

IN MEMORIAM

Two services were held for Louis Sullivan on Friday, March 15, 1991. One was a large service held at the Neptune Society Columbarium. However, an earlier service for approximately 20 people was also arranged aboard a small double-tiered boat which departed from Pier 40 in San Francisco.

PART 1

The boat service was powerful, precisely because Lou had planned all of the details himself. He had requested a "party" and a "celebration" in which his ashes would be scattered in the San Francisco Bay. Indeed, most everybody felt Lou's presence, and an intermingling sensation that this was the way he wanted things done. After boarding, we were pleasantly heaved about, feeling the sharpness of the wind and observing puffin birds diving underwater with their slightly large webbed feet. Lou's sister, Maryellen, kept saying that Lou would really have liked this, because puffins were one of his favorite birds. The service itself was informal and non-religious. People shared a memory or two about Lou, which meant something to them. His mother set the tone by speaking openly both about Lou's gender change and his struggle with AIDS. Many people remembered that AIDS had been something which Lou had handled with a minimum of complaining. Other people spoke of their personal relationships with him, and of his numerous contributions in their lives. Certainly, he was a remarkable human being.

Finally, an urn of ashes was scattered into the bay, followed by roses and carnations which people tossed overboard. For a long time, as the boat circled its way back to Pier 40, we observed those flowers floating above the actual burial site.

These are the parts of the service which stick out most strongly in my mind; that it was windy but clear, and that the adults watched, and were deeply moved by the children shouting good-bye to their Uncle Lou. Somebody commented afterwards that "It happened. We did the thing. It's over with and everybody has a different view on things."

PART 2

The later memorial service was much larger, approximately 100 people were in attendance and consisted of several different community sub-groups, namely individuals from SFSI, gender-based groups such as FTM or ETVC and the Gay Historical Society. This service was also loosely structured to provide refreshments, socializing and a chance to get up and speak at the podium. Several old timer F-M's attended, including Brian Maier, John Garrigues, and Steve Dain. Again, the service was non-religious, and presented a method of saying good-bye not only to Lou, but to what he represents. He was a guy with a slight build whose energy and masculinity filled up the whole room. He was somebody who forced others to validate the condition of female-to-male transsexualism, and finally, he had the very good sense to write books on this subject, to establish a newsletter, and to form a support group. All of this was done even during the times when he could barely drag himself out of bed. I guess we just can't thank him enough.

Written by: Kevin Horwitz



LOUIS GRAYDON SULLIVAN

Louis Graydon Sullivan, an author and female-to-male transsexual, died Saturday March 2, 1991 at his home in San Francisco from the complications of AIDS. He was 39.

Mr. Sullivan gained widespread notice in 1990 for his book, the "Biography of Jack B. Garland," a turn-of-the-century female cross dresser who worked as a woman journalist in Stockton and San Francisco and later served as a male in the Spanish-American War.

Mr. Sullivan was the founder and director of San Francisco's FTM, the first and only international support group for female-to-male transsexuals. Researchers have estimated that about 1 in 50,000 females is a transsexual compared with about 1 in 20,000 men who make the switch.

Mr. Sullivan was a regular speaker at the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality in San Francisco and a frequent contributor to the Advocate, a national gay publication.

He was active in the San Francisco Gay Historical Society and was also closely involved with ETVC, a 400-plus member transsexual and transvestite support group in San Francisco.

Mr. Sullivan is survived by his grandmother, Erna Cush, of Milwaukee; his mother, Nancy L. Sullivan, of Milwaukee; a brother, John E. Sullivan Jr., of Milwaukee; sisters Bridget D'Amico of Elkins Park, Pa., and Maryellen Hanley of Oakland, and six nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. March 15 at the Neptune Society Columbarium, 1 Loraine Court, between Stanyan Street and Arguello Boulevard in San Francisco. Interment will be private.

REPRINTED FROM "THE SF CHRONICLE"

FTM MALE BOX

[Shortly before his death, Lou was preparing to publish this issue of FTM. His response to the letter below was very likely one of his last writings. ---cd.]

Dear FTM:

I'd like to share some "Observations on Group Evolution."

