

VOL. 9 NO. 94)Established in 1954) MAY 16 1981

PRES: William M. Thordsen
1104 Broadway
Albany, New York
PHONE: (518) 434-8806

Full membership \$17 per year
Subscription to the TVIC Journal
only \$12 per year.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS
Helen
and
Wilma Thordsen

Hi Girls:

It was a nice evening spent here with the girls who came from near and far. It seems every body enjoyed the music last month as the first thing they seemed to ask was are the musicians going to be here. I wish I could have said yes, as I myself enjoyed the music but we can't expect to be spoiled every month as the girls can't make it here every month. Maybe in the near future we will get some new members who may be musicians and will entertain the girls.

The girls who made the May meeting were: Dennie and Michelle Ann from Somerville, Mass., Alice and Constance from Gulf Breeze, Fla., Dot. and Alice from Colonie, N.Y., Gail and Joan from Granville, N. Y., Joan and Phyllis from Colonie, N.Y., Susan from Nassau. N.W., Karen from Clifton Park, N.Y., Pricilla from Scotia, N.Y., Renee from Stratford, Conn., Elizabeth and Leslie from Conn., Ruth from Ontario, Canada, Wilma and I.

The menu for the girls was: Roast Beef, Mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, string bean casserole, tossed salad, apple sauce, bread, rolls, butter, cake and coffee

We had an anniversary cake for Michelle Ann and Dennie but then we had a second Anniversary so Gail and Joan shared the cake with Michelle Ann and Dennie. It was the third for Michelle Ann and Dennie and the sixth for Gail and Joan. It dosen't seem like three years since we had the big wedding here for Michelle and Dennie they still seem to be as happy as they were that big night.

Karen gave them a bottle of Champaign but when they left they forgot the bottle in the refrigerator so Wilma and I will have to bring it to them when we go to visit them in the first week of June.

Next month will be the last meeting for the summer as Wilma and I try to take a vacation as it does get quite hectic to come up with a good menu every month to make the girls feel welcome. I am glad that over all the years we have been able to have the girls here that we could really make them feel at home and know that they are able to meet with some of the sisters that come from out of town whom they otherwise would not be able to meet. This alone is one good reason that I feel we should be able to make them feel welcome. I know that we have been invited to visit different ones from out of town which we are planning on doing just as soon as I retire and the time will be ours to travel at leisure. It will give Wilma and I a chance to see how some of the other clubs are run and what they do. Each one has their own way of running a club, we had started out with set rules and we broke them for no one and so far all these years we have had a good relationship with all the girls. No one has been offended and they carry out our wishes that this club remain one of the best respected clubs for the T.V.'s and their wives and in this way be able to help others come to visit Albany with out being afraid they would have trouble.

My thanks to all the girls for their help in the kitchen for getting the food on the table and then the clean up of washing the dishes and the drinking glasses that were in use all evening. The rest of the evening was spent with the girls talking and laughing. Michelle Ann and Sue were telling the stories of the things that they did on the Island when they were helping Bill. Karen was up last weekend and helped Bill pull down the old dock she did every thing she could think of to get in the water but Wilma always spoiled it by using the tractor to pull it out. so I guess Karen will have to wait untill the summer to go swimming. Just like Cinderella when the clock said one all the girls were turned to pumpkins and on their way home. Missed all the girls who couldn't make it.

Here's the receipe for the bean casserole the girls asked for. one can of beans, one can cream of mushroom soup, salt & pepper totaste, butter cheddar cheese. Put the beans in a casserole bowl, salt & pepper, dot with butter, then pour the soup on , sprinkle some slivered almonds and then on the top cover with the grated cheddar cheese. Hope you girls enjoy making this dish

Well I'll say goodnight to all and hope to see you all in June for the last meeting for the summer. Wishing you all have a good summer if I don't get to see you.

Love to all
Helen

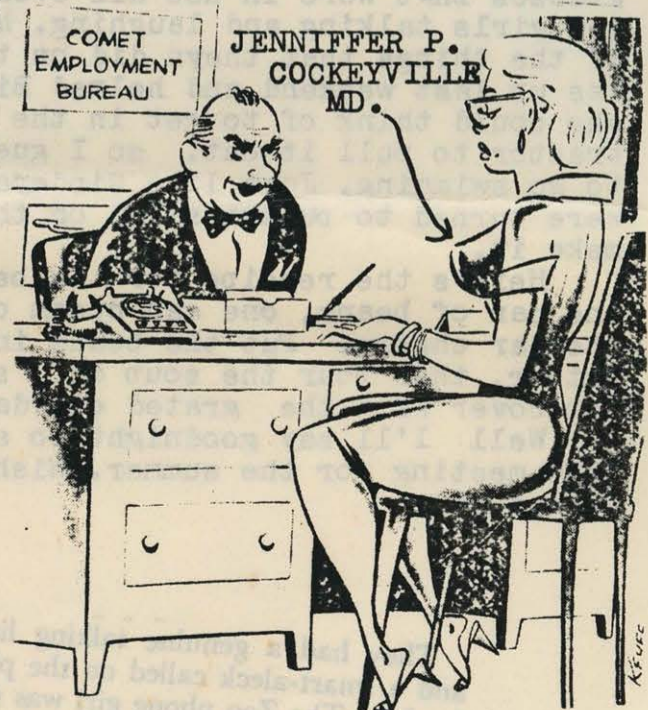
They had a genuine talking lion at the Zoo, and a smart-aleck called on the phone and asked for Leo. The Zoo phone girl was nonchalant, and said, "Call back later, please. Leo is on another lion."

