

TGSF at SF Coronation!

The Channel
TGSF
TransGender San Francisco
(formerly ETVC)



TGSF TransGender San Francisco is a group for all members of the Transgendered Community. Transgender is used as an umbrella term that includes female and male cross dressers, transvestites, drag queens or kings, female or male impersonators, intersexed individuals, pre-operative, post-operative and non-operative transsexuals, masculine females, feminine males, all persons whose perceived gender or anatomical sex may be incongruent with their gender expression, and all persons exhibiting gender characteristics and identities which are perceived to be androgynous.

The Channel

TGSF (TransGender San Francisco, a California non-profit corporation), is a non-sexual, membership based organization serving the educational, social, and recreational needs of gender-gifted people, their spouses, significant others, family members, friends, and professionals in the helping services. For details about TGSF programs, membership, article submission guidelines and classified ads, please write to TGSF Secretary, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486.

ExCom 2001 - 2002 Officers

(Fiscal Year: May 1 - April 30)

President Aiyana Eveningstar
Vice President Rachael Janelle
Secretary OPEN
Treasurer Stephanie Ann Blythe
Education Ally Grillo
Outreach Kalani Makanani
Social Tianna Marie DeVil

Membership Report

Current 2001-2002 Membership as of:

January 15, 2002 211

TGSF (TransGender San Francisco) is a CA non-profit corporation. Donations to TGSF are TAX DEDUCTIBLE on both Federal and California income tax returns. Talk to your tax advisor for details.

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Ad Rates

	Per Issue	Six Months	Per Year
Business Card (3-1/2 x 2)	\$ 25	\$125	\$ 250
4x5	\$ 60	\$300	\$ 600
Full Page	\$100	\$500	\$1000

Personal ads from TGSF members: \$10 for up to 40 words per issue. We will not accept ads with a sexual objective. Ad deadlines are the 15th of every month. Send ad copy and check or money order to TGSF, Advertising Dept., PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486. **Please support our advertisers, and tell them you saw their ad in The Channel!**

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Landmark UCLA Study

FIGHT OR FLIGHT? OR TEND AND BEFRIEND?

Friendships between women are special. They shape who we are and who we are yet to be. They soothe our tumultuous inner world, fill the emotional gaps in our marriage, and help us remember who we really are. But they may do even more. Scientists now suspect that hanging out with our friends can actually counteract the kind of stomach-quivering stress most of us experience on a daily basis.

A landmark UCLA study suggests that women respond to stress with a cascade of brain chemicals that cause us to make and maintain friendships with other women. It's a stunning finding that has turned five decades of stress research - most of it on men - upside down.

Until this study was published, scientists generally believed that when people experience stress, they trigger a hormonal cascade that revs the body to either stand and fight or flee as fast as possible," explains Laura Cousino Klein, PhD, now an assistant professor of biobehavioral health at Pennsylvania State University and one of the study's authors.

It's an ancient survival mechanism left over from the time we were chased across the planet by saber-toothed tigers. Now researchers suspect that women have a larger behavioral repertoire than just "fight or flight." In fact, says Dr. Klein, it seems that when the hormone oxytocin is released as part of the stress response in a woman, it buffers the "fight or flight" response and encourages her to tend children and gather with other women instead. When she actually engages in this tending or befriending, studies suggest that more oxytocin is released, which further counters stress and produces a calming effect. This calming response does not occur in men, says Dr. Klein, because testosterone -which men produce in high levels when they're under stress - seems to reduce the effects of oxytocin. Estrogen, she adds, seems to enhance it.

The discovery that women respond to stress differently than men was made in a classic "aha!" moment shared by two women scientists who were talking one day in a lab at UCLA. "There was this joke, that, when the women who worked in the lab were stressed, they came in, cleaned the lab, had coffee, and bonded," says Dr. Klein. "When the men were stressed, they holed up somewhere on their own. "I commented one day to fellow researcher Shelley Taylor that nearly 90% of the stress research is on males. I showed her the data from my lab, and the two of us knew instantly that we were onto something."

The women cleared their schedules and started meeting with one scientist after another from various research specialties. Very quickly, Drs. Klein and Taylor discovered that by not including women in stress research, scientists had made a huge mistake: The fact that women respond to stress differently than men has significant implications for our health.

It may take some time for new studies to reveal all the ways that oxytocin encourages us to care for children and hang out with other women, but the "tend and befriend" notion developed by Drs. Klein and Taylor may explain why women consistently outlive men. Study after study has found that social ties reduce our risk of disease by lowering blood pressure, heart rate, and cholesterol. "There's no doubt," says Dr. Klein, "that friends are helping us live longer."

