

# EXTRA TVIC JOURNAL EXTRA

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PRES: William M. [redacted]  
[redacted]  
Albany, New York

M E M B E R S H I P

\$ 1 5 P E R Y E A R

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Helen  
and

Wilma [redacted]

PHONE: [redacted]

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Hi Everybody:

Would you believe we had thirty one here last night for the meeting, eight wives were in attendance with their sisters. Here are the gals who made it. Alice and Connie from Gulf Breeze, Fla., Sonya and Cynthia from Norwalk, Conn., Sharon from Heightstown, N.J., Dee Dee and Vi from Hartford, Conn., Michelle Ann and Dennie from Sommerville, Mass., Jean and Sally from Binghamton, N.Y., Paula and Kathy from Lanesboro, Mass., Jean from Peru, N.Y., Kathy from Camillus, N.Y., Elanda from Rome, N.Y., Elaine and Colleen from Cold Brook, N.Y., Joan from Colonie, N.Y., Sussane from Albany, N.Y., Crystal from Menands, N.Y., Winnie from Schenectady, N.Y., Julie Ann from Eagle Bridge, N.Y., Isabella and Leslie from Willington, N.Y., Michelle from Oneonta, N.Y., Veronica from Endicotte, N.Y. Phyllis from Rochelle Park, N.J., Laura from Colonie, and Wilma and I.

Michelle from Oneonta was a new member who had come down to talk to Wilma about joining the group not knowing that this was our meeting night. He was a little nervous a first, but when Dee Dee and Vi stopped in before going to motel to change he could see the way Wilma and Dee Dee talked and clowned that we were a friendly group. When Michelle left she had enjoyed her evening and was very relaxed, not bad for coming in on something cold turkey and unprepared for a whole group of T.V.'s. Glad to have you Michelle.

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Now for the meal:

Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Cold Slaw, Cottage Cheese, Corn, Green Bean Casserole, Penny Carrots Marinade, Rye Bread, Butter, Cake and Coffee. The cake was a Birthday cake for Michelle Ann and Dennie whose Birthdays are seperated by only a few days. The cake was delicious made with whole strawberri filling and frosted with whip cream. ( If you droole reading this, it's o.k.)

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Our entertainment group outdid themselves this time. DeeDee and Paula our Musicians played for awhile then Cynthia one of our lively sisters did a take off of me when Wilma and I were guests of theirs on their boat. Everybody got a good laugh out of it as well as I, but it was really true. here it is. An orange was cut out to resemble my face, and as Cynthia told the story first my eyes ran, then as we went further along and I was a little more sea sick she had my nose run and with a little more bouncing around she had my mouth on the orange gushing out with juice, believe me this is just the way I felt. My first trip out I was not such a good sailor. Next time will be better. It's remarkable how Cynthia made an act out of it for all the girls to enjoy. Thanks Cynthia I enjoyed it, Now we had our sister Elanda do a Cariaca Specialty dance for us that she had done ot the Fantasia Affair. Well done Elanda. For the Finally we had the One and only Cynthia right off Broadway to do her act that she had also done at Fantasia. Cynthia came out scantilly clad in a Gold Lamee Bra and Gold Bikini Pants with guns om their hips, high gold lamae boots, cowboy hat, her act consisted of songs and some hip swiveling and for her last song Sonya joined Cynthia to close off the entertainment for the night Areal talented girl this Cynthia ( maybe we should see a hollywood agent to put her on Broadway in big lights.)

Dee Dee played for the girls if they wanted to dance after the show. Any of you other gals who have any kind of talent step up and be heard and entertain all your sisters. Thanks girls I enjoyed the evening.

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Gossip:

I understand that Sandy took Kathy to the Dentist one day a few weeks ago and this scene took place: Seems Sandy went shopping while Kathy was in the dentists and bought herself a skirt but alas when they got home to Kathy's the skirt was a wee bit small, so Kathy said al right we'll go back and change it. While at the store Sandy put the bag down and told Kathy to watch it untill the saleslady came over, and Sandy proceeded to go over to pick out another skirt, when she heard Kathy tell the saleslady who had come by, see that guy over there he bought this skirt and when we got home it was to small for him, now Sandy is coming back to Kathy and the saleslady and Kathy said this is him coming now. The salesgirl asked Sandy is that the right size for you now, well Sandy was without a doubt a little embarrassed but took the skirt, out side he said to Kathy you didn't tel her did you. ( How'S this for bringing you out in the open) This piece of gossip was so good you can see I made some errors

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Happy to see Connie and Aleice from Fla back to visit and to Veronica who made her way back after an absence. Stay healthy and happy.