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

In reading the letters that come in, I sometimes get the idea that the writers are striving for conditions which they will never reach. These conditions are fo several types, personal appearance, public acceptance and wifely understanding. Some of us seem to get goals for ourselves which are unrealistic and when we cannot achieve them we are frustrated and unhappy. For example, all american males have an ideal type of woman in their minds. We are brought up on Shirly temple, Dianna Dirbin, Judy Garland, Marilyn Monroe or some other sex symbol. Then, if we are TV's, we try to conform to this ideal. Since few of us boast feminine enough faces anyway, the chance of approximating any of our feminine ideals is exceedingly remote. But often times we keep trying to achieve the unachievable. If we happen to be a "Gentleman" who "Prefers Blonds" we are liable to put a blond wig on our feminineselves whether it goes with the complexion, facial shape, age or anything else. In doing so we don't make the best of what we have...We read about the adventures of some other girl who is more fortunately endowed (or in some cases more foolish or nervy) and we feel that we won't have arrived or earned the "The Order Of The Black Lace Garter" unless we have succeeded in doing much the same thing. In striving to emulate others some of us abandon the more practical, safe and moderate existance we have led up to that time and sometimes find ourselves in trouble as a result. Some can "Pass", some cannot. Passing and public adventures are NOT the hallmarks of anFP. True they can be great fun and lots of satisfaction, but there are other satisfactions, too...With wives the same thing applies. Some of us are fortunate in having wives that understand and accept in one degree or another. All of us would like this type. Yet, lets face it, women are not without their worries, insecurities and maladjustments. Thus, some of them can handle the TV situation easily whithout a lot of explanation etc. Other can make adjustments of sorts after they have been given a lot of reasoning about it. Others can deal with it on an ostrich principle of knowing its going on but not being able to participate visually in the experience. Some are so insecure in themselves that this would be the last straw on the camel's back...It behooves each TV then, to evaluate all of these things for himself. Neither life nor out particular problems cab be handled on an All or None Basis And We Should Stop Trying To Force THIS CONDITION. If you are 58 and look like a retired school teacher who never got married, then do a good job of looking like a spinster lady of 58 and give up trying TO BE A SEX SYMBLE. Be the best of whatever you are. If hands now are too stuby, rough, or hairy, don't be foolish and try to cover them with gloves and go to a restaurant because you read about someone else doinf it. Try to be satisfied in feeling like a lady, even to the hands, at home ot at a group get together, but don't take a chance on getting into trouble by going out just because you read that Miss X did so...Finally in the matter of wives, You should not necessarily expect your wife to be as understanding as some other wives. There are probably things in their backgrounds that give some broader basis of understanding than may be the case with your wife. I don't mean that you should not try to bring her around, but don't push her to far or too fast. There is a lot more in a good marriage than having a wife who understands TV's so don't jeopardize the rest by forcing the TV angle further or faster than she can adjust to it...In short in all of these fields and in others, try to arrive at a position of the most pleasure and satisfaction with the least disappointment, frustration, danger, or domestic resentment. We none of us can expect "ALL"and and certainly very few are going to say that if I can't have everything, I will have "NONE". Usually we are left in the middle with a part, but the psychological problem is to make the most out of that part with a good healthy try at achieving a HAPPY ADJUSTMENT within our own personal and domestic limitations. This is the GOLDEN MEANS of CONFUSCIOUS who said. "MODERATION IN ALL THINGS". I commend it to you as a very useful bit of philosophy. Think about it a bit...The reason it is necessary to haul the group up short on subjects like this every now and then is that TVIC exist for the purpose of helping not harming, of protecting TVs not promoting TVism, of explaining not exhorting, of soothing unhappy fears, guilt and worry, not of stimulating TVs to dangerous adventures. In short we don't want our members to get hopped up on what they read of others that nothing will do but that they get themselves in the same position, and then blame us indirectly for their plight. Lets keep our feet on the ground girls. (in stilt heels of course, but still on the ground.).....

