
TRANSgenderist

Monthly Magazine of the Transgender Independence Club

May, 1999

Return of the TGIC House Party

As many of you know, TGIC did not begin as a group with a clubhouse. In fact, TGIC began with house parties where a buffet dinner would be served, and you could bring a dish if you wanted. The clubhouse came much later.

Leslie [REDACTED] has bravely taken the lead in a new initiative to have TGIC house parties. She will hold the first TGIC house party on Saturday, May 22nd, from 6-11 PM at her townhouse in Troy. She has also graciously offered to coordinate the house party schedule, and you will notice her name is now listed under the officers section as "House Party Coordinator." Directions to Leslie's townhouse will be available either at the club or you can contact me and I will send them out to you.

I encourage you to support your club and Leslie and COME OUT. Especially if you have never been out of the clubhouse as yourself, this is a made-for-TGs event. Bring a dish to pass or whatever, come early or come late and let's have fun!

I support Leslie in her efforts. In fact, the second TGIC house party will be held in my apartment on Friday, June 18th from 6-11, which I am calling "TGIF for TGIC." Y'all come! --Vix

Capital Pride Schedule

As many of you know, I am the accompanist for the Capital Pride Singers, the GLBT-affirming choir for the Capital District. If you are a singer and would like to sing with the group, please contact me. We sing all over the Capital District and have played to wildly enthusiastic crowds in both Provincetown and last weekend in Northampton, Massachusetts.

We will be having two events in the Capital District during June, one a large benefit concert commemorating the Stonewall uprisings in New York City, and the other a fund-raising free concert at Border Books and Music on Wolf Road. If you can support our GLBT-friendly group, we would appreciate it. --Vix

Looking for Deidre

Dear Vicky, I found your address on the TGIC site, and decided to email you in hopes you might be able to answer my question. My name is Guen, and I attended the St. Patrick's Day party and meeting back in March, with Ed [REDACTED] and my friend Tina. While there at the meeting I met Deidre, but got very little chance to talk with her. I would love to be able to contact her and ask her if she'd like to go out for coffee sometime. If you happen to have an email address for her that you could give me, or if you could give her mine, I'd really appreciate it. Just in case you're not sure who I am, I was the platinum blonde who had trouble with her stockings running. ;) Tina and I would love to attend more Thursday night meetings as well, but seeing as she must be at work fairly early, the meetings are a problem for us. Hopefully we'll get the chance to visit again sometime soon. Thanks for all your help in advance!

-Guen [REDACTED]

[Guen may be reached at [REDACTED], or call Vicky [REDACTED] and I will send her a message for you, Deidre!]

JD DOES IT AGAIN! May 13th, 9-2, JD is hosting another party for us. We must drink a lot! <ggg> Hopefully I will see you all there!
--Vix

News Briefs

"Late in the term of his second-year philosophy course on gender and sexuality, York University professor Michael Gilbert asks his class if they'd like to have a Q&A session with someone who is transgendered. Sure, says almost everyone in the Toronto class of 90 students... A few days later, Bronx-born, street smart Michael Gilbert, tenured professor and alpha male, shows up for class as Miqqi Alicia."

TRANS FORMING FAMILIES: REAL STORIES ABOUT TRANSGENDERED LOVED ONES is a new book, hot off the press, edited and self-published by Mary Boenke.

In San Francisco a **candlelight vigil was held for victims of transgender violence**. In a related matter, **"The Brandon Teena Story"** was released telling the grisly story of a raped and murdered F2M transsexual man.

And also **the Boston trans community is coming together on May 25, 1999 to honor and remember those who have died**. The web page with more information is at: <http://www.butch-femme.net/trans-memorial>
We hope other people can join us in Boston at this important event.

Best **bumper sticker** seen in Northampton last week, "Jerry Falwell, kiss my Tinky-Winky."

We are asked to learn about and support the **transgendered population in Argentina**, where the TG population is regularly "purged" by the military and police. [I am told that conditions in Mexico and Greece are just as bad.]

GenderPAC's 4th National **Lobby Days** will be held in Washington, D.C. from Sunday, 23 May to Tuesday, 25 May 1999. For further information and details on lodging and transportation, please visit GenderPAC's website at: <http://www.gpac.org>.

The Oregon Health Services Commission on Thursday unanimously decided to **exclude sex change operations from state health plans**. In a related story, a Toronto post-op TS woman is suing the government to provide payment for her GRS operation.