LOVE  
HELEN.

## W I L M A ' S V I E W S

One of the greatest worries that assail everyone of us (TVs) is the thought that we may be thought of as gay. We go to great lengths trying to impress upon those we happen to meet outside our little world of finery that we definitely are not what we seem to be. Some of the girls carry this fear to such extremes that after they get dressed, they act even more manly than they would do in their male clothes. No attempt is made to endow their girl-image with the gestures and mannerisms that are considered feminine by society. Somehow they are afraid that by acting feminine, if they ever get caught or "read", such mannerisms will have pegged them as gay. Hence we observe the rather grotesque spectacle of a man who is dressed in women clothes who is properly made up, but who stops at that point and spends all possible effort in projecting as masculine a personality as he can. There are only two possible explanations: one is the above mentioned fear the other is another fear to release the feminine part of the personality and to discover that she is than the masculine self. Obviously we are in the presence of a struggle prompted by a double fear: social & psychological.

It is interesting however to observe how inconsistent we can be in our behaviour. We all agree that we should do our best to draw a shato line between the transvestic world and the gay world. We go so far as to suggest an entirely new set of terms to describe ourselves. And still we eagerly doll up to attend a masquerade ball knowing ~~we~~ perfectly well that the public is well aware of ~~one~~ thing: that it is a drag ball where the "queens" go to display their fabulous gowns. We know this but we shut our eyes to the inescapable fact that no one soul in that affair will believe in a million years that there is a difference between us and the rest of the be-gowned and be-jewelled "boys". We have become--in the eyes of the public--exactly what we loudly proclaim we are not. ( any comments?)

I'm sure all of you gals know putting out this Journal is quite a task. Even so, it is more of a job than you can realize. If this Journal was founded on a commercial "get rich quick" basis, all would be simple. The pages would be filled with posed impersonator photos, dreamed-up case histories and plain hokum. This is not our Journal. The material is factual and written by your sisters. This Journal can continue to be interesting only, if YOU the reader will break down and give. Don't be shy. If necessary, get your brother to help. Go ahead, say I'm not an author---I can't write, so what~~x~~, neither can I.

If you are like most TVs, you've probably spent many years "in the closet" not quite sure what to do about your femme yearnings or how to reckon with "the girl ~~with~~ within". If you are content to sit before your mirror admiring the girl you see there, rest assured "she" will be your friend--and your only friend! If you want something more in your femme life then you have to do something. Why should you expect others to be interested in you if you don't show interest in them. SO why not attend our parties and meet your sisters in person or at least contact other members through mail.

We are after all, many different things to other people but in truth a total being within ourselves. Our individual progress is very important to TVIC because as we go as members so will TVIC go as a sum total of all of us. Our new members usually take care of themselves through the vehicle of understanding, education, means of expression, etc., provided by belonging to TVIC. But what about the veteran or long-time member--where is she going?? Even more important, what is she doing to meet her obligation as one who has received help and is morally responsible to help maintain the means to help others. The next time you look in the mirror at that pretty face, ask her if she is doing her part to keep ~~x~~ TVIC moving along and return some help so others after her can receive it. If you don't see a pretty girl in the mirror ask him" where "she" has gone.????

Since there is a bit of space left let me pass on to you a few observations that I have made regarding how ~~Temperance~~ vital Temperance in cross-dressing is to a good marriage relationship. Yes. you may be fortunate in having a wife who thoroughly understands you and you are free to dress as often as you please. While this may be completely true, you may find out that it is IMPORTANT ~~for~~ the traditional man and woman roles to shine through part of ~~the~~ the time. I am sure that any women, though she understands her husband and his desires and contentment in cross-dressing still wants a man around to escort her on occasion to dinner and a show besides the necessary visits with conventional friends and relatives. D O ! give her the consideration to which she is entitled.....

\* \* \*

W I L M A

Sex is the only thing where one and one make three.

\* \* \*

Plenty of girls satisfy who don't smoke Chesterfields.

\* \* \*

"My greatest thrill," said the wife of the ex-soldier, "was when Johnny came marching home and I awoke to find him standing by the bed with his discharge in his hand."

## NEXT MEETING

OUR next two meeting will be, Dec. 16th and Jan. 20th. Dec. 16th will be our Christmas party at this party members generally bring a gift for our grab bag. This gift should be in the \$5 range, But please bring something nice, something you would like to receive your self, who knows you might even go home with. This is not a must. Also if you have an evening gown do bring it along.