One of our members has pulled a switch next to end switches. She walked into a mens store ...while dressed in femme clothes and bought clothing for her brother.....

June 1st marks the 410th day of my 15 day beauty plan.....



"I want a job as a 'go-go' girl!"

PARTY DATES:

TVIC holds its parties on the third Saturday of each month. The next 3 dates are June 20th, Sept 19th and Oct. 17th. The June 20th party will be the last party of the season, as there will not be any parties in July and August. Please make your reservations for all parties at least 4 days in advance

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TOO

Carroll [redacted]	June 7	Sally [redacted]	June 23
Dolly [redacted]	June 10	Connie [redacted]	June 25
Dee Dee [redacted]	June 13	Gordon [redacted]	June 29
Brenda [redacted]	June 14	Karren [redacted]	June 30
Pat [redacted]	June 18		

FORGETFUL FREDA visits the Chevalier D'Eon

CHARLES - DO YOU RECALL IF I REMEMBERED TO TELL THE BOYS I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO PLAY IN THE GAME AGAINST U.C.L.A. THIS WEEKEND?



HAPPY ANIVERSERY TOO

Mr. & Mrs. C. NICHOLS JUNE 8 and Mr. & Mrs C. GOYER

SPECIAL THANKS TOO

Elayne Wynters & J.E. for the extra \$ sent in for postage. Mala Lynn Chaplin & Barara Ann Treacher for the lovely pictures. Eileen Johnson for the cartoon for the Journal.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

For those of you who are having or had Electrolyes. The question is "HOW DID YOU GO ABOUT GETTING TO AN ELECTROLYSIS SHOP - COMMENTS ETC."

I am running out of Questions to ask. How about sending in some questions that you would like answered.

URGENT REQUEST:

So many of you have written telling me just how much you enjoy the jokes and cartoons that I am putting in the JOURNAL. I am at this point completely out of both. If you find any this month won't you please mail them to me with a note saying they are for the TVIC JOURNAL. I would appreciate it so very much. I'm counting on you.

NEW DIRECTORY:

Reference to the new directory that I will try and put out in October. Some members have asked me to add more information about the person besides the name and address - such as age - personal interests - whether a TV or TS. So if any one wants such a listing send me the full information as you would like to see it printed. Now it takes time to set this up so get your information in early.

NEWS:

In Horninh England, the local vicar was congratulating a tall slim beauty clad in a yellow miniskirt, who had just been named Miss Horning, when the winner suddenly removed his wig and said in a deep voice, "Hello Dad!" It was the Rev. Wynter Blathways son Harry, who is 6ft, 133 lbs, 17yrs old. He was chosen by some 300 guest at Hornings annaul sailing club barbacue over 5 girls who were in the finals. Harry mentioned boostfull that two barmaids had made him up. "His makeup and false shape took me in" said the Vicar. "I was turibly peeved at first but it was a joke done extoardinary well." Or was it really a joke.

AP - N.J. In New Jersey, a county court judge ruled unconstititutional an ordinance under which a man was arrested for wearing a miniskirt on the main st. of an oceanside resorttown. The law prohibited a person wearing clothing "not belonging to his or her sex," But the judge agreed with the defences lawyers contention that the city cannot dictate what a person can or cannot wear. There are a substantial number of women wearing mens clothing. (NOTE - If the cross-dresser to-day would consider not so much where in they differ, as where in they agree, and are alike. there would be far less uncharitableness and disdone towards the practice. Without a doubt we must constantly work towards freedom. And to have freedom is only to have what is absolutely necessary to enable us to be what we ought to be, and to have what we ought to have.

WINNIE B. SAYS: Know what happened to the sex-crazy mouse? Pussy got him.

FRANCIS G. SAYS: Girls, you'd better be using what Mother Nature gave you before Father Time takes it away.



MICHELL ANN B. SOMMERSVILLE, MASS

"What's this TV bet you say you won?"

Dear Helen & Wilma:

You've asked various TVs for their most memorable experience as a tv..Mine was the first time I walked into your home...I remember saying to myself, "This is where you belong."

That was in Jan. 1978...I've spread my wings a lot since then but, nothing has equalled meeting you wonderful people for the first time and the warmth of your friendship was constantly grown.

What has pleased me more than anything is the way my wife came to see that the TV world is not inhabited by monsters but, by nice people, the best in the world...She looks upon Helen as a very dear and personal friend and if possible, is happier at Albany than I am.

Over the door of hell it says, "Abandon all hope, ye who enter." Over the door at 1104 Broadway should be a sign, "Inside this door, loneliness ceases to exist, enter and welcome."

