Cross-Port InnerView

P.O. Box 12701, Cincinnati, OH 45212

The next meeting is May 18 at 8:00

A New View

by Cathy

Welcome to the Gala Convention Issue of the InnerView. If your copy of this issue has food stains on it and you don't know why, it's because we put it together at G.J.'s Gaslight restaurant. This is a new experiment we are trying in order to give those of you who wish a "going out" experience which is different than the regular monthly meetings. Next month we will do it again. Meet us at the Gaslight at 8:00 PM on June 8th, the second Thursday in June.

Another new experiment we are trying will be at the May meeting. This is a meeting you will not want to miss. Barbara Baily of the Suggestive Some-Things Boutique in Dayton had offered to come to the meeting and bring a selection of her lingerie, jewelry and makeup. She will also have someone there who will do facials and show make-up techniques for a nominal fee or cosmetics purchase.

Everyone who has dealt with the Barbara sings her praises, so let's get to the May meeting for this special treat. If this activity goes over well we will try to schedule more in a similar vein later in the year. Of course if it flops it will probably be a cold day in you-know-where before we try it again.

This month we are officially moving the start of the monthly meeting to 8 PM from the old time of 7:30. It seems too few people are able to make it that early, especially since the summer sun is setting later and later and making it more and more difficult to get out of the house.

The April meeting was sparsely attended with most people showing up at 10 PM or later Still, we had a good time closing up the bar and then a group of us headed down to Perkins for some very early morning snacks.

A special welcome back to Renee who is now back in circulation after a too-long separation from her sisters.

This picture section from the "Coming Together" convention in San Francisco is much shorter than we had planned. Linda brought her pictures to the last meeting for show and tell then managed to leave without them! The worst thing about it is that her negatives were in the same envelope as the pictures. If anyone has an idea of what has happened to them, please drop us a note A.S.A.P. I don't have to stress how important our pictures are to us.

Billie has been talking to the people at the Copa who say that we would be welcome to have regular meetings there on a Tuesday or Thusday night. The first Tuesday of the month has been suggested. Any takers? Any other suggestions?

For those of you who are cunning linguists, you can now see your poetry in print. Rhyming poems and free verse are wanted for an upcoming anthology of TS, TV and TG verse. Don't miss your chance to express yourself in print! (This anthology is scheduled to be printed in 1989.) Please specify credit line and gender status on all submissions. Send to GENDER WORKER, Box 1224, Station A, Toronto, Canada M5W1G7.

Cross-Port is now the proud owner of a copy of Dr. Richard Doctor's new book *Transvestites and Transsexuals* which was reviewed in last month's InnerView. I will bring it to the next

meeting and maybe we can work out a lending policy.

We also have received proof that our newsletter is read by our friends in the Gay community. The Gay/Lesbian March Activists of Cincinnati (GLMA) used the map to the Gaslight we printed in our last newsletter in their last newsletter. They meet the first Wednesday of every month at 6PM at the Gaslight. They are currently involved in the AIDS rally May 13 in front of the Federal building. Good luck people.

Cross-Port Finances

Here is the current status of the Cross-Port Treasury:

The Ending Balance reported as of the March Newsletter was $1060.91. We did not receive a February bank statement and that caused a check to be missed. The *corrected* Beginning Balance is: $1047.11

March Expenses:	
Phone:	$42.64
Cross-Port Library:	$29.50
Envelopes & Stamps:	$29.50
Copier Supplies:	$48.85
Bank Charges:	$ .90
Total Expenses:	$151.39
March Incomes:	
Meeting Collection:	$69.00
Dues, Etc,:	$79.00
Total Income:	$148.00

Ending Balance as of April 14: $1043.72.

Beginning Balance as of April Newsletter: $1043.72

April Expenses:	
Phone:	$19.00
Envelopes & Stamps:	$39.90
Bank Charges:	$ 1.35
Total Expenses:	$59.35
April Incomes:	
Meeting Collection:	$76.00
Dues, Etc.:	$50.00
Total Income:	$126.00

Ending Balance as of May 11: $1109.47

Although the last two meetings have been smaller than usual, the monies collected at those meetings have been better than usual. Thanks to all you sisters who have been digging deep in your purses to help the cause.

We also mailed thirteen intro packets in this two month period.

The Sig O's and the Events

by Laurie

I was going to write an article about spousal acceptance or something otherwise serious, but the S.F. vacation left us too light hearted for that, and now mt title sounds like competition for Mr. Sister or another studio musician band.

However flippant I sound, I can get serious about what a good time I had. Sig O, sometimes Significant Otters, became our pet name for significant others -- which is actually a psychological term that means (an) individual(s) who have a close, meaningful relationship with a particular person. It's a nice, tidy, nonsexist term for husband/wife, boy or girlfriend. The meaning it had for our trip was the wonderful events planned by ETVC for those of us who might not be as interested in the keynote speakers, or were viewing this as more of a vacation than the Prom Week of Dress or as an opportunity to match pace with others walking in the same shoes (so to speak)

I must admit some apprehension on my part. I am quite content with sticking close to my S.O. in a new and different city -- in S.F.'s case, an alternate reality to my little midwestern flat earth theory -- and here not only was I going to meet people I didn't know (gasp!) but I was going to spend all day with them doing fun but unfamiliar things!

Well, some fears are unfounded even for the best of worriers. We quickly became acquainted. It wasn't artificial like pretending to be the best of friends, but there was a shared commonality of experience that served as a basis for beginning.

One day we took a walking cultural tour. We took in the Opera, Davies Symphony Hall, the City Hall/Civic Center area and the Museum of Modern Art. Our guide Marilyn had been a docent at an art museum, and her asides made the experience more personal and interesting. Her patronage of S.F.'s fine arts also got us back stage at the ballet, an unexpected but appreciated pleasure. We lunched at Max's Opera Plaza. I was astounded by the cyclamens blooming profusely by out window, In Cincinnati in April,

they might think about budding, and then only in the safe care of a florist.