Now this party will be held down to 30 members do to the lack of space. So get your reservations in early, a good time is now. We have already 15 reservations in from members who were here Saturday.

## Welcome New Members

I am pleased to announce the enrollment of 2 new members.

PAULA D. LODI, CALIF. & PHILLIS L. ROCHELLE PARK N.J.

### S P E C I A L T H A N K S D E P A R T M E N T :

Joan R. Fort Edward, N.Y. Michell Ann & Dennie B. Somerville, Mass.  
Dee Dee & Vie Hartford Conn. For the lovely Birthday gifts.  
Dee Dee also for the pictures she sent me for the club Album.  
Cythia & Sonya for yhat good old cider.

We want to thank Sally & Jean for the long stick of Beer Salami they brought for a snack for the girls before their big meal, it was enjoyed by all. And a big thanks for my special sausage I'll have for the Holidays. I will enjoy it. Have a good time in Las Vegas girls and bring home some loot.  
Connie Nichols sends her thanks to over the 50 get well cards she received from our members. Thanks girls they help. Connie also called last night to and it was good to hear from her, wished she could be here, but no traveling for yet so we'll see you soon Connie, stay on the road to good health.

### R E G I P E S R E Q U E S T E D :

Penny carrot marinade: 2 lbs. carrots sliced and cooked, 1 green pepper diced, 1 medium onion chopped.

Marinade: 1 cup tomatoe soup as is, 1 cup sugar, dash of salt, 1/2 cup salad oil, 1 teaspoon ~~salt~~ worchester sause, 1 teaspoon mustard, 3/4 cup vinegar, Pour marinade over carrots and cover let stand in refrigerator overnight.

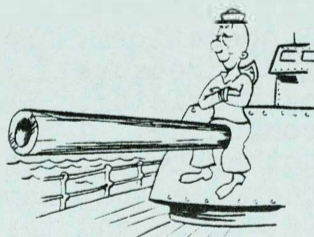
GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE: 2 cans green beans drained, put in casserole dish. salt and pepper to taste butter.

SAUSE: 1 can of cream of chicken soup dilute with 1/2 can of milk, bring to slow boil and soup is dissolved, pour over beans top with grated cheddar cheese bake for about 1 hour then turn oven up high to brown cheese. serve hot.

## Happy Birthday Girls

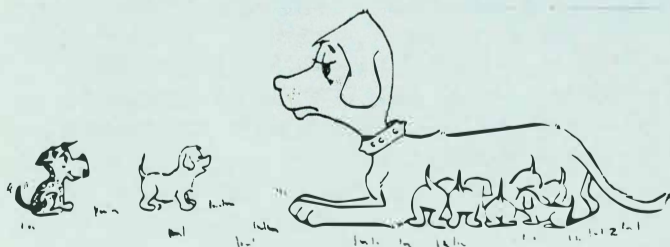
These are the girls whos birthdays come up in december ;

- Dec. 2 Michelle S [REDACTED]
- " 7 Gloria B [REDACTED]
- " 11 Diane W [REDACTED]
- " 12 Patricia G [REDACTED]
- " 14 Phillis C [REDACTED]
- " 31 Fran G [REDACTED]



### D U E S :

You Members who have received a dues notice. Some of you are 3 months or more over due. Don't you think that you have a good thing going here at TVIC? So if you want to keep it going it needs your support.



"Mama, can Willie stay for lunch?"



"Of course not, Silly! They're my initials."



"Careful, Charlie, I don't want to have a miscarriage."

# letters to the editor

Dear Wilma:

Why do males crossdress? If any one of us knew the answer to "why" behind the urge, I'm sure it could be turned into something very worthwhile. It seems to me we may best be able to approach the basic "why" thru a few avenues. First we can look at some of the things crossdressing is as well as considering some of the things crossdressing is not. Second we could consider the currently active psycho-social theories propounded by the "authorities" on the subject. Third we can take the simple direct approach and ask thinking, thoughtful, honest open crossdressers "why".

First it is essential to establish that anything said on such a subjectively perceived subject of course, is highly influenced by the bias structure of the person reporting his/her observations. My perceived bias as a heterosexual male crossdresser engaged professionally in counselling people arises from my understanding of psychological research reported upon, sociological and anthropological views, personal experience in counselling with many crossdressers and my own self perspective in all these contexts.

There exists within every person at birth a mix of potentials to develop along either masculine or feminine patterns of behaviours (so called personality traits). I believe every person has genetic predispositions to develop in very widely differing patterns. The behavioural patterns emergent are in my view, while biologically potentiated, the result of the multitude of overt and covert influences shaping our every lines. The most potent of these shaping forces are the significant "others" (frightfully mothers) in our first 3 to 5 years. To a lesser degree, powerful yet, is the weight of life experiences and peer pressures as we strive for maturity. It is the synthesis of all these tremendous force results that result in the desire of certain persons to crossdress,

The admixture of mind body and spirit of the person, triune yet unity, transcends human logic; yet appears evident to thinking persons. Our inability to grasp our very created structure with anything sane the most rudimentary comprehension, predisposes us to seek simplistic "reasons" for observed events. Often in our belated concept of our own understanding we fall victim to the limited notions supported by simplistic concepts. The question "why" is important. A fairly simple answer is needed. I wonder if, however, a simple answer is possible. In such a case as this with its near infinite complexities, we have to settle for an operational or "working" answer with the full understanding that it is just a working answer—an overly simplified peek at a deeply complex system which may well be beyond our grasp.

In constructing a working answer the things crossdressing is and is not ~~xx~~ are significant. Crossdressing is the donning or affecting of the clothing prescribed by society to be appropriate to members of the opposite sex for their typical and socially acceptable use. Motive is another thing all together. Crossdressing, going one step further, is an expression either compulsively or rationally effected, of inner feelings, desires and beliefs. It is an outward act expressing an inward motive. It is not the motive. In this it, except for psychosexual pathologies such as fetishes, is not a sexual act. Since it is not a sexual act it cannot be either heterosexual or homosexual. Since these concepts arise from within the person, be expressive of either. It is easily seen at this point that even an operational answer is complex.

The most obvious of all operational answers to the "why" question is, I suppose best stated by saying "Because I want to". Often this is insufficient and motivational "whys" begin arising. Delving into motives can become a chore tiring, exasperating and confusing. I have spent years asking "why" and each "answer" stimulates yet another "why". Therefore I've developed a brief form of a terribly simplistic response that says it helps me be me, whoever I am. and this is good. It harms no one and this is good. Therefore if done in such a way as to render only good, my final response is "WHY NOT?", which puts the burden of "proof" where it belongs: on those who say or imply crossdressing is somehow wrong.

So finally we arrive at an operational answer to the question "Why crossdress?" . WHY NOT?.

ANOTHER SUBJECT: Your comments re voice are great. This is almost exactly ~~great~~ the same as has been my experience. Good to the last period. Again thank you for your nice newsletter and an opportunity to share my views.  
LANIS H. [REDACTED] LEAGUE CITY TEXAS.

Said the frustrated bride, "I've just been reading a book called 'What Every Young Man Should Know,' and have I got an ignorant husband!"

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She's a model. She'll sit for \$5.00 an hour. For any other position you'll have to dicker . . .

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The difference between dark and hard is that it gets dark every night.

\*\*\*  
The old man was marrying the young beauty tomorrow, so he went to the doctor to see if he was in good working order for all the excitement, and to learn how often the doctor thought he should fulfill his marital role. Later he met a friend and asked, "I don't understand these fancy words . . . how often a week is SEMI-ANNUAL?"

Dear Helen:

I am writing to you on the question "Why do men crossdress?" I believe they dress as woman to relax after a hard days work and I think they feel more comfortable dressed in wovens clothing. I don't believe a person gave it up because I have tried to a couple of times. I have burnt all my femme clothes and after a week or two I went out and bought more femme clothes. Another reason I dress is a Doctor told me that I have both female and male organs. He told me also to keep dressing both as a male and a female.

R. EPLEY VANCOUVER WASHINGTON.

Dear Helen & Bill;

Was most interested in your article on voice for I have tried, at times, to attain a level a bit higher than ~~xxxxx~~ my usual firm and real masculine voice.

Some years ago Pam Nolan and I visited one Dr. Jacoby in New York City. He is a voice trainer of such celebrities as Van Johnson, Tony Randall and many others. Am sure that Dr. Jacoby could have helped me more but somehow I just don't feel right, when among other males (Dressed as females.) talking in other than my normal voice. Seems too false!

Happy that you had such a nice gathering at your last party. The letter from Merissa was wonderful even though I think I could have been a bit more flowery without being a bit over commenting. JEAN PLATSBURG N.Y.

