

CONGRATULATIONS, PAM OUR NEW QUEEN OF HEARTS

Happenings

by Rachel James

Congratulations to Pamela, the 1998 Queen of Hearts, and to all of the beautiful contestants who shared themselves with us at the February meeting. Special thanks for the efforts and help of Kate, Dawn, Amanda, and our panel of judges...we couldn't have done it without you!

I hope everyone enjoyed the pageant. Aside from a few minor glitches, I thought it went rather well considering it was the first time. Many people commented positively, and a couple of ladies were overheard to declare their intent to enter next year's pageant! I hope this means an even bigger and better 2nd Annual Queen of Hearts Pageant for 1999!

Coming up in March we will host speaker Mark Werle. Mark has been a counselor for many years in Chicago. He has used his unique perspective and talents to help people work through their gender, sexuality, and relationship problems. I think that everyone who attends will walk away with something they can use in their own lives.

Plans are underway for a very special event at April's meeting. I don't want to give away too much just yet, but let's just say this evening is calculated to be an odds-on favorite!

May will be the month for our Annual (kinda) Spring Fling. If you hate to eat good food, can't stand great music, would rather make an appointment with Dr. Kevorkian than dance the night away, and have absolutely no interest in getting all dolled-up in your best party dress, then you don't want to attend this year's Spring Fling. Maybe I'll see if I can find a dentist who works on Saturday night and schedule an unnecessary root canal for that night. Not!

Thanks to everyone for their support and let's continue to make Chi Chapter a shining star in the transgendered community.

Love to all,
Rachel James

Presidents Podium

LAST MONTH

At our February meeting, we had over 75 attendees. The Queen of Hearts Pageant was held and Pamela M. was selected as 1998 QUEEN OF HEARTS, Christine Adams placed second. Thanks to Amanda for providing the PA system which worked great...

Present at the meeting were:

Naomi & Rachel, Laura, Carole, Sheila D, Barbara Lee, Barbara Diane & Barbara, Olivia, Pamela M., Candace & Dawn, Amanda, Christine & Cheryl, Edie, Lee, Denise & Kim, Carol, Janet, Allanah, Karen, Rachel & Kate, Vickie, Stacey & Teresa, Loraine, Sherri, Debbie, Shelley & Linda, Norma & Joyce, Kimberly, Laura, Janie, Amanda, Renee, Jill & Kathleen, Wallie, Carolyn, Jackie Ann, Dana, Julie Ann, Miranda, Sara, Lisa, Cheryl, Linda, Janice, Collette, Greer, Eileen, Cassie, Barbara, Mimi, Amy Marie, Ann, Allison, Yvonne & Linda, Nikki from Transpitt and Gabrielle from Memphis TGA.

Stacey M. introduced her fiancée Teresa and announced that the wedding will be held in the near future, inviting all to attend. We had a visitor from Transpitt, Nikki and a visitor from Memphis TGA, Gabrielle. Jill brought along her guest Mellissa all the way from Great Britain where she is a member of the Northern Concord, the largest TG organization in GB.

If you count the attendees above you will see we have 67, but how did we get over 70 as mentioned. Well, I hate to admit this but we had a few who did not pay their meeting fees. It is

(Continued on page 2)



Christine's Cash Count

February, 1998

Income from membership dues and meeting fees	\$1,595.30
Expenses:	
Meeting Room food	196.00
Meeting Room supplies	57.50
Meeting Room	351.80
National Dues	1,488.00
Newsletter	280.00
Telephone	95.04
Total Expenses	2,468.34
Current Assets:	
Bank Account	5,333.60
PALS Account	449.20
Petty Cash	115.00
Total Assets:	5897.80

(Continued from page 1) Presidents Podium

really sad that some people need to avoid paying. We just changed the meeting rates so we would not lose money on the meetings, but until everyone starts paying their fair share, we won't succeed.

Second, we all enjoy having newcomers and visitors, but since we are a secure group, we would appreciate it if you called the hotline and let us know before hand, this helps to plan space and the amount of food.

HEADLINERS

Judy Simmions will be relocating her business between March 15th and April 15th. Her new phone number is 708-867-0344. If you don't get an answer on the old number, try the new one. Her new address is 6422 W. Gunnison, Harwood Hts. She is located in the basement of the three flat and has a private parking lot. Just ring the white door bell by the back door. It's about 1.5 miles North of her present location, and the first building West of Elliot's restaurant at Nagle & Gunnison.