Continued on Page 3

THE VICE PRESIDENT REPORT AND COMMENTS

By Rachael Janelle

"TGSF is on the brink people" - Far From It!

Well where do I start? It might be better to tell about the finish of this year's ExCom. I have to say it has been interesting from the first ExCom meeting to the last one. One girl after the first ExCom this year resigned as an ExCom officer. The loss of Janice did have an impact on the ExCom. She had all the membership, website, and miscellaneous information and did not share it with any one else. Even today we are still sorting some of it out.

Thanks to Nicole and Debbie Cook who helped out to solve some of our problems with memberships and the web site. I would like to thank them for jumping in and helping out. We still have 12 members who we do not have addresses for. Lets put this year behind us and move on. We have a lot of work to do for the New Year. At the end of the month is TGSF election at the Blue Muse. Currently we have candidates to run for all the positions for the ExCom. We still have the March 28, 2002 event at the Blue Muse for any more nominations. All of them are very enthusiastic about being on the ExCom with new ideas and energy for TGSF. We have five ExCom officers who will run again from last year's ExCom. Again this is very important to have continuity for the old to the new.

What about Rachael Janelle? I stated in last month's *Channel* that I do plan to run for President of TGSF. I know I can make a difference. Yes, I have an agenda for what I like to do. But if I'm elected I want the ExCom and I to put together our agenda for the year. Plans for the pride week event are in the works. As for Cotillion 2003, I have already started to fill coordinator positions. There are a lot of people who want to help and get involved with our 20th cotillion. I'm very excited about that.

I plan to run for President once and do one more Cotillion. Two of my best friends just became Emperor and Empress of the San Jose Imperial Court, which I been a member of for more than 4 years. I was the Imperial Court Princess last year for a very short time. I resigned because of a personality conflict with the Empress. I just went to the San Jose Coronation and my plans were to be Empress this year, but things changed and I have been very proud to be involved with TGSF. Last year a TG girl from Chico was elected to ExCom but resigned, then she just became the new Empress of Chico. She is one of the very few Emperesses in the Court system to be transgender. We talked for long time about the way life works, and how we changed our paths. I plan to be committed to TGSF for another year.

The last event at the Blue Muse on February 28, 2002 - we all had a great time. About 45 girls attended and brought along with them 5 friends who were first time girls. The next event March 28, 2002 will again be at the Blue Muse with two speakers: Chris Daley from the NCLR tell us about the free transgender law clinic, and Chris Austin who has made a donation to TGSF for \$2500. She will share her story with us. I'm working on a couple guest speakers for the April 25, 2002 event. Hope to see you at the April 25, 2002 event, which will be election and a fun evening as always.

Was TGSF at the brink? I will never tell. Do not lose the faith with us now. We had a great cotillion that was profitable and just received a donation of \$2500 from an angel named Miss Chris Austin.

**Keep the faith and you will see some old TGSF/
ETVC this year.**

Fight or Flight?...

Continued from Page 2

In one study, for example, researchers found that people who had no friends increased their risk of death over a 6-month period. In another study, those who had the most friends over a 9-year period cut their risk of death by more than 60%. Friends are also helping us live better. The famed Nurses' Health Study from Harvard Medical School found that the more friends women had, the less likely they were to develop physical impairments as they aged, and the more likely they were to be leading a joyful life.

In fact, the results were so significant, the researchers concluded, that not having close friend or confidante was as detrimental to your health as smoking or carrying extra weight! And that's not all: When the researcher looked at how well the women functioned after the death of their spouse, they found that even in the face of this biggest stressor of all, those women who had a close friend and confidante were more likely to survive the experience without any new physical impairment or permanent loss of vitality. Those without friends were not always so fortunate.

Yet if friends counter the stress that seems to swallow up so much of our life these days, if they keep us healthy and even add years to our life, why is it so hard to find them and spend time to be with them? That's a question that also troubles researcher Ruthellen Josselson, PhD, co-author of "Best Friends: The Pleasures and Perils of Girls' and Women's Friendships" (Three Rivers Press, 1998). "Every time we get overly busy with work and family, the first thing we do is let go of friendships with other women," explains Dr. Josselson. "We push them right to the back burner. That's really a mistake, because women are such a source of strength to each other. We nurture one another. And we need to have unpressured space in which we can do the special kind of talk that women do when they're with other women. It's a very healing experience."

Transcending Transgender

Sponsored by
City of Refuge UCC Outreach Ministries

A support group facilitated by Janetta Johnson and Portia Denard; Where: City of Refuge, United Church of Christ, 1025 Howard Street, San Francisco CA 94103, (415) 861-6130. When: Every Friday, 6 pm to 7:30 pm. Food and snacks will be provided.



