly, tears began to fill my eyes. We had finally found a place befitting the grandest of our expectations.

My dream has come true. Soon we will be sitting down together at our first supper,

with the fireplace burning a yule log, the turkey on the table and our hands joined in the spirit of sisterhood and support that will fill us all and make us whole. As the firelight dances across the table and shimmers on our evening gowns, our jewelry ablaze, we will join hands and say grace thanking God for E.O.N. and each other. After dinner we will gather around the baby grand piano and sing carols.

I want to thank all the members of E.O.N. who have believed in what we are doing and have planned so hard to make this organization work. Our prayers are finally being answered. Please be a part of this wonderful future and attend our next meeting. You won't be disappointed.

Yours in sisterly love
Angela Sheedy



Storage Area for E.O.N. Members

Thanks to Trinity Church and the use of the parish center as our new home, there will be a future storage area available to our members. It will take a little development and some construction, but we hope to have the storage area in decent shape by the beginning of the year. This will depend on the cooperation of our members.

In order to help pay for the construction materials, there will be a minimal charge for the storage of your feminine apparel, makeup, etc. The amount to be charged has not as yet been decided upon by the board of directors, but it is expected to be somewhere between \$50.00 and \$100.00 dollars per year. Every effort will be made to keep this sum as low as possible. Please call the E.O.N. Hot Line if you are interested in making use of this storage facility.

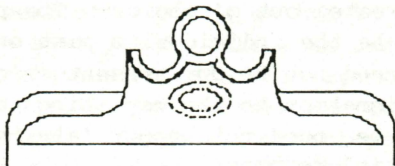
E.O.N. Construction Effort Underway

Take off the garter belts and put on the tool belts ladies. We have some work to do. Our new headquarters, offices, changing rooms and storage facility are awaiting for us. All we have to do is spend some time and elbow grease to get it together.

What we need is 3/4" plywood, nails, interior latex paint, paint brushes and rollers, linoleum, carpeting, light fixtures, outlet boxes, wall switches, 2 x 4's, mirrors and a few people who know about house wiring, plaster work and carpentry. Work parties are now being formed. Call Angela if you wish to help. The sooner we get started, the sooner we can move in.

The Group That Prays Together, Stays Together

Now that we are becoming one big happy family in the flesh, it is time for us to do so in the spirit as well. Trinity Episcopal Church is opening its doors and welcoming the members of E.O.N. Not just by letting us use the parish house, but also by inviting us to attend services en-femme. Yes, you heard it right! We can attend services dressed. It would be lovely if we could all attend together, and after services, have a breakfast in the parish house. If anyone is interested, please let Angela know a.s.a.p. Services are held on Sunday Morning at 9:00 am. I can't wait for Christmas and Easter.



Business Meeting Held

On August 18, 1990, E.O.N. held its monthly business meeting. Eleven members, 3 significant others and two guest were in attendance.

Charliss introduced the new members, Cathy, Marsha and Melissa and they were welcomed to E.O.N.

The board of directors were introduced. They are:

- o Charliss - President
- o Angela - I.F.G.E. Representative
- o Jackie - Program Director
- o Audrey - Membership Director
- o Molly - Secretary/Treasurer

Charliss announced that the Autumn Accord pamphlets would be ready by August 20 and would soon be distributed to other groups.

Angela announced that she would be meeting with two local doctors to establish a mutually beneficial relationship between E.O.N. and the medical community.

Angela reported that a response to her letter to the city police department had been received. The letter informed the police of E.O.N. and the Autumn Accord. The response was "How can we help?"

Two local retailers have given their permission for members to shop the stores and use the dressing rooms according to Charliss. These retailers are 16plus at Camillus Mall and Boom Babies on the corner of Wescott and Beech streets. It was also suggested that Margret, in the cosmetic department at the downtown Addis & Deys, has been very helpful and maintains files on several E.O.N. girls.

Molly offered the treasurers report. As of August 18, 1990, our account balance was \$607.67. After adding in bank charges, donations and printing costs, that amount was amended to \$557.37.

Molly reported on the various laws affecting crossdressers. It was concluded after discussing the matter, that members should carry their male ID's and give their male names when asked by the authorities, (excluding our TS members) and if they are not soliciting, they should not fear arrest.

The possibility of incorporation as a not-for-profit organization was discussed.

A three person by-laws committee was formed. Angela, Molly and Diana were selected to serve on the committee.

Chris H. and Ted B. representing Alternative Efforts of Central N. Y. were introduced and spoke briefly. It was through them that E.O.N. found it's new meeting place. The role of E.O.N. in the alternative lifestyle community was also discussed.

Jackie submitted a report on the Autumn Accord and a plea for help from the members at large was made.

Charliss offered a report on membership. E.O.N. currently has 24 members with two more screenings planned.

The meeting was ajourned and a good time was had by all.

Molly



The Presidents Corner

Opportunity

What a wonderful opportunity E.O.N. is for all of us who choose to see it this way. Some of us saw it this way when it was just a name that had become disconnected from the original couples club it had once represented.

There it was: Just this name that, at one time, meant something to a group of

crossdressers and their wives, and now serving mosly as a reminder of the past.

We chose to see it differently - anew. The issue here for all of us is really the issue of creativity. How do we create opportunity for ourselves as crossdressers, whether TV or TS, single or married, whatever our individual orientation in this life? The answer, I believe, applies to all aspects of our lives.

What we want in our lives - what we need - what we desire, is called content. This content might include a dinner out en femme, a banquet with a prominent speaker, a change in employment status, a new pair of high heels (I'm serious...), a new degree of authenticity in a relationship, increased self esteem, an expanded circle of friendships, the ability to come and go in society as either man or woman - you name it.

Now...none of this just happens. We will never just wake up one morning and find all, or any, of this just sitting under the tree. The time is past for that.

Creativity is called for. We create the **context** in which what we need and desire can happen. That is our responsibility, as individuals and as a group - to create that space, that context. It is much the same as having this wonderful variety of seeds - call them desires or ideas - and a vision of the fruit. If there is not the corresponding growth opportunity for these seeds - soil, water, etc. - then we need to create a field of growth.

Context is created out of choice. The past - whether it be the individual's past or society's - need not be our present or our future. Resignation to the way things are, or appear to be, need not be our fate, our only "realistic" response.

There is an old story about a group of people who had attained the most important thing in their lives, and they were having one of their regular get-togethers when they were visited by some newcomers who were attracted to what this group had achieved for themselves.

The "old timers" talked a little about the road they had traveled prior to their achievement - our their lack of it - and shared some thoughts about their present life and their abundance.

The newcomers were impressed, especially since they found that they could identify with these people on a feeling level as they shared their past. Most importantly, the newcomers wanted to share in the abundance that was so evident.

They were told this: "If you have decided you want what we have and are willing to go to any lengths to get it, then you are ready to take certain steps. We had balked at some of these steps. We thought we could find an easier and softer way, but we could not."

The "old timers" then outlined these "certain steps". Actually, they were talking about creating the opportunity, the context in which the most important things could happen.

There are many reasons why E.O.N. - the new E.O.N. as an open group - was created. The one thing to remember is that E.O.N. was created to provide the context in which our individualities could be expressed, a field of opportunity or growth wherein this expression could continue to unfold.

In order to create this context, we had to be willing to take certain steps which most of us initially considered to be risky, for example, revealing our nature to non-crossdressers in order to secure facilities, services and cooperation. There were other steps we had to take - and more we have yet to take - as individuals and as a group in order to expand and grow in terms of social stature and personal self esteem. Many of these steps will involve risk and vulnerability. The motivation, the desire, the vision of a "break-through" experience needs to be strong indeed to reinforce the willingness to take these "certain steps".

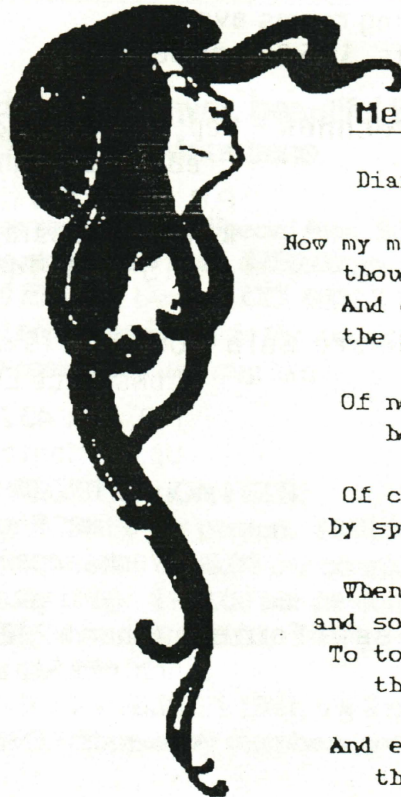
In order to accommodate the natural tendency of human beings to grow, unfold, and expand, E.O.N. will have to grow as well in

order to continue to be of service. As context, it will have to be re-created again and again. This will have to occur on a conscious level, intentionally. This too, like the context, will never just appear under the tree one morning.

Each and every one of us, crossdressers and significant others, has this tremendous and wonderful dimension deep within that has to unfold to lesser or greater degrees. I believe that this dimension is spiritual in nature, and that it expresses itself in a multitude of individual ways.

We have, each and everyone of us, the opportunity to choose our experience with E.O.N. as the context in which this dimension can unfold and grow. This way we will not only be helping ourselves, we will be assisting others.

Charliss Dolge
E.O.N. President



Metamorphosis

Diana Joell Askew

Now my mind is filled with
thoughts of spring.
And of the wonders
the season brings.

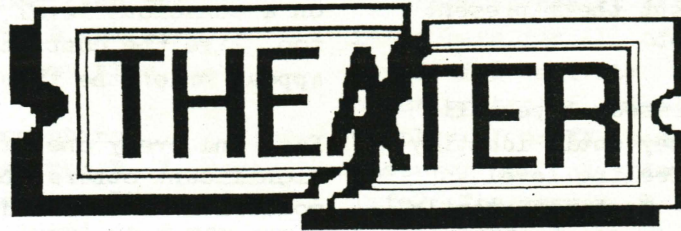
Of new beginnings
here at last.

Of changes wrought
by springs long past.

When sights unseen
and songs unsung begin
To touch the feelings
that stir within.

And evoke the miracle
that by and by

Turns the caterpillar
into the butterfly.



Calendar of Events

Poconos Outing - September 6-9, 1990

Muriel Olive
Call Femme Fashions
1-212-624-5750

Sock Hop - September 14, 1990

Rochester CD Network P.O. Box 92055 Rochester, N.Y. 14692
Doors open at 7:00 Dinner at 8:30
Dressing rooms available
Tickets \$25.00 per person

Paradise in the Poconos - September 20-23, 1990

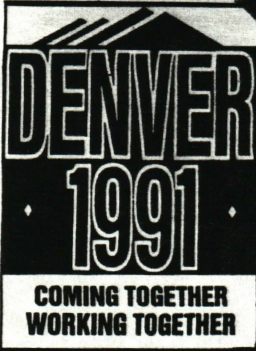
Creative Design Services
P.O. Box 1263
King of Prussia, PA 19406
1-215-640-9449

Dressing for Pleasure Gala - October 19-20, 1990

Constance Enterprises
P.O. Box 43277
Upper Montclair, N.J. 07043
1-201-746-0072
Fashion Show and Dinner
Workshops

16th Annual Fantasia Fair - October 12-21

Lincolnia Station
P.O. Box 11254
Alexandria, VA 22312



Presenting

The International Foundation for Gender Education's
5th annual

**'COMING TOGETHER - WORKING TOGETHER'
CONVENTION**

Cross-dressers, Transsexuals, Wives & Partners,
Medical & Mental Health Professionals, Friends & Allies
working together to build a happier and brighter future for us all.
COME AND JOIN US!