I did not attend the last (Jan. 20) FTM Get-Together. There were various reasons for this, various emotions calling for my attention about it. I was sad in that I was unable to see the many friends I have made during my one day vacations to attend past meetings, which I have been doing for about two years. I was sad that I did not have a chance to see and speak with Lou, however briefly it sometimes is, because that, for me, is always a highlight of my trip.

Then why didn't I go? Well, money is very tight, but it has been in the past too. (Without the help of friends who I stay with, I could never afford to attend at all.) The reason I did not go was that, for me, the group is not one of which I feel a part of anymore. Over the last few times, there has been a subtle, yet definite shift from male to female. This may sound strange, since it's a female to male group, so allow me to explain.

There is an enormous difference between an FTM TS and an FTM Crossdresser. True, many issues are, superficially, the same. (ie., clothing, "passing", etc) HOWEVER, the TS is a man and the Crossdresser is a woman. During the course of the last few meetings, as well as the tone of some letters and articles in the newsletter, this basic distinction seems to be, at various times, forgotten, ignored, blurred and misunderstood.

Crossdressers "play" at being men. It's a kick to pretend for a while to be the ultimate butch. Playing out a fantasy is fun. The TS IS a man, albeit possessed of female anatomy. There is no "TS hierarchy". There are simply men who are at varying stages of a transition from the anatomy of a female to that of a male. The fact that I have not had genital surgery does not make me less of a man than one who has. That I have been on hormones since '82 and have had the mastectomy and hysterectomy does not make me more of a man than one who started hormones in '85 and has only had top surgery.

More and more, the meeting and newsletter itself are catering to the Crossdresser, the women who attend. There is nothing wrong about this. It is just that as a man, a TS, the commonality, interest, issues, etc., are very different and I find speak little to me. I can vaguely understand how some lesbians may feel that the FTM TS is simply a butch dyke, taken to the extreme, since many FTM TS'S had been in the lesbian community. But we are not women, not lesbians. If a woman lesbian were to be attracted to me and we were to date, etc., I would consider her to be bi-sexual. After all, I'm a man. To consider me to be a lesbian, and therefore a woman, is simply absurd. That would mean that the gay, genetic men I have dated would be straight, and they wouldn't agree with that!

Those women who love and support us are important, and I would hope they are doing so out of concern and care for the individual TS they are with, not because of some "daddy" role they hope to enact. There are also genetic men who love and support us. After all, we, like any group of men, come in all orientations, be it gay, straight, bi or asexual.

As a TS, I am naturally sorry to see the emphasis in the group alter to the women, but I guess it's just evolution. New people, new ideas, new concerns.

I wish all of you women, the butches, Crossdressers, and so on, the best. I may not see much of you. Your issues, concerns, interests, gender are not the same as mine. I feel the most disheartened in that for the FTM TS, there is very little available in the way of networking with other men, and, for a while, this group provided an outlet which was desperately needed. Lesbians seem to have many options available, at least in comparison to the TS (especially the FTM).

Perhaps there will emerge another FTM TS group to fill the void that has been left. If so, I will be there. If not, I value the friends I have made and am glad the group was there for the FTM TS however long it was.

Jeff

Lou responded;

Needless to say, the preceding letter bewildered and saddened me so that I feel compelled to comment on it. Although this letter expresses the opinion of one, it is a sentiment that is eventually felt by most of us who go from one end of the TV/TS spectrum.

The writer apparently objects to the presence of "women" and "lesbians." I think that he forgets that we all began our transitions as "women." With our confused feelings, we seek other women of sexual minority status--and most visibly, these are the feminist and lesbian communities. There we hoped to find a safe place to investigate our masculine identities, taking small steps crossdressing and appearing as male as possible in the larger society. However, in our quest for an explanation to our unconventional sexual/social urges, we eventually realize (some sooner than others) that we do not fit in the lesbian/feminist world, that we are not oppressed women or women-loving-women--we are female to male transsexuals. This is where our FTM Get-Togethers serve us.

