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THE EON ACCORD

January 1993

VOLUME 2 A PUBLICATION OF EXPRESSING OUR NATURE, INC. ISSUE 1

Honoring the Essence

by Charliss Dolge

Since transgendered behaviour, including crossdressing, is such a field of conflict and unhappiness for many of us and the others in our lives it sometimes helps if we can view it from a larger perspective, a place from which we would also look at other things in clearer and more objective light. Perhaps the misunderstanding and conflict that surrounds the transgender phenomenom is not so specific after all. Maybe there is an assumption, or a principle, at work here – the very same one that causes inharmony and havoc in other fields of life as well.

Could it be that there is really one unifying principle that, once seen and experienced, would bring peace, and that the lack of peace and the presence of conflict could be the result of one gross false assumption about how things are "supposed to be," what we might term a negative unifying principle?

In other words, could it be that the trouble that we and others may have about transgender behaviour might be the very same trouble that we have about many other things in life? And that if we accurately comprehend the "real" cause of the one problem– the false assumption– we just might clear up other areas that have fallen victim to the same false assumption?

Much of what we have reprinted in our EXCERPTS section of this issue of the ACCORD (selections from Gloria Steinem's book, ***REVOLUTION FROM WITHIN****, published by Little, Brown, 1992) is about examining, questioning, and challenging the assumptions we have grown up with– ideas and beliefs that we hold on to as though our lives depended on them, ironically even though our lives and our world truthfully may not be working out that well.*

In this book, Ms Steinem has written a chapter titled BELIEVING IN THE TRUE SELF, in which I encountered a quotation I had first met several years ago, one whose meaning I pondered for quite some time and dealt with using the helpful wisdom and experience of a woman who guided me through much confusion during that particular period of my journey.

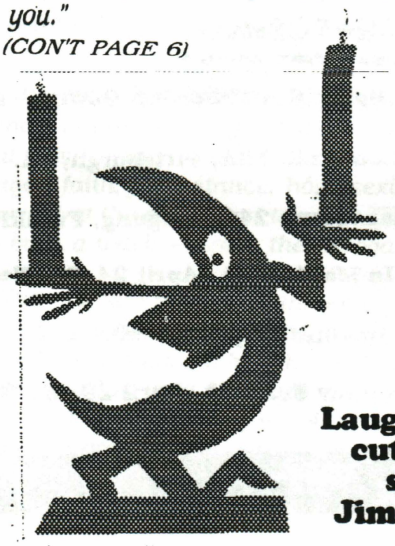
I still have to deal with this quotation– its truth, that is– and what is often difficult about truth is the responsibility it brings to us once we have seen it. Once seen, we have crossed a line and we can never truly cross back over. Things can never be the same– no matter how hard we try to deny it, no matter how hard we try to believe and act on the old, false assumption.

This quotation is from THE GNOSTIC GOSPELS, and is attributed to Jesus. These writings date to about two centuries after the death of Jesus, rediscovered in 1945, and not completely translated until the 1970s. They are the record of a Jesus who presented himself as a teacher, not the son of God as traditionally understood, who taught that God is within each of us.

It reads:

" If you bring forth what is within you, what you bring forth will save you. If you do not bring forth what is within you, what you do not bring forth will destroy you."

(CON'T PAGE 6)



Laughing Moon- cut steel by sculptor Jim Gallagher

FALL/WINTER
SUPPORT GROUP SCHEDULE

EON has created a calendar for support group activities that includes every saturday of the month from September the 12th through December the 31st. Please consult the two part blue and pink events calendar that has been sent to you under separate cover. Many of these events require pre-registration.

Also, please note:

1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH... Board of Directors meeting, Expressing Our Nature, Inc. **7:00 PM**. Contact a board member if you have ideas or topics you would like to have the board consider.

EVERY THURSDAY... Beginning at **7:00 PM**...Makeover Classes conducted by Angela Sheedy (see your calendar).

3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH... Newsletter Night... Beginning at **7:00 PM**.