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March 3, 2002

TGSF ExCom MEETING MINUTES

The monthly meeting of TGSF's Executive Committee was held in San Francisco at the home of the President Aiyana Eveningstar, on Sunday, March 3, 2002 at 4:00pm. In attendance were President Aiyana Eveningstar, Vice President Rachael Janelle, Treasurer Stephanie Ann Blythe, Education Chair Allison Grillo, Outreach Chair Kalani Makanani, and guest (and temporary acting Secretary) Kara Flynn. Absent was Social Co-Chair Tianna DeVil. The meeting was called to order at 4:20pm.

Minutes:

There were no changes to last month's minutes.

President's Report

Aiyana reported that she has been contacted by TGSV. TGSV needs approval from TGSF because the tax franchise board says their name is too close to TGSF. Rachael mentioned that their name is too close to the TGSF name. Rachael called for a vote on not approving the TGSV name. The motion passed 4-0, with one abstaining vote.

Rachael asked Aiyana what can be done to help get the Channel out. Aiyana mentioned contacting Nicole to transfer data to Rachael or Stephanie Ann. Rachael or Stephanie can print out labels, and can accept the transfer of data on member addresses. Rachael mentioned putting in that the elections are coming up and that we could enclose something with the Channel. Candidates should indicate their intention to run for an office. Rachael presented information on potential candidates that she currently knew of.

Aiyana was going to contact the Community Center, but has run into a number of personal issues this past month. Rachael contacted them and found out there was no space. She talked to Pam Jost at the Center who has invited TGSF to take a tour. She said rooms are available for social events, such as the Halloween or Christmas Party, or for education events. She said the cost was around \$100 per hour. Rachael said we could put our name down on a waiting list, but wasn't sure we would need an office. Aiyana thought we didn't need an office as well.

Vice President Report

The San Francisco human right commission contacted Rachael and they indicated that TGSF was to receive a check for \$2500 for a settlement of an individual who [had] asked to have TGSF be the recipient.

There were multiple bills including \$670 for the printer, \$30 for printing charges, and \$275 for Kevin Anderson. Rachael thought the Cotillion made approximately \$3,500. The Design Center cost ran approximately \$2,000, the Saturday extras cost \$1,440, and Friday night was \$991. Jamie Fenton donated back the charge for the equipment rental. The date for the Cotillion 2003 will be January 25th, 2003. Rachael talked to Margaret at the Design Center about reserving it, and said she would move someone out of the spot for us. The theme will be "An Enchanting Evening in the Islands". She has contacted the Imperial Court, and there is no conflict.



The Gay Pride Parade is coming up the 4th weekend in June, and that we should start promoting it. Rachael would like Aiyana to help the new VP with the organization or and the building of the float. Rachael asked Aiyana for a budget for the parade. Aiyana said that \$1,000 should work for the event.

Rachael has set up the March Social for the Blue Muse on the March 28th 2002.

Rachael also reported that Jamie Fenton has made it possible for everyone to input new events on the TGSF website calendar. She will also be updating the Cotillion 2002 page with pictures from the affair.

Treasurer Report

Stephanie Ann said that with the bill for \$2,500, the balance is \$6,464.75. With the three Cotillion checks donated to the organizations, it leaves the balance at \$5,264.75.

Rachael suggested donating \$100 per month for education to pay \$1,600. The education fund is supposed to be a trust fund to be used to teach classes at The Center taught by the City of San Francisco College staff. Aiyana suggested rewriting the bylaws to indicate a general education fund, but not to give the money to The Center, and if there is a speaker that needs money, then TGSF can proportion money to them. Rachael proposed to have \$400 installments in the Education Fund.

Rachael thought the piano bill was still outstanding. There was further discussion on how much the Cotillion made, but final figures still need to be determined. Aiyana thought she might have more checks laying around.

Education Committee Report

The February Education seminar with Denae Doyle had 13 people, and was very successful. Denae taught how to express, dance, and walk as a woman. Allison thought it would be nice to send Denae \$100 for her support since she volunteered her services. She said that we have never given money because she didn't know what the precedent was and thought for a lot of them it was free advertising where some of them made thousands of dollars. Allison thought it was important to develop positive relations and proposed the \$100. All accepted the proposal. Rachael asked that Allison write a nice letter to accompany it.

The next seminar will be on April 13th in the Women's Building. It will be a makeup seminar featuring Brian Fenney, a San Jose beauty consultant. Allison will be checking for something cheaper or just a change in venue, and that we have more money for education. Allison concluded that all the education seminars lately have been very positive and also mentioned that she would work with Kara on any new topics.

