

Cross-Port InnerV Jew

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Vol.1 No.3 For The Crossdresser January 1988

Next Meeting January 21st At 7:30 **CROSS-PORT BASICS**

I hope all of you had a joyous holiday season and wish you all new growth and experience in the coming year. December's Cross-Port Christmas party turned out to be the largest meeting we've ever had with close to thirty festive femmes present. A hug and a thank-you to everyone who brought delicacies and treats for all to share.

New faces in the group included Renee from Springfield, Randi from Seymour, Sasha and Stephanie. It's been awhile for Stephanie from Cincinnati and we were all glad to see Sharon once again. A special welcome to Laurie whom I know will become less a curiosity and more just one of the "guys".

I know the holidays have financially stretched a lot of us what with all the stockings hung in the bathroom with care, but let's all please be prompt with our yearly dues of eighteen dollars by the end of the month.

If any of you get to San Diego you must make it to The Brass Rail just off University near Sixth and The Peacock, a few blocks west. Both clubs very much welcome us. The first is quiet and the second is lively and both have a great clientele. I met a lot of super friendly people. For that matter, American Airlines was pretty ideal too.

Finally, on behalf of all Cross-Port I wish the absolute best for both Sarah and Karen, former officers and now "graduated" from our group, on their very special New Years.

BITCH

By Belinda

A certain Friday afternoon, the day after our Christmas party, I was on the way home from the Thing Shop in Newport after trying on a few evening gowns. I drove along I-471 and at 5:30PM found it quite jammed with commuters and shoppers. In order to exit left onto I-275, I had to switch two lanes. At the same time another motorist, a frayed looking gentleman in glasses, driving a slick import, wanted to switch lanes to the right. He signalled (so did I), but I laid a patent leather high heel to the pedal and sped ahead to get in front of him. Well, before I made it to the exit ramp, the gentleman I passed showed up at my side. I shot him a glance and saw his lips distinctively form the word "bitch".

Are you surprised then, that when I turned onto the 275 exit ramp I felt a grin curl up the corners of my mouth? The word "bitch" arises in dozens of different conversations daily, no matter what station in life one occupies (please don't bring up the example of the single, Nebraska sorghum farmer or the Alaskan lighthouse attendant). You know the dictionary definition, but probably agree that it conjures up visions of regal, ultrafeminine haughtiness. The lady who gets her way as only a lady can. Many women can get their own way through steamroller tactics, but these are amateur drill sergeants and female wardens, not true bitches.

So to be called a bitch is to be elevated, if only in one's own eyes, into the league of the Joan Collins' and Morgan Fairchilds. By the way, such unlikelies as Barbara Walters and Princess Di have been called bitches. To many women, it must be a subconscious goal--after all a popular women's magazine recently ran an article entitled "Better bitchy than blah." A final word: avoid deliberately acting in a specific way for the primary purpose of (hopefully) being called a bitch. You will probably be called stupid.

Proposed Budget 1988

INCOME

Dues [\$18 x 50]	\$1080
Meeting Fees [15 x \$3]	540
Total	\$1620

Expenses

Postage	\$ 360
Phone	228
Long Distance US Sprint	240
Copier Toner	85
Envelopes	30
Paper	50
Mail Box	90
Magazine Subscriptions	40
GC/LC Dues	24
Advertising	130
Meeting Snacks	100
Misc Expenses	243
Total	\$1620



CAN WE TALK!

By Heather Peerson

Happy New Year everyone! As was probably reported in the Basic's column we had a record turnout for our December Meeting/Party. The 26 people who "managed to celebrate the Yuletide early "a la femm" seemed very pleased to be able to express their Christmas joy in a little different way. For some of them this was their first Holiday season outing this way.

One of the nicest things about working with a group like Cross-Port is see the joy, excitement and general peace of mind that comes to many of the girls after only one or two times at a meeting. Cathy is one example, she attended her first meeting in October. She was somewhat quiet and just seemed to sit there. I was not sure if she was just taking it all in or totally scared to death. Her wife attended the November meeting with her and as I talked to her she remarked, "Cathy has been so much easier to live with during the past month. She is less critical and seems a lot more easy going." Cathy attributed her change in moods directly to the amount of love, understanding, and acceptance she had felt during her first meeting. Granted, not everyone reacts just like this but when some one does it makes all the time, effort and work worth while.

Another mark of our group's progress was displayed on Saturday January 9, 1988 at Christopher's Lounge. Three of Cross-Port's regular girls and two of our new faces from December participated in the frist Ms. Christopher's Pageant. Belinda, April, Jennifer, all gave a good showing even though most of the other contestants, including Sasha Simone and Lady Vogue, were regular entertainers. The rest of the ten girls, who tried to win their way into the hearts of the judges were Modesty Blaze, Stephanie OConnell, Tina Marie, April Lane, and Racine Alexander. Racine won the crown after a stunning rendition

of a look-a-like version of Cher's "Bang Bang". Two years ago the girls who attended our get togethers would barely talk at the meeting, much less perform on stage.

The first community "InnerView" went out last month, and considering I screwed the night up by losing one of the articles on the computer, it went together very well. I feel we will all benefit from this new group effort.

Is this your last news letter? It is if your dues are not paid by January 31, 1988. The way it works is: If you are a currently paid member and you fail to pay your dues, you are removed from the mailing list. If you wait and decide to pay later you will be required to pay the full \$18.00. We can not guaranty however, that you will get all back issues at that time. We only print enough to cover the monthly mailing. So, I suggest you keep your dues current.

I was recently given a movie called, "I Want What I Want". It is a film made in the early seventies about a transsexual. While it is a little dated, the film does show some of the feelings transsexual persons have to deal with from both inside and out. If some of you would like to get together to see it, please let me know.

Lastly, it is not too late to sign up for the Convention. Enclosed is the convention mailing. We have about 5 of us going and we'd like to see all of you there. The cost seems high, but for the level of programs being provided the cost is extremely low. Please try to get there if only for a day. It is something you won't forget. I promise.

Heather

History Of D'Eon

By April

(Continued from Last Month)



In retaliation D'Eon used his secret documents and published them along with his observations in a book which became a best seller in Europe while throwing the courts of both France and England into horror and confusion.

At this point D'Eon lost his ace in the hole as King Louis XV died and the new King Louis XVI called D'Eon to France, this time for the purpose of acquiring D'Eon's stolen document collection and permanently removing the embarrassing D'Eon from the scene. An agreement was reached that stands today as the all time cross dresser's dream. In exchange for his life, D'Eon would not only turn the document collection over to the French Foreign minister and agree never to leave his native France again but he had to "henceforth dress in the garments of a woman, never to leave off wearing them". In return D'Eon recieved a pension 12,000 livres, paid quarterly. And so from the time he was 49 D'Eon was forced to spend the rest of his life dressed as a woman.

To accomodate this sentence Marie-Antoinette sent Mademoiselle D'Eon corsetiers, courtiers and maids to wait on her. The French Queen further had insisted that D'Eon be the center of interest wherever she went, to be

presented at court, and invited to the drawing rooms of the foremost hostesses of Paris and Versailles.

All this suited D'Eon quite well until the American Revolution broke out, causing D'Eon to write to the French Foreign Minister requesting permission to give up her petticoats and join the Americans. The order was not recinded and she was imprisoned for daring to defy the King but was released on the condition she return to her hometown of Tonnerre and renew her promise to dress as a woman for the rest of her life.

Eight years later, in 1785, though still a woman, she was given permission to return to London to put her affairs in order. Hinted in all of this was the possibility of other undisclosed documents, potentially embarassing to France. So France sent her on her way along with 6000 livres.

Setting up house in London she sought extra income by challenging to a duel a champion swordsman also from France and living in London at the time. The match took place at Carlton House in London before an audience of the Prince of Wales and many members of the fashionable sporting world. Though sixty and rather corpulent she triumphed over her competitor, twenty years her junior, while the Mademoselle herself wore three tiers of skirts and a lady's lace cap. From this victory D'Eon gathered a small supporting company of fencers and toured the provinces giving displays of her skills in the packed halls of Oxford, Brighton, Birmingham and eventually at Southampton where an opponent's broken foil pierced her side. Badly wounded she was bedridden for two years and never recovered her strength.