In my own experience, I spent six years (from ages 22-28) in a phase I could only describe to others as a "female-to-male transvestite." I very much enjoyed wearing men's clothes and the thrill of occasionally being mistaken for a young man. I discarded all possessions I labelled as "female" items. But I could not envision making the final transition, I couldn't make the decision to cross over into the "transsexual" world. This was the most tormenting stage of my life, one during which I needed desperately to connect with others in all the varying phases of female-to-male expression. This is the most important function of the FTM Get-Togethers and our Newsletter - presenting all the options to the searching female-to-male so that she might make an informed choice concerning her future.

Some discover that crossdressing, ie., playing at "being a man," is satisfying enough, and they have the courage to accept themselves as "transvestites," though gender identity professionals continue to deny their existence. Others find that they cannot tolerate the duality of this male/female lifestyle, that there is no place for them as "butch" women, and they pursue the permanence of sex reassignment. It is a long, hard road and oftentimes those of us who crossed that line find it painful to witness the struggle of others to decide for themselves where they fit in. I think, in attending our Get-Togethers, female-to-male transsexuals are reminded of those painful memories.

Many cannot tolerate those in this stage of indecision and, after their sex reassignment, disassociate from the TV/TS

community. I think this is the real tragedy, as those who are seeking information to assist in their decision desperately need the wisdom of us old-timers. Over the years we have seen many of our wisest female-to-male counselors drop out of the community in order to discard the label of "transsexual" and live as the "normal" men they are.

Hopefully, each time a void is created, there will appear someone to take up the task. Meanwhile let us continue to value the friendships we made through these fledgling female-to-male Get-Togethers.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Dear Lou,

I will miss your personal presence so much. I suddenly remember when I start to call you to tell you about a new article I just read, or to share a recent fashion find of a vintage tie or hat.

I can't call you up, but I can talk to you in my own way, and try to keep your goals and dreams alive in the FTM group you brought into being, through the special friends I have made by coming into that community. You reassured me when I hesitatingly wrote, then called you several years ago. I was drawn to the group, but was afraid I could not join because I was only a "cross-dresser", not TS. Your reply was "we all started that way, it's up to you how far you want to go with it."

As I began to know you better, no matter what your personal feelings or preferences were (and you were not shy about sharing them, which was quite refreshing), you kept a spirit of openness for the group. That openness has led to the continuing growth and learning between TS, TV'S, significant others, friends wanting to know more, and gender workers all with interest in FTM.

At your memorial service, I was touched by your loving family who shared their most personal feelings and recollections, and who brought your photo albums for us all to see and share some of your happiest times with lovers, friends, family, on trips, with your first motorcycle. Through all the photos was your courage and personal statement that you portrayed by dressing as the man you knew yourself to be, long before you began your physical change.

Lou, I will always hear your special laugh, your upbeat voice, your interest in new ideas, historical facts, or the latest Inquirer story (where some interesting FTM stories have been found!), discussing how butch Brooke Shields looked in a recent photo spread, who is seeing whom in the community, and what happens when we die. You were always interested in many things, and in people. I am glad you had the courage to come out publicly as a transsexual and as a gay man. For all of us, whether in the gay or gender communities (or not), the world is a better place because of you.

Thank you for the personal encouragement to "be who you are and have fun with it", and for being my friend.

Francis

FTM NEWSLETTER

Exclusively for the female-to-male crossdresser and transsexual.

Published quarterly since 1986 by FTM, 1827 Haight St. #164, San Francisco, CA 94117

Dear FTM,

You know how the FTM Networking says "It's free and it works!" Well, I would just like to attest to that!

I am an FTM who was residing in Arkansas. Talk about feeling hopeless. I found FTM info., including this newsletter, only with great difficulty.

I wrote into FTM Networking and found a great FTM pal in Seattle, WA. After corresponding for a few months, I made the move to Seattle and am now in therapy with a really great therapist!

I plan to begin hormones later this year. Besides a great friend, a job and a place to live, I also have hope for the future. I even got to meet Lou Sullivan at the FTM gathering in September here in Seattle.

Thanks again, Lou for FTM!!!

Sidney

IN HONOR OF LOU

The most frail frame held tons of zeal. I was awestruck. I knew not this scholar's name. He spoke to so many not yet known...even me. He answered questions that not yet had come to light, and I had knowledge already abound.

"Who are you, Man?" You are leaving before I know you. How dare you have courted destruction before rebirth! How sweet you, tragic hero, give so much in midst of sorrow.

Allow me to celebrate your close, but before...I thank you for opening my door, I thank you saving me by turning me away from your same path, I thank you for loving us and those not reached. I hold utter admiration for you and those whom with which you conspire.

Hello, you must go. Good-bye, I must stay.

Then, farewell to you.

"Farewell,

Love,

Lou."

Titian

Dear FTM,

It has been a long time ago I have written to you. The main reason why I am writing now, is not a nice one. Perhaps somebody of you have heard about Pasteur Joseph Douce?

He is a well known man in France and the activator van Centre Christe Liberation. This is an organization, settled in Paris, who take care of misunderstanding groups like homosexuals, transsexuals and transvestites. In this position, he was a great fighter for people like us. He has been helping a lot of people with transsexual feelings. He also was a famous speaker on symposia about transsexualism.

On 19 July 1990, Douce is disappeared. He has been taken with two men, carrying a police-uniform. Since that moment, nobody has seen him anymore. The police won't give any information about him.

His friend and life-sharing partner, Guy Bondar, is trying to get information about his position. The police of France will not give him any information because they will not recognize his position as a partner.

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continued

Now he will send a petition to the minister of political affairs. So I will ask you to send your empathy letter to Guy. This also has been done by the Mannengroep Nederland (NL), de LKG TenT (NL), Beit Haverim (FR), David and Jonathan (FR), MCC (Europe), SILO (NL), Il Guado (FR), Lesbian and Gay Chr. Movement (ENG), Gender Transient Affinity (ENG), SOS Sexisme (ENG), Rhif (FR), Juristes Gays (FR) and a lot of personnel people.

The address is : M Guy Bondar, [redacted] Rue Clairaut, 75017 Paris, France.

I hope a lot of you regarding this article will send their letter to him.

With kindly regards,

Jean van Aarle
Mannengroep Nederland
Hemelsbleekweg 10
5425 PB Mortel
The Netherlands
04923-64624

(ed. note..since the receipt of this letter, Pasteur Joseph Douce's body was found in the woods, three weeks after he disappeared. Exact details of his death are not available at this time. An update will follow once more information is obtained. However, please do write letters of support to his partner, Guy.)

WE NEED YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!!

FTM is now in its fourth year of publication and has survived only because of your generous donations. FTM receives NO outside funding. Give what you can and keep FTM available to all!



"And with your new penis. you'll get this

NETWORKING COLUMN

FTM'S and MTF'S forming a support group in the Ft. Lauderdale/Hollywood area. TS and mates welcome for socializing and fun as well as a shoulder to lean on. Write for info. or get-togethers: Maxwell Anderson [redacted] N. Dixie Hwy [redacted] Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33334

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Handsome, 30 year old FTM, caucasian. Living as man without desire for hormones or surgery, wants to date and/or correspond with others in same circumstances (any age/race). My dream is to meet another extremely masculine woman who needs the same as a sex buddy, friend and potential mate. Do you like all out wrestling? Girlie Mags? Erotic massage? Sexy correspondence? Well, then let's go for it! My other interests include weight lifting, poetry, foreign languages, auto mechanics, tennis and bicycling. Open to any ideas for adventure and fun. If you are healthy, stable and passionate- here's your chance to meet your match! Write to: Merle Knight, PO Box 1105, Chino, CA 91710

#####

Hi, my name is Elija Allen Wallach. I'm a pre-op F to M on hormone therapy for 9 months. I'm into camping and ALL the arts. I look very young and I'm 28 years old. I'm a teddy bear losing the excess weight.