Allison also reported that she was trying to contact Maureen O'Connor, whose expertise is in voice and speech. Rachael also recommended contacting Ann Grogan and the Women's Health Boutique.

Outreach Committee Report

Kalani reported that she was going to revamp the entire outreach procedure including the requests and procedures.

She reported that she had a request from the City College to speak on AIDS and health care for TG clients. Rachael gave a suggestion on whom to contact for help.

Finally, Kalani mentioned that there is a lot of turnover with the teachers and the mailings will help keep things up to date.

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MY MOTHER NATURE

It is a terrific responsibility to rule the world. If you don't believe me, try it sometime. First of all, you've got to get up before anybody else and make sure the sun is shining, the stars are put away and the moon sets. Then you've got to wake up the birds and the day insects, put the night insects to bed, roll out the day clouds, fill them with color, but not too long past sunrise. If it's the Arctic, you've got to make sure it never gets too warm; conversely, the tropics always have to be very warm to hot—unless it's a mountain in the tropics, in which case you can't ever forget its snowcap.

Bears must be awakened in Spring and put to sleep in the Fall. Every single damn bunny must get a new coat twice a year, white in winter, soft gray or beige in summer. Foxes are easy: always red. Dogs, too, since you can color them anything or make them any size. Cats are the very easiest, since no matter how they turn out, they all think they're anointed royalty and the most precious thing in creation. Let them.

Fish are the worst. They're always supposed to be moving (since they are, after all, fish), but because they live under the cover of water, which gets very dark and murky even close to the surface, they tend to get lazy and neglect their fishy duties. It's amazing how often I find them collecting together, loitering really, and making a general nuisance of themselves when they should be in school.

There are always crises to manage. Thankfully, once you get it going, the sun is regular as clockwork (ever since Newton, anyway), but weather requires constant attention. It's as bad as a Yugo. Worse. Just when you think you've balanced everything the way it should be, all the little molecules decide quite on their own that they'd rather be a hurricane. Or, say it's Christmas, and you've cooked up a lovely snowstorm for New England, when you're distracted by the hurricane in the Caribbean, and by the time you get back to New England, the snow has all escaped to mid-Atlantic (lot of good it does there!), and Boston is in the throes of a Christmas morning heat wave.

As if things aren't bad enough, along come human beings with their cars and airplanes, factories, farms and such, clogging up the works with pollution of all kinds. And the ingratitude! I tell you, it's enough to make a mother scream. They add all that goop into the atmosphere, and then blame me because the weather isn't what it used to be. Hello! I can only work with what I've got.

It's getting late. Time to put the sun in its protective tarp and roll out the stars and moon and wake up the insects and owls. My favorite time of day. Once it's all done, I get to sit back and contemplate creation in the peace of starlight. Of course, that's when a lot of the critics, with nothing better to do than criticize, appear on television to complain. "Wasn't it cold today?" "Where's the rain?" "When will it ever stop?" Then, to make matters worse, they pretend they're able to predict what I'll do tomorrow. "Oh, it should be sunny, at last." "Looks like more of that awful wind and rain." I get furious!

Oh, but what are you going to do, except something they didn't think of? Even Steve Jobs has critics, so I don't let it bother me...too much. Just be glad I'm not Father Nature.

Don't Forget To
NOTE!

Meeting Minutes...

Continued from Page 4

Old Business

Kalani had a \$100 check for advertising and presented it to Stephanie Ann. Rachael said she wanted to present Tianna and Jamie gift at the end of the month Social for their help with the Cotillion.

Rachael is going to make up ballots for the election. There was a discussion that some people should stay on the ExCom to help maintain continuity.

A discussion followed that concerned the officer awards and that each officer needed to have the name of who they wanted to make their award to by next meeting.

New Business

The group discussed the issue of the Renaissance's request that TGSF become a chapter of them. The benefits included some sort of insurance policy and a few other items. Stephanie Ann mentioned that they are dropping affiliates, but keeping chapters. After further discussions about the requirements the Renaissance set forth in their letter, it was determined that TGSF could not comply, primarily with the requirement of supplying all member names. Since TGSF maintains a confidential membership list, membership in the Renaissance cannot be maintained. Rachael suggested we donate \$100, but we don't want the commitment attached to being a member because of the membership addresses, the financial report disclosure, not [to mention] the \$7 per member. This was found to be a general consensus, but the topic was shelved until next month.

Adjournment

The next ExCom meeting will be held the first Sunday of next month, April 7th, at 4pm at the home of President Aiyana Eveningstar [redacted] San Francisco. Aiyana made a motion to close the meeting and seconded by Rachael. The meeting adjourned at 6pm.