National & Regional Events

1. **ETVC Annual Cotillion**...Crowning of Miss ETVC...**January 23, 1993 San Francisco, Ca.**

2. **FIRST EVENT...TIFFANY CLUB OF NEW ENGLAND...January 27, 1993-February 1st. Crowne Plaza Hotel, Natick, MA.**

3. **Mardi Grass...February 20-24, 1993, New York City**

4. **FIFTH ANNUAL TEXAS "T" PARTY, "TEA FOR TWO"...February 26-28, 1993, San Antonio, Texas.**

5. **Seventh Annual "Coming Together-Working Together" Convention**...Sponsored by IFGE. Meet, learn from, and share insights with leaders and members of our community from around the world. Learn, grow, and be yourself in an atmosphere of pride, dignity, and joy... **March 14-21,(1993) Philadelphia,PA**

6. **Regional Holiday En Femme**... Tri-Ess Sorority. **March 18-21, San Francisco, Ca.**

7. **6th Annual Night Of A Thousand Gowns... New York City. March..TBA**

8. **Lambda Ball...March..TBA, Pittsburgh, Pa.**

9. **Transidentilas...April 24th, Tagung, Frankfurt, Germany.**

10. **Moonlight In Manhattan...April 24-26, New York City.**

11. **California Dreamin'...April 28-May 2, Burbank, Ca.**

12. **Poconos Fantasy Festival...April 29-May2, Poconos, Pa.**

Excerpts

The following passages are from the book ***REVOLUTION FROM WITHIN, A Book Of Self Esteem****, by Gloria Steinem, Little, Brown, 1992.*

" Why does one baby reach for certain toys, while another doesn't? Why does one respond more to touch and another to sound?

...Why are some people gifted at languages, and still others drawn to anything mechanical

...some gregarious and others shy; some sexually attracted to the same gender, some to the opposite gender, and some to the individual regardless of gender? No one knows. But we do know that,like children, adults whose innermost feelings and preferences are ignored, ridiculed, punished, or repressed come to believe that there is something profundly, innately "wrong" with them. And conversely, those who are able to honor these inner promptings know what it is to feel at home with themselves.

Several millennia worth of observers have believed that a unique and true self resides in each one of us. It may be suppressed or nurtured, thwarted or developed- but it is there. Anthropologists, philosophers, and other close observers of humankind have tended to agree with Plato:

" The soul knows who we are from the beginning."

Science and scientists, however, being new to human history, have tended to dismiss the time-honored testimony of the unique self and in-tuition; literally, self-teaching. It is not replicable in laboratory conditions, defies analysis, and is actively hostile to the taming, shaping, quantifying, and categorizing that are the foundation of science. But even some of the most skeptical scientists are now being jolted out of their hierarchical and group-based assumptions by recent revelations that the universe itself is a nonlinear, chaotic balancing of overlapping energies in which, as Marilyn French puts it in her summation of the new physics, `Nothing rules, yet there is peace, as each segment follows its own course and exists in cooperative relation with everything else.'

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One thing is clear: The human mind can imagine both how to break self-esteem and how to nurture it - and imagining anything is the first step toward creating it. Believing in a true self is what allows a true self to be born.

* * * * * *

The unconscious and the conscious are not separate compartments but ends of a continuum in which influence flows both ways. Methods that begin with the unconscious mind are the first to reach barriers to self-esteem formed in our earliest and most intimate lives. Methods like those that psychologists call "cognitive" - which enter at the intellectual or conscious end of the continuum- are the first to reach barriers that have been erected by culture and society.

Suppose, for instance, we are members of a group treated as unequal or invisible by some or all of the society around us. Whether we come from the "wrong" race, sex, caste, class, ethnicity, or sexuality - whether our inner or outer selves just aren't the "norm," or our circumstances have changed in a way that temporarily shakes our self-esteem - we probably have internalized some of this low opinion. In addition, we may feel "crazy" when we try to express our true selves, because the dominant system treats our point of view and experiences as invisible or unimportant. ...parallel therapy can help break through this visibility barrier. ...we can explore the parallels between our own experiences and those of another discriminated-against or undervalued person or group whose sufferings society takes more seriously.

There are hundreds of ... pairings that can be used to illustrate the shared experiences of apparently disparate groups. In authoritarian societies that try to channel all sexuality toward child-bearing, for instance, independent women and homosexual men both stand for subverting the "natural" purpose of sex (that is, the production of children within patriarchal marriage), and both undermine the basis of the sexual caste system by putting men in a nondominant role. Even now, fundamentalist religions condem feminism and homosexuality in the same breath, but the parallels between them were even more painfully clear in the past. In medieval Europe when the Inquisition conducted centuries of witch-burnings in order to wipe out those women leaders and healers of the preexisting pagan faith, for instance, homosexual men were often burned at the stake first to make the fires "hot enough" to burn a witch - hence the derogatory term `faggots.'

...The ultimate in parallel thinking is the Golden Rule - providing it is read (both) ways. The traditional sequence assumes a healthy self-esteem and asks for empathy: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." But for many people whose self-esteem has been suppressed, the revolution lies in reversing it: "Do unto yourself as you would do unto others."

Complete by Anne Harper

We all have four dimensions to our life. The first three are obvious and make up our ego. They are the physical aspect, the mental aspect and the emotional aspect. We all operate in these worlds with various degrees of success. The physical is what we do to provide our needs such as food, shelter and a healthy body. There are limits to our individual capacity to provide these things for our physical world is limited by our strength and the amount of time available. This world is the easiest to understand because it is visible and we can measure our success in very quantitive ways.

Our mental world is what we think about and how we try to rationalize the events in our life. We always try to understand what's going on by reasoning. We have to analyze every aspect so as to give our life meaning. We can only go so far in this endeavor because this world also has its limitations. This is why our individual mental capacity can be measured by an IQ test or similar yardsticks.

The next aspect is our emotional world which is characterized by how we feel and respond to the things that happen to us. Many feel this aspect is irrational and something that cannot be understood. This world includes our expression of love and affection along with the feelings of hate, frustration and anger. Yet this aspect has its limits as shown by the number of people that cannot cope with their emotional situation and they experience a break-down.

All people develop different modes of operation to satisfy these three aspects. Some people focus on the physical aspect almost exclusively and seem only to understand activities that can be seen and touched. We identify these folks as having a bias for action. Then there are individuals that live pretty much in their mental world by thinking about things over and over, rarely accomplishing much. These people we call eggheads. Still others are somehow able to function only with their emotional aspect and we perceive them to be in la-la land with no foundation. We think of these people as artists and lovers. But many times we find people with more of a balance between the three and they project the appearance of having a more complete lifestyle. We are all familiar with how these three aspects have there effects felt in our lives. We learn to increase our abilities in these areas. We may work out at a health club, attend college or enroll in a self-help seminar to improve ourselves. We operate with various degrees of success within these aspects and always feel there is room to advance, to expand our capacity physically, mentally and emotionally. Yet we overlook the fourth dimension and we really need to understand how it has impact in our lives.

> *We may think we have satisfied our physical, mental and emotional goals...*

This fourth aspect is the one that effects us the most and it is the one that we have the tendency to attempt to ignore. It is the spiritual or metaphysical aspect of our lives. Many answer this requirement by following an organized religion. Still others develop complex explanations of our existence to address this innermost desire. But these approaches are only the outward manifestation of our spiritual aspect. In reality this is where our core personality resides. This is who we are without limits, without the constraints of the ego. We all develop a way of responding to the physical world and unfortunately that may include the construction of a lifestyle that is not consistent with our inner self. We procede through life answering questions with the limited tools of the physical, mental and emotional world. We can only produce results that are within the limited constraints of their capacities. Yet we all know about this spiritual aspect, we all hear its voice within us, it's just that we are so involved with the other three aspects of our life that we don't listen. Or if we do listen, we are unsure of ourselves