DEE DEE W. HARTFORD CONN.....

Dear Wilma:

Last week I went up to Buffalo to see a psychiatrist hoping that he might be able to help me in some way, but all he did was to tell me what I already knew. He thought taht I was a TV, which very strong transexual tendence, which does not make me feel any better, because I feel that I'm left hanging in the middle, which really tends to cause a lot of tension for myself and my wife. Well I'M going to a local clinic, and I hope they can help me sort out my feelings, and give me come sort of direction in my life. If you know of anyone who is or has been is the same situtation, would you ask them to get in touch with me, they write to me or phone. I could really use the support and friendship of some-one, sometimes the feelings of being alone with no hope of anyone caring or ever being able to help me becomes very overwhelming. Well for now I'M just trying to make it day to day, because if I think about tomorrow and what the future holds for me it's just to much to handle all at once.

LIZ P.O.B. 32 GLEN N.Y. 13777

Dear Wilma:

To answer your question about what I admire in real girls and attempt to bring it into my femme life.

I admire the natural grace and poise of most women. They express with every movement of their physical being. The ability to walk gracefully in high heels and even dance and run in them. Their ability to talk with their eyes and hands. The softness of speach which is so dificult to learn..All in all I think there is a mystery im women that most of us will never discover, but that we wish we had. I don't know what it is but its there. It could be in the maternal part of their personality, not all women have it but there is a glowing warmth that I find it hard to explain.

I feel that we admire women but don't know what or why we admire them and will really never know.

Again I wish to thank you and Helen for being you, and so dedicated to help ing us TVs. I feel you two have something we can't explain or ever have also. Its something nice and wonderful and rare. We can't see it but we can feel it,

Thanks Lois.

R,C, P.O.B. 405 JAMESTOWN N.Y. 14701

Dear Wilma:

To answer one of the Questions Of The Month in the Journal. "WHAT WAS YOUR MOST EXCITING FEMEEXPERIENCE?"

I have had many thrillinf experiences like every TV and each one is dear to me. Perhaps the one that stands out the most in my mind happened shortly after I had told my wife all about mt TV desires. We shortly took a trip out West. My wife was trying to understand my desires and suggested that I take my oyer clothes along to wear them on the trip. Well, she couldn't have made me happier! I packed two suitcases and we started out as two ladies driving West on our vacation. As this type of thin was new to both of us we took our food and ate outdoors along the road. What a thrill it was to live freely as a woman and tp be accepted as one as we traveled along on the best vacation I have ever had.

My wife says that she is going to buy me a whole new outfit for FATHERS DAY, and I sure hope the dress will fit. DIANE D, WASHING* TON, N.J.



"Is it true, Mom— did you really use to be a MAN?"

PEGGY R. SAYS: There was a young girl who married an old man and and found out it was the same old thing, week in and week out.

Dear Wilma:

In reply to the QUESTION OF THE MONTH "WHAT DO I WANT FROM MARRIAGE?" Only everything. Only all the dreams of a lifetime brought to reality, Only a lovely girl who thrills the male in me by her utter femininity, by her beauty, her charm, and her Quality of sincerity, kindness, love and appreciation of all that is fine and clean and decent in the world. And for the female in me I want her to accept...No...desire, to have my femself as her friend, her confident, her sister. I want her to help my femself in the little tricks that make a girl become a lady. To thrill with me over a new dress, to discuss fashions with me, to advise me, help me, love me as a real girl. My wife, my sister, my friend must be intelligent. She must see beneath the surface of conformity and appreciate the divinity of the individual as he is. She must have compassion for all human beings all life. She must stand beside me in joy as well as in trouble, and bring her joy to my trouble. And she must want to extend her hand in friendship to another who may not have understanding. In other words, and above all, she must have a deep reverence for life, sometimes called God, and for His expressions in human form. But I didn't really answer the question. The above is what I want from marriage, it's what I have. And more, much more than I could put into mere words, for my wife has gone beyond mere dreams, beyond desire, beyond ~~mundane~~ mundane. She stands on a plateau in beauty, and she has welcomed me to her side to share her beauty. She loves me, all of me, and in that simple statement lies the essence of all the happiness one man deserves. She is Joyce my wife. PAULA D, LODI, CALIF.

Dear Wilma:

I received the newsletter this week and was surprised and pleased to see my letter in it. I have received letters from a couple of members since then and hope I will receive others.

I enjoy your Questions of the month very much and like to try to answer them. Whether or not my answers make any sense isn't important but your questions do help me think about and understand myself a little better and this is important. Now on the question: WHAT DO I ADMIRE IN REAL GIRLS THAT I TRY TO BRING INTO MY OWN FEMME LIFE. First of all let me say that I feel that many of the differences that exist, besides the obvious biological differences; are differences that are imposed by "society" to a greater or lesser degree.