Cotillion 2002!

Production

Video Tape Available!

If You Would Like One Contact

Rachael Janelle

at 408 [redacted]

Cost \$10.00

**(For Handling And Postage If Required
Will Bring Some To The End Month Event)**

Sunday / April 7 / 4:00pm

TGSF ExCOM MEETING

Back to Sunday's, the next TGSF ExCom meeting will be held at the office of President Aiyana, [REDACTED] in San Francisco. All TGSF members in good standing are welcome to attend.

Saturday / April 13 / 2:00pm

**TGSF EDUCATIONAL EVENT:
BEAUTY SCHOOL DROP-IN**

Please see the announcement on Page 9 for all the details for this great - and free - opportunity! Donations welcome.

Thursday / April 25 / 8:00pm

**TGSF END OF MONTH EVENT -
ELECTION NIGHT AND BOOK SIGNING!**

At the Blue Muse, 409 Gough in San Francisco.

Charles Anders, author of "The Lazy Crossdresser," will be on hand to sign copies of his brand new book! And while you're at it, why not take a minute to confirm the Presidential Appointees to your new ExCom for 2002-03!

Coming in May!

Saturday / May 11 / 3:00pm - 5:00pm

TGSF EDUCATION SEMINAR

**EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT
BRA'S AND BREAST FORMS!**

Susan and Sharon, both certified fitters, will be on hand for personal fittings, as well as offering many other tips. At the Women Health Boutique, 1115 South B Street, San Mateo. Their phone is 650-357-9236. For more information contact Rachael Janelle 408-[REDACTED]

April Schedule

BILLY DeFRANK CENTER

4-3-02 [7-9PM] "Moving Beyond Loss" with Janet Childs. Whether your loss is recent or years ago, whether your loss is relationship, health or death of a loved one, Janet will give you tools to move out of the pain and into resuming life again.

4-17-02[7-9PM] "Documentation as You Change Workshop for the T Community". Attorney Merissa Coleman will present and explain the documentation necessary to be legally recognized as who you are.

4-24-02[7-9PM] "The Soulforce Journey to Justice" with Kara Speltz. This workshop will have a short video and a sharing time about the work of Soulforce " a grassroots, non violent movement to stop spiritual violence against God's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender children.

4-25-02[7-9PM] "On Disability and Almost ready to Work." This is the Project Hired Orientation- "Assisting people with disabilities gain competitive employment".

4-29-02[7-9PM] "Stomp the Wildfire—HIV/Prevention Workshop for Gay, Bi and T men." Learn the Who, How, Why and When of staying HIV negative in a safe environment.

**Marianne Gallagher, Adult Services Coordinator
(408) 293-3040 extn 116 • FAX (408) 298-8986**

April's Birthdays

- | | |
|------|---------------------------|
| 4-00 | Phylicia Anya Morningstar |
| 4-00 | Joanna Wilson |
| 4/1 | Michelle Nelson |
| 4/3 | Elaine Lerner |
| 4/4 | Paula Bacigalupi |
| 4/8 | Davida Frazier |
| 4/9 | Veronica Smith |
| 4/11 | Michelle Ayres |
| 4/12 | Julie Freeman |
| 4/13 | Tina Kearns |
| 4/14 | Chelsea Grammer |
| 4/15 | Sharon Moriarty |
| 4/16 | Bommie Smith |
| 4/19 | Bobbie Williams |
| 4/29 | Ellie Anderson |

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Lingerie
Cosmetics

Calendar of Events - April 2002

OTHER BAY AREA GROUPS

Pacific Center for Human Growth (PacCtr)

A counseling oriented growth center sponsors all-inclusive gender support groups on every Friday at 8:00pm, 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. 510-548-8283

Rainbow Gender Association (RGA)

Meets 1st and 3rd Friday of the month 8:00pm at the New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose. Mail: PO Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170 or call 408-984-4044.

Sacramento Gender Association (SGA)

Blue Rose Chapter meets 8:00pm the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month in Sacramento. Write PO Box 162907, Sacramento, CA 95816 or call 916-364-7212 for meeting locations. Website: www.sga-tg.org; email: sga@transgender.org

Diablo Valley Girls (DVG)

Meets 1st and 3rd Monday of every month. 8:00pm at Club 1220, 1220 Pine Street in Walnut Creek. Write to DVG, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885 or call 925-937-8432.

DVG Rap Group (RCC)

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. 7:00pm at Rainbow Community Center, 2118 Willow Pass Road, Suite 500 in Concord. For more information call 925-937-8432.

FTM

A support group for Female-to-Male CDs and TSs; Holds open Informational Meetings and closed Support Meetings. Write FTM International, Inc., 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103 or call 415-553-5987.