.... APRIL 8 through APRIL 14, 1991

In the majestic Regency Hotel, in Denver, beautiful Denver,
at the foot of the Rocky Mountains.

(Hotel registration is separate from convention registration.) Special fees: \$55.00 per night single, \$65.00 per night double or twin, \$110.00 per night tower suite, \$150.00 per night hospitality suite.

For reservations: Regency Hotel, 3900 Elati St., Denver, CO. 80216 (303) 458-0808

(Special hotel rates are guaranteed from the preceding Friday to the following Tuesday for those who would like to come early and stay late.)

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEES:

Full Convention (more than 3 days): \$230.00 per person, \$390.00 per couple

Any 3-days: \$195.00 per person, \$305.00 per couple

2-days (Friday & Saturday only): \$150.00 per person

Per diem: Tuesday \$50.00, Wednesday \$90.00, Thursday \$80.00, Friday \$80.00, Saturday \$90.00,
Sunday \$50.00

Discounts: 15% if paid by Oct. 1 1990, 10% if paid by Jan. 1 1991, 5% if paid by Mar. 15, 1991
(Special additional 10% discount for IFGE Supporting members and Benefactors.)

For information and Registration

The International Foundation for Gender Education
P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778
1-617-894-8340
Offices: 6 Cushing St, Waltham, MA 02154

Host Organization:

Gender Identity Center of Colorado
Box 11563, 3715 32nd Ave.
Denver, CO 80211
1-303-458-5378

Autumn Accord - November 2-4, 1990

E.O.N. P.O. Box 6293 Camillus, N.Y. 13031
1-716-241-2361

Hotel \$65.00 per night single or double occupancy
Friday Night Dinner \$16.00
Saturday Luncheon, Autumn Accord Banquet
and Sunday Brunch \$40.00
Workshops

Tri-Ess National Convention - November 14-18, 1990

San Francisco
P.O. Box 194 Tulare, CA 93275

IFGE,s 5th Annual Coming Together Convention - April 8-14, 1991
Denver, Colorado

For Information and Registration

The International Foundation for Gender Education
P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778
1-617-894-8340

Host Organization

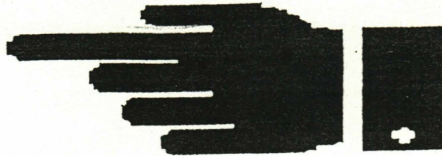
Gender Identity Center
of Colorado
Box 11563, 3715 32nd Ave.
Denver, CO 80211
1-303-458-5378

Regular Meetings

Albany - 2nd Saturday of the Month - 145 club 8:00 PM
4th Friday of the Month - Club Room

E.O.N. - 3rd Saturday of the Month - 8:00 PM
Trinity Episcopal Church Parish House
Onondaga St. & Midland Ave.

Rochester CD Network - 2nd Friday of the Month - 6:00-11:00 PM
Wellesly Center 35 Wellesly Street



Directions to the New E.O.N. Meeting Place

North Bound on I-81:

- 1.) Take Baldwinsville exit in center of city.
- 2.) Travel 3/4 mile and take West Street exit.
- 3.) Continue on West Street until it ends at Onondaga Street.
- 4.) Turn right and go to next light.
- 5.) Turn left onto Midland Ave.
- 6.) Turn right into first driveway behind funeral home on the corner of Onondaga and Midland Ave.
- 7.) Drive straight back to large yellow victorian house behind church.
Entrance at handicap ramp.

South Bound I-81:

- 1.) Take West Street exit entering the city. Bear right to the light.
- 2.) Cross intersection and go up ramp to West Street.
- 3.) Follow directions above.

East Bound Rt. 690:

- 1.) Follow sign to 690 West Bound.
- 2.) Take West Street exit entering the city.
- 3.) Follow directions above.

West Bound Rt. 690:

- 1.) Take exit for West Street & Genesee Street.
- 2.) Stay to your left on exit ramp to West Street.
- 3.) Follow directions above.