I admire the fact that they are able to show emotion much more freely while it is still true that many people still associate this with weakness in a man.

I admire the fact that they can make and have friends much more easily than can a man, although this may be changing somewhat with the emergence of women into the work force. A man traditionally has been expected to be in competition with other men.

I admire the fact that women can take a more passive role. I recall that as a teenager I never liked the idea that I was supposed to be the one to take the initiative and always thought that girls were very fortunate that they could just sit back and wait. It never seemed quite fair to me.

I admire the fact that usually woman can be much more open with their feelings than can a man particularly in the work place as I mentioned before. I know in my situation I have worked for 3 medium to large size companies in the past 23 years and have never really felt that I could be really myself with my co-workers, etc. I was in competition with others, I was concerned about not alienating the boss, etc.

I also admire the fact that generally speaking they have more time to do as they please. Of course this isn't true while they have small children but overall I believe it is. I feel very strongly that I need some time to myself to be alone. Being married, with 3 children and having the type of wife who likes a reasonable amount of attention I find that I have almost no time to myself, whereas my wife on the other hand does and how she chooses to use it is up to her. I find this can be quite frustrating if not downright depressing.

I enjoy the newsletter very much and the new friends that I have met through the club. Keep up the good work.

Sincerilly KAY
KAY H., P.O.B. 626, PROCTOR, VT. 05765.

Dear Wilma: You asked what item of feminine clothing I like to shop for best. I love shoes. sometimes it is funny to see the looks on the faces of clerks when a man ask to buy a pair of womens shoes to fit himself. It is even funnier when he gets up on a pair of 3 inch heels and walks very well in them. I went into a store & asked to buy a dress to fit me. The women clerk had fun finding one to fit me, JAKIE, STATEN ISLAND, N.Y.



TVIC PARTY
"OK, Girls . . . knock off the shop talk."

- NO 1 is Arlene C., Springfield, Va.
- No 2 is Rachell A., Camillus, N.Y.
- No 3 is Sally B., Binghamton, N.Y.
- No 4 is Leslie W., Thunderbay, Canada.
- No.5 is Alice C., Coline, N.Y.

Dear Wilma:

In reply to your letter regarding our ward, who is a male 15 years of age who has been brought up as a female, we are continuing to bring the person up in female being. It was not that we were cruel, we just didn't know what to do when we were brought into the situation on the death of the child's parents. We did not know if we were doing the right thing in keeping the female program.

The child is growing more feminine everyday. As it has led a very sheltered life he is very delicate in features and fills out in girls clothes without any trouble. My wife has given her a course in voice, make-up and the use of cosmetics. The child wants to stay a female, and as she has a very high I. Q. we think she should become a career person. She prefers older persons as persons her own age think her too intellectual. She particularly doesn't like boys, which we think is a good thing. Everyone thinks she makes a very attractive appearance and very few know of her true sex.

She has never worn sport or casual clothes she prefers dresses and hats, gloves and high heels. She is very nearsighted and wears glasses of the same type as my wife.

I realize that this is a very unusual letter, but we wish to keep the secret as much as possible, which has been done very well so far. But are we doing the right thing. Robert Fort worth Texas

Dear Wilma;

I had a lonesome existence until I met my wife Cindy, as my parents were aware of my unusual trait and never accepted it.

But, since my marriage I have been more happy than I ever thought possible. My wife has tried to make up for the years I was so unhappy.

This did not come about easily, or accidentally. I met Cindy when she was 17 a senior in High School, I had made up my mind I would never be able to marry. I was 21 at the time, but on my own as I had left home as soon as I could (18) so I could live the way I wanted to. I had gone "steady" with Cindy 6 months, all the while telling her, as much as I could without raising her suspicions, all about tving. One day I was having a very "rough" time of it, and somehow persuaded her to paint my toenails as she was painting hers, of course this a dead give away and she asked me if I was a TV, I replied that I was. At this point I thought we were through, as she asked me in a tearful voice, to leave. The next day however she called me and asked me to come over. Upon arriving at her house you can imagine my surprise when she gave me her best pair of baby doll PJs. From that point on, my life has been a wonderful existence. My Hardest task was convincing Cindy to let me wear high heels for some unknown reason. So I wore "FLATS" for two years, now I have about six pairs of flats that I hardly ever wear, what a waste!

It was about 2 years ago at a party that I saw the first maternity dress that interested me. In fact I did not know that I was a maternity dress until my wife pointed it out to me, This was ~~my~~ our first fight, as I insisted on having one like it. My wife was very unhappy about this, as she thought I was really going ogg the deep end, but we talked it out and I won my way.

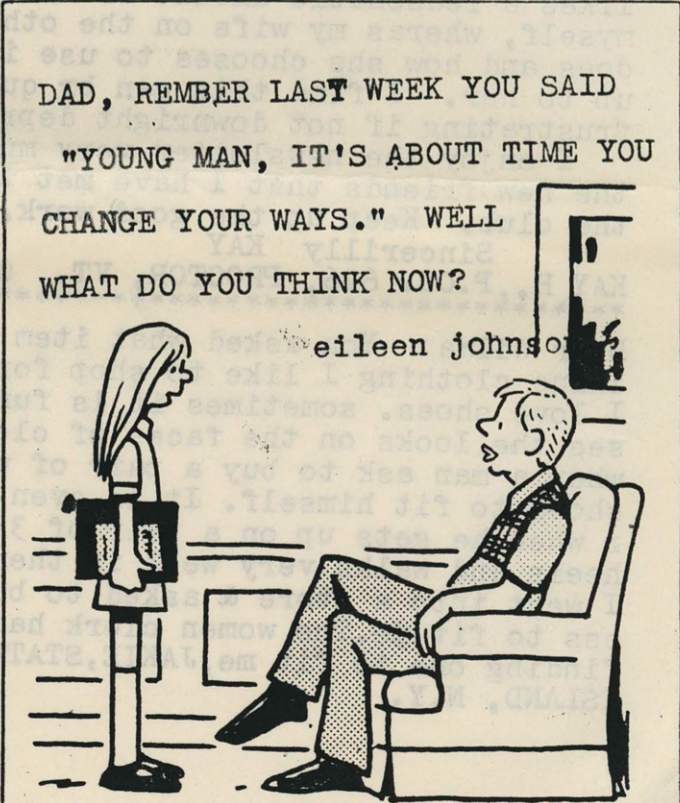
I guess I really had gone off the deep end for I bought a complete maternity wardrobe, started gaining weight like mad in my tummy. I could not wear my other clothes at all. Male or female. Now here is a good one for some doctor to figure out, for I do not know the reason. My wife and I have no children and don't want any, but I could not help myself when it came to wearing these clothes. We go out quite often and of course it is much easier in Maternity wear to "pass" than ordinary clothes. But through the patient help of my wife I managed to compromise, lose some weight, and wear a mixture of different clothes.

I want to wish all the unmarried TVs all the success in the world in finding a patient and understanding wife. But if I could give one word of advice; don't wait until after you are married to tell her... JEANETT D, Los Angles, Calif.

Dear Wilma:

In answer to you question of the month "WHAT ITEM OF FEMININE CLOTHING I LIKE BEST?"

I like all items of feminine clothing. I like buying them myself in the stores and i like wearing them, WHY? Because they are more comfortable then mens clothes to wear and not as heavy. ROAEMARIE** R. EPLY,



DEE DEE SAYS: I use to yearn for money to burn and time to smell em out. Now I have the dough and time to go but the doggoned fire is out.

PAULA D. SAYS: I like to play parlor golf on cold nights - eighteen strokes on one hole.

N E W S

ALBANY MAN FACES CHARGE OF CHRIMINIAL IMPERSONATION:

An Albany man was arraigned in Albany Police Court for allegedly wearing a dress, highheeled shoes and womans make-up and attempting to flag down motorists and pedestrians at State and Eagle streets for the purposes of prostitution.

Gerald A. Downs, a 21 year old resident of the Ida Yarbrough Apartments, was arrested shortly before 1 a.m. Wednesday and charged with criminal impersonation and loitering for the purposes of prostitution.

In court, Judge Thomas Keegan ordered downs held in the Albany County jail on \$2,500 bail

82 YEAR OLD MAID TURNS OUT TO BE A MAN:

UPI. Tel Aviv - Police say an 82 year old Arab man who died of severe burns had worked for 40 years as a maid and laundress. A person whose identity card listed as a female, Farida Yehudia, born in 1898, was rushed to a local hospital suffering from severe burns and died 48 hours later, police said. A routine post-mortem examination showed Farida was a man. A police search of the hut where the man lived as a woman for most of his life uncovered suitcases filled with cash and valuables....

DEAR ANN LANDERS: Could it be part of a normal growth pattern when a 13 year old boy enjoys trying on ladies undergarments? The boys father insists that many physical and psychological changes occur at this age, and the lad is merel y fascinated with the softness of feminine attire, Our son shows no other signs of femininity. His physical growth this past year has been extraordinary. He has popped up 6 inches, gained 20 pounds and his shoe size has gone from 6½ to 10. Please consult with your experts and rush an answer. No Name..
Dear NO Name; I suspect that your son has transvestite tendencies. This does not mean he is a homosexual. Many transvestites marry and have families. Transvestites get their jollies from dressing as women and that is the extent of their bizzarre behavior.