TGIF

A social group for transgenders. Meets one Saturday each month at a private home in Santa Rosa for a potluck social from 4:00pm until early evening. Space is limited - Reservations Recommended! Call Diane or Anne at 707-███-███

Silicon Valley Gender Association (SVGA)

A new transgender support group meets at the Billy De Frank Community Center in San Jose on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. For more information, call 408-293-2429.

Far West Women (FWW)

A support group for TGs affiliated with the GLBT Alliance in Humboldt County. Meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 8:00pm in the GLBTA Center at Fourth and "D" Streets in Eureka. For information call the Center at 707-445-9760.

Santa Cruz Trans (SCT)

Bi-weekly social/support group for gender-gifted persons serving Santa Cruz and Central Coast. 1st and 3rd Thursdays every month at The Diversity Center, 1328 Commerce Lane, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; (831) 425-5422; 7:00pm

The Mid-Peninsula Transgender Group (MPTG)

A support group for the LGBT community that meets at 7:30 pm on the first Wednesday of each month at the Women's Health Boutique, 1115 South B Street, San Mateo - (408) 619-2908.

Central City Hospitality House (CCHH)

288 Turk Street, SF. 415-749-2167. Facilitated TG discussion group every Monday, 5:00pm - 6:30pm.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 5:00 PM CCHH 8:00 PM DVG	2	3 7:30 PM MPTG	4 7:00 PM DVG (RCC) 7:00 PM SCT	5 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	6
7 7:00 PM TGSF ExCom Meeting	8 5:00 PM CCHH	9	10 7:00 PM TransBay	11	12 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap	13 2:00 PM TGSF Education Event! 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA
14	15 5:00 PM CCHH 8:00 PM DVG	16	17	18 7:00 PM DVG (RCC) 7:00 PM SCT	19 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	20
21	22 5:00 PM CCHH	23	24	25 8:00 PM TGSF: Election Night!	26 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap	27 8:08 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA
28	29 5:00 PM CCHH	30				

TGSF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Year is May 1 to April 30 / \$30 Single Membership; \$40 Family.

Please Print / Check all that apply:

New Member | Renewal Member #: _____ | with Family Member | What Year did you first join TGSF? _____

Preferred Name: _____ Birthdate (Month/Day): _____ / _____

Mailing Name: _____

Family Member's Name: _____ Birthdate (Month/Day): _____ / _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Optional: Telephone: (_____) _____ What Name should we ask for if we need to call you? _____

Your Email address: _____ Website URL: _____

Would you like a link from the TGSF Website to your URL? Yes No

May we use photos of you taken at TGSF events in our newsletter or website? Yes No

Send Check or Money Order to: TGSF, PO Box 426486,
San Francisco, CA 94142-6486, or hand to any Board
Member at a TGSF Social.

Our Readers Respond

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

Calling all QUEER folks.... lesbians, gays, bisexuals, pansexuals, omniseuals, queer youth, questioning youth, trans youth, transboys, transgirls, transmen, transwomen, FTM's, MTF's, trannyfags, crossdressers, femme queens, butch queens, drag kings, drag queens, gender benders, androgynes, two-spirited, genderqueers, nongendered, polygendered, intersex,on and on....you know who you are!

I'm working on a very exciting project creating a book called Inspiration For LGBT Students & Their Allies. It is the fourth book of The Inspiration Book Series and is published by The Collegiate EmPowerment Company, Inc. This book will be a collection of inspirational, motivational, heartwarming, and educational stories for LGBT Students & Their Allies. I am one of about 8 co-authors gathering and editing stories for this project. There is no specific guideline for what is acceptable to submit. Send your best stories, poems, quotes, artwork, and ideas.

Some FAQ's:

- ** How long can the stories be? Our general guideline is that any length up to about 1500 words is manageable. (Most Inspiration Stories are 1 page. Short & To The Point).
- ** What is the deadline? Stories should be submitted by July 31, 2002 for consideration in the Inspiration For LGBT Students & Their Allies publication. Stories received after this date may be considered for future Inspiration Books and subsequent volumes.
- ** Who can submit a story? Anyone. Anyone who is LGBT (especially students, staff, and faculty), who works with LGBT students, or anyone who is an LGBT Ally. This book is being directed toward a college audience.
- ** How Are Contributing Authors Compensated? If your submission is selected for publication, you will receive 2 complimentary copies of the book within 60 days of publication. You will also be entitled to purchase unlimited quantities the book at the exclusive contributing author rate of \$8.95. (All Inspiration Books retail for \$14.95)
- ** How do I send in a submission? Submit via email directly to the publisher (Inspiration@Collegiate-EmPowerment.com). Please send your submission via e-mail as a MS Word attachment AND within the body of the e-mail, just in case there are any problems opening the documents. Please be certain to include your: (1) name, (2) phone number, (3) mailing address, and (4) email address with your submission, so we can follow-up with you.
- ** Publisher Information & Submission E-mail Address: Anthony J. D'Angelo, Editor In Chief The Collegiate EmPowerment Company, Inc. 1199 Sycamore Ave, Suite 200, Easton, PA 18040 Call Toll Free: 1-877-EDUTAIN (338-8246) Fax Submissions To: 609-397-0833 E-mail: Inspiration@Collegiate-EmPowerment.com
- ** Do you have any QUESTIONS? Please contact Lydia Sausa if you have any questions or concerns about submissions. Home Phone: (415) [REDACTED] (Pacific Standard Time). E-mail: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com (If sending an e-mail to me please but "Submission" in the subject line so I do not miss it.

Thank you!

Lydia Sausa

DEAR TGSF:

Hi all my name is Chanel. I'm a African American Transgender Woman, 30 years old, and I live in Los Angeles.

I'm the founder of a local community group called The Unique Woman's Coalition. We join together throughout the year to give participation to our community, whether it's fundraising, advocating, social events, or support groups. And now we're venturing out to the Internet. We do have a website and now an email group. Please join us and help establish Unity in our community, as you've contributed to other Trans causes, WebPages, events, issues, etc.

Currently we are contributing to the 3rd annual Trans-Unity Pride Day. Yes that's right, our very own Transgender Pride Festival scheduled for June 15th & 16th, in Los Angeles California. I hope most of you can and will participate.

I hope to communicate with you,

Chanel

Send email to: theuwcla-subscribe@yahoo.com, Visit The Unique Woman's Coalition at www.uwc.cjb.net or <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/theuwcla>

DEAR TGSF:

Rachael Janelle did a fantastic job with the Cotillion this year! I don't know any volunteer or audience member who had an unhappy experience. I'm happy that she'll be returning as Cotillion producer next year for the 20th Anniversary.

But there are already rumors that the talent & presentation phase of the Miss TGSF competition will be modified once again next year to eliminate all but the top two performers after a preliminary qualifying contest. In my opinion, this would reduce the spirited Miss TGSF competition to the dull prose of a candidate's night for town council.

Disclaimer: I have never joined TGSF nor paid for a seat in the Cotillion audience. However, as a Cotillion technical volunteer, I probably have seen and invested more in the competition close up than most people in the community. There have been some execrable and torturous performances in the past, but, hey, the competitors are trying their best and besides, no animals are hurt afterwards.

Being able to display a rehearsed talent is another measure of the skills which a Miss TGSF is expected to possess. Part of the Cotillion audience experience is putting emotional energy behind one competitor or another. Talent is the one category where foot stomping and cheering is encouraged. Taking away that part of the contest eliminates the audience's emotional investment in the new Miss TGSF. Short of paid professional talent, there is no certainty that another performing group can provide higher quality in its place. Screen and coach the talent selections to display the competitors in their best light. Use point deductions to enforce a rigid time limit from the first contestant meeting through rehearsal to Cotillion night, and don't worry about the occasional clinker.

As challenging as it is to be a TG out in the public, performing is a way higher level of anxiety. We all wish we could be so brave as to be alone on that Cotillion stage.

Gelsey Wong

Special Events This Month!

TGSF

Election Night!

Thursday, April 25, 2002
8:00pm

Come Early For Dinner!

At The Blue Muse

409 Gough St in San Francisco

TGSF Elections

and Booking Signing By Charles Anders,
The Author Of "The Lazy Crossdresser"

SAN FRANCISCO'S FIRST EVER ON-GOING FREE TRANSGENDER LAW CLINIC HAS BEGUN!

In a one-stop shopping atmosphere, anyone who identifies as transgender or is questioning their gender identity, can come to the clinic and get legal information on subjects like employment, housing, document changes, asylum, marriage, child custody, and Medi-Cal. The Transgender Law Clinic, held in downtown San Francisco, offers members of the Bay Area transgender community a free one-on-one private consultation with an attorney.

While the clinic attendees will not walk away with an attorney to represent them, they will get general legal information, a look at some of the legal options available to them, and, when possible, contact information for local non-profit agencies or private attorneys who can represent them.

It is recommended that interested community members call NCLR staff attorney, Chris Daley, at (415) 392-6257 x 308 to reserve a consultation slot. However, even people who don't make a reservation should stop by the clinic. Legal information on housing, employment, asylum, Medi-Cal, and document changes will be available in Spanish and English for anyone who wants to just stop by and pick it up.

The clinic is wheel-chair accessible. Anyone needing assistance in sign language or a language other than English should contact Chris as far ahead as possible. Every attempt will be made to accommodate these needs. Anyone from the transgender community who can not make a clinic, or who has an immediate legal question, can call Chris at the above number for assistance.

Upcoming clinic dates:

April 9th • April 23rd

Time: 7 to 9pm

Place: National Center for Lesbian Rights / 870 Market Street, Suite 570 / (Market and Powell). Reservations/Questions: (415) 392-6357 x308 or daley@nclrights.org

April 13, 2:00pm

BEAUTY SCHOOL DROP-IN - A TGSF EDUCATIONAL FORUM ON HAIR & MAKEUP

Tired of relying on women's magazines - or worse, your kid sister - for tips on hair and makeup? Well then here's your chance to work with a pro: Brian Finney, proprietor of Back Lot Studio in San Jose.

Brian will be holding a beauty workshop at the Women's Building (in San Francisco's Mission neighborhood) and invites you to bring your makeup kit, your favorite hair spray, or anything else you'd like to work with. He'll be happy, by the way, to answer emails about the seminar [redacted]@aol.com. We'll all have a gorgeous time!

The Women's Building is at 3543 18th Street near Valencia in the Mission neighborhood, San Francisco. It's four blocks from the 16th Street BART station. People driving should allow a few extra minutes to find parking.

Thank You Dinner

For Susan and Sharon

Of the Women's Health Boutique

For their Generosity
to the Transgender Community.

All are Welcome!

April 12, 2002 - 7:00pm

Tarragon Restaurant
140 S. Murphy Street in Sunnyvale

Please RSVP to Rachael Janelle
at 408-[redacted] for dinner.

NEW ONLINE SO LIST!

New online mailing list for wives and SOs of crossdressers and men who consider themselves to be transgendered; no topic off limits. Attitudes range from complete acceptance to really struggling. Open to women only - no crossdressers please! Women need a place where they can feel safe to discuss these issues. Write to Cheryl at [redacted]@yahoo.com and explain a little about your situation.

Photos!



Upcoming Events

Your Special Invitation!

ESPRIT 2002 - AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED!

I'd like to take this opportunity to invite all of you who have been associated with Cal Dreamin' to take part in Esprit 2002, the Pacific Northwest's premier Transgender Conference!

Esprit 2002 promises to be the best Esprit conference yet! For the past 14 years, Esprit has been jointly planned and hosted by The Emerald City of Seattle, Northwest Gender Alliance of Portland, and The Cornbury Group of Vancouver BC. If you come to Esprit and really participate, we promise you a full week of fun, learning, growing, and meeting new friends. That's right, you get to spend a full week "en femme"! Esprit 2002 starts on Sunday May 12, 2002, and finishes up one week later on Sunday May 19th! It is held at the Red Lion Inn in Port Angeles, Washington, about a three-hour drive from Seattle. Port Angeles is beautifully situated on the Straits of Juan de Fuca separating the US and Canada, and at the base of the Olympic Mountains.

We have a full slate of seventy classes planned along four separate themes, including the Basics of Crossdressing, The World of Transgender, Transitioning, and an extensive Couples program for those in a relationship with a Significant Other. We bring in nationally known speakers such as Sandra Cole, Peggy Rudd, and Anne Lawrence along with thirty-five local Northwest experts to lead each class.

And girl, do we have fun too! Each day features social activities such as a Prom Dance, Cabaret Talent Show and our special Graduation event for first time attendees. We also have a fashion show, lots of dancing, and an afternoon set aside for fun activities in the local community.

Did I mention our fabulous vendors yet? They are ready, willing and able to help you with makeup, wig selection and care, voice, image, breast forms, nails, jewelry.. Just about everything a girl could want! Plus we also feature a carefully selected list of vendors and businesses that welcome us in the local community.

And if you think this is just a regional conference, think again! Last year we had attendees from 18 different states and provinces, plus several girls that came all the way from New Zealand. So hop on a plane or get in your car and get to Port Angeles WA for a week you'll never forget! Visit www.espritagala.com for more information on our unique event.

Thanks! And we hope to see you at Esprit 2002!

Kelly Hansen
Education and Schedule Coordinator

Barbara F. Anderson

Ph.D., L.C.S.W.
Clinical Sexologist

Certified Sex Therapist

1537 Franklin St., Suite 104
San Francisco, CA 94109

Ph (415) 776-0139
Fax (415) 441-0936

Coming June 1, 2002

SAN FRANCISCO GLAAD MEDIA AWