

AN EVENING WITH THE "TROCKS"

Romantic Age." Le Corsaire featuring the lovely Nina and dashing Adam in a love dance, in the image of Margot Fonteyn and Rudolph Nureyev!



Each Act included a fascinating mix of masculine clumsiness and feminine grace. But, the one thing that stood out, outside the fact that the ballerinas didn't shave their underarm, was that this was not, "Leonard Penth Garnell" presenting another "Bad Ballet" on Saturday Night Live. These people were serious about their work. Between the comedy, the dancing was beautiful. It was also obvious, that for them to successfully perform a parody or look clumsy, they had to be good at their art.

So, on a scale of one to four stockings, the Trocks get three and a half, with one run for starting late. But, honestly girls, if they come back to town, don't miss them. It will be an evening of sheer delight. And even if you are new to ballet, you can pretend you're whirling and twirling on stage with them in the most feminine, lacy tutus in the world, gliding across the stage in your magic ballet slippers!

by Diane I.

The "Trocks", more formally known as "Les Ballets Trockadero," are sort of a crossdresser's dream come true. They are in fact, a world famous troupe of men who perform both the men's and women's parts of classic ballets. Male ballerinas! In all their feminine glory! In their lovely tutus, even performing en pointe, as graceful as any ballerina! Well, almost... after all, the Trocks are a comedy troupe performing parody, en travesti! It was the spirit of "transvesti" (not travesti!) that members and significant others of Alpha Zeta others joined ballet enthusiasts from across the Valley to enjoy an evening with the Trocks in Gammage Center on April the 22nd.

The cast of performers were announced before the curtain went up by a vampireish-Russian voice with a touch of New Jersey Shtick, including such stars as Natasha Notgoudenuff, Karina Grudj, Adam Baum and Lavrenti "Biff" Stroegeoff.

The performance began with a stimulating version of Le Lac de Cygnes (Swan Lake Act II). Adam Baum and prima ballerina, Nina Enimenimynimova (playing Odetta, the queen of the Swans), were excellent. Adam was appropriately a "manly man" and Nina, a graceful, if not slightly bitchy, woman. This was followed by Pas de Quatre, featuring "The four greatest ballerinas of the

THE FIRST LADY'S NOTEBOOK

By: Terri F.

I was recently invited to a psychology seminar in which the guest speakers were "stand-up" comedians. I have always admired them for their ability to perform in front of large groups of people, to "think on their feet", and to be able to be the focus of everyone's attention. There were three stand-ups, two men and one woman, and each did a ten minute routine. They were three distinct



performances; one was very introspective and observing of life (cerebral), one used a few props and did a few imitations, and the third based a great deal of his routine on childhood reflections ala Cosby. Each was very entertaining in his own way, and seemed very supportive of his fellow comics. But what I took note of was that each performer extended an unflappable confidence in expressing him/herself, so that if something didn't get quite the response it should have, there was no hint of fear or panic, and he or she did not seem the least bit

disturbed by it. I also noted the way in which there was a "sharing" going on between the stand-ups and the audience so that they might be able to relate or at least get a mental image of what was being said.

After the third performance, the stand-ups became "sit-downs", fielding questions from the audience. My question to one of them was about negative feedback, what you do when someone disapproves or heckles you. All three responded eventually with a similar answer: You have to have a positive self attitude and you must keep control. You have to believe in yourself and what you are doing, and you have to get a message across. If you allow others to take control or to wrest it away from you, the situation could quickly turn against you.

I begun to draw parallels between this and crossdressing, especially in interactions with the public. If you do not feel comfortable and self confident, it will show, and it will make those around you uncomfortable. It will also give them the control over you. We have a message to get across as well, to share something of ourselves, if we feel we can. That message has to come from the inside and be projected out with belief in our own convictions. Then we too can "stand-up" and be counted!

WE ARE THE WORLD !

By: Wendi Danielle Pierce

Hello girls. This month I would like to talk a little to you about an issue of national concern in our community. We all hear about national events and organizations from time to time, but in most cases these things are fairly remote to us. We are all involved in the activities and events of our own local groups and usually, we feel that national issues can not be influenced by people such as ourselves. national organizations are those distant entities that we hear of from time to time and we ask ourselves why should that concern me? Well, I felt the same way about a year ago, but I was curious and felt that I would like to do more for our community. I had a desire to gain a little national visibility and to let my opinions and ideas be known to the powers that be. Well, I guess you could say I was successful in that I am now chairman of the board of IFGE.



IFGE was started a few years back by a small group of people, mostly from the Boston area. Tiffany Club, a local Boston based group, was the parent organization and Merissa Cheryl Lynn was the main driving force. She is a foresighted individual with some very good qualities and a few not so good ones too. She envisioned

an organization, with the resources and clout to represent our community, to educate the general public about our nature in a positive light, and to provide a means for local groups and individuals to network and share resources.

At this time IFGE has gained the visibility it needs to fulfill all three of Merissa's visions. It has a national publication, "Tapestry", it has held two national conventions, it has key people from around the country committed to supporting it and IFGE has a core of hard working individuals that would like to see it succeed. It can succeed if it is given the chance by our community in general. One has to remember that we and our local groups are the key to IFGE's success. WE are it's purpose for existence and WE are the vehicle that will make or break it.

IFGE has it's problems. It currently is suffering from some bad press by many of the newsletters around the country and it's having it's share of organizational problems. IFGE has had it's image tarnished a little, since it has been the better part of a year since "Tapestry" was last published (Issue #51 is finally, now being shipped), financial problems are ever present and the list goes on.

One of the most pressing problems IFGE now faces is the lack of the distribution of leadership. This can further be characterized as the "letting the baby out of the nest syndrome". Merissa seems to feel that others will not have the foresight she has and she is attempting to restructure the organization with herself in several key positions. Merissa is only one person. She can be a very productive individual, but spread too thin she or anyone can not be effective. She recently distributed a proposal which has been called everything from an epistle to a manifesto by some. I feel it is just her proposal. In this document she defines several areas. She also breaks the IFGE organization up into "professional" and "volunteer" camps with detailed definitions of the responsibilities and scope of power of each. It is my opinion that she is smothering the baby instead of teaching it to fly. We need a diversification of talent to make IFGE fly and you and I need to be part of the flight training staff.

Capable individuals are the key to solving IFGE's problems. We are those individuals. Yes, YOU and I. IFGE is not some remote entity. It is us. We buy "Tapestry". We attend the conventions and we contribute to it's success (or failure). It is time for us to lend a hand and offer our capable talents. Be they management skills, artistic talents, public speaking abilities, financial savvy, legal ability, marketing skills, writing ability, or any other talent that we feel we can offer. I can hear you now saying "I would like to, BUT....", I said that too. The key point here is "Give what ever you can!". It's in our best interest to get involved, to speak out. Yes, criticism can be very productive if you offer to be part of the solution. We need to not only say what we feel is wrong, but to offer our wisdom in correcting the problem.

JoAnn Roberts and Alison Laing of Renaissance, Janice Van Cleve of Emerald City, Ginny Knuth of ETVC, Robin Esch, Jan Elliot, Gloria Wright, Tara Tenille, David Maxwell and several others have made a commitment to help out. They need help and that help is you! The door is open....

Until next month girls, this time in Japanese:

GAMBARI!

ALPHA ZETA UPDATE

by: Diane I.

The regular Alpha Zeta monthly meeting was held at the Unbound Sole shoe store in Phoenix, near the corner of Central and McDowell. Present at the meeting were Terri F., Diane, Rosalind and Phyllis, Norma and Betty, Cindy and Nancy, Wendi and Judee, Brenda and Donna, Sandy, Angela, Gwen, Melissa. Becky was welcomed as our guest for the evening. Our hosts for the evening were Julia, Dawn and Jeff.



The evening began with a hospitality hour. Thanks go out to our hosts at the Unbound Sole for some wonderful cheeses and beverages.

First Lady Terri presided over the business meeting. Topping the agenda was Terri's preview of the trip to Gammage Center on the 22nd to see Les Ballets Trockadero. Tickets were available at the meeting. Diane reported on a letter received from E.T.V.C. in San Francisco. The letter urged crossdressers to write to the New York Post in opposition to a derogatory article about transvestites which appeared in a recent issue. Copies of the letter and a copy of the Post was passed around. Wendi also spoke to this issue, saying that it may not be a good idea to write to the Post, in the opinion of a number of crossdressers around the country, because this could fuel the controversy, rather than help settle it.

Following the business meeting, Julia, the owner of the Unbound Sole, welcomed Alpha Zeta and gave us an introduction to the store. The Unbound Sole carries shoe sizes 9 1/2 to 13, including all half sizes. They would love to have our business, but ask that we use discretion. They would prefer that male customers call in advance for private fittings. The meeting then turned into something that looked like a cross between a sale at Macy's, and two-for-one day at the local candy store, with everyone eagerly trying on the fashionable footwear and checking out those shapely legs and heels in the mirrors!

A ROSE NEWS

By: Jackie Michaels

Hi Girls, another month has passed us by and it looks like the summer is now upon us. I hope everybody liked the "face-lifts" that all the Newsletter writer's got last month, I wonder what we will look like this month?



We had a good turn-out at the April meeting. There was a crowd of about fifteen or so to help Cindy celebrate her birthday! I was told that the

party didn't break up till the wee hours. You girls know how to party! Our California girl, Melissa was present, so was Mandy, an old Spectrum member and now A Rose member. We've been in contact with Mandy for several months, but it seems that our meeting dates and her obligations just haven't seemed to fit. Well, this month the timing was finally right, hope you had a good time Mandy. Bobby Vinton (or was it Sandy?) was our celebrity guest and Christy, who we haven't seen for a few months was also there, in great form I might add. Significant others and associates included Christine, Judee, Larry (he belongs to Shelly, or is it the other way around?), Betty, Kathy, and last but not least Cindy's friend Nancy. She did a great job with all the food, cake, etc. Cindy, why didn't you tell us Nancy's an expert at birthday parties. Now we know who to call when we're going to have our next one. Some of you regular girls haven't been to the last few meetings and I hope that you all have been well. We miss you!

We had a brief business meeting (it was over before we knew it). Boy, Wendi can fly through a meeting when there's no old business, no new business and only one motion, that to adjourn.

In a bit more serious light, I would like to take a few minutes to mention two things. First we need some membership help in sponsoring some of the future meetings. All we ask is that, if it is at all possible, you try and sponsor at least one meeting during the year. We really thank those members who have helped out so much this year. But let's face it, if there are only two or three people who will hold meetings, the group will not last very long. The only other option is to rent out a motel room and this would naturally increase the meeting charge. This gets expensive. Not to mention the fact that some members do not like to try to find a meeting room at a strange motel. The second thing that I would like to bring up is the cover charge at the meetings. It is \$3 per member and \$5 per couple. This money is not the Officers "Cab Fair"! The money is spent on the

members who go to the meetings. The Hostess receives \$2 per person to pay for food and the use of their home. The remaining \$1 goes into the Club Treasury for postage, advertising, and future club functions. I felt like I was soliciting for "APS" when I was trying to collect the money at the last meeting. Please, when you arrive at the meeting find one of the Officers or the host and give them your cover charge! Don't have us running around trying to collect! THANKS!

In other club news, our New Times ad will start shortly. We'll be running it for three months if we can get a good rate. Speaking of financial items, our treasury took a bit of a hit for printing supplies for the newsletter last month, but this covers all the costs for the next three months. We have worked a deal to use an advertiser's copying equipment and all we need to do is supply the paper and toner cartridge. Also, several people have been discussing the possibility of going together on renting a club house or apartment. This would give members a place to store their belongings, a place for meetings and a place to live for someone. If you would like to be involved in this project contact us.

Finally, we are planning a barbecue, swim party for the meeting on the fourth of July weekend (7/2). You can come early in the afternoon and swim or if you prefer you can stop by later in the evening. Look for more detail in next months Newsletter! That's all for now, till next month...YOURS IN HIGH HEALS.. "JACKIE"

Questions of Law*

by Jan Elliot

"Questions of Law" is an occasional column written by Jan Elliot, an attorney and published legal author. The column will discuss legal matters of interest to our community.

* * * * *

Whether TV, TG, or TS, virtually every cross-dresser usually feels at least some concern for the effect that law and the legal system may have on an individual usually regarded by most people as being at least "different." It is impossible to avoid legal concerns in our society, and for the cross dresser the mere act of public appearance raises at least fear of allegations of "disturbing the peace." The TS, on the other hand, must actively seek to change his or her legal standing in the community. I hope to discuss a number of topics of general interest to our community over the next year or so.

First some basics. When most of us refer to the law, we ordinarily mean the statutes or ordinances that a legislature, city council, or the like pass. These laws are usually then implemented and enforced by means of administrative regulations or standard operating procedures created by administrative or enforcement agencies. In many cases, interpretation is necessarily left to individual officials on a case by case basis. When a cross dresser comes into contact with the legal system, it

is most often with an individual such as a records clerk or a policeman who must decide whether the cross dresser's request or behavior is covered by statute or ordinance and if so in what fashion. That decision may often be appealed within the agency, either formally or informally. Ultimately, an adverse decision may be challenged in court. Of course, criminal charges necessarily require a court appearance of some type while civil matters must be initiated by someone, usually the cross-dresser, who wishes to secure or contest an action.

Court (and some major administrative agency) decisions interpreting the law are often published for the guidance of others. In the absence of court opinions, it is difficult if not impossible to determine how law is being interpreted in a given jurisdiction. To make matters more difficult, the law applicable to one jurisdiction may be very different from that applicable to others. You must be careful then not to assume that just because something can be done in one place it can be done in another. This is especially true when dealing with different states.

There are few published court opinions dealing with cross-dressers, and unfortunately most of those that exist deal with criminal cases in which a cross-dresser was a defendant, victim, or witness. We will deal with specific areas of the law in later

columns, but it may be helpful to say that in general the opinions present a "mixed bag." In *In re Ladrach*, 32 Ohio Misc.2d 6 (1987), for example, a post-op male to female TS (who as a pre-op had received court consent to change his name to a female one) sought to marry a genetic male. Noting that only Arizona, Louisiana, and Illinois statutorily permit changing "sex" on a birth certificate, although another twelve permit such change without statute, the court held that it could not alter the birth certificate of the TS without statutory authority and that accordingly the TS could not lawfully marry a man. Although marriage was not possible in Ohio, it is clear that it is permitted in a number of states.

In another area, child custody, at least one state has shown some flexibility. In *Re Welfare of N.H.*, 412 N.W.2d 389 (Minn. Ct. App. 1987), reasoning that the best interests of the child would be so served a Minnesota appellate court sustained the grant of sole custody of a daughter to her "transvestite" father. Important to the decision were the facts that the father did not cross dress at home; would tell his daughter about his cross dressing at an appropriate time with the help of a therapist; and, perhaps critically, that the child had been abused while in the mother's custody. See also *In Re Custody of T.J.*, 1988 Minn. App. LEXIS 144 (unpublished February 9, 1988) (even though his son knew of his gender conflict, custody of the son was awarded to a TS who had determined for the present to "maintain his male identity" and did not cross dress). Because of the difficulty of determining how cross dressers are actually treated throughout the United States, readers are invited to submit any legal "incidents"

successful or otherwise. These can be mailed care of "A Rose" or sent via computer and the JSS bulletin board.

(ed: if you have any legal questions relating to crossdressing of transsexual issues, forward them to this newsletter and they will be passed on to Jan. Replies to all questions can not be promised but yours might be answered in this column if it is felt the community in general will benefit.)

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"GENDER JUSTICE" FUND STARTED
By: Wendi Pierce

During the last month ETVC and T.I.G.E.R. have collaborated to push for a legal defense fund that will, hopefully, someday be able to finance legal battles for issues of general interest to members of our community. This defense fund is an outgrowth of the Mariette Allen controversy with the New York Post. That scuffle, now approaching an out of court settlement, was a good example of just what an unscrupulous publication can do if left unchecked. As it turn out, her photos were used without her permission and therefore illegally, a clear cut case of copyright infringement. While it is a topic for discussion whether Mariette's case should be funded by a national legal fund, this is beside the point. The bottom line is that, in order to fight battles that we all have a stake in, it takes money, possibly large amounts of money. This legal fund will hopefully someday make such fights possible.

The term used by ETVC to further define this fund is the "Gender Justice" fund. ETVC and T.I.G.E.R. have volunteered their resources and time to get this fund off the ground and hopefully, IFGE will provide a review board or make it a function of it's legal committee to administer the dissemination of this defense fund.

We are all encouraged to contribute to this fund, be it \$1 or \$100 and are assured that this fund will only be used for it's intended purpose, that of funding legal battles which might have an impact of our entire community.

If you find it possible to contribute, send your checks to:

T.I.G.E.R.
Po Box 17442
Denver, CO 80217

(write: "Legal Fund" on the check or money order)

A ROSE TREASURY REPORT

Balance as of 3/23/88.....	402.54
Paid Out.....	97.43
Income.....	0.00
Interest.....	1.88
Balance as of 4/25/88.....	306.79

ALPHA ZETA MONTHLY MEETING
By: Diane I.

The May meeting of Alpha Zeta will be held on Saturday, May 21, 1988, at Wendi's house. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. Guests are invited to bring a tasty dish or snacks and B.Y.O.B. The program for the evening will include a discussion of electrolysis. Further details on the meeting are enclosed with the newsletter for Alpha Zeta members.

ALPHA ZETA TREASURY REPORT

Balance as of 3/31/88.....	362.24
Paid Out.....	0.00
Income.....	0.00
Interest.....	1.65
Balance as of 4/30/88.....	363.89

A ROSE MONTHLY MEETINGS

Details of the June meeting are not yet finalized, so if you would like to host this gathering please contact Wendi or Jackie. We would like to have a location picked within the next week so that we can get the meeting notices in the mail at least a week prior to the event. In addition, we are now trying to get several locations lined up for the coming months. Here is the current schedule:

Date	Location	Theme/Activity
6/4	open	Social Evening
7/2	Jackie's	Pool Party
8/6	Charlotte's	Social Evening
9/3	open	60's party
10/1	Wendi's	Halloween Party
11/5	open	Thanksgiving Pot Luck
12/3	open	Christmas Party

If you would like to host one of the open dates please contact us. Also, if you have a theme idea, by all means let us know, we welcome your ideas.

In addition, Wendi and Judee are avid campers and would like to know if anyone else would like to join them on camping or boating weekends. Let them know if you would like to join them, the more the merrier.

NATIONAL EVENTS

TIFFANY SPRING FLING

The last weekend in May the Tiffany club will sponsor its annual spring outing in Provencetown. For more information contact:

Tiffany Club
Po Box 19
Wayland Mass. 01778

Everything you need is included in one or another of the package plans; rooms, meals and admission to all events. "Be-All" is a cooperative effort, sponsored by Transpitt, Paradise Club, Crossroads, and Chi Chapter. For complete information write to:

"Be-All"
c/o P.O. Box 196
Garden City, MI 48135.

BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE WEEKEND

1988's "Be All You Want to Be" weekend will be held near Detroit on June 8-12. This sixth return of the annual event promises to be the best and biggest yet. An earlier "Be-All" was regarded by Fred Berry of the Transvestian as: "One of the best TV events ever."

1988 will be no exception; excellent and friendly accommodations are already arranged. Femme dress will be welcomed at all events. There are programs planned that will interest everyone in the TV/TS community.

Be ALL events include:

- * A 1 day beauty course for the person who is just coming out or wants to learn more.
- * A 1 day intensive workshop for the transsexual. It will be conducted by Joanna Clark, a post-operative transsexual who has since joined a religious order.
- * A lingerie fashion show narrated by a professional fashion coordinator and modeled by some of your loveliest sisters.
- * A Hawaiian Luau with a professional floor show.
- * A professional, on-premise, female impersonator show featuring some of the most talented and prettiest impersonators in the country.
- * A "Strut Your Stuff" fashion and talent show by and for the weekend participants.
- * Separate programs and activities for wives and significant others including tours and seminars.
- * Seminars on sexuality, fetishes, religion, communications, hormones, and a report from Richard Doctor Ph.D. about his research on the TV/TS community.

Keynote speakers include: Sylvia Hacker, Ph.D., a noted educator and author from the University of Michigan, and Dr. Virginia Prince who has played a significant role in making the crossdressing community what it is today.

You'll have a chance to meet more than 200 of your sisters from around the country this June and you'll have the chance to be yourself for 5 days.

SHANGRI-LA WEST SUMMER FUN

In July the Shangri-La Club will be sponsoring this annual event in Stallion Spring, Ca.. For more information Contact:

Shangri-La Club
PO Box 18202
Irvine, Ca. 92713

HOLIDAY EN FEMME

Chi Chapter/Tri-Ess is pleased to announce that it has been selected to host the 1988 Holiday En Femme. The weekend will be held in Chicago on Wednesday, Nov. 16th through Sunday, Nov. 20th.

Planning is underway for an exciting and fun-filled weekend. Included will be a self-development program: a trip to the Baton Show Lounge for the finest impersonator show anywhere; and a gala "HOLIDAY EN FEMME" program, there will also be meetings of the Tri-Ess board of advisors, the Tri-Ess board of professional people, and of delegates from all Tri-Ess chapters and forming groups. Topics for discussion and agenda for all meetings are now being formulated.

So, save the dates of Nov. 16-20, 1988 and plan to attend the 1988 "HOLIDAY EN FEMME". Watch your mail for further details.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Naomi Owen, President
Chi Chapter/Tri-Ess
Po Box 342
Chicago, Ill. 60690

or

Deanna Johns, secretary/Treas.
Chi Chapter/Tri-Ess
Po Box 40

Wood Dale, Ill. 60191

or

Chi Chapter "hot-line" (312) 364-9514

TV-TS TAPESTRY
 P.O. Box 367
 Wayland, Ma. 01778
 (617) 358-5575

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GAIL WALKER'S ELECTROLYSIS

THE LAST PAGE