TRANSSEXUALS HUSBAND KILLED HER AFTER FINDING OLD LOVE LETTERS:

(AP TIMES UNION 12-18-80) FREEHOLD, N.J. Atranssexual was fatally shot by her husband following a dispute over her former lover died from 4 gun shot wounds, includinf 3 shots fired into her head at close range. An autopsy was performed on the body of Jeannie Shelley Boushard Fox, 34, who was also shot in the back. Police arraigned Robert Fox, 41, of howell, on charges he murdered his wife. Mrs. Fox, the former Donald Shepard, had undergone 2 sex change operations and was to have undergone a third. Mrs. Foxs death certificate listed the vistims sex as male because she still had some male sexual organs, which the third and final operation was to remove. Fox, a truck driver, and his wife began fighting as the woman packed for a trip to Canada for a third and final stage of transsexual surgery. The \$5,500 operation was to be financed by fox, who had raised the money with a second mortgage on his home. As he helped his wife pack, Fox allegedly discovered letters his wife had written to a former lover, a Totonto man, and an ensuing dispute ended in the shooting. Fox kept tactical police officers at bay for 12 hours with an assortment of weapons. A team of 11 offocers carrying rifles, including m-16s, surrounded the suspects Howell home, but no gunfire was exchanged. Fox surrendered without resistance after his younger brother entered the two-story frame house to talk to him shortly before midnight Tuesday....

DEAR ABBY: Nearly 3 years ago, I saw a letter in your column from a man who was totmented and frustrated because he had always felt that he should have been a woman. He said he was not a homosexual, but he felt like a woman with a mans body. You advised him to contact the Janus Information Facility for legitimate, enlightening literature concerning this condition. Abby, since I also had those feelings, I wrote for the literature, and was put in touch with doctors who studied my case. after much soul-searching, I know now that I am a transsexual. I am now living happily as a woman. I was scheduled for a sex-change operation at Johns Hopkins, but that type of operation is no longer performed there because the surgeons who specialized in it left for other hospitals so I am going to Cleveland. Abby, had it not been for your column, I wouldn't have known where to turn. I was, miserably I was on the verge of suicide! Please advise others with this problem to get help through a legitimate source as I did. And make it plain that not everyone who thinks he wants to be of the other sex is a candidate for a sex-change operation. Before surgery is permitted, the doctors make sure the person is a true transsexual for whom surgery is the only answer. Thank you for saving my life. GERI...

DEAR GERI: I'm glad you wrote. anyone interested in up-to-date literature concerning transsexualism may write to Dr. Paul Walker, 1962 Union St., San Francisco, Calif. 94123. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a reply.....

COLLINE S. SAYS: I was once a baker and I was using my upper plates to decorate the cookies. When a lady costomer wandered into the back of the bakery, gasped and said, "I thought you have a tool fot that," and I replied, "I have--- I use it for making the holes in the doughnuts.

DiscoBats: far up, far out, farfetched



DiscoBat: so what else's new?

By KITTY HANSON

She floats through the air with the greatest of ease, the daring young man on the flying trapeze...

Those garbled lyrics of that old song may confuse our grandparents who sang them differently, but they are exactly right for the DiscoBats of the Barnum Room of the G.G. Knickerbocker on W. 15th St. The flying young acrobats who dance on trapezes above disco-ers' heads in what used to be the old Peppermint Lounge may look like women, but — with one exception — they're men.

So are a good 50 percent of the "women" patrons who mix with the straights, the curious, the voyeurs and the married couples from Scarsdale who have been flocking to the far-out disco since it opened in the old Knickerbocker Hotel a year ago.

"And President Eisenhower thought the Twist was decadent!" exclaimed one dancer who says it's a "real trip", to look up from his free-styling to see a troupe of scantily-clad men and transvestites bounding and bouncing and somersaulting onto a spider-web ceiling of rope above his head.

Jerry Cohn, who created the disco, says he planned it that way.

Cohn, who talks like a cross between a philosopher, ad man, rabbi, scholar and sex therapist, says he got the idea from the go-go boys who used to do spectacular leaps and acrobatics on the beams of his

former club, the Gilded Grape, now closed.

"The space at the Knickerbocker hotel lobby — which is now the Barnum Room — was vertical," he says, "so a lot of the action — and the fantasy — had to be above the dancers' heads. I tried to see if I could duplicate the excitement those go-go boys had created. So I had the rope net slung above the floor — it holds 2,000 pounds a square foot — assembled the troupe and put them up there on the calisthenic bars. And it worked."