St. Pat's Day

CGS will be holding their St. Patricks Day dinner on March 14th at the Stardust Banquet Hall on Milwaukee Av. Please see the calendar page for details.

S.P.I.C.E.

Don't forget that on July 15-19, S.P.I.C.E. will be held in Atlanta. If you are interested in attending, please contact Dawn at the Hotline to find out how to share in the Chapter S.P.I.C.E. account.

What a Byte!

By Athena



Website of the Month:

Be an "Angel of Fashion" at:

<http://www.fashionangel.com/angel.html>

And speaking of angels, this angel (well.....) has been on vacation and is becoming certified (no, not certifiable) and will return next month with an article on:

Techno Stress

Athena13@usa.net

Couples

Group

The couples group will meet on March 28th. We will announce the location at a later date or you may call the helpline for information. We welcome all newcomers and first timers.

NOTE: There is NO crossdressing at the meeting.



Please send all articles, news to:

Chi Chapter
PO Box 40

Wood Dale IL 60191-0040
or E-Mail to: Chitriess@aol.com

Chi Chapter Telephone Helpline:

(630) 262-8707

Home Page:

[HTTP://users.aol.com/chitriess/trisss/chimain.htm](http://users.aol.com/chitriess/trisss/chimain.htm)

Out West

with Bridget & Debbie

Greetings from the San Francisco Bay Area! Deb and I have been here 9 months now and we still miss our Chi Ess friends. On Saturday, January 31st we attended the 14th annual ETVC cotillion entitled "French Kiss" which was held in SF at the Design Center Galleria. ETVC (Educational TV Channel) was founded in 1982 and is open to all without regard to gender identity, sexual orientation, age, race, creed or disability. It currently has over 500 members and friends. ETVC maintains an extensive array of services including monthly education seminars, book, video and audio cassette libraries, newsletter, public speakers bureau, an anti-defamation program and monthly social events (usually several). If you are in the bay area, ETVC can be reached at 415-564-3246.

The cotillion's purpose is twofold. One is to select Miss ETVC who serves as a goodwill ambassador to ETVC membership, the transgender community and the general public. Two is to formally present, on stage, all debutantes to their friends and family. All debutantes are introduced by name, walk across the stage (parade, sashay, strut?) and get presented with a flower by the outgoing Miss ETVC.

The evening started at 6:00 with an informal, supper of salad and pasta served buffet style. The audience consisted of ETVC members, Rainbow Gender Association (RGA) members, Diablo Valley Girls (DVG), Sacramento Gender Association (SGA) members and family, friends and supporters of the transgender community. Outfits ranged from casual (?), to short and trashy (but so much fun) to long and formal (for those who are wondering, Deb and I were in the long and formal group, really!). By the way, it appears that corsets are really in. We saw many that were very pretty and decorative and worn on the outside of the outfit. The pageant began promptly at 8:00 featuring the Mistress of Ceremonies, Miss Diva. Miss Diva, Ken Ludden is recognized as a vocalist, ballet dancer, choreographer and author of the Miss Diva column that has been printed in Washington, DC, Miami, New York and the USSR. There were three transgender friendly judges. This year eight beauties vied for the coveted Miss ETVC title. The judges interviewed each contestant prior to the cotillion and the interview contributed 40% of the total score. The remaining 60% was divided into 4 categories consisting of active wear,

talent, formal wear and answering a final question. The competition began with the active wear segment. Outfits included skimpy bikinis (one very patriotic red, white and blue, stars and stripes number), tight one-piece swimsuits and one contestant in a leotard. This was followed by the talent segment in which several contestants lip-synched, several others sang, one did a comedy monologue, one performed a hula dance and one played bongos. During the bongo number, we felt like we should have been in a coffee shop with our black turtlenecks on! The formal wear segment was truly lovely. To mention a few: there was one long gown with a halter-type top that fell to the floor in a beautiful gray satin; one pure white with a bead and lace bodice and a very flowy, full length skirt; and another pure white one that looked like something out of *Gone With The Wind*. Most all the contestants had their hair done up with a very sophisticated look. Then all contestants were asked one question generally along the lines of "How will you represent ETVC?" or "What is the most important duty of Miss ETVC?". Finally the moment that everyone had been waiting for arrived. The contestants were called back on stage and the judges results were announced. Miss Q was second runner up, Miss Kalani was first runner up and Miss Dianna was crowned Miss ETVC 1998.

Interspersed with the contestant segments were announcements, awards and tributes, and several wonderful performances. Notable was the saxophone playing of Miss Dale Carlson, the outgoing Miss ETVC and the singing of Donna Sachet and Trauma Flintstone.

We had a very warm response from the San Francisco Design Center Galleria staff and a good time was had by all (except, I guess the contestants that lost!). Well, these 5" heels are killing me so I guess it's time to go.

PS: Chicago's own lovely Lori Fox was the model in *Romantasy's* advertisement (a San Francisco shop with exquisite corsetry) on the back inside cover of the *French Kiss* program.

Sincerely,
Your San Francisco roving reporters;
Bridget and Debbie

Great Lakes Gender Leadership Council Activities Calendar MARCH 1998

Weeks of March 1-14

Tue 3/10 8:00 p.m. CGS Meeting, Stardust, 5688 N. Milwaukee
 Sat 3/14 7:00 p.m. Gemini Gender Group Meeting in Milwaukee. (Riki Wilchins) 414-297-9328
 Sat 3/14 7:00 p.m. CGS "St Pat's Day Dinner"
Sat 3/21 8:00 p.m. Chi-Chapter meeting Elmhurst
 Tue 3/24 8:00 p.m. CGS Social, Temptations
 Sat 3/28 Chi Chapter Couples Group Call 630-262-8707 for details.
 Sat 3/28 7:00 p.m. T.O.N.I. meeting, 219-650-2142 E-Mail: toniltd@aol.com
 Sat 4/4 6:30 p.m. CGS Social, ULTIMATE OZ (Upper Level) 7301 W. Roosevelt, Franklin Park
 Sat 4/4 7:00 p.m. Gemini Gender Group Meeting in Milwaukee. 414-297-9328

March 24-26 IFGE Convention "Crossing Borders" Toronto, 781-899-2212 E-Mail: XBorders98@aol.com
 April 30-May 3 California Dreaming (714) 281-0271 E-Mail PPOC@aol.com <http://www.flash.net/~dhome/cadreamin>
May 16 Chi Chapter SPRING FLING Dinner E-Mail Chitriess@aol.com
 July 15-19 S.P.I.C.E. Atlanta E-Mail: spice@tri-ess.com
 November 5-8 Fall Harvest, Minneapolis

March meeting schedule
March 21st

Lower Level Holiday Inn

Newcomers and PALS meet at 6:30
Business meeting starts at 8:00

The Chicago Gender Society presents.
 the 1998

St. Patrick's Dinner

March 14, 1998
Stardust Banquet Hall
5688 N. Milwaukee Av
Chiucago IL

(708) 863-7714

\$22.00 (\$25.00 at door)

We Will Be Moving after March 15th- Call First

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Wanna Have A Party???

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SPRING FLING

'The Celebration of Spring'
Buffet with a cash bar, dancing and surprise
entertainment

May 16th 1998 Regular Meeting Night

Holiday Inn Express-Elmhurst

Located 1 Mile south of North Ave. on Route 83 (Kingery Hwy-Busse Road)

at Riverside Dr. (opposite Wal-Mart) Elmhurst

(It's only 10 miles directly south of the Midway hotel on Busse Road/Rt 83)

**Cocktails 6:30 PM Dinner 8:00 PM Menu: Inside Round of Beef, Baked Chicken,
Mostascioli Oven Brownd Potatoes, Green Beans Almondine, Dessert, Tossed
Salad, Rolls, Coffee / Tea, Cash Bar**

All Tickets are reserved and must be purchased by May 12 to insure seating.

We cannot guarantee seating/food for "At the door tickets" Door Tickets \$36 each

Total cost per person \$29.00 / Room reservations available (630) 279-0700

TO: Chi-Chapter Tri-Ess
PO Box 40
Wood Dale IL 60191-0040

DON'T MAIL AFTER May 5th, IT MAY NOT ARRIVE IN
TIME. In that case, please call in your reservation to the hotline
630-262-8707, leave your name and number of tickets desired.

Enclosed is my paid reservation for
_____ person(s), for the 'Spring Fling' on Saturday evening, May 16, 1998 at the Holiday Inn Express, I
am enclosing a check or money order payable to Chi/Tri-Ess in the amount of \$_____ Tickets will be
retained at the door.

Please print your femme name and last initial _____

Member #(If a member) _____

COST: Per Person \$29.00 At the door: \$36.00 @

**NO RISK....MONEY REFUNDED IF YOU CANCEL BY 6 p.m. FRIDAY MAY 15th
BY LEAVING A MESSAGE ON THE HOTLINE....PLEASE PRE-PAY**