"Being gay (or straight) is not a matter of choice. People who do not know this belong in the dark ages." --Dear Abby, Feb. 3.

[Houston, TX: 3 Mar 99] **An unknown white male wearing women's clothing was shot** several times in the parking lot of a Motel 5 in Houston on 24 Feb 99. The victim was taken by ambulance to a local hospital where he died. [Be aware that your support of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act is very important; the life you save may be your own, or someone you know.]

New Film: GENDERNAUTS. New from the prolific Monika Trent, Gendernauts is a feature length documentary that takes us on a tour of San Francisco's transgender community.

In Pierson, Florida, school officials reversed their opinion; openly **gay teen** Charles Rice will get a chance to wear his red full-length evening gown, red shoes and matching rhinestone jewelry to the **school prom**.

New SRS Site: Tampa has quietly become the sex-change capital of Florida and the Southeast through the work of plastic surgeon Dr. Dan Greenwald and psychotherapist Carl Bushong.

New Numbers: In Holland, recent numbers indicate **1 in 11,900 males and 1 in 30,400 females are transsexuals**, according to the 300-member Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association, the leading repository for gender dysphoria information.

New list: Many transsexuals who were raised Roman Catholic have felt abandoned by their religion and sometimes experience a lot of guilt about this. Dignity, the Catholic outreach for GLB persons has established, as part of transinclusion, a mail list for transgendered Catholics, called Dig-Trans. To subscribe, send an email to Majordomo@dignityusa.org with the message in the body, subscribe dig-trans.

Large jury award: A San Francisco jury awarded \$755,000 in damages Monday to transsexual Victoria Schneider who was strip searched by sheriff's deputies to confirm her gender.

Circle this date: **The Millennium March on Washington for Equality (MMOW)**, April 30, 2000 on the National Mall in Washington DC.

The Gender Aptitude Test

[One very interesting part of Kate Bornstein's lecture in New Paltz was the gender aptitude test which raised a lot of eyebrows by the non-TG present. The original had a huge number of questions, so I am only going to give you the short version here. Think about it....]

by Kate Bornstein

You're not the same person you were 10 minutes ago. None of us is. We change our attitudes, our careers, our relationships. Even our age changes minute by minute. We change our politics, our moods, and our sexual preferences. We change our outlook, we change our minds, we change our sympathies. Yet when someone changes genders, we call the television talk shows. Well, here's what I think: I think we do change our genders. All the time.

Maybe it's not as dramatic as a tabloid headline screaming "She Was a He!" But we do--all of us--regularly change genders. In response to each interaction we subtly shift the kind of man or woman, boy or girl, or whatever gender we're being at the moment.

So . . . how gender-savvy are you? Come on--no one's looking over your shoulder. Just circle the answer that most nearly matches your point of view, and by the end you should have a good idea of your gender aptitude.

1. Why are you taking this quiz?

- a) I'm not taking this quiz. I'm just looking through the questions.
- b) This kind of thought-provoking discussion is interesting, even though it doesn't apply to me.
- c) I like to question things I've taken for granted. It changes how I think.
- d) This gender question seems like a real Pandora's Box to me. Let's throw open the cover and see what flies out!

2. How many genders do you really think there are?

- a) Two. What a pointless question!
- b) I'm going to guess that there are several genders and two sexes.
- c) Three? Four? Wait . . . five! No . . . six. Ummm . . . 12? I don't know!
- d) An infinite number. What a pointless question!

3. What exactly do you feel the basis of gender to be?

- a) Genitalia, hormones, chromosomes, and brain structure. I mean, duh!
- b) Gender may be a social construct, but it's based on, or influenced by, biology.
- c) Gender is how we act, not what we are: We're all human, after all.
- d) It's a lot of heretofore unnamed social, biological, and psychological factors masquerading as a bipolar system. I mean, duh!

4. Which of the following most nearly expresses your idea about gender and sexual preference?

- a) Birds do it, bees do it. Face it: Heterosexuality is natural.
- b) I'm straight, but sometimes I lust in my heart for . . . umm . . . other things.
- c) Well, in theory, I imagine I could be attracted to anyone, no matter what gender.
- d) Oh, come on! As long as no one's getting hurt, any pleasurable activity between any two (or more) consenting adults is just dandy.