Another day was for shopping, glorious shopping! Julie guided us on our obligatory pilgrimage to Nordstrom's, Gump's, and Nieman Marcus, where we oohed and ahhed at the selection, displays and prices. After looking at $1000 to $2000 items in sequins or leather, $60 for a T-shirt seemed like a bargain. I did buy a silk teal slip/cami as my sensuous souvenir, but mostly we looked. Lunch at Nieman Marcus was an aesthetic luxury of sunlight diffused by the tiffany ceiling, roses on the table, tuxedo shirted and vested waiters. I had succulent prawns and black beans.

We also had the flexibility to shop our own interests. I found a bargain book store in which I could have spent all day and at least a few traveller's checques -- but time flew as it does, and we were due at the King George Hotel for tea. And how lovely -- we had our choice of eight or nine British or Oriental blends complimented with fruit, tarts or trifles. I remember the pianist playing the Moonlight Sonata as it was one of the favorites of another S.O

Our other adventures included seeing the Jeremiah O'Brien, a WW II liberty ship and the Exploratorium, a playful museum in which you interact with the exhibits (and you can't accidently break anything, I would know!) The Exploratorium is housed near the Palace of Fine Arts, all that remains of a World's Fair that has my pick for one of the most beautiful places on earth. We picnicked on the lawn, watching the Grecian columns reflected in the water while an old man and his grandchildren fed the swans.

All in all, I have to thank ETVC and the S.O.'s for their caring and creative planning. Best of all, my concerns were resolved positively. It was never a second class operation -- it wasn't babysitting for adults. In fact our S.O.'s were a bit envious and would have liked to join our tours. The events were moderately priced. At generally $15 per person which included lunch, it was the best deal in S.F.

It didn't turn out to be a bitch session. We didn't do any more wicked discussion than any meeting of friends who talk about our darlin's. I think our S.O.'s would have been surprised to hear how many positive aspects we appreciate of their feminine personalities. We shared our hurts, our coping and our reassurances. I think my biggest regret is that more S.O.'s did not take advantage of this opportunity for learning, fun and camaraderie.

Convention Highlights

by Cathy

Last month I went to the "Coming Together" convention in San Francisco which was sponsored by I.F.G.E. and hosted by ETVC. If you read last month's InnerView you will know that I was feeling very trepid about the whole thing as the time to go came around. I had never been to a convention and did not know what to expect. Since Laurie and I were staying a few extra days to visit a friend of hers, I had plenty of male clothes to fall back on if things got to feeling a little uncomfortable.

Uncomfortable was a feeling I felt only fleetingly that week. I met a lot of really nice people, made several new friends and spent seven full days *en femme* The closest experience I have ever had which compares to what I felt that week was when I first came out at a Cross-Port meeting. It was not as intense, but was much more sustained. I felt like the new girl at high school on the first day of classes at the beginning of the school year. Many of the people there attend other conventions and there was a lot of hugging and getting re-aquainted with friends they hadn't seen for a while. Fortunately, they were also quite willing to introduce new people into their sorority and I quickly got to know several people from around the country with whom I was able to develop a good rapport.

Prior to that week the most time I had ever spent dressed was two consecutive evenings. Laurie had never spent that much time with Cathy either. After several days she remarked that Cathy was more of a real person; that she had become more three dimensional by being "alive" for that long a time span. We got to be much better friends that week.

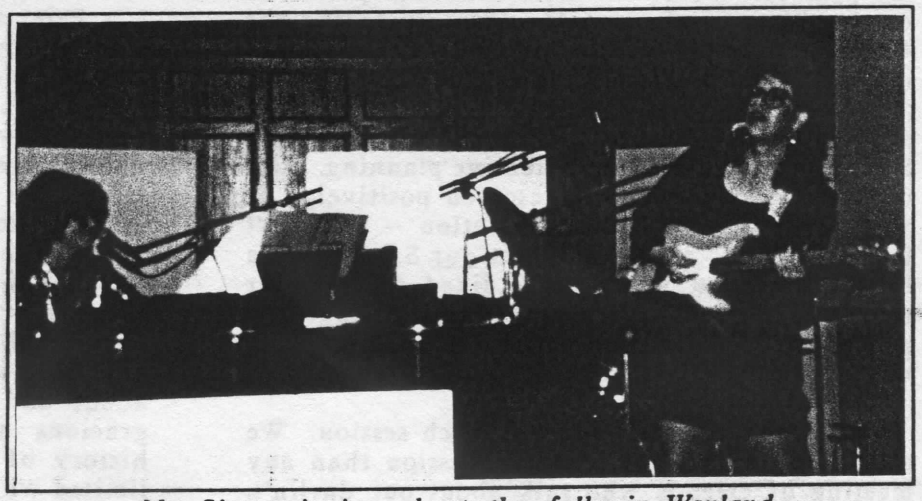
For the first time I was able to meet many of the "movers & shakers" of the gender community. Virginia Prince, Ariadne Kane, Betty Ann Lind and Ellen Sommers were just a few I had heard about and got to meet. All were exceedingly gracious and although my knowledge of the history of our gender community is incredibly limited which caused me to be rather intimidated, all ignored it and treated me as an equal. It took me a couple of days, but I was able to get over my culture shock. Now I can look through a Taspestry and say "I know that person, I met her in San Francisco."

(Continued on Page 6...)

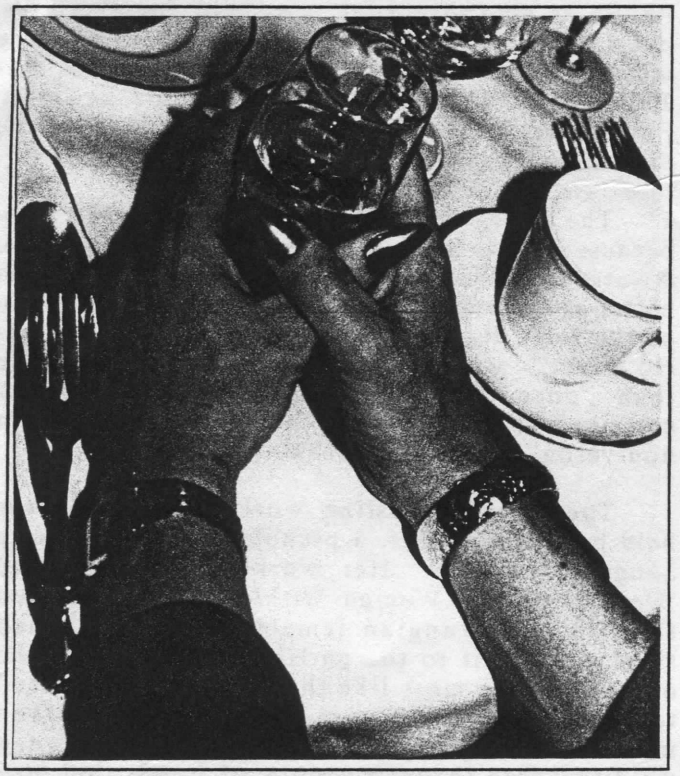
Laurie and Mary looking for a ride

It was windy on the ship...

It looked like a Prom...



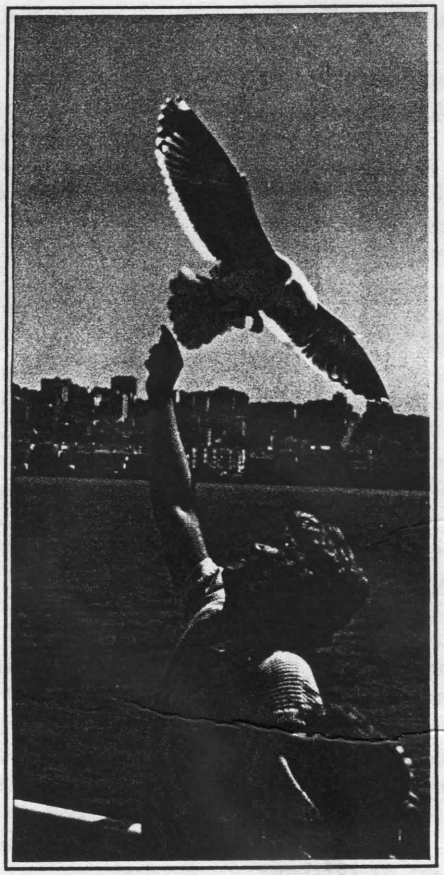
Mr. Sister singing about the folks in Wayland



We all got IFGE wine glasses

Chinatown!

At the Japanese Tea Garden



Linda feeds a gull

Cathy and Wendy from Mr. Sister

The convention itself had its good and its not so good points. Monday was registration day. ETVC was there, staffed and prepared at 9am IFGE was, in contrast, hampered by traveling across the country to get there and a computer disk failure. We didn't get registered for the IFGE part of the convention until Tuesday afternoon Laurie and I ended up walking across town to Fisherman's Wharf and being general sightseers.

San Francisco was a beautiful city and we were welcomed by an unusual warm spell of 70 and 80 degree temperatures while we were there. The disturbing side of San Francisco is that there are over 6000 people living in the streets, alleys and in the public squares. Some of these people choose to live this way but many are simply not mentally competent to enough to live any other way It was frightening to someone from a town where the police round up people like this and send them to the hospital for any reason, just to get them off the streets for a while.

On Tuesday we went on two tours, the first on a motorized cable car (where a girl from Canada yelled at Linda for waving at a truck driver) which ended up at the Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park. There we met a couple from Albany, New York who were on their first vacation in twenty-five years of marriage. They were very nice and genuinely interested in what we were about. They were also surprised to find out that Albany had its own group.

The second tour began at a restaurant in Chinatown with a nine course meal that was the best Chinese meal we had ever eaten. There was one couse which was shrimp with honeyed walnuts that was simply incredible. We then had a walking tour through Chinatown where we learned a lot about the culture and even had a stop at an "adult" fortune cookie factory. A bus tour continued the evening and because of the weather, we were treated to unparalleled views of the city from both Treasure Island and Twin Peaks. We didn't get back to the hotel until after midnight.

A panel held on Wednesday was "Alternatives to Sexual Reassignment Surgery" I found it interesting that there seems to be a growing number of people who consider themselves TS, but who, for one reason or another, are not considering reassignment surgery as an option for them. You are what you are between your ears, not your legs was stressed heavily at this convention.

Thursday was divided into one set of sessions for TS and one for TV. A panel on "Going Public as an Individual" was held for the TV's, but I found it somewhat disturbing that every member of the panel doing the presentation was TS, not TV To them, Going Public meant Going Full Time and I had trouble relating to the discussion.

The Thursday keynote speaker was interesting because he was Stan Dale, Director of the Human Awareness Institute. Some of you may kow him better as the radio voice over from the beginning of the Lone Ranger show "... and a Hearty High-Ho Silver!" which he obligingly did for us more than once. His message was one of communication between two individuals, both non-verbal as well as verbal.

The most interesting workshop for me was held by Neela Miller, a pschologist with definite Jungian leanings. Her workshop was entitled "Developing the Woman Within" She presented the five basic Jungian female models, explained them and put it to the participants to choose the one which was most like the woman they wanted to become and use it as a basic role model. The most interesting part of the workshop was when we discovered through a show of hands that 90% of the people in the room had what they felt was an unsatisfactory relationship with their father

Thursday wrapped up with an open session with Dr Richard Docter, author of what I have continually heard called "the most definitive book on transvestism to date" He was very congenial, easy to listen to and reminded me of Henry Fonda. We got two copies of his book, one for Cross-Port and one for home.

On Friday we went on a tour of the Haas-Lilienthal house, one the the few Victorian houses which still survive after the 1906 earthquake That was followed by a cruise on the Bay It was there that I heard the quote "Don't worry, *everyone* passes at a half mile." The evening ended up with a dinner at Chez Mollet, the usual meeting place for ETVC. Only this time we managed to crowd over 160 cross-dressers into the place. The lucky ones managed to find a seat on the patio -- remember, it was in the 80's and no one in San Francisco has air conditioning because it never gets that hot.

On Saturday Laurie and I attended the Significant Others panel where some of the S.O.'s were able to shed a greater light on what they feel when a loved one moves into the world of cross-dressing. Again, these S.O.'s were primarily involved with people who have decided to live full time, but there were some nice insights.

The highlight of Saturday was the Awards Banquet. Ariadne Kane became the third recipient of the Virginia Prince Award, we were treated to a band put together by three of the girls who are also professional musicians called "Mr. Sister", and everyone was dressed to the nines.

On Sunday they had a "wind down" brunch followed by an talent show which was about the best I've seen. We also got a chance to talk to Alonna who came in for the weekend (she says she'll be back to a Cross-Port meeting soon). That evening after most people had gone home, Laurie and I went to a restaurant down on the pier. As we were going in, we ran into three of the helping professionals who had been attending the convention. "Aren't you two ever going home?" one of them asked. "Not if we can help it" was the reply

On Sunday night, when it was time to put Cathy "back into the box", she didn't want to go. She liked being out and about. I found that it is amazingly easy for me to fall headlong into being Cathy full time. It seemed to be a case of "how do you get them back on the farm after they've seen Paree".

One month later going back in the box doesn't seem to be that big a deal. Of *course* I like being a girl, but I also like being a boy Even though Laurie said that seeing Cathy go away was like losing something intimate, she likes me to be a boy too. I'm glad I went to the convention, I would like to go to another and I am sure that I shall. I hope everyone has that opportunity.

Stonewall 20:

A Generation of Pride

Once again the annual Gay/Lesbian Pride Week celebration is rapidly approaching. This year the week's activities are a little more diverse and do not include the festival. The guest speakers for the rally and parade from City Hall to Fountain Square will be Sue Hyde, director of Privacy Project of the National Gay/Lesbian Tack Force; and John Creadle, the immediate past director of the National Organization of Black and White Men Together, and Rutgers University Director of Minority Affairs. The rally will be held on Saturday, June 10th starting at 11:00 AM.

This year is the twentieth anniversary of the Stonewall riots. It was the beginning of Gay Awareness and cross-dressers had a pivotal role in that event. We can continue to support the gay community by our participation.

Schedule of Events

June 3 - Canoe Trip - Meet at the Gazebo in Burnet Woods between 12 noon and 1 pm.

June 4 - King's Island Day - Wear red and meet at the Eiffel Tower at noon.

June 5 - Eccuminical Service at 1222 Ida St. Starts at 7:30 pm.

June 6 - Benefit Concert at Memorial Hall at 8 pm. Tickets are $7.00 and will be available at the next Cross-Port Meeting. We have 6 tickets but can get more.

June 7 - The video "A Generation after Stonewall" will be shown at G.J's Gaslight at 7 pm.

June 8 - La Cage Aux Follies film will be shown at "The Movies" at 719 Race St. beginning at 7:30 pm.

June 9 - Cocktail Reception for the Guest Speakers at Crazy Ladies Bookstore. 7 pm.

June 10 - Rally and Parade 11 am at City Hall. City Wide PUB crawl from 10 pm til 2 am. Tickets are $3.00 and includes bus rides all night to the various PUBs. We also have 6 of these which will be available at the next Cross-Port Meeting.

June 11 - Sunday Brunch at Gordon's Uptown from 11 am - 1 pm. Picnic/Concert at Sawyer Point Park Marge Schott Pavilion 4 pm - 8 pm City Wide Bartenders Talent Show at The Dock 10 pm.

For more information about Pride Week call 381-4746.

This is a chance for all of you who have wanted to do things other than sit in a bar to go out and do them. There are Concerts, Picnics, Movies, Church Services and other activities all of which we are welcome to attend. If you don't do it you have no one to blame but yourself. You can't say it's this city and its attitudes.

Thanks to Susan Lovelace, Cross-Port's representative to the Greater Cincinnati Gay / Lesbian Coalition for providing this information. - *Eds.*

Can We Talk?

by Heather Peerson

When I graduated from high school in 1968, I went straight to work for a very large machine tool company I had been raised in a part of the city where no black people lived and until I got into high school I had never really had any contact with them. Even the high school I attended at that time was predominantly white with only a few blacks in some of my classes. Still, I was somewhat shocked the first time I entered the main manufacturing plant of this machine tool company and found that throughout this facility there were almost always two rest rooms side by side; one for whites and one for blacks.

The civil rights movement, which had occurred only a few years earlier and had brought with it some rioting in the downtown areas of the city, had forced the management to remove the signs which had previously declared which room was for which race, but everyone who worked there was well aware of purpose of the two rooms. I was in an apprenticeship program which was located on the third floor of the personnel building some distance from the main shop floor. There were also two rest rooms on that floor but since the training center had accepted its first three women into the program that summer, the black rest room had been converted into the women's rest room and the two black apprentices used the same rest room as the whites.

By the time I received my first training period which put me in the main shop for ten weeks, I had already become known as a trouble maker. I was constantly being reprimanded for hair that was cut too long and for wearing unusual clothes. It was of little surprise to my fellow workers when the first time I had to use the rest room in the main shop I walked straight into the one for the blacks. When I came out I received several negative looks from both the white and black people around me. One of them inquired as to whether I had been aware of what I had done. I said I had. He then asked why I did it. I remember saying, "The idea of separate rest rooms for blacks and whites was stupid. We are all people and we are all just trying to do what nature calls us to do. Besides, we both used the same one in the training center."

I will not say I was the first to have done something like this nor will I say that it had any major impact on what others eventually did, but by the time I left there 14 years later, all of the black rest rooms were converted to women's and no one thought anything about blacks and whites using the same rest rooms.

Every time I appear on a talk show or give a talk somewhere, the inevitable question is asked, "Which bathroom do you use?" We who give talks very often dread that question. Gloria Wright, in one of her recent news-letters addressed her concern for the debate which seems to be going on in Seattle between the mayor and some cross-dresers there as well as in some other places over the rights of a crossdresser to use the rest room opposite their biological gender. She suggests that we concentrate on more important issues that might help us to gain acceptance and not cause friction and separation.

For most crossdressers I suspect that which rest room one uses is not as important in function as it is in practicality. One of the main goals of either a crossdresser or a transsexual, while in public, is not to draw attention to ones self. One sure fired way to draw attention is for someone dressed as a woman to walk into a men's rest room, even if she is a genetic male. When I need to "go", I need to "GO" and where is really irrelevant as long as it is somewhat private. But to be out in public living as a woman, and walk into a "Men's Room" would be asking for trouble.

I was hired on February 27, 1989 by Hill's Department Store, as a woman. Due to some circumstances connected to the position I held, I felt it was in my best interest to confide in the general manager the fact that I had not had my vaginoplasty surgery. The following night I was told that I was to be "terminated" from Hill's employment for falsifying my application. After a lengthy discussion in which I explained how everything on the application was truthful, to his credit he said he would give me a chance. I set out to prove that he would not regret his choice by working extra hard. I was gaining recognition. Several of the managers had said I was one of the best night people they had. The office manager said she wanted to put me in charge at night. Then it all caved in.

I was called into the general managers office on Friday April 21 and told that someone had complained to the home office that "They knew I was a man, and that they felt uncomfortable with me in the rest room." The home office had contacted him for verification. He did not tell them at that time that he knew about me. He told me he did not wish to fire me but that I would not be able to use the women's rest room. Since the men's rest room was the only other place I could have gone, I told him I would have

to quit. I could not be expected to work 6 or 7 hours a night and not use the rest room. I also told him I would bring him a letter from my doctor stating that in his opinion, after a year and a half of hormone therapy I am chemically female. That same night I was told by one of the managers that he was trying to get me a raise. I left the information for him over the weekend and returned to work on Tuesday night. I was told that the decision from the home office still stood. I quit.

This man betrayed a trust. If he had not been told about my condition all he could have done would have been to report back that my legal identification showed me to be female and that was that. However, he chose to reveal my condition to them based on knowledge he had no right to know. Thus proving to me that honesty is not the best policy A mistake that I will not make again.

Maybe it is justice that many of the employees and customers are stealing Hill's blind. We had several discrepancies in our safe counts and one time that I know of, it was covered up. It seems they would rather have that type of employee than one who is honest and up front with them. But true justice will not be served until once and for all, the rest room issue is resolved. Until discrimination is truly eliminated.

For some crossdressers, mere acceptance and tolerance as a crossdresser may be all they are looking for, but for me and many other transsexuals the issue is much deeper. What Hill's said to me was that what makes a woman a woman and a man a man is what is between your legs and not what is in your head and heart. They seem to be supported by the laws of this country just as the laws used to support the notion that what makes a person a person is the color of their skin. As many women and blacks know, changing the laws does not change people's minds but it does give a person some ability to fight against minds that refuse to change. If a white person had written the home office of Hill's and said that they did not feel comfortable using a rest room while a black person was in it, I am sure they would have been told that was too bad.

To that end I say "Fight On Seattle." If during the fight we lose a battle or two so be it, but we can not give up the hope that one day we will win the war. I ask everyone who understands and feels that Hill's and my general manager could have found a better way to deal with this situation to think about who you want your money to go when you need to purchase items. I know of a K-Mart, for example, where there is an openly gay person working. Several people there complained about this person and asked that he be removed from the customer service desk. The decision was made that the person did a good job and his personal life was irrelevant and none of K-Mart's business. If others did not like it they could leave. From this time on K-Mart gets my money.

Publication Notice
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Cross-Port is a not-for-profit support group which meets solely for the support of cross-dressers, trans-sexuals and their family and friends.

Build your own resource library.

BODYSHOCK: The Truth about Changing Sex by Liz Hodgkinson - $18.00

GENDER NETWORKER newsletter (two 1988 issues) by Rupert Raj - $6.66

In Search of Eve: Transexual Rites of Passage ny Anne Bolin - $18.00

Standards of Care - Harry Benjamin Int'l Gender Dys. Assoc - $15.00

The Uninvited Dilemma: A Question of Gender by Kim Stuart - $15.00

T.U.D. Research Supplement - $15.00

If you are interested in any of these books write GENDER WORKER, Box 1224, Station A, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5W 1G7. Prices are in U.S. Funds. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery

Linda goes West

Chapter 1

I guess the one question I get asked more than all others since I got back from San Francisco, is... "What was it like flying dressed?"

Well, everyone told me it would be real easy, not to worry, and that no one pays any attention even if they know. And that, I found out was true for the most part. But let me tell you my story in more detail.

I started getting dressed about 10 am. I wore a dark, business looking skirt and blouse, dark hose, and flat shoes. Light makeup, little jewelery, and sensible hair, was what I felt was needed to pull this caper off. By 11:30, I was in the car and on my way to the airport.

I Pulled into a long term parking lot and was immediately followed by their shuttle bus. A nice young man stopped behind me and said, "Let me help you with your bags, Miss." That bag must have weighed about 150 lbs., and to watch this cute young man struggle to get it in the bus was a new experience for me. During the short ride to the terminal, I let my skirt ride a few inches above my knee. I couldn't help notice his eyes in the rear view mirror, checking out my legs. After we stopped, he graciously helped me down the steps of the bus and again lugged my bag off. He smiled and told me to have a good flight. He had no idea, and I was already flying high.

As soon as I turned around, a tall, dark, and handsome baggage attendant said, "May I give you a hand Miss." (Two other men came at the same time, but of course they were gentlemen, and told me to go first.) "Yes, please." I said, and checked in with no problems.

I preceeded upstairs, and went through the detection devices. I then found my gate, checked in, and had a seat with the rest of the passengers. I crossed my legs, straightened my skirt, and sat back to check out everyone else. As more people arrived, and sat down, I couldn't help anticipate who would be seated next to me for the next few hours. A very young couple sat across the room. They kept looking my way and laughing. Did they know? Who cares I thought. I also saw 4 men between 30-40 yrs. old, all sitting alone with their papers in hand. Each kept watching me. I felt their eyes survey me from top to bottom. I knew they liked what they saw, and I was eating it up. I couldn't help but smile, when I pictured what they were thinking.

Soon they called my row number, so I boarded, and took my seat. The plane was not very crowded, so the only person in my row was a lady who was a seat away.

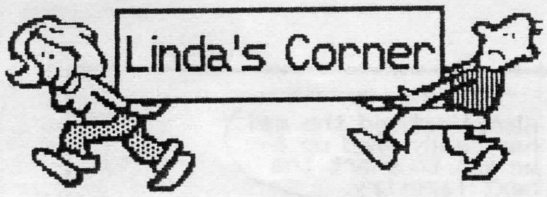
The flight was uneventful. We stopped to change planes in Salt Lake City and again, no problem. My heart was now beating at normal pace, and I really was feeling good about this trip.