The DiscoBats, a troupe of 16, perform in teams of three or four, alternating through the night. High point of the week occurs on Saturday nights when the entire troupe performs at once, for a full hour.

"It's not a circus feeling you get," says Cohn. "When you look up and you see someone flying above you, you get the same, soaring feeling."

Not too many months after the club opened, long, black limousines, the hallmark of disco success, began lining up in front of Barnum's. "Names" and "faces" of the celebrity bunch began to appear in the bizarre mix as the Who's Who mingled with the Who's What. Robert Redford, Andy Warhol, Henry Mancini have been among the faces in the crowd that includes men and women who are really men and women, men dressed as woman and almost impossible to detect, and — lately — a new phenomenon — women dressed as men — "and very good looking men they are," he adds.

Cohn claims to see a resemblance between the phenomenon of disco, and the ancient religious rites in which dance was an integral part.

"The Hassidim performed frenzied dances with the Torah," he said, "and other cultures danced for fertility, for rain, for good crops. That's when the world worshipped an agrarian god. Now our god is — a machine god, technology. In a disco, it's a machine that makes the

music we dance to, and in disco we become part of the machine."

Cohn's disco-theology may not make philosophical sense to a lot of people, but it is making good business sense to the club's owners. And it seems to make entertainment sense to the growing numbers of the straight community particularly middle-aged married couples who crowd the place.

ADV: For a Quick Pick-Up, Try Kelsey's Candy, and For That Tired Feeling, Eat Kelsey's Nuts!

THREE MEN DRESSED AS WOMEN NABBED

(Special to The Keyhole)

LOS ANGELES—The amazing story of how three young men succeeded in masquerading as women so successfully that they even kept jobs as "housekeepers" and frequented ladies' rest-rooms, was uncovered here last week all because of the curiosity of a police detective.

Detective R. E. Brown was walking along Wilshire boulevard when his attention was drawn to three dainty young "things" mincing along the street, high heels, modish hats, lipstick and all. They had just emerged from the restroom of a theatre—the women's restroom that it.

Brown followed the trio, discreetly at first, because, after all, no matter how suspicious, you don't just walk up and ask a woman whether she is a woman or not.

But his suspicions became more and more aroused as he followed them along the boulevard, and finally he came up and made the pinch. My goodness, how they squealed with womanly indignation!

At Wilshire police station, Brown, sighing happily, turned over the business to policewoman Ruth Beck. Miss Beck took the three ladies into a private room and ordered them to strip.

Off came their pumps. Then their fashionable dresses. Then their sheer silk stockings. Then their brassieres — down to the falsies.

That was when policewoman Beck lost her customary nonchalance and let out a shriek. For when the three "girls" removed their falsies they were bared in all their glory as hair-chested males.

The three, who had given their names as "Tisha" Porter, 19, "Mary" Lee, 21, and "Rita" Porter, 21, all housekeepers, finally owned up that their real handles were respectively, Queque Porter Malpress, Willie Moore and Frank Porter.

She was just a country old maid . . . always waiting at the gate, but never getting any mail in her box.

Said the lady when she got the old bazazz from the Invisible Man, "I don't know what I'm up against, but I like it."

A woman is the only hunter that uses herself for bait.

He can't skirt this issue

DEAR ABBY: At 16 I married a 21-year-old man I thought I loved. We had a son a year later, but the marriage didn't work out, so we were divorced when the boy was 6. I'm now married to a wonderful man who adopted my son.

Meanwhile, my ex dropped out of sight for three years. Yesterday, out of the blue, he called saying he had something very important to tell me, and would I meet him downtown — alone.

When I met him, I nearly fainted dead away! He was dressed like a woman. He said he was a transsexual who had been living as a woman for two years and was scheduled for a sex change operation next month! He said his name is "Anita" now, and he's in show business.

Abby, I couldn't believe my eyes. He had electrolysis to remove his facial hair, took hormones to develop a female figure, and was wearing a wig, makeup, and stylish clothes. He looked like a beautiful woman! This was a great shock to me because he was all man when we were married. Our sex life was normal, and I never dreamed he had these tendencies.

My problem is how to tell our son. Or should I tell him at all? (He's 9 now.) My ex lives in another state and has promised not to come near our son without approval. If the boy ever saw his father as "Anita" he would die, and so would I.

—SMALL TOWN MESS

DEAR MESS: A 9-year-old is too young to comprehend what transsexualism is all about, so hold off telling him. But prepare to tell him one day by educating yourself now. Write to The Janus Information Facility, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas 77550, for enlightening, up-to-date literature. They are a legitimate, non-profit facility, dependent on private donations, so send \$5 to cover cost of literature and mailing.

Two little worms were crawling down the road. One stopped and the other crawled on.

How does an elephant find his tail in the dark? Delightful!