5. How have you lived your gendered life so far?

- a) I have been living my biological destiny.
- b) I may have been living a biologically destined gender, but I don't want to anymore.
- c) I've been experimenting: using bits of some genders here and bits of other genders there.

- d) Let's just say that in the battle of the sexes, I'm a conscientious objector.
6. Has anything you've read about gender recently made you want to stretch your own gender?
- No. I'm happy the way I am. Always have been, always will be.
 - Not really, but I might be more lenient when it comes to other people.
 - Yes, I might consider that . . . but it's a little intimidating.
 - Yup. Now I'm more determined than ever.
7. When you see someone on the street whose gender is unclear, how do you react?
- Honestly? With some combination of revulsion, pity, and bewilderment.
 - I try to figure out if it's a man or a woman.
 - I mentally do a makeover so the person can pass better as one or the other.
 - I probably notice the person is staring at me, trying to figure out what I am!
8. Which of the following most nearly matches your definition of the word transgender?
- It's a disorder that results in men cutting off their penises.
 - Being born in the wrong body, or having the wrong sex for your gender.
 - Changing from one gender to another, or just looking like you've done that.
 - Transgressing gender, breaking any rule of gender in any way at all.
9. Who gets to say exactly what gender you are?
- It's not up to anyone to say. Gender is a biological fact: man or woman.
 - Gender may be a biological fact, but biologists are constantly refining their definitions . . . and that makes me nervous.
 - We're force-fed gender by a conspiracy of science, law, and the media. Oliver Stone should make a movie about this.
 - I do.

10. OK, what's your gender?

- Oh, please. I'm a real man/real woman.
- Well, I'm a biological man/woman.
- I was afraid I'd be asked this question . . . I'm just = not sure anymore.
- Fiddle-de-dee . . . tomorrow is another gender.

There. That wasn't so difficult, was it? Now, let's see how you score. Yes, it's a fairly accurate quiz, but please remember: It's only aptitude we're measuring here, and, like any aptitude, it can be changed with a little work. Give yourself 5 points for every (a) answer, 3 for each (b), 1 for every (c), and 0 for (d). Add it up and check the scale below to find your Instant Gender Aptitude.

0-15 Gender Freak. This was child's play for you, wasn't it? But aren't you delighted to see all this stuff appearing in mainstream culture? Maybe it's time for you to break into a mainstream world, as freaky as you are.

16-25 Gender Outlaw. Honey, you're too far gone to make the climb back up to "real" man or "real" woman. Your next step would be to let yourself explore some of the places that really thrill you, no matter the social taboos. Just be kind and compassionate when you're doing it, OK?

26-35 Gender Novice. You're not always taken for "normal," are you? And this gender stuff is probably kinda new to you . . . a little scary and a little thrilling, right? Maybe it's time to explore exactly what scares you. Go on . . . you know how to be gentle with yourself.

36-45 Well-Gendered. Look, I know this gender-as-construct-or-performance stuff might sound weird, but the world is changing. Maybe someone in your own family or circle of friends or co-workers is exploring gender. It would probably pay off to study more of this stuff, if only to help you get along with them, and to keep up with people who are going to be living more and more outside gendered "norms."

46-50 You're Captain James T. Kirk! Omigod, I've always wanted to meet you! Look, when

you boldly go where no man has gone before, it's us freaks you're going to meet up with. Honey, we are what makes life worth exploring.

[Transgender activist Kate Bornstein is the author of *My Gender Workbook: How to Become a Real Man, a Real Woman, the Real You, or Something Else Entirely* (Routledge, 1998).]

Introduction to New Member Jessica [REDACTED]

Hi everybody! Upon joining the TGIC mailing list I have been asked to introduce myself to the mailing list ...

My name is Jessica, I am 34, MWM and I am a newcomer when it comes to crossdressing. I have always loved wearing women's shoes and my wife has known about it for years. It was actually my desire to wear those elegant strappy sandals in public that prompted me to dress a woman and go for a walk. I enjoyed it tremendously. Since then I was hooked.