Dear Wilma:

On Nov. 4th I had a TV party at my house for some of the girls. There was 9 TVs and 2 Wives. Those who came were Sandy E. from Rochester, N.Y., Lee S. from niagra Falls, N.Y., Kathy G. from Syracuse, N.Y., Elanda M. from Rome, N.Y. Dolly S. from Rochester, N.Y., Muriel W. from Geneseo, N.Y., Linda & Jean J. from Springville, N.Y., Margaret & Kathy C. from Syracuse.

Margaret & Kathy are the only ones who are not members of our Albany TVIC group. In fact this was the first TV party they have ever been to.

I hope they had a good enough time that they may sometime come to Albany to meet the rest of the girls.

From what everybody said it was an enjoyable evening. Every body had a good time. A lot of pictures were taken.

For dinner I served Chicken Ala King (it should have been chicken Ala Queen) on pastry shells, German potatoe salad, cranberry sauce, tossed salad & Jello Coffee & cake.. Before dinner I had some snacks out.

I started the day out by going to the Beauty Parlir and getting my hair done After that I came home to get things ready for the evening.

At 1 oclock Kathy and I went to Merel Normans studio to have our makeup done professionally.

Because of my 2 appointments Sandy said she would help me fix dinner. I would like to take this oportunity to thank her for all of her help.

Sunday morning I had 5 of the girls for breakfast. I served bacon, sausage, eggs, toast and coffee. (did you have on your maid outfit when serving breakfast?)

I hope to have another party in either late winter or early spring.

FRANCES G. HENRIETTA N.Y.

( Frances, send me margaret & Kathy's adress and I will send them a copy of this Journal. Wilma.)

NOTE TO ALL YOU MEMBERS: See how easy it is to have a nice party and have these lovely friends to come and have a good time, More of you should try it, I'll give you space in the Journal and what help I can.

Dear Helen & Wilma:

In your last issue of the TVIC JOURNAL there was a story by one Dee Dee Watson, about how she became a TV, wich event she attributed to me. I hereby deny the story, the true events will be related below. She attributed certain olefactory prowess to me, whereas the tru fact is that my sinus is so stuffed up that I can't scarcely tell a bakery from a fish store. Based on good authority, I can say that Ms Watson became a TV following a contact with a flying chain saw.

This is the story of how I became a TV: I was a maintenance man in a commercial laundry, and was called to check a drum drier. It seemed that the bags of laundry were being cut up while whirling. The load, a bunch of bags from a girls school, was all messed up and flying around the drum.

Well, I took my tools & my saassistant to the drum, and climed down inside. I sat down on the bottom to examine the interior, and sat right on the culprit, a piece of steel wedged in the drain holes. I gave a yell, my assistant thought I shouted "ON", and the drum began to spin. As it whirld around the steel sliced away at my clothes; what with my clothes being ripped off & the girls clothes flying around I soon found myself dressed in bra and panties, not to mention a wig that some dodo of a girl had sent to the laundry! The assistant soon realized his mistake and shut the machine off. As soon as my head cleared I climed out of the drier; my assistant saw nothing out of the ordinary for a scantily clad lady to climb out of the drier. He helped me out, said "Howdy, Miss" and leared at me as if to say what a time I must have had with his boss

(continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

inside the whirling drier. Anyway, the lady workers in the laundry saw my pligh t and dug up a skirt and blouse, shoes, and took up a collection for me. I began to feel pretty good dressed up, and decided to take the rest of the day off. So I left, \$27.35 richer, starting on a course that has been with me ever since. And that's the story of how I ~~became~~ become a TV. CYNTHIA ANN MASEY, CONN

Dear Wilma:

I'M having a TV party on January 1st 1979 from 8pm to 2am at the Night Moves Club, 133 West 19th St. New York City. The admission is \$10 which includes wine and cheese. Vincent D [redacted], P.O.B. 1105, Woodside, N.Y. 11377 (ther you are all you members down New York City way. You have a chance to greet the New Year in your fancy gowns. good luck)

AN UNLIKELY STORY No. 5 by Dee Dee

I suppose that, in the normal course of events, the trans-vestite progressed from that stage into transexualism. In my case, my tv-ism was very brief and at the time seemed of no import. Let me explain.

I am, or was a partner in a very large circus. In the circus world it is not unusual for everyone to pitch in and help if an emergency arises.

It all began when Lionelle joined the circus. She was the only female lion tamer in the world and had her own group of eight lions. While management, as a rule, should not fraternize with their employees, Lionelle and I were mutually attracted to each other. In no time at all we were living together in my railroad car.