If you are a cute gay male, honest, healthy, with a good sense of humor, please write me. Please include a photo. Write: Al Wallach, c/o Bernard, [redacted] New Hempstead Rd., New City, NY 10956

#####

I am involved with an FTM and am looking for other women who are, and who know and understand, for friendship and sharing! Please write to : Steph PO Box 189605, Sacramento, CA 95824

#####

I am writing a book about women who wear men's clothing. If you are a female crossdresser, or a woman who wears men's clothing for any other reason, please write to me at : Sandy Bernstein PO Box 361925, Milpitas, CA 95036

#####

F2M would like to hear from other F2M couples in married or committed relationships, preferably with heterosexual female partners. Need to hear from you. Zale Thomas [redacted] Beachwood, Pine Lawn, MO 63121. If you prefer you can call. Collect is fine [redacted]

#####

I would like to talk with someone who has done the phalloplasty surgery with Dr. Laub of Palo Alto or Dr. Gilbert of Virginia. Also if anyone can tell me any information on how and where to get some kind of insurance to cover the surgery, I would appreciate this. T. Flores [redacted] Olympus St. [redacted] Hercules, CA 94547

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

by James

When I became serious about following through with my gender alignment, I spent some time gathering information about the types of surgery available, the providers, and the costs. I opted for the genitoplasty (metadoioplasty) over phalloplasty, partly because the price seemed more affordable. Costs quoted to me by providers and consumers alike hovered at less than \$4500 for top surgery (outpatient bi-lateral mastectomy), and roughly \$6000 for the lower procedure. I didn't anticipate a hysterectomy, which later proved necessary for reasons other than gender dysphoria. Nonetheless, in the excitement of my newly found conviction to follow through on my self-realization as a man, I figured I could easily afford to pay \$10,000 to \$12,000 over a period of two or three years. Hell, it's just like buying a car, right? Wrong!!

I didn't realize it as it was happening, but the true cost of the sex reassignment process can be astronomical. As an example, I've totalled most of my costs below so that readers who are just starting out can get a realistic picture, and so that others can compare what they spent. Keep in mind that phalloplasty costs much more (the range I've seen quoted most often is \$10,000 to \$50,000). Advance payment is almost always required for any procedure not covered by insurance. Also keep in mind that every procedure is not always successful: revisions are often required, and if these can be handled in a clinic environment the costs are usually less than \$2,000. Not everyone will need or have a hysterectomy. And guys who do physically demanding work may want to take more time off to ensure good healing with minimal scarring.

Above all, when considering sex reassignment surgery, it's important to remember that your path is a solitary one. Your body is not the same as anyone's else's. Your aesthetic is yours alone, and your choice of surgeons and procedures, and how much you want or need to spend on therapy or clothing may be more or less than what I've listed here. In fact, what I've listed here for clothing is extremely conservative. As your body changes, your self-image changes. You may need or want to experiment with different styles, and you may make "fashion errors." Clothing is very important to your presentation, and it can be very expensive, even if you buy at discount or second-hand stores.

The figures in my summary may seem daunting, but keep in mind that the process unfolds slowly. If you work at it, it will happen. Gather as much information as you can, consider all your options, don't make snap decisions about any treatment. While I was surprised to realize how much money I'd spent, I've got to say that for me it was definitely worth it!



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SUMMARY OF COSTS

- \$ 400 - Initial evaluation by Gender Dysphoria Program
- 34 - binder for breasts (pre-surgical cross-living)
- 312 - annual cost of delatestryl (depotestosterone or generics may cost less)
- 200 - annual cost est. for physician visits and blood tests
- 100 - prosthetic penis to wear under clothing (not for sex)
- 4242 - "top" surgery: O.R., surgeon, anesthesiologist
- 4250 - annual cost est. for psychotherapy (50 sessions)
- 500 - Est. cost to augment wardrobe (size changes/neck and shoulders bigger, hips smaller)
-
- \$ 10,038 - expenses during the first year -3 weeks on disability
- \$ 200 - annual cost est. for physician and blood tests
- 312 - annual cost for delatestryl
- 4700 - plastic surgeons fee for genitoplasty (makes clitoris into penis, puts tissue expanders in labia for scrotum)
- 1385 - anesthesiologist's fee for 5.5 hours of surgery (combined genitoplasty and total abdominal hysterectomy)
- 3000 - OB/GYN surgeon's fee for hysterectomy
- 500 - plastic surgeons fee for mastectomy scar revision
- 11,000 - Operating room and hospitalization (4 day stay because of hysterectomy, not required for genitoplasty alone)
- 300 - pre-op lab work and post-op pathology
- 4250 - annual cost est. for psychotherapy
- 500 - buy a decent business suit and serious shoes
-
- \$ 26,147 - expenses during second year -8 weeks on disability
- \$ n/c - series of office visits over 3-4 months to fill expanders in scrotum to stretch skin for testicles
- 1150 - surgeons fee to remove expanders and do implants
- 725 - O.R. fee
- 200 - annual cost est. for physician visits and blood tests
- 312 - annual cost for delatestryl
- 136 - Superior Ct filing fee: Name & Birth Cert. change
- 80 - req. publication of Order to show Cause (Court)
- 25 - fees for copies of judge's decree & birth cert.
- 4250 - annual cost est. for psychotherapy
-
- \$ 6878 - expenses during third year -2 weeks on disability
- \$ 43,063 - total cost of transformation/1988/89/90
- \$ 2700 - annual maintenance costs post-transformation physician visits/testosterone/psychotherapy
-