I would like to socialize with other like-minded people. I live in Binghamton, but unfortunately, there are no support groups in this god-forsaken upstate NY city :(But I do not mind driving all the way up to Albany to meet some special girls ;) Anyway, I plan to join the TGIC meeting this Thursday night. See you later! Hugs, Jessica [REDACTED]

A Letter From Sheila Kirk

[A rumor was circulating that Sheila Kirk in Pittsburgh was duplicating the full-genital transplants which are being pioneered in China. Callan [REDACTED] wrote to Dr. Kirk, and this was her response:]

In a message dated 3/21/99 02:03:00 PM Eastern Standard Time, Sheila Kirk writes: Dear Callan: Wonderful hearing from you!

With regard to what you have heard....it's a little bit wrong and a little bit right! Yes, TSMC is setting protocols and criteria to begin penile transplants for FTMS. We are very confident that this procedure can be performed

and the team we have put together is astounding. One of the members has successfully transplanted testes in over a dozen G. men while working in his native Sweden. Another member worked on the recent hand transplant. Since the University of Pittsburgh Medical School's revolutionary breakthroughs in liver and multiple organ transplants have made Pittsburgh the "Transplant Capital of the World", we fully intend to utilize the medical and surgical talent available to us to provide the most innovative and effective methods possible for our brothers and sisters. The question was posed to me about MTF reproductive organ transplants and I made it known that TSMC is looking into those possibilities as well. Right now, however, we are concentrating on the penile transplants. We plan to speak further on these issues at Southern Comfort and to discuss the progress of the penile implants.

Thank you for your kind remarks and support. It is my intention to continue improving and pioneering techniques and procedures for our community. We have already pioneered a rib removal technique for MTFs, minimally invasive, that works amazing well in providing a more feminine torso. Our 1 stage GRS (genital reconstruction surgery) is state of the art and we even create a cervix for more authenticity. We are beginning a residency program to teach Ts and non-Ts the art of Trans-surgeries....it's about time that our community is afforded the right to be medical/surgical providers as well as consumers. As you can tell, I am very passionate about the med/surg future of our community...it's up to each and every one of us to work together to make it happen.

I hope everything is going well for you and that Pamela and I will be able to see you again then if not sooner. Our best to you.

Cordially, Sheila.

If they see breasts and long hair coming, they call it a woman. If beard and whiskers, they call it a man: but, look, the Self that hovers in between is neither man nor woman.

-- Devara Dasimayya, 10th century

The Boy in the Blue Tutu

My son loves dresses. You got a problem with that?

by Lisen [REDACTED]

My son is a cross-dresser. Most mornings he gets up, puts on a hand-me-down dress, wraps an old pillowcase around his head with a ribbon (to create his "long blond hair"), and prances around singing, "The hills are alive with the sound of music." My son is three and a half years old.

At the toy store, he does not want a Batman doll. "I want Batgirl," he cries. When he begs to play with his friend Margo, it is because she has = such an extensive collection of Barbie dolls and outfits in which he can dress them. He loves preschool for the teachers, but also for the wonderful selection of tutus, party shoes, and costume jewelry. His grandmother received the shock of her life when she went to pick him up one day and he was wearing a blue tutu with beaded gold slippers. His teacher tells us that he is "highly in touch with his feminine side."

Unfortunately, not everyone is so empathetic. "Boys should be playing baseball not Barbie," my mother-in-law exclaims. "He keeps taking my daughter's Cinderella slippers!" my neighbor tells my other neighbor, who tells me. Strangers ask, "So when do you think he will grow out of = it?" or "How does your husband feel?" I've tried to explain to these people that my son approaches life with a unique flair. While he loves soccer, he often plays it wearing a silk cape that flutters in the wind when he runs. My husband can't wait for Little League to start because he sees a little slugger in our son, who can already hit the ball out of our backyard. Our son can't wait for baseball either, but for a different reason: He says the cleats are "just like tap shoes."

Interestingly, no one seems to be the least bit disturbed about our friend Gillian. At the age of five, she refuses to wear dresses, plays T-ball and soccer, and is proving quite skilled at

climbing trees and collecting bruises. Gillian is a tomboy. "Isn't she cute?" a friend exclaims to me when we are at Gillian's house for a Sunday BBQ. But my son, I remind myself, is not cute when he dresses up and reenacts the glass slipper scene from Cinderella.

If Gillian is a tomboy because she likes to do boy-like things, what is my son, a janegirl? As far as I can tell there isn't an equivalent in the English language. More importantly, there is no acceptable behavioral equivalent either. Watching my son, I have begun to ask myself: What is normal? My son loves trucks, cars, and trains. Last fall, during those terrible twos, he was accused of being a bully because he bit a girl at the playground. How can a child go from bully to sissy in a mere twelve months?