At the airport, I caught a small bus that took me to my hotel. Upon arriving, I was greeted by many friends who I knew from past conventions. I then checked in.

(Since I have so much to tell about this trip, I will limit this only to my plane ride.)

On my way back, things went ok until I walked through the metal detector. Ding,Ding,Ding... "Miss, would you please take off your belt and walk through again."....Ding, Ding, Ding..."Miss, would you please take off your earrings, and braclet."....Ding, Ding, Ding..... "Well", Miss, the only thing left is your watch. I hope thats it." Shit! She hopes thats it! I'm the one they have to strip search if it rings again..... Well, this time nothing. I bet the 30 people behind me were glad too.

The remainder of the trip home went well. I made it, and it was really a lot of fun. Now I can't wait to do it again.



First let's get something straight. One doesn't join IFGE. It's not a club. It has no membership list, or dues structure. If you contact them, they won't tell you where to shop, how to dress, or pass in public. They won't even provide a shoulder to cry on if you have a personal problem.

Why? Because that's not their purpose. IFGE was formed by members of local groups from across the nation, to create a separate entity which could in turn take some of the burden off smaller groups by providing Unity of Purpose, Communication, and Outreach, to the whole TV/TS community, the public in general, and the professionals who work with gender related issues. They strive on an international level, to educate everyone by a sharing of ideas through networking, and by capitalizing on the many individual's talents which exist in our subculture.

"Tapestry" is probaly the #1 resource tool they produce. With this single publication, a reader is given a key which unlocks all doors concerning gender related issues. Unequivocally, the finest publication available to our community.

Let me also inform you that Tapestry is a means of revenue for IFGE. Donations are always incouaged but seldom received. Without money, no organization can survive.

Probably, you, or the company which employs you, belongs to an association which represents your field of endeavor. If you are active personally or not, you surly realize, that the purpose of that association is to promote the industry in everyway possible. Working as a consortium will produce results, no individual could ever accomplish. When that association succeeds, its members and the industry does likewise. No one forces anyone to join, but those who do, are wise enough to see their purpose, and are usually the most successfull in their trade.

Theodore Roosevelt once said; "Every man owes a part of his time and his money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has a moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions within his sphere."

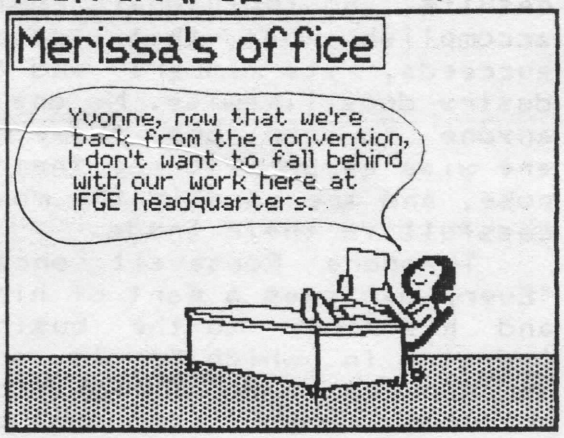
As you read this, IFGE is working for you. We at Crossport realize this. Therefore we have decided to make May, IFGE month. All monies we collect in the month of May, will be pooled together and be given to IFGE in the form of a check at the "Be All" weekend. We will be having a raffle for prizes at the May meeting. (You need not be present to win, and chances are one dollar each, if you would like to play at home.) Although it may not be much, we hope that others may follow suit for such a worthy cause.

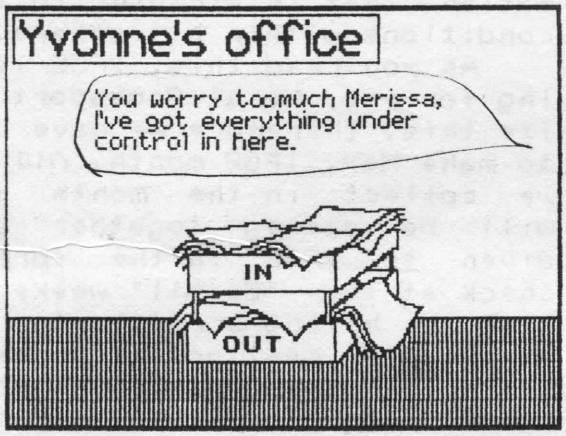
After all, most of you give to some charities and worthy causes, even if its just buying Girl Scout cookies.

Remember back to the first time you found out about this group or perhaps others, and just how good it felt. Well here's an opportunity to help us reach out to those who are still looking.

Behind the scene look at IFGE

by Linda





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ATTENTION!!

A new group is attempting to form in the Columbus area. If interested, write to:

Forming Group
P.O. Box 287
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0287

Include a way for them to contact you. They plan to meet in a motel conference room in Columbus.
This will be an 'open' group for TV & TS.

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

RICHARD F. DOCTER, Ph. D. - Professor of Psychology and Clinical Psychologist at California State University at Northridge is a leading authority on "Transvestites and Transsexuals" (the title of his recent book.) Dr. Doctor will pay a third visit to BE ALL to lead a discussion on "The Addiction Theory of Crossdressing" and to conduct his popular late afternoon rap sessions.

SANDRA COLE, C.S.E., C.S.W. - Professor of Physical Medicine and Chairperson of the Sexuality Council at the University of Michigan School of Medicine is a nationally known authority on sex education. Prof. Cole is paying a return visit to BE ALL in order to co-host and lead the wives and female partners' program and a special session on communications open to all participants.

BARBARA McCOY, M.S.W. - Clinical Social Worker and Psychotherapist is in private practice and has extensive experience in counseling crossdressers and their partners. Barbara is a school consultant and an acknowledged expert on women's support groups. She will lead a discussion on "Coping, Handling Fear and Guilt, and What to Do in a Crisis."

SHEILA KIRK, (M.D.) - The keynote address at our national leadership luncheon will be delivered by our own Dr. Sheila who is an officer and director of many organizations including: I.F.G.E., Outreach Institute, Fantasia Fair, BE ALL, and Transpitt. (Sheila is an expert on "deliveries"!)