Lionelle had a peculiar quirk that amused me. She could only enjoy sexual intercourse with a male when he was dressed as a female. We were almost exactly the same size, so it was no problem for me to dress in her costumes, in that mode she was a lioness and I was the tamer. She had another odd quirk that I never did understand, that is, she never would allow me to take a chair and a whip to bed.

We had set up the circus in a very large city and was sold out. Lionelle caught a cold and had to go to bed, she was afraid, since the lions had never had flu shots that they would get sick. Well, I had seen her act hundreds of times and felt that I could handle the lions for one day. Since her costumes fitted me, it was only natural that I should be her substitute.

The finale of her act was to lay down with an inflated balloon between her legs. The biggest lion, at her signal, would rush upon her and with one swipe of his claw break the balloon. I went thru the act in grand style until it came time for the finale. Why the lion overshot the balloon I'll never know, but, in a flash my male organs were gone. Fortunately, the circus vet stopped the flow of blood, and I was rushed to a hospital. Forunate, too, that one of the world's best cosmetic surgeons was on the staff.

After the operation, he stopped by my bed to explain what he had done. I was quite woozy and didn't realize what he was saying. Later, I learned that because of the nature of my wound he had had to fashion me a lateral vagina.

Lionelle and I became partners, known far and wide as "Lionelle and Lionette." I get my jollies now dating Lesbians and seeing their shock over my crossway vagina. Any relationship with a male is impossible, as to get in the proper position I have to hang from a trapeze.

Sincerely,  
Lionette.

This flea had insomnia—he had to sleep in snatches.

Did you know that a donut is a cookie that's had it?

She used peroxide in her bath water because she knew that on the whole gentlemen prefer blondes.

"Breeding isn't every-thing, but I sure hate to give it up."

Donald Duck says a quack is just a pwace to put a pwick.



MOTS have been some Party Nov 4th



You don't look so hot after losing all that weight

Dear Helen

Received the Journal, and loved it as usual. Thank you so much for printing my last letter. It was a little long and I was pleased and suprised to see it there. In your Journal you asked if a few of us would help you, and help the wives of other TVs. I am not married (not by preference), but I'm sure many crossdressers, married or otherwise, can identify with my comments.

Dear Wives, Girlfriends, Friends

You ask me why I crossdress? It is because I like women. I adore them, and admire them; but more than that I envy them. They are no more or less human than I, yet they are more beautiful by far, and they feel so easily, and give warmth - - and love. I am a sensitive person and loving, and vain. It seems only natural to me to want to be a woman, or at least emulate them the best I can. To say I admire you so much that I crave to be like you is the highest and most honest compliment one human being can give to another.

Besides the admiration, aesthetic appreciation and envy, there is one more reason why I crossdress, and that is my sex drive. I do not admonish this drive, rather I recognize and accept it for what it is, nature's gift to all species to ensure survival. I accept it as one of the most basic, natural and powerful drives we have -- we all have, and as human beings on of the most fun and corruptable. It is also the most resistant to extinction. No matter what we do, it won't go away. With the human ability to embroider this basic drive, people can find themselves turned-on to most anything from pink ruffled panties to internal combustion engines, and once that turn-on is there it will never go away. For me the turn-on is women and everthing about them, which makes me probably one of the most heterosexual son (daughter)-of-a-guns(persons) around. For me the urge to dress is as natural and powerful as the sex drive itself. Temper that with appreciation and envy, and you have an urge that will not be denied. When I am dressed from head to toe, from inside out, feeling pretty, I am floating in a sensual euphoric high, happy, and at peace. When I am dressed, and now after much practice even when I am not, I am in love with me, in love with you, in love with everyone. That is exactly the way I want it to be.

So ladies, male and female, I hope my comments have helped. God Blessyou, and God Bless the woman in me.

My love and affection to you all

*Merissa Sherrill Lynn*

Dear Wilma :

I am 27, tall and slim. I am a TV ,yes, I enjoy wearing womans clothing, especially skin tight sheaths, high heel shoes, and such.

As I am in the service, I have to be very careful, but every once in awhile I can't help myself and have to go somewhere and dress up. I prefer satin cor-sets and other underthings. I like black nylon stockings and tight satin sheath, clothes that cling and show what looks to be a beautiful shape.

Naturally I need to wear a wig, so that I may pass completely as a woman. I love to walk the streets and window shop at night. I have even bought ~~wiglike~~ clothes in a woman's store in plain daylight dressed to the best of fashion and of my own age bracket.