I am coming to realize that while our sex-role stereotypes have expanded for girls, they have contracted for boys. So much research is being done today to ensure that girls will excel in math, overcome the repression of adolescence, and get elected to the Board of Directors of major corporations. I am thrilled. Trust me. I have a one-year-old daughter. But what about my son? It is not just in my house that the days of "boys will be boys" seem to be over. Prescriptions for Ritalin are at an all-time high, and, increasingly, boys are expected to act in a less rambunctious and far more docile manner, that is, be more girl-like. My mind reels: So society is saying that a three-and-a-half-year-old boy should be more like a man, but a 12 year old should be more like a girl?

I have to admit, sometimes even I am embarrassed by my son's behavior. His recent declaration to my father-in-law that he wants to be a ballet dancer when he grows up almost created a family feud. When the father of one of his preschool classmates unintentionally called him a girl, he was wearing that favorite blue tutu I cringed just a little. And I am often confused about the messages I'm sending him. I don't mind if he wants to wear pink lipstick to a birthday party, "Mom, you wear lipstick when you dress up!" he reminds me, but how do I protect him from the inevitable taunting that will

occur as he ages?

I come back to my original question: What is normal? My husband and I are learning all too early that the boundaries of normalcy seem to be very narrow. On the other hand, my son, who at the moment is pretending to be Belle from Beauty and the Beast, complete with pearl-drop earrings, doesn't know this yet. With luck and a little parental intervention, he won't for a long time. Until then, Beauty, at least in our household, will reign.

Lisen Stromberg is the mother of a janegirl and a tomboy. She is currently writing a book entitled My Son the Janegirl: A Mother's Journey to Unconditional Love. She can be reached at [REDACTED]

Tough Questions

1. What do you think caused your heterosexuality? 2. When and how did you decide you were a heterosexual? 3. Is it possible that your heterosexuality is just a phase that you may grow out of? 4. Is it possible that your heterosexuality stems from a neurotic fear of others of the same sex? 5. Do your parents know you are straight? Do your friends and/or roommates know? 6. Why do you insist on flaunting your heterosexuality? Can't you just be who you are and keep it quiet? 7. Why do heterosexuals put so much emphasis on sex? 8. Why do heterosexuals feel compelled to introduce others to their lifestyle? 9. A disproportionate majority of child molesters are heterosexual. Do you consider it wise to expose children to heterosexual teachers? 10. Just what do men and women do in bed together? 11. Bearing in mind the current divorce rate, why are there so few stable relationships between heterosexuals? 12. Considering the menace of overpopulation, how could the human race survive if everyone were heterosexual? 13. There seem to be very few happy heterosexuals. Techniques have been developed that might enable you to change if you really want to. Have you considered aversion therapy?

May 8th. Sat. Pink Palace Show. Costume Party with Modeling Show of Cross Dressers & TV's. All welcome \$10.p.p. Sign up and show off. We are in Saugerties, N.Y. email justforthefunofit@prodigy.net -- M [REDACTED]

The Pink Palace - located within the Mt. Marion Inn. 599 Glasco Turnpike Saugerties, N.Y. 12477. Phone and Fax. 914-247-9294

Just a comment, people. I have never seen so many TG-centered events happening at once. If you haven't tried it yet, just get OUT. You will be ever so glad that you did. --Vix

The Twelfth Annual Creating Change Conference will be held in beautiful downtown Oakland, California, Nov. 10-14, 1999. More than 2000 activists and organizers who work in the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender movement for social justice are expected to attend. We invite you to share your expertise at the 1999 Creating Change Conference, an annual event of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

THE FIRST EVER TRANSGENDER FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL

TO BE HELD IN NEW ENGLAND
AT THE COOLIDGE CORNER THEATER!
RUNNING MAY 18-20, 1999

Coolidge Corner Theater, conveniently located at 290 Harvard Street in Brookline, Massachusetts. The programs start at 7 pm. Please arrive early for seating. TICKETS: \$18 for Festival Pass or \$7.50 for each evening. INFO/CONTACT: Daviko Marcel, Director of the Transgender Education Network (617)988-2605 ext. 211 or Hannah Doress, Hanarchy Now Productions (617)629-4727 hdoress@hanarchy.com.