WENDY PARKER - All the world is a stage and you, too, can be a part of it. Express the other side of yourself and BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE. Let Wendy, a well known talented professional musician and entertainer, help you in 'Getting Your Act Together!" (for "Strut-Your-Stuff", or otherwise.)

MARIETTE PATHY ALLEN - A Dynamic and talented professional photographer and author of a soon to be published book featuring her photographs will be our guest speaker at our annual media luncheon. Mariette's photographs have appeared in many leading national and international publications and she was the official photographer for Lee Grant's documentary, "What Sex Am I?". She will also lead a mini-session on how to take better photographs.

MARSHA BOTZER - President of the Ingersoll Center of Seattle which provides professional counseling and support for transsexuals and transvestites. Marsha will moderate the concurrent Transsexual Issues program which includes a "Fantasy vs. Reality" session open to all BE ALL participants.

JILLIAN - A professional dance instructor with a major dance studio, will lead a daily session on ballroom dancing.

CAROLE - A professional model, and wife of a crossdresser, will explain, demonstrate, and teach you some of the basic principles of modeling.

RACHEL - A licensed professional hair and wig stylist, and partner of a crossdresser, will tell you how to buy a wig and show you how to brush, style and take care of it. She will also lead a mini-session on how to brush and fix your own hair into an attractive feminine style.

KAREN, LAURIE, NANCY, AMIEE, AND JUDY (who has a nearby beauty shop) will be available for all participants, including wives and female partners, for hair, skin, make-up, and nail services. These individuals sessions are all designed to make you feel and look great so that you can BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE! In addition, **JEANNE AND GLORIA**, from Detroit's Lavender and Lace, will be showing a beautiful line of lingerie and clothes.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

BE ALL WELCOMES WIVES AND FEMALE PARTNERS

BE ALL encourages the full participation of wives and female partners of crossdressers in all of our activities and at all of our social events. In addition, an expanded special program has been developed by Laura and Debbie, wives of crossdressers, with Prof. Sandra Cole of the University of Michigan School of Medicine:

- On Friday, Prof. Cole will lead a session, for women only, reinforcing the positive aspects of interpersonal relationships and exploring the techniques of negotiation to solve problems.
- On Saturday, Prof. Cole will lead a session for all BE ALL participants dealing with communications. You will learn how to read non-verbal signals, respond to fears, handle encroachments, and how to negotiate and work together to resolve issues before they reach a crisis.
- During BE ALL, a hospitality suite will be availalbe during the day, for women only. Late afternoon and evenings, the suite will be available for couples rap sessions with Prof. Cole and for networking. These sessions will provide an opportunity for participants to relax, talk and learn how others deal with the issues.
- And, the manicurists, hairdressers, and make-up artists at BE ALL will available for wives and female partners also. BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE, TOO!

STRUT-YOUR-STUFF TALENT SHOW

The Strut-Your-Stuff amateur talent show is a tradition at BE ALL. The rules are simple: Keep it short (under 5 minutes), and tasteful, and don't worry about making a fool of yourself. (We all do that, sooner or later.) This year Strut-Your-Stuff will be held in our own private night club setting. Bring your music on cassette tape and let our own Wendy help you to get your act together. Comedy, Music, Singing, Dancing, Live, or Mimic. Strut-Your-Stuff is fun. Try it, you'll like it! Who knows, maybe a star will be born!

CONCURRENT SEMINAR

Concurrent with BE ALL will be a special two day program, just for the transsexual, devoted entirely to the exploration of transsexual issues. The separate sessions will be moderated by Ms. Marsha Botzer, President of the Ingersoll Center of Seattle, WA.; Mr. David Maxwell (F-M); and Ms. Christina Young (M-F). The program will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 9th and 10th, 1989. If you are interested in these separate sessions write BE ALL Weekend, P.O. Box 342, Chicago, IL 60690, and ask for the special TS flyer and invitation.

TO ATTEND...

To register simply fill out and return the attached BE ALL reservation form and the separate hotel reservation form. For proper room assignments, city tour, theater, and meal planning your reservations SHOULD be received by May 26, 1989. Your cooperation is requested.

PACKAGE PLANS:

Package Plans include ALL MEALS including breakfasts/brunch, luncheons, dinners and banquets; theater tickets, tours; and admission to ALL activities and events for the time covered in your package. There are no extra charges! THEY DO NOT INCLUDE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS. ALL PACKAGES PLANS ARE PER PERSON!

Plan A:	Wed., June 7, 1989 (3 PM on) through Sun., June 11, 1989 (1 PM).	$240
Plan B:	Thur., June 8, 1989 (4 PM) through Sun., June 11, 1989 (1 PM).	$190
Plan C:	Fri., June 9, 1989 (4 PM) through Sun., June 11, 1989 (1 PM)	$130
Plan D:	Sat., June 10, 1989 (8 AM) through Sun., June 11, 1989 (1 PM)	$90
Plan E:	Sat., June 10, 1989 (all day & eve)	$75
Plan F:	Sat., June 10, 1989 (evening only)	$30

Participants needing a package plan different than described above please contact us for rates. Be sure to include exact time of arrival and departure for you and your wife/partner, if she will be attending.

There is a minimum deposit of $75 with your BE ALL reservation. Enclose check or money order made out to BE ALL WEEKEND. Confirmation with travel directions and check-in procedures will be sent upon receipt of reservation and payment or deposit. The Balance due is payable on arrival with check, cash, money order, or major credit card (Am Ex, Visa, Master, Dinners, Crt Bl). Accommodations, telephone, bar, or other charges billed to your room must be paid on check-out.

For further information please write to: BE ALL WEEKEND, P.O. Box 342, Chicago, IL 60690 or telephone the CHI Chapter Hot Line at (312) 364-9514 between 7:00 9:00 PM or on weekends.

BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE JUNE 7 - 11, 1989 CHICAGO, IL RESERVATION FORM

Fem Name: _____

Mailing Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (optional): (_____) _____

Club Affiliation: _____

Arrive: June ____, 1989 at ____:____ am, or ____:____ pm

Depart: June ____, 1989 at ____:____ am, or ____:____ pm

Hotel reservations: (Check one and Complete reverse side)

☐ Single ☐Double ☐Couple

Couple: Wife/Partner's Name: _____

Double: Requested Roommate's Name: _____

Roomate preference: ☐ non-smoker (if possible)

COSTS: (Fill in appropriate cost and package plan letter)

BE ALL Package Plan ( ) $_____

Couple: Wife/Partner Package ( ) $_____

Total $_____

Less: BE ALL deposit (minimum $75) ($ _____)
(Payment in US funds with check or money order to BE ALL WEEKEND.)

BALANCE DUE UPON ARRIVAL: $_____

(Check, cash, money order, or major credit card)

BE SURE TO COMPLETE HOTEL RESERVATION FORM ON THE REVERSE SIDE!

Mail to: BE ALL WEEKEND
P.O. Box 342
Chicago, IL 60690

BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE
JUNE 7 - 11, 1989
CHICAGO, IL
HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

The O'Hare Plaza - Hotel is pleased to offer BE ALL participants the special rate of $62 plus tax (total $69.68) per night per room. Singles and couples pay the same rate. Doubles (two persons sharing one room) will be billed at half the single/couple rate per person. (BE ALL reserves the right to assign roommates for doubles.) In order to receive these rates you must register on the following form.

Registered Name: _____

(please print) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St. _____ Zip _____

Please Reserve:

☐ Single (1 person 1 room) $69.68
☐ Double (2 persons 2 beds 1 room) $34.84 per person
☐ Couple (1 or 2 beds) $69.68

Arrive: June _____, 1989 at ___:___ AM, or ___:___ PM
Depart: June _____, 1989 at ___:___ AM, or ___:___ PM

For Arrival After 6 PM:

Accommodations are held until 6 PM on arrival date unless guaranteed by a major credit card or hotel deposit for the first night. Rooms not guaranteed will be released at 6 PM for prior sale. If you plan to arrive after 6 PM, complete the following:

Enclosed is my check or money order of $_____ (made out to the O'Hare Plaza - Hotel) for one night as a deposit for my room.

OR:

Check One: ☐ Am Ex ☐ Visa ☐ Master ☐ Dinr ☐ CrtBl

Card Holder (print name): _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date _____

BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE

June 7 - 11, 1989

O'Hare Plaza Hotel

CHICAGO WELCOMES BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE!

You are cordially invited to attend the 7th Annual BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE WEEKEND to be held in Chicago on Wednesday, June 7th through Sunday, June 11th, 1989 at the O'Hare Plaza - Hotel.

Since its inception, BE ALL has grown to be the largest and most exciting event of its kind, anywhere. Our first gathering was held at Douglas Dunes, MI. We then traveled to Ann Arbor (twice), Chicago, Cleveland, and Detroit. This year we return to Chicago where you will have the opportunity to meet more than 200 participants, many with their wives and partners, for a unique program of instructional, educational and social activities and events designed to make you feel, act, and look good. Yes, BE ALL is an opportunity to truly enjoy the pleasures of femininity.

The O'hare Plaza - Hotel is located in Chicago, just off I-90 (Kennedy Expressway) where it intersects with Cumberland Ave.; less than two miles from Chicago's main airport, O'Hare Field. The hotel is first class: Plush rooms and suites... superb convention, meeting and banquet facilities... plenty of free parking... and 24 hour courtesy transportation to and from O'Hare Field. You will be able to enjoy you femininity in a safe, secure, and hospitable environment where the hotel staff knows and understands your needs and desires.

Chicago is unique. Not only is it a world-class commercial and industrial center, but it is also noted as a center for the arts and architecture, and for its diverse ethnic and cultural heritage. This year we have expanded our program to include a full day of city sightseeing in our own private motor coaches with a luncheon at Ann Sather Swedish Restaurant. You will see Chicago's exciting skyline with three of the world's five tallest buildings; it's wonderful lake front parks; its museums and public places; the "Magnificent Mile" and the "Gold Coast"; and the world's finest collection of outdoor modern sculpture. That evening we will visit the Candlelight Dinner Playhouse for a superb dinner party followed by a "Broadway" musical and meet-the-cast get together. Come join us for this special day and evening "En Femme".

BE ALL is a non-profit event sponsored by:
Chi Chapter/TRI-ESS - Chicago
Crossroads - Detroit
Paradise Club - Cleveland
Transpitt - Pittsburgh
M.F.G.E. - Minneapolis (Associate)

DAILY EVENTS:

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7TH
- Registration
- Welcome Dinner Party

THURSDAY, JUNE 8TH
- Continental Breakfast
- Ballroom Dance Class - Jillian
- Chicago City Highlights Tour
- Lunch at Ann Sather Swedish Restaurant
- Candlelight Dinnner Playhouse
- Broadway Musical
- Meet-The-Cast

FRIDAY, JUNE 9TH
- Continental Breakfast
- Ballroom Dance Class - Jillian
- For Women Only Session - Prof. Cole
- How To Take Better Photographs - Mariette, Naomi
- Modeling School - Carole, Eve
- Media Luncheon - Mariette Pathy Allen
- Ten Ways To Dramatically Change (Improve) Your Appearance - Panel
- Getting Your Act Together - Wendy
- Buying and Caring For Your Wig - Rachel
- Doing Your Own Hair - Rachel
- Dr. Docter Rap Session
- Prof. Cole Rap Session
- Bar-B-Que Chuck Wagon
- Square Dance

SATURDAY, JUNE 10TH
- Continental Breakfast
- Ballroom Dance Class - Jillian
- Coping & Crisis Intervention - Barbara McCoy
- Seminar for Advanced Crossdressers - Kay
- Keynote Luncheon - (Dr.) Sheila Kirk
- Addiction Theory - Dr. Doctor
- Couple Communications - Prof. Cole
- Don't Worry, Be Happy! Attitude Adjustment Hour
- Getting Your Act Together - Wendy
- Dr. Doctor Rap Session
- Prof. Cole Rap Session
- "Summer Prom" Dinner Party
- Strut-Your-Stuff Talent Show
- Closing Ceremonies

SUNDAY, JUNE 11TH
- Farewell Breakfast and Brunch