

# Cross-Port InnerView

P.O. Box 12701, Cincinnati, OH 45212

The next meeting is January 18 at 8:00

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## A New View

by Cathy

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Please, Mother Nature, don't pick on us anymore!! Somebody is going to think it's a supernatural judgement call or something.

As everybody knows by now, last month's meeting has to go on record as the coldest ever. Eighteen degrees below zero in Monroe that night. But the best part of it is that twenty-eight people made it to the meeting that night, braving frostbite, dead batteries, et. al. to eat, drink and share a joyful (but cold) holiday spirit. The bar was so cold, everyone wore their coats for the first hour or so until Chris was able to get it heated up. Truth to be told, with the last three meetings being snow, even more snow and horrible cold, I'm almost leery of what the weather will be like on January 18.

Those of you who missed the meeting (and I know you hated to do that), missed a large platter of hor d'overes, cookies and homemade caramel corn. We also had several copies of the latest Tapestry, but eager buyers snapped them all up. If demand is high enough, however, we will attempt to get more from I.F.G.E. The new Cross-Port business cards were unveiled, and for those of you who had to sit at home in December we have included two in this newsletter so you wouldn't feel so left out.

Even with the bad weather we had five people attend their first Cross-Port meeting. Welcome to Billie, Renee, Casee and Phyllis. A special welcome to Candy Lee's S.O. Tina who came to show her support. Actually, Tina was glad to see that we were such a calm and well behaved group -- the first time she had ever gone out in public with Candy Lee, it was to Christopher's Halloween bash. Not exactly the easiest way to be introduced to an alternate

lifestyle when you are not sure where it is leading.

Stephanie came back to visit again this last meeting, but this time her "show and tell" was a bit of augmentation that definitely had heads turning.

Special mention goes to Sharon who traveled all the way from Indianapolis in that awful cold (are you sure she's alright, Jennifer?), and also to Belinda who actually did get a mild case of frostbite on her right foot as she made her way home. What Troopers!

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Those of you who missed the meeting in December also missed the first business meeting in a long time where I haven't made a pitch for a new copier. See, I've found this place near Tri-County Mall called Ollie's Copies which can make copies for us for half the price of the old place. Since they also collate and staple, (and have assured me that they intend to keep their low, low prices for the foreseeable future), and since Heather came over to my place with a bobby pin and pair of hair tweezers, and cajoled the old printer into working for short runs of miscellany, the need for Cross-Port to purchase a copier now seems like a bad dream fading in the morning sun.

This means that I can now stop hoarding every penny that comes in (I've been a real pain in the butt about it too) and Cross-Port can now go back to doing some of the things it has done in the past like running ads in the Downtowner and other places. In a way of celebration, we made donations to both the Gay/Lesbian Community Switchboard and WAIF-FM Alternating Currents last month.

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Speaking of the newsletter, it really looks better with the new masthead doesn't it. Impressed even myself on that one. More

importantly though, we are just about out of articles which we can include in the *InnerView*. This is your forum and a chance to flaunt yourself, your ideas and your escapades in print. You all must do things more exciting than come to the monthly meetings. I worry that since I have been so busy lately the quality has dropped. Help me out here folks.

Heard from Bob this last week, he was looking for information about a store called Extremes. They specialize in off and larger size ladies shoes. He had heard that they were still in business but had been forced to change their name for one reason or another. I've never heard of it, so anybody out there able to shed some light on it?

This month marks the passing of a very good newsletter. We have just received our last issue of *Kiara* (formerly *The Crossdressers Bureau*), which had been put out by Gloria Wright over the last four years. We will miss it.

## Cross-Port Finances

Here is a double dose of the current status of the Cross-Port Treasury as I got lazy last month and didn't balance the books:

Beginning Balance as of the November Newsletter is: \$1072.48

The printing charges for November and December were quite low as Linda printed two sides of both newsletters on her copier, and because we have found an affordable printer for the rest of the issue.

November Expenses:	
Phone:	\$45.00
Envelopes & Stamps:	\$32.58
Office Supplies:	\$15.41
Printing Nov. Newsletter:	\$16.35
Special Christmas Mailing:	\$32.45
Bank Charges:	<u>\$ 1.05</u>
Total Expenses:	<u>\$142.84</u>

November Incomes:	
Meeting Collection:	\$60.50
Dues, Etc.:	<u>\$66.00</u>
Total Income:	<u>\$126.50</u>

Ending Balance as of December 14: \$1056.14

December Expenses:	
Phone:	\$32.00
Envelopes & Stamps:	\$36.12
Office Supplies:	\$10.32
Printing Dec. Newsletter:	\$23.40
Printing Business Cards:	\$21.50
Christmas Party:	\$41.00
Donation Gay/Lesbian Switchboard:	\$25.00
Donation Alternating Currents:	\$25.00
Annual G.C.G.L.C. Dues:	\$35.00
Bank Charges:	<u>\$ 1.20</u>
Total Expenses:	<u>\$250.54</u>

December Incomes:	
Meeting Collection:	\$66.00
Dues, Etc.:	\$252.00
Donations:	<u>\$37.00</u>
Total Income:	<u>\$355.00</u>

Ending Balance as of January 11: \$1158.60

We also mailed five intro packets in November and four intro packets in December.

We also have had a full third of you already sign up to get the *InnerView* in 1990. Last year only a tenth had signed up by this time -- *Thanks!*

## One Small Tip

by Dana

Here is one small tip that I have found to be of benefit to not only myself, but several other gender conflicted persons that I have talked to about this revelation. By my own personal experience, my "New" waistline has been "Re-Located" to at least 3 inches higher than it had been for the first 34 years of my life.

What has happened is, that while in pursuit of my feminine life goal, for the past year and a half I have been wearing skirts, dresses, pants and slacks of the feminine sex exclusively. NO men's pants at all. The result of this exclusivity has been the creation of a new indented waistline around my waist at least two inches above my navel.

Pants and slacks that are made for the feminine sex are cut and sewn together with the fit of a woman in mind. There is a lot more room in the rump area to allow for the estrogen hormone to accumulate fat cells in this area, (or to accommodate those hip, thigh, and butt pads if desired!) and includes a higher waist line to allow for a slight difference in skeleton structure between the sexes.

Now, for the "once in a while" crossdresser, this exclusive dressing is probably neither desirable nor acceptable in their normal everyday life. But for the CD who has ever contemplated exclusive cross-dressing, I can tell you that the physical results are very gratifying to say the least. It is great to be able to look in the mirror and find another masculine trait has disappeared!!!!

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## Paying Attention to Detail

by Roni L.

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*Reprinted from Northwest Gender Alliance newsletter.*

One of the problems that we male cross-dressers have to overcome is the size and shape of our male bodies compared to female ones. We need to have clothing that will "camouflage" our masculine body characteristics and give the illusion of feminine ones.

For example, the length of the male body from the back of the neck to the crotch is longer than on the female body. So when males wear certain female clothes, the waistline appears lower because there is more distance between the neck and waistline on males than on females. The solution is to wear clothing so that the waistline is higher on your body. Belts, skirt waistlines, and so forth should be higher than your male clothes' waistline.

We males have hips that are not as wide as females, nor do we have derrieres that are the shape of the female counterpart. There are girdles with hip or derriere pads that can be worn under certain articles of clothing to give the illusion of wider hips and full derrieres... but be careful! With some types of clothing, it LOOKS like you are wearing pads! Hip and derriere pads do not give the continuous contour from hips to derriere and down to the thighs, as the female body has.

It is better to wear clothing that does not accentuate the waist or hips, such as dresses that "blouse" over the waist and have fuller skirts. Or wear dresses that have no waistline and no belt. When wearing skirts with a blouse, do not tuck the blouse in tight; rather, allow it to "blouse" over the waist of the skirt. Or better yet, wear tops that do not tuck into the skirt, or sweaters that cover the waist.

Pants and slacks are sometimes fun to wear, but again, we males do not have enough hips and derrieres to look great. So if you wear pants, wear a top that minimizes the shoulder size, and pants that are not form fitting, but full in the hip and derriere area. There are some feminine pants styles now on the market that have a fuller hip appearance.

Some of us have our bustline too high on our chest. This is mostly because of the build of our male chests and shoulders. The bra straps are not long enough to let the cup of the bra ride low enough on the body. This makes the "breasts" appear too high on the chest. A high bustline and a low waistline (as discussed above) makes you look like a guy in a dress... so buy bras with longer straps, or add to the length to allow the "breasts" to be lower.

Most fashions this year have longer skirts, well below the knees. I know we all like the leggy look, but our legs aren't always as attractive as females', especially from the knee to the thigh. And wearing styles that are in fashion attract less attention than do out of style fashions. And have you ever noticed that when women sit down, they pull their skirts down over their knees, while cross-dressers usually pull the skirt up?

Shoes? Ah, yes... most, if not all, cross-dressers like tall shoes. Ones with four to six inch heels. They do make your feet look smaller, and they do feel sexy. Most of us like to see women wear high heels when they are "dressed up", or even if they are wearing jeans. But there are places and activities when flats or sneakers are better, like when one has to walk long distances, or walking on the beach at night... or bowling. Otherwise, wear heels as often as you want!