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FROM THE EDITOR...

We all mourn the passing of a great man, Lou Sullivan. Many of us will remember his warmth, his humor his dedication to the transgender community, especially to female-to-males. Lou established the FTM Newsletter in September 1987, when he and Kevin published a one-sheet issue. Lou held the first FTM Get-Together in San Francisco in December 1986, and he coordinated the meetings every three months until his last meeting in January 1991. Lou devoted countless hours to researching and writing about transsexual and gay issues, to finding speakers for our Get-Togethers, to public speaking on the FTM experience, to phone calls from the curious and the desperate, and to writing letters to FTM's, researchers and service providers from all over the world who were and are interested in gender issues. He was every bit as much a pioneer as the historical figures he loved so much to study. He was instrumental in changing the opinion of the medical establishment on the existence of female-to-gay male transsexuals. His work will likely come to be instrumental in validating the existence of female-to-male crossdressers. He was one of the first providers of unbiased information about these subjects. He didn't judge us. He was a role model for many of us. He was there for us. He knew he was dying of AIDS, and still he served his community. He set goals for himself and he met every one but his last one.

One week before he died, Lou asked me and Denis to come over to talk about keeping FTM, the Newsletter and the Get-Togethers, alive. On that day Lou was thinner and paler than I had ever seen him. By the time I arrived, Denis had helped bathe him and rubbed lotion into the sores on his back. Lou could barely move his body, but his mind and his spirit were there, as fresh and clear as ever, though he tired easily. He lay in his bed and pointed out his files and explained his methodology to us. We went over some of the correspondence to FTM, and he told us how he would respond to some of them. "Of course," he said, "You'll want to handle things your own way." We assured him we'd try to stay true to his intentions, to his principles. When we finished going over things, he said, "Great! Now it's done. I feel like a huge weight is off me. I'm sure you guys will take good care of everything. Now all I want to do is hang on until my fortieth birthday in June." He didn't make it.

So here is the 15th issue of the FTM newsletter, delivered on the occasion of the 17th quarterly Get-together. With the help of the community, we'll keep it going as long as we can, as long as it's wanted and supported. We'll keep holding Get-Togethers, too. We will maintain the Haight Street mail box address, so you can write to FTM just as before. It may take us a little while to line up our resources and get ourselves coordinated as we try to fill the void created by Lou's absence. But we are here.

I'd like to quote a passage #1 from FTM issue #1 to remind us all why Lou started this, and why it's important to continue:

"We all remember our first steps during our transitions, our need to talk to others who felt the same way, and the joy of learning we weren't the "only ones." The FTM Get-Togethers [and Newsletter] give us an opportunity to meet and learn from others who understand, and to be there for those who seek answers and advice."

And now for the pitch: It costs roughly \$2,000.00 annually to produce this newsletter, hold the meetings, maintain the mailbox, and pay for postage and long-distance phone calls. This group, this cause, was Lou's life's work, and he absorbed any costs that exceeded donations. Neither Denis nor I are in a position to do that. So now the burden falls on all of us. If you want FTM to continue, please support it. Write for the newsletter, come to the meetings, give some of your time to talk with other FTMs who need information or support. And above all, contribute money. If everyone on the mailing list donated \$10.00 over the course of the year, we could survive financially. Your time and energy is important too. Please think about what you have received from this group, and about what you have to give.

Because of Lou's death, FTM will inevitably go through a transition over the coming months. It is my fervent hope that we will continue in the spirit of brotherhood, in the best sense of the word.

—James

Lou kept files of much of his correspondence. His family felt that people should have the opportunity to have their correspondence with Lou remain private. If you had personal correspondence with Lou (Not material that was for the newsletter), and you want to have your file sent to you, please let FTM know. Please send \$1.25 for postage so that your file can be returned to you. If there is no file, we will return your money.

NEW COLORADO COMMISSIONER

As reported in FTM #14, Dr. Stanley Biber was seeking a position as Las Animas County commissioner. Since 1974 Dr. Biber has performed about 120 sex reassignment surgeries per year at Mount San Rafael Hospital. Amid threats by other physicians at Mount San Rafael that they would quit if he were allowed to continue his business, Dr. Biber has won his seat as commissioner by a 2 to 1 margin.

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FTM'S & SIGNIFICANT OTHERS

WHAT'S HAPPENING UP ON THE HILL?

by Scott A. McPherson

In December 1990, the FTM printed my article entitled "The Surgery and Beyond" and I have received numerous letters and phone calls from throughout the U.S. in response to this article. Therefore, I felt that additional information regarding the surgery process at Oregon Health Services University in Portland, Oregon needed to be brought out to the FTM community.

Oregon Health Services University (OSHSU) does both MTF and FTM sex reassignment surgeries. They have been doing such operations for well over 20 years, so the program is well established. The doctor that referred me to OSHSU was Dr. Barry Maletzky. He is a professor at OSHU for medical students as well as having a private practice in the Portland area. (503/238-5580 8332 SE 13th, Portland, OR 97202)

The following doctors are the sex reassignment team;

Dr. Demuth (retires July 1, 1991); His practice will be taken over by Dr. Toby Meltzer. Kathy is the receptionist and will schedule the appointments. His office is located on the 4th Floor, Plastic Surgery-Out Patient Clinic. He performs the bilateral mastectomy and testicle implants. (503/494-8564)

Dr. Kirk; Nancy is the nurse that sets appointments. He is located on the 2nd Floor, Out-Patient Clinic-Women's Clinic. He performs the vaginal hysterectomies. (503/494-8638)

Dr. Tank; Louise is his nurse and schedules appointments. His office is on the 2nd Floor, Out-Patient Clinic-Pediatrics. He does the urethra connection through the penis. He does a very good job as the patient is then able to stand and void without leakage or urinary tract problems. (503/494-7765)

All of the doctors need a prior doctors referral and Dr. Maletzky is the link there. The doctors on this team will see or talk to you by appointment only. They have basic fees for each of the surgeries, but additional costs may be incurred if there are any unexpected problems.

Approximate costs are as follows;

Dr. Barry Maletzky-\$135.00 per session

Dr. Demuth-\$50.00 consultation fee

\$2,000.00 small breasts (local anesthetic)

\$3,000.00 breasts that require nipple placement/skin tucks (general anesthetic)

\$4,000.00 extremely large breasts, ie 38D (general anesthetic)

Dr. Kirk/Dr. Tank-Allow \$15,000 for the hysterectomy. They will not schedule you for surgery unless you put up \$10,000. two weeks prior to surgery.

Dr. Tank-the urethra hook-up also requires a general anesthetic plus a few days hospital stay. You will need to save up an additional \$10,000. Total cost of surgery is approximately \$35,000.

I have seen the results of the vaginal hysterectomy. Both guys that I have talked to had about 5 weeks of recovery with no post-op problems. I have also seen the results of Dr. Tank's work with the urethra hook-up. There is a 6 month period in which you must catheterize yourself so that the urethra does not heal closed. Again, there was no post-op problem.

The fellow I talked to that had the testicle implants opted to have them removed. They were child-sized and positioned against the outside of the body. He wasn't all that keen about sitting on them all of the time, again, a personal choice on his part.

All said and done, the results of the FTM surgeries are

aesthetically correct and yield little or no scarring on the part of the patient. Also there are generally no post-op problems.