because everyone else is directing us back to the "real world" where all our success can be seen. Yet that's the beauty of learning to utilize the power of this spiritual aspect, because it overpowers the limits of the physical, mental and emotional worlds and allows us the opportunity to become more. We then operate within the physical world but on an elevated plane that is defined by endless accomplishment. This is the real goal that everyone at one time senses, that there must be more to life, that there must be a place where we can feel complete. It is this search for this place of completeness that prevents us from settling down. We may think we have satisfied our physical, mental and emotional goals yet we still want more, we still feel incomplete and cannot understand why. So we do things; we try to fill our lives with activities or people that will give us a sense of fulfillment. But because of the limits of these physical, mental and emotional things they always come up lacking, we still want more.

Somehow we have to find that spiritual part of us so that we can understand why we want more. The spiritual is never satisified for it is limitless. It is there that we get a power to continually grow yet ironically it is there we have a sense of completeness. We can be successful in fulfilling other aspects of our lives yet we strive for something else, something that is consistent with our inner self, even if that inner self isn't realized. We find ourselves compelled to grow, to listen to that inner voice that we have tried to work around for so many years. And it is not until we are able to identify and work with this spiritual aspect in our lives that we are truly successful. The physical, mental and emotional aspects become easy and quickly benefit from the power of the spiritual aspect.

By this time I am sure you are wondering what I am writing about and certainly what this has to do with crossdressing. Please let me draw the parallel:
We experience our crossgender activity within these four aspects. We work on our physical appearance and become obsessive about perfecting our presentation. It certainly is difficult to satisfy this aspect with a crossdresser. We spent time intellectualizing our intense interest by explaining that its basis is biological or environmental or whatever sounds rational. Nothing adequately provides the reasons for our desire to dress. Then we get wrapped up in the emotion and the feeling of relief of stress, and when we focus on the emotional, it intensifies our desire. We seem to touch all these aspects each time we are compelled to dress. Yet these efforts have their limits and we cannot find fulfillment if we only utilize these ego-based tools.

Yet again we overlook the spiritual aspect and that is where the most important exploration is warranted. We need to find the spiritual foundation that comes from our inner self. We need to realize that our need and desire to crossdress comes from this core. The look, the reason and the feeling associated with the crossdressing are real aspects but because of the their limited capacity to satisfy, we do not feel complete. That seems to be a contradiction. If those first aspects have a capacity then it would follow that we could perform up to that capacity and satisfy our need in that regard. Unfortunately it doesn't work that way because we still have that sense that there is something more, that undercurrent of inner purpose that is limitless. We continue to search and strive for completeness.

So what can we do? How do we find this completeness in our lives as crossdressers? We need to come to the realization that our crossdressing characterizes who we really are. We cannot define ourselves without the context of our crossgender personality. Everyone might doubt the necessity we feel to crossdress but we must never question where it comes from. It is such a integral part of our existence, we have to appreciate its importance. We are required to express this core aspect just as we are required to eat or breathe. Once we realize that we did not choose this requirement in our life any more than choose our parents, we are able to accept this unusual need and therein gain its spiritual power. Once we reach this understanding, once we are comfortable with who we are, the other aspects become easy. It does not matter if we crossdress once a year or everyday, our success becomes limitless because of the spiritual foundation we have achieved. Judgements like being able to pass or being accepted become unimportant. And than what happens is that the power of our spiritual aspect has its effect not only on ourselves but also on everyone else. We are then complete.

HONORING THE ESSENCE
(CON'T FROM PAGE 1)

The health of the individual at all levels, and thus ultimately the health of all relationships and the very world itself depends on our ability and willingness to live out our lives honestly from deep within the very core of ourselves– as opposed to the habit and convenience of the surface of social order. The case can be made that those of us who live out, bring forth and express our nature will experience far less antagonism in our relationships– that conflict and antagonism are the products of relationships that are surface rather than core based.

If we find ourselves in conflict within regarding our transgender nature, or if others are having a great deal of difficulty with it, could it be that this conflict is part of a syndrome, just one characteristic of a much larger problem?

Perhaps, instead of honoring the essence of our own self and that of the other, we are honoring the false assumption, the convenient and the acceptable, the self that others have made for us and not the one that was created. And perhaps this is the meaning of the commandmant that `thou shall have no other gods before me,' rather you shall `bring forth what is within, what I have created, and not call forth what is without, what others have made or would have you make.'

In her chapter Believing In The True Self, Ms Steinem quotes the writer and speaker Emma Goldman:

" Since every effort in our educational life seems to be directed toward making of the child a being foreign to itself, it must of necessity produce individuals foreign to one another, and in everlasting antagonism with each other."

Perhaps one of the most important questions we can ask ourselves as we we begin our New Year – no matter who we are, transgendered or not – is: are we willing to be real, and are we willing to believe that bringing forth this authenticity will not only not destroy us and others, it will in fact save us all?

STREISAND SAYS, " STAY AWAY FROM COLORADO"

Denver...Entertainer Barbara Streisand took the latest punch at the state's wallet, urging fellow entertainers to boycott Colorado because of the passage of an anti–homosexual rights ammendment to the state's constitution.

Streisand, performing at an AIDS benefit in Los Angeles Wednesday night, said, "There are plenty of us who love the mountains and rivers of that truly beautiful state.

"But we must now say clearly that the moral climate there is no longer acceptable. And if we're asked to, we must refuse to play where they discriminate."

Ammendment 2, approved by Colorado voters Nov. 3, invalidated several city ordinances that protected homosexual rights.

– The Associated Press

here's looking at you BABE!

Contouring, as any artist can tell you, adds depth and definition to any work of art, including your face.

Contouring is created after you have finished your foundation and powder base, and should be applied with a brush. Not the little brushes that come in the makeup cases, but a good commercial brush with soft hairs approximately 1" long, that when pressed against your skin, flares out to a nice circular pattern about 2" in diameter. They can be obtained from a commercial supply house or a good cosmetic counter.

There are three basic colors that you can do a good contouring job with. The first two can be obtained from almost any cosmetic counter as eyeshadows. Pure white is the first, the second is any color of powder or eyeshadow that is at least two shades darker than your finishing powder. The third and final color is your blush.

I cannot express enough concern about blush.If applied incorrectly, it will make you look unnatural and almost comical. A good rule of thumb is regarding your color is that blondes with light skin should use earth tones containing yellows and browns; dark hair and skin should use colors containing reds to pinks.

Considering the fact that we are using three colors, let's start with the brown or beige color, two shades darker than your base powder. This is applied on each side of your face, starting with the area by the ear at the hairline, down to the earlobes, then curving out toward the hollow of the cheek. If you draw a line down from the outside corner of your eye to your cheek, this should be the limit of your cheek coloring.

The darker shades should also be used to narrow the nose by using the brush to apply color along the sides of your nose, including the sides of the nostrils.

Under the chin is another critical area. By applying color under the jawbone, you can shape the type of jaw which is best for you.

The last place to apply the darker shade is on either side of the forehead in the area where your hairline may be receding. This gives your forehead a more rounded look like that of most women's and helps to balance off the simian cleft above the eyebrows of most men.

The second color, white, is applied to the very top of your cheekbone around the outside corner of the eyes. This gives you a little lift and enhances your cheekbone, which is usually smaller and less defined in men.

Now we have the blush, which starts at the middle of the ear and slopes toward the "apple" of the cheek, or the most prominent portion of your cheekbone. Again, do not go beyond the corner of the eye.

You can also apply your blush color to the tip of the nose to give it a more turned up look and the chin area below the mouth for a softer chin line.

Make sure that you blend your colors in well so they look natural. This si done with the brush that I previously described and by applying the three colors in a circular motion. This circular motion is important because it allows you to blend the edges of the colored areas.

Lastly and perhaps most important, when you begin to try contouring your face, apply a little of each color at a time. Do not overload the brush since it is always harder to take "too much" off than to put a little more on.

Contouring is one of the most useful methods of obtaining the look you want. Remember, dark colors recede and light colors bring out the features they are applied to, especially crucial to the crossdresser.

Next month we will have a complete review of all the previous lessons by making a list and checking it twice.
–HO HO HO! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
–Angela

Love ya,
Angela

A Holiday Wish

I can remember my holidays past as being both times of joy and times of sorrow.

As Jim, I loved the spirit of the time, the giving and receiving. I remember being an alter boy at high mass on Christmas Eve and being struck with the feelings that God is all good and understanding. As the chorus would sing hymns that would echo through the church and ascend to heaven, I added my one small prayer as I knelt at God's alter. I would wait until the priest opened the tabernacle so I knew that besides him I was the closest person to God in the church, and I would send my prayer to him.

Please dear God, let me find a way to be a girl. Make it alright for me to go to school next week in a dress with long hair. Relieve me from this burden of always having to prove that I am more manly than the other boys and covering-up the way I really feel. When I wake up in the morning, the greatest present I will receive is knowing that this is OK with you.

Of course, my prayer was never answered. There was no party dress under the tree in the morning, serving as a sign that my life could change after that point and my prayer had been heard. The closest I got was some ribbons and bows that I could wear in my hair when no one was around. I was happy for the presents that I received, but all to often they were clothes that I did not want, or toys like bats, balls, gloves and such that were definitely male in nature.

I wonder how many more young boys are wishing the same thing to God, that they receive some kind of sign that what they really want for Christmas will come true this year.

I often thought how stupid it was that I would expect my dream to come true, and that I was probably the only boy on the face of the earth that was wishing for a present that he would never have any chance of getting. But every Christmas it was the same and every Christmas my wish was not granted. To make things even worse, after Christmas I would have to go back to school and sit in my classroom with all the girls around me, dressed in their lovely Christmas presents.

How I survived those years, I do not know. The disappointment of not getting my wish was only overshadowed by the thought that perhaps I was guilty for wishing to be a girl in the first place, and God was proving it at least once a year.

How different it is now. Somehow I made it through those years without doing irreparable damage to myself and now I look forward to Christmas as the time when I can be with my friends in EON for at least part of the holiday season.

I am thankful at this time to have Angela developed to the point that she is a reality within me. Thanks to our support group, I do not have to deal with the guilt of Christmas's past. I may not have my wish totally given to me, but I am satisfied that every year in the future brings me closer to it. Besides, I have also learned that "God helped those who help themselves," so at Christmas time now, I wake up in the morning and find a different type of gift under the tree. My stockings are filled with stockings. The small boxes are the best because they may contain perfume, earrings or rings for Angela.

Now, I think of how lucky I am to be able to trim the tree on the third floor every year and rejoice with my friends that we have each other.

Sometimes I think back to that lonely young boy, kneeling at the alter dressed in his cassock and lace trimmed surplus, holding the cross and leading the Christmas procession up the aisle. I wonder how many more young boys are wishing the same thing to God, that they receive some kind of sign that what they really want for Christmas will come true this year.

This Christmas lets all say a prayer, asking God to help all those young boys and girls who feel trapped and guilty, to find a place like EON. A place where Christmas wishes come true.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Angela Sheedy

Something in the Way She Moves *by James Taylor*

There's something in the way she moves,
or looks my way or calls my name,
It seems to leave this troubled world behind.

If I'm feeling down and blue,
or troubled by some foolish game,
She always seems to make me change my mind.

I feel fine anytime she's around me now,
she's around me now almost all the time.
If I'm well you can tell she's been with me now,
she's been with me now quite a long, long time,
and I feel fine.

Every now and then things that belong lose their meaning,
and I find myself careening into places where
I should not let me go.
She has the power to go where no one else can find me,
yes and inside of me remind me of the happiness
and the good times that I know,
but I said I just got to know them.

It isn't what she's got to say, but how she
thinks and where she's been.
To me the words are nice the way they sound.
I like to hear them best that way,
doesn't much matter what they mean,
'cause she says them mostly just to calm me down.

I feel fine anytime she's around me now,
she's around me now almost all the time.
If I'm well you can tell she's been with me now,
she's been with me now quite a long, long time,
and yes I feel fine.

A POLITICALLY CORRECT SENSE OF PROPORTION?

"Honey, Big Hair was created for one major reason. A woman learned that when her head was smaller than her butt, she looked deformed, like a marshmallow with an olive on top. Big Hair gives a gal proportion."

– Gail Huitt
hairdresser to Texas Gov. Ann Richards.

James Taylor wrote that song about twenty years ago. I'm sure he wasn't thinking about the positive effects of expressing the feminine nature for a crossdresser but for almost that long it has had that exact meaning for me. I can repeat the refrain over and over in my head and it brings a smile to my face. I've come to think of my crossgender inclinations as a gift for I have this built-in vehicle that can take me to a place of comfort and happiness. Many people wonder why we would spent so much time and effort to make the transformation from male to female particularily if only for short durations. Or why we are willing to jeopardize our relationships with this compelling need to show this feminine side. It is simply that it is who we are and when we are able to effectively express this inner self, we feel best.

"If I'm well you can tell she's been with me now."

Comments by: Anne Harper

Expressing Our Nature, Inc.
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Board of Directors: Charliss Dolge, President; Anne Harper, Vice President: Angela Sheedy, Treasure: Marsha Simson, Secretary

Expressing Our Nature, Inc. is a non profit community service organization for crossdressers, transgenderists, and transsexuals.

Services include: peer support group membership; regularly scheduled program and discussion meetings each month; weekly class nights; special social events for members, family, and friends.

EON also maintains offices, meeting rooms, and a library which are open to peer support group members at various times throughout the week.

The peer support group is an open group, that is, all are welcome regardless of gender identification or sexual orientation. EON stresses aholistic and non discriminatory approach to personal development within the peer support group.

EON also engages in educational outreach activity aimed at: colleges and universities; groups within the gay/lesbian and womens' movement; the social justice community; other public organizations.

The Newsletter is a monthly publication. Cost of The Newsletter is included in the current annual peer support group dues. Articles, news items, reprints and original artwork are welcome. All submissions will be subject to editorial policy.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

WE BELIEVE IN:

THE RIGHT OF THE TRANSGENDERED PERSON TO FULL PARTICIPATION IN AND ACCEPTANCE AND AFFIRMATION BY SOCIETY AS A WHOLE. ***THIS IS THE RIGHT TO DIGNITY.***

THE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE SUBJECT TO OPPRESSION TO COME TOGETHER IN UNITY AND TO CREATE MECHANISMS OF SUPPORT FOR OTHERS OF LIKE KIND. ***THIS IS THE RIGHT TO PEACEFUL COMMUNITY.***

THE RIGHT OF EACH INDIVIDUAL TO DEFINE THEMSELVES AS THEY WISH TO BE AND TO SEEK OUT THEIR PERSONAL INTEGRITY WITHOUT HINDRANCE. ***THIS IS THE RIGHT TO SELF LOVE.***

WE FURTHERMORE BELIEVE:

THAT PERSONS WHO ARE TRANSGENDERED AND/OR OF SAME-GENDER SEXUAL ORIENTATION ARE ENDOWED, BY VIRTUE OF THEIR DIFFERENTNESS, WITH A SPECIAL CHARISMA AND UNIQUE VOCATION TO TRANSFORM THE PERCEPTIONS OF OTHERS AND THE WORLD ITSELF BY BEING EXEMPLARS OF TOLERANCE AND LOVE.

THAT OUR HAPPINESS, PERSONAL GROWTH, AND SENSE OF FULFILLMENT AS INDIVIDUALS CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED WHEN WE PERSEVERE IN HONESTLY OPENING THE REALITY OF OUR SELVES TO OTHERS. ***EON EXISTS TO HELP CREATE AND TO PROMOTE THAT COURAGE.***