In 1789 during the outbreak of the French Revolution her her pension annulled and she spent seven months in debtors prison. In 1795 she made the acquaintance of a Mrs. Mary Cole, keeping house together for the next fifteen years. Mrs. Cole never suspected the true sex of her housemate.

On May 21, 1810 D'Eon passed away peacefully in bed. The doctor, upon examination of the corpse was astonished to find out D'Eon's true sex. He reported, " The body presented unusual roundness in the formation of the limbs, the appearance of a beard was very slight, the throat was no means masculine; shoulders square and good; breasts remarkably full; arms, hands, fingers, those of a stout female; hips very small and legs and feet corresponding to the arms".

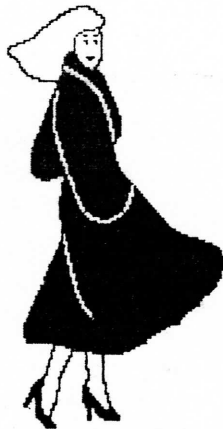
D'Eon was buried in St. Pancras cemetary in England where her tombstone is still present today.



For the love of Heels

I'm sure that many of you, as myself, just love high heels. I have at least twelve pairs which I wear often. I wear heels almost every night when I get home from work, and always when I go out. When I get tired of them, I get a new pair. In fact, probably my favorite past time is going through shoe stores drooling over heels my feet could never fit in, but always hoping there might be a size 12 somewhere in the stack.

I'm met a few girls who have hundreds upon hundreds of pairs. I know one girl in particular who has over 500. I would really like to know where she keeps them, and if she ever wears them.



Even though my wife thinks I'm insane some-time, she still loves me and puts up with a lot.

Quite often when we go out, I will wear pantyhose under my male clothes. If I see some heels I like, I can try them on real fast to see if they fit.

Last fall me and the family went shopping. I saw some red patten heels I just had to try. I ask her to guard the end of the aisle to block the view and watch for people we know. Well I took down the shoes (size 10, two

sizes too small) and was attempting to get them on, when I looked up and saw all these people watching me. I smiled, put them back and took off after my wife who was by now half way across the store. When I caught her, she said they came upon her quickly, and she didn't want to be seen standing next to a man who obviously had a problem. (The real problem was that they were too small, and she was chicken.)

Well finding that pair of heels has gone from impossible to easy if you know where to look. In the past we have told you to look in places like Payless and Picway, who always carry sizes to twelve and thirteen. These shoes are cheaper in price and quality, but for most of us, they fit the bill.

Now through my shoe store ventures, I have noticed that many more stores are starting to carry size 11, in many styles. A quick glance through the latest Penny's catalog will confirm this. You will also see a nice selection of 12.

If you like extra sexy heels you might try the Frederick's of Hollywood catalog. Most have 4 1/2 or 5" heels and come in large sizes, but be ready to pay \$40 on up.

If you get mailings from Lee's Mardi Gras, you will have seen that he has about 30 styles in stock. (sorry nothing under size 9). Now you will also see that many are also very wide, something which is not seen very often. For more information on this contact Lee's Mardi Gras Ent., Inc.; PO Box 843; New York, New York, 10108

Of course I've just touched on a few but if your like me the search is never over.... Now if I can just get my wife into a pair of those 5" spikes.



HEY, YOU GUYS, WHAT ABOUT US GIRLS WITH FETISH FEVER

Sorry, I didn't mean to forget you. For some of us 5 or 6" heels are as much as we want. But since most of us still want more information we continue.....

If you would like to read a lovingly documented book you might try one called "The Sex Life of the Foot & Shoe" by Dr. William A. Rossi, podiatrist. (Out of print but still available for \$35 from C. J. Scheiner, 275 Linden Blvd., Brooklyn, NY, 11226.