We not only want to LOOK feminine, we like to smell feminine. There are many different kinds of perfume on the market. When picking one, remember that your body chemistry reacts with the perfume and changes its scent. Also since men perspire more than women, there is a greater change. Also be aware of when to wear a "light" or "heavy" scent. Light is better for summer, and the heavier scents are better for winter. But if you put on so much perfume that you can smell it, that's too much.

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## From Our Readers

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Dear Cathy:

I am currently in the process of conducting a study to help the professional community to understand crossdressers better than they do now (which is not much, in my estimation). I continue to be annoyed when I read medical literature that examines only those minority of TV's who are in long term psychiatric care and ignores the majority of TV's who are not. You may have read about this study in the IFGE newsletter from November.

To date I have received 47 responses, which is a far cry from the 100 I need to be credible in the medical community. I have responses from 9 states and Canada, but none either Ohio or Indiana. I was an invited guest of Cross-Port for close to 2 years when I lived in Dayton, and am acquainted with a number of the girls there. I appreciate my issue of the *InnerView*, appropriately sent through distribution at my Air Force Base, and read it religiously (Hail, Mary).

I would appreciate any help Cross-Port can give in the form of completing the anonymous questionnaires enclosed. Obviously, all responses are in strict confidence and will be identified only by a state of residence (this is your opportunity to get Ohio on the map). I plan to close out the data collection after our Texas T Party (by March 1), so the sooner the better.

I have enclosed a reprint for your library; note Cross-Port has made it into legitimate medical literature now. Cross-Port may also make it into the most widely circulated psychiatric journal in the U.S. in February. I'll keep you posted.

Thank you in advance for your group's support on this important project.

Sincerely,  
--George R. Brown, M.D.  
Director of Research at some unnamed Air Base in the South

*Thanks for the reprint. We will be bringing copies of the questionnaire to the January meeting, so those interested in participating see me there.*

*If you can not make the meeting but still want to respond, you may get in touch with Dr. Brown by writing:*

*George R. Brown, M.D.*

11163 Mesquite Flat  
Helotes, TX 78023

*If you are unfamiliar with Dr. Brown, he was involved with the Cross-Port wives' support group when he was in this area, and is currently working with the Women Associated with Transgendered Support group (or WATS) which is affiliated with the Boulton & Park group. Since Cross-Port no longer has a wives group (although we are getting more S.O.'s attending the regular meetings), interested parties can contact WATS by writing:*

*Cynthia Phillips  
P.O. Box 17  
Bulverde, TX 78163*

Dear Sisters,

Thank you so much for the Christmas card. It was very kind of you all to think of me. I am very sorry that I have been unable to attend the meetings.

I have to work from 7am to 7pm everyday except the weekends, so by the time I drive home it's 8pm and I don't have time to get a bath and get all dolled up so that I could attend the meetings. I could make meetings dressed as myself until things change for me or the club's meeting night changes.

I do agree with some of the others that Friday or Saturday nights would be a lot better for our meeting nights because then I could make it and also stay as late as possible. I am sure that your attendance would grow also. Its very hard for some people to get home from work in time to attend the meeting but would very much like to. Maybe in the near future something could be done about it so we can all attend and have a great time.

I sure would have loved to have been out with you all at Halloween when you went to Dayton. I have a really great outfit that I wore to a Halloween party and contest. It was made out of a prom dress that we found for only \$4.00 and we modified into a baby's dress. People went crazy over it at the contest. I thought I had it wrapped up, but didn't win after all. Anyway, I enjoyed the girls that were crawling all over me (and some of them wanted to take me home).

I also met a man named Jack Fellure who is running for the 1992 Republican Presidential race, and believe me, this guy hates TV's, gays, lesbianism, and anything else remotely like it. I am enclosing his letter to you so that it can be spread to all the other clubs across the United

States. We need to stick together and put a stop to this guy.

Well I have got to close for now but I do think of you all and I miss being with you at the meetings.