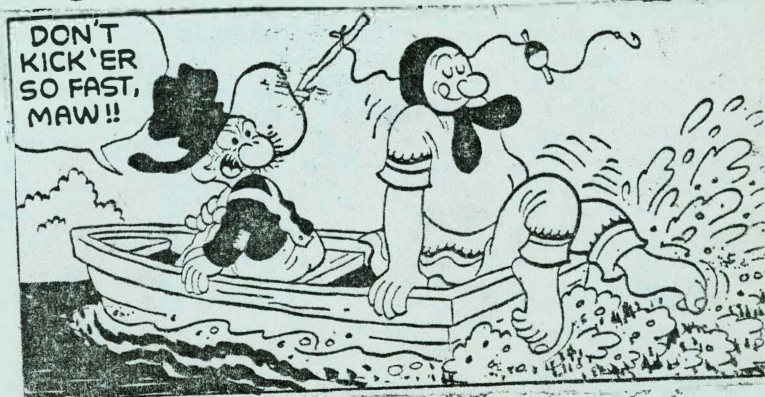
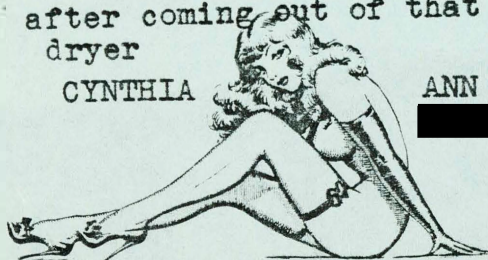
Now you ask why do I do this thing, dress as a woman. I have thought this question out and came up with three reasons. (1) It relaxes me and takes me away from a mans world for a day or two. (2) It gives me a feeling of being an actor and fooling other people. (3) I find it a challenge knowing its something I should'nt be doing. I don't want to be a woman 100% of the time, but just do it as the erge comes on. What brings it on I really can't say.

JANICE A, BUTLER N.J.

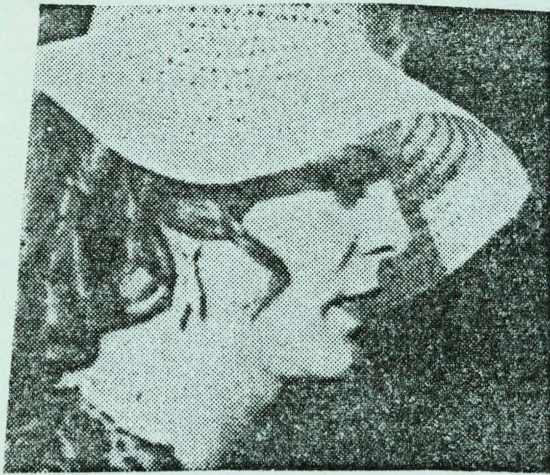
This is how I looked after coming out of that dryer

CYNTHIA

ANN



MIKE AND DENNIE on Wilma's lake



## Gay sergeant makes point

Professed homosexual Staff Sgt. Little E. "Bill" Douglas, shown in his uniform, right, appears in a black evening gown and wig Friday at a mess hall at Fort Carson, Colo., to protest what he calls unnecessary delays by the Army in the processing of his discharge papers. The six-year Army veteran says he asked to get out of the service as long as six months ago. (AP Wirephotos)



# Should Medicare Pay For Sex Changes?

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal government will review whether Medicare should pay for some sex-change operations, says the secretary of health, education and welfare.

Secretary Joseph Califano Jr., said yesterday he has ordered his health financing chief, Robert Derzon, to set up a panel of experts to review whether transsexual surgery is medically necessary in certain cases.

Medicare, which picks up hospital bills for the elderly and disabled, does not now pay for sex-change operations.

At issue is whether such procedures involve proven techniques. A spokesman for HEW's Health Care Financing Administration, Pat Schoeni, said the U.S. Public Health Service has considered transsexual surgery to be new and experimental and that its safety and effectiveness were not proven.

Medicare, run by the Federal government, does not pay for unproven techniques.

Califano, addressing a convention of newspaper editors, denied a report that Medicare had agreed to pay for a \$5,600 sex-change operation for a disabled San Diego man, Robert Bennett, who now calls himself Bobbie Lea Bennett.

Bennett, 31 and confined to a wheel chair, says he has lived like a woman for the last three years and wants to undergo the surgery.

He is disabled by a rare bone disease and has had a dozen operations to strengthen his calcium-deficient bones.

Congress extended Medicare coverage to the disabled in 1972.

Califano told the editors that the Federal government has paid part of the cost of at least two sex-change operations under the Medicaid program.

The Federal government shares Medicaid costs with the states, which administer the programs for the needy and decide what services should be paid for.

Courts in several states, the HEW spokeswoman said, have ordered that similar operations be paid for with Medicaid money.

Miss Schoeni said Connecticut paid for a sex change through Medicaid, but has been sued for not paying in another case. Three other states — New York, Iowa and Georgia — have been sued for refusing to use Medicaid funds to pay for such surgery.

## CONFINED TO WHEELCHAIR

# Medicare Sex Change For Invalid Gets OK

San Diego (AP) — A man confined to a wheelchair, who says he has lived like a woman for the last three years, has been authorized Medicare money for a sex change operation, the Los Angeles Times reported Thursday.

The 31-year-old man, born in Louisiana as Robert Bennett, now calls himself Bobbie Lea Bennett. He has a rare disease that has resulted in 12 operations to insert steel pins to strengthen his calcium-deficient bones.

The newspaper reported that Thomas M. Tierney, director of the Health, Education and Welfare Department's Welfare Bureau in Baltimore, said that Bennett's original application for use of Medicare funds was turned down in March.

BUT, TIERNEY added, after the application was turned down, the U.S. Public Health Service recommended extension of Medicare coverage to include "gender reassignment surgery."

Tierney said a new Medicare payment policy covering such operations has been developed, and "would require that the surgical candidate have at least one

year's experience living as a member of the opposite sex, and that the person have his case reviewed by at least one psychiatrist and a urologist."

The Times reported that Bennett said: "I've dressed and lived as a woman for three years. I've taken hormone treatment and been in psychotherapy in preparation for this operation which finally will make me a whole person."

The paper quoted Tierney as saying, "It sounds as if Bobbie Lea Bennett would qualify for Medicare payment, and so the new policy amounts to a go-ahead for her surgery."

ORIGINALLY, Paul A. Walker, director of the University of Texas Gender Clinic in Galveston, had recommended that Bennett be allowed the sex reassignment surgery.

He called her his little jig-saw puzzle, as he lovingly put her together, piece by piece.

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DEAR DR. LAMB — I am a 25-year-old male who has been considering a sex change for a number of years.

What I would like to know is, is it possible to take a hormone drug, pill, or whatever to rid myself of my body hair as well as make me appear a little more feminine?

I realize it must be a complicated procedure, but I'm prepared to undertake whatever measures are necessary to finally come to grips with my true feelings.

I would appreciate it if you would recommend a doctor or medical centre that is involved in this area, and any information you might have in this area.

DEAR READER — It is hard for me to be objective about such a request as I am basically opposed to any procedure that mutilates the human body. I am not convinced that such procedures are the best answer for people who have problems of gender identification. I say this realizing full well that not everyone will agree with me. It is not a moral question, but a scientific one as to what the problem really is and what is the best solution. I just wish it were possible for the mind and its emotional contents to be easily reprogrammed to

enable people to solve such problems.

In any case, you will have to see a psychiatrist. No reputable physician will treat you in the way you would like to be managed or consider a sex change procedure for you unless you have had a thorough psychiatric evaluation. One good reason is to find out what your real identification is, and what is the best course for you before embarking on a program that you might regret later, regardless of how convinced you may be at present that you would not regret it. The first step to a proper solution is to first identify correctly what your problem really is.

Because of the complexity of this area, I think you should try to go to a university medical centre psychiatric department. That will ensure a multi-disciplinary approach that can be used if indicated.

If you are a candidate for a sex change operation, they will put you on female hormones. Often, after taking female hormones awhile, some centre recommend that the patient then adopt a lifestyle of being a female to see how the patient will adapt to this. If this goes well and the individual still wants to make this change, then the next step is surgical.

## GROSSMAN'S VICTORY

Paula Grossman, the well-known transsexual who lost her bid for reinstatement as a teacher in Bernards Township, N. J. after having undergone a sex change operation, was granted a disability pension from the Appellate Division of the State Superior Court.

Ms. Grossman commented, "It's a victory in the sense that if a state decides to disable anybody for any reason, then they are going to have to pay for it." (Reprinted from Transition.)

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Little girls want an all-day sucker; big girls want an all-night sucker.

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Cynthia says:

How can we tell girls avoid being read because of our height? It's easy: just carry a basket ball. No one will look twice.