Victoria, I am going to have to hold "A letter to my father" until next month. I need two and a half pages to print it; sorry.

A guy walks into the post office to see a man sending out 1000 valentine letters. "Yes, they're all signed, 'Guess who?'" "But why?" the guy asks. The man responds, "I'm a divorce lawyer!"

Fantasy Crossdresser's Weekend



Nov 4 - 7, 1999

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

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

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

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610-640-9449 pocoo@cdspub.com**

Q: Did you blow your horn or anything?

A: After the accident?

Q: Before the accident.

A: Sure, I played for ten years. I even went to school for it.



Nancy Schramek, LMT, NMTBW
A Peaceful Place Wellness Center (D&G Village)
1733 Route 9, Clifton Park, NY 12065

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TGIC

PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604
(518) 436-4513 (live Thurs. 7:30-10 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

President	Tina [REDACTED]
Vice President	Raechel [REDACTED]
Secretary	Karen [REDACTED]
Treasurer	Cheryl [REDACTED]
Den Mother	Denise [REDACTED]
Newsletter Editor	Vicky [REDACTED]
House Parties	Leslie [REDACTED]

The Transgenderist is the newsletter of TGIC, published monthly and mailed First Class to members, prospective members, friends, professionals, and exchange publications. Copyright 1999 TGIC unless otherwise stated. No part may be reproduced without prior permission from the originator.

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

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

-
- Q: And where was the location of the accident?
A: Approximately milepost 499.
Q: And where is milepost 499?
A: Probably between milepost 498 and 500.

BECOME AN IFGE MEMBER

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

IFGE (617) 899-2212
PO Box 229
Waltham, MA 02154-0229

ANONYMOUS HIV ANTIBODY TESTING

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

(NYS Health Department)

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

TGIC On-Line

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

JOIN TGIC
STOP

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

Calendar and Events

TGIC meetings are held Thursdays at 7:30 in the clubhouse. * See explanation in this issue.

- May 8, 2-5 Twenty Club, Hartford
Transsexual Support
- May 8 Pink Palace Show,
Saugerties*
- May 8, 7:30 SUNYA Drag Show,
Campus Center, \$7
- May 13, 9-2 JD's Transgender Party*
- May 15, 9-12 Tri-ESS Meeting, Yours,
Schenectady
- May 18-20, 7-? Trans Film & Video
Festival, Brookline, MA*
- May 22, 2-5 Twenty Club, Hartford
- May 22, 6-11 First TGIC House
Party, Leslie O'Hara*
- May 22-25 California Dreamin 99,
Yorba Linda, CA
- May 23-25 Genderpac Lobbying
Washington, DC*
- May 25 Boston Trans Community,
to honor and remember
those who have died*
- June 2-6 17th Annual Be-All,
Cleveland, OH
No information yet
- June 5, 7:30-9:30 Capital Pride Concert,
Page Hall, SUNY
downtown campus,
"Since Stonewall."*
- June 10, 7:30-8:30 Capital Pride free concert
and fundraising night at
Borders Books, Colonie*
- June 12, 2-5 Twenty Club, Hartford
- June 18, 6-11 "TGIF for TGIC",
Second TGIC House Party
Vicky Steele*
- June 19, 9-12 Tri-ESS Meeting, Yours,
Schenectady
- June 26, 2-5 Twenty Club, Hartford
- November 10-14 Creating Change Conf.,
Oakland, CA
- November 4-7 Paradise in the Poconos

Tracy Oppelt

Master Barber and Cosmetologist
Located at:

Maria's Hair Care
1573 A Central Ave.
Colonie, New York
518-869-5604

Look here, dear fellow:
I wear these men's clothes
Only for you.

Sometimes I am man,
Sometimes I am woman.

O Lord of the Meeting Rivers
I'll make wars for you
But I'll be your devotees' bride.

-- Basavanna, 10th century CE

Locks of shining red hair
A crown of diamonds
Small beautiful teeth
And eyes in a laughing face
That light up fourteen worlds
I saw His glory
And seeing, I quell today
the famine in my eyes.

I saw the haughty Master
For whom men, all men
Are but women, wives.

I saw the Great One
Who plays at love
With Shakti,
Original to the world,
I saw His stance
And began to live.

-- Mahadeviyakka, 10th century CE

Comments? Vicky E. [REDACTED]
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All the news that fits.