For a video you might try "Fetish High Heels" (part 1, 2, & 3) from Reb Stout, PO Box 1051, Tustin, Ca., 92681.

For a magazine you might try "Bizarre" (Belier Press, PO Box 1234, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY, 10113), or perhaps contact "Centurian" at Pleasure Time, PO Box 1081, Westminster, Calif. 92684, for their catalogs on shoes. In some of these you can get shoes made anyway you want. But if you just want your basic 5 or 6" pump, I suggest you get a copy of the "Transvestian" from Tania Uolen, Inc., 200 Main St., Tennent, N.J. 07763-0200. (201-320-3400). They have at least 4 to 6 places that advertize these skyscrapers each issue.

Check it out

If you get a chance, in the January issue of FORUM there are two articles about crossdressing. One called "The lady was a Trans" and "Women who love Transvestites". The second one is much better, and deals with the wives accepting their husbands for themselves. They talk with members of ETUC (San Francisco) and their "significant others".



Don't forget about the I.F.G.E. convention in Chicago from February 24 - March 1, 1988. Right now it looks like we will have at least 5-6 girls from Crosssport who will attend. Don't miss this chance to go while its still so close to home. Price is \$175/person for the full convention. You must get your own room at the Ramdada O'Hare Hotel. For more information contact the Crosssport office as soon as possible, and be prepared for one of the best times in your life.

LA CAGE AUX CHRISTOPHERS

By April

Cross-Port was well represented at the 1st annual Miss Christopher pageant, held Saturday night, January 9th. Of the eleven contestants, three were members of Cross-Port who, along with the small cheering section of other Cross-Port members in the audience, had a wonderful evening.

The Pageant, spotlighted in last month's newsletter, was held at the site of the monthly Cross-Port meetings, the dance floor serving as the stage. The dressing room facilities were cramped, all we had were the two small restrooms for 11 people, but with the congeniality of the evening's MC Miss Ashley West, the situation brought all of the contestants closer together.

As one of the contestants, my spirits were up before we started as a table of admirers began to dub me "Blair" because they thought I looked like the girl "Blair" in the television series "Facts of Life". Now this girl is one of what I consider to be the more attractive women on television so I entered the competition with my spirits unusually high.

Contestants were interviewed by judges then presented to the audience before being asked a selected question by Ashley West. The talent portion then began which kicked off the real excitement for the evening. All of the girls were very good, a few exceptional but the Cross-Port cheering section stood by we three to the end.

Cross-Port member Belinda was the number two contestant. She performed her interpretation of the recording "Break Out" by Swingout Sister. Beginning the number with a mime of a rather bored secretary, she undid her dark plaid skirt and sweater as the music began and danced in a shimmering red skirt with a matching neck bow.

Number eight contestant was yours truly. I tried keeping spirits high with a bouncy humorous number "I Like 'Em Big and Stupid" by Julie Brown. With a black lace teddy, fishnet hose and garter, I danced out the number on the same rhinestone and black leather heels of mine that Cross-Port member Sharon claimed she would mug me over. The entire ensemble was accessorized with rhinestone jewelry, black elbow length gloves and a white boa stole.

Jennifer immediately followed giving Cross-Port a one-two punch as the show passed the halfway point. Wearing a striking and very much professional looking suit, Jennifer stole the stage with her rendition of "Manhunt" from Flashdance. With her eloquence during the interview sections counting for points, Jennifer stood a very good chance of taking the Miss Christopher's title home.

When the judges were done, Cross-Port contestants, though we didn't win, had a good time. I ended my evening on a positive note, the winner of the pageant asked me if I'd like to do some shows with her, as she was a regular performer on the drag show circuit, as were most of the girls in the pageant. I eagerly agreed and left her my number. Oh and if your interested, there is a move afoot to have we three redo our Pageant performances at the January 21st meeting of Cross-Port so stay tuned.

Publication Notice

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Cross-Port is a not-for-profit support group which meets solely for the support of crossdressers, transsexuals and their family and friends.