Sincerely, -- Sharon

*We would like to have you attend. If you can't come as a girl, come as a boy. We have no 'dress' codes. And as soon as someone organizes a weekend 'happening', we will be glad to support that as we realize many people simply can't attend on Thursdays.*

*Your information provided by Mr. Fellure is definitely interesting. This guy is against "homosexuality", "lesbianism", "the state usurping authority over the church", "the reversal of the GOD ORDAINED roles for men and women in this society", and (my favorite) "sex education for children in the public school system. Even animals don't need schooling for sex. I'd like to think our kids are as smart as dogs and baboons, professor APE".*

*He is also for; throwing "sensitivity training, evolution and interpersonal relationships into the sea, FOREVER", "women being ladies" and "Men being men, not wimps or HOUSE HUSBANDS".*

*Of course he is based here in Cincinnati. But not to worry friends and neighbors, he is so far out in right field that he really doesn't stand a chance of being elected president. If for no other reason in these media event times, Fellure just sounds too much like Failure. Who wants a failure as a President? 'Nuff soapboxing for now. --Eds.*

Dear Cathy,

Hi to everyone at Cross-Port. I just wanted to write and renew my membership to the *InnerView*. It has been a big help during the past eight months since I first came to a meeting at Christopher's. The support and encouragement that I have received will always be a blessing. I'm hoping that this coming year will bring bigger and better things and that my desired goal will become more of a reality.

Thank you for helping me take some major and necessary steps in my life. I hope to see you all very soon.

Love Always, --Cynthia

*Here's hoping that with a new year and a new decade, we all are better able to approach*

*our life goals and reach them. The 1980's were pretty incredible in that cross-dressing is so very much open now than it was even a mere ten years ago. While many people get upset by the fantastic amount of media attention cross-dressing received, I for one think that if even one person's mind has been changed about us it was worth it. Let's take what we have gained into the 90's and who knows what this next century will be like. --Cathy*

Can You Come to Our

## Texas "T" Party?

February 23, 24, 25 of 1990  
in San Antonio, Texas



*A fun weekend for cross-dressers  
and their friends.*

*Come for:*

*a weekend to dress with the girls  
the Texas sun and warm weather  
the activities, the outings,  
meet friends, new and old.*

**Boulton & Park Society**

Post Office Box 169652  
San Antonio, Texas 78280  
Hotline: (512) 657-2540



Last month I read the article by Dana about feminine mannerisms she observed. I can't let this opportunity escape without me interjecting a few of my own.

Let me first tell you, I keep a keen eye on most women. Sometimes it's for the same reasons Dana watched. Other times I'm just thinking with another part of my body.

I too have noticed how many women will use two hands to open doors. I am convinced that the smaller women, along with children always use two hands on a large door because of their strength. Bigger women, almost always use one hand. The main difference I notice between men and women, is, the women will grab the door and step back and let their weight pull the door. Men step back and pull the door with their arm and their weight.

Two hands on the driving wheel? I agree. I rarely if ever see women driving with one hand. Men usually use one hand and it's hung on the top of the wheel. And if you're really cool, it's two fingers holding on at the bottom.

Some say men walk more bow legged than women. I say the heavier the person the more pronounced it becomes. It has nothing to do with their sex.

Women not only seem to eat less, but much slower with smaller bites. Most seem to lean into their food and turn their head about 30 to their right. (if right handed) Most use two hands on their coffee cup. They usually cross their legs under the table with the napkin layed neatly across their top leg. Most sit up straight in their chair. Especially the tall girls. (Good posture is very important for someone who wants to pass.)

We all know that we should wear the right colors, styles, and sizes. And that when choosing an outfit, it is appropriate for the season and the place we plan to where it. But for some reason, most TVs do not know what an iron is. I went to a Be All one year and forgot my iron. I almost never found one

to borrow. The only women I know who walk around with wrinkled clothes on, are the part timers.

Something I noticed just recently, was at the Christmas Party last month. If you ask a woman to bring a snack or treat to a party, 95% will bring something, and it's usually homemade. Out of the almost 40 people who showed up for the party, only five brought something. Two were homemade. One of those was brought by Laurie. (Cathy's wife) The other real girl, Susan (Jennifer's girlfriend), was mad because she wasn't told, and felt bad. Being a woman, is also thinking like one, not just dressing like one.

Another thing that strikes me funny, is the menu that is chosen on the weekend get-a-ways. I can always tell a man picked out the food choices. We almost always have a meat and potatoes meal. Womens groups just don't eat much of what we serve. Also, most women will decorate the hall for the dinner or luncheon, even if it's just a flower on the table. I'm sometimes suprised there isn't a half barrel sitting in the corner with a pack of cups in the ice. (Here I must give credit to IFGE on banquet night. The tables are decorated in a feminine manner, and they usually give out a little gift, like a wine glass. You are given a corsage upon entering, and a reception line of people are there to greet you.- good touch)

Of course most women don't wear heavy makeup, long fake fingernails, spiked heels in the daytime, and on and on. But .....that's part of the fun. And if that's your prerogative. Then go for it.

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Next weekend I'm going to Atlanta to visit a friend and paint the town. That means next month's article will probably be called "Linda goes South".

Also, if you get Tapestry, keep me in mind when voting time comes around for IFGE. I'm running for the Board of Directors.