Hopefully, this will clarify my previous article. Good luck to you all as you begin or continue the surgery process and complete what you need to do to feel like a whole man.

OREGON HEALTH SCIENCE UNIVERSITY

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TESTOSTERONE NEWS

Due to the rising number of athletes and teenage boys abusing steroids, testosterone prescriptions are now being more closely reviewed by the Federal government. All anabolic steroids including Depo-testosterone and Delatestryl (tm) are now classified as "Controlled Item C" drugs, and as such are subject to specific regulations for dispensation. Doctors are not permitted to prescribe large amounts of these drugs. The maximum a pharmacist can issue is a 6 month supply.

If you purchase your hormones in quantity, such as 3 ten-ml vials at a time (30 injections worth, or 60 weeks/more than one year), ask your doctor to write "10 ml vial, issue 3. Take as directed. This is a 6 month supply" on the script. If the script says "1cc every 2 weeks," it will be obvious the supply is for greater than 6 months, and the pharmacist will not be able to fill it.

Generic Delatestryl (tm) is available at MedChoice on Claremont Avenue in Oakland for less than \$7.00 for 10ml and Squibb Delatestryl is \$44.00 for 5 ml--a real bargain!

GENDER ALTERNATIVES LEAGUE

press release:

This is a National not-for-profit Umbrella organization for all gender groups and individuals. The Board of Directors of the League come from all segments of the Gender community and we represent all segments of the community.

The Gender Alternatives League is being sponsored by ETVC and endorsed by IFGE, TRI-ESS, and the Outreach Institute as well as many local support groups.

It is our primary purpose to help the gender community as a whole in the area of political activism. The Gender Alternatives League will in no way usurp any of the programs, ideas or purposes of any other gender organization, but will instead channel and enhance the ability of all organizations to have the clout necessary to advance their best interests within society. We are the activist arm of our community.

Write the Gender Alternatives League for more information. Take the first step toward your "freedom of gender expression." Remember, no one will do for us what we are not willing to do for ourselves.

GENDER ALTERNATIVES LEAGUE

PO BOX 3392

Napa, CA 94558-3392

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EDITOR: JAMES

TYPESETTING & LAYOUT: SKY

SPECIAL THANKS TO KEVIN, FRANCIS AND DENIS

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MOTEL INFORMATION: DO NOT make your own reservations with the hotel! We will make them under your mailing name above. Rates are per night. ROOM COSTS: () SINGLE: \$79.10 (check one) () DOUBLE: \$39.55 per person (Two TV's or TS's share) () DOUBLE: \$79.10 (TV/TS and PARTNER or SPOUSE) If you plan to arrive after 6:00PM you must guarantee your room with either a credit card number or one night's deposit. You must cancel before 6:00PM the day of arrival to receive a refund or avoid a one night charge to your credit card.			ARRIVAL INFORMATION: Date: _____ Time: _____ DEPARTURE INFORMATION: Date: _____ Time: _____ If you plan to share a room with a specific person, list their name in the space below.		
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FTM MEETINGS AROUND THE WORLD

New Jersey or New York City - contact John Arat at "F2M," c/o S.G., Box 615, Tenafly NJ 07670; 201-224-7843

Hartford, Connecticut - call Steve at The XX Club's F2M Support Group, 413-737-5032

Portland, Oregon - call Scott McPherson at _____

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - contact Erik von Schmetterling at _____ N: 23rd St. _____ Philadelphia PA 19103; _____

Boston, Massachusetts - contact Dan Riley at The Adam Society, P O Box 367, Wayland MA 01778; 617-894-8340

Chicago, Illinois - contact David Maxwell at the Chicago Gender Society, P O Box 578005, Chicago IL 60657; 312-544-7717

The Netherlands - contact Mannengroep Nederland, Jean van Aaric, Hemelsbleekweg 10, 5425 PB Mortel, The Netherlands, or call 31-4923-65336

The United Kingdom - write Steven Whittle, _____ Upper Brook St., Victoria Park, Manchester M20 0EP, England

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WHEN IT'S SAFE ENOUGH TO TELL THE TRUTH, FREEDOM CAN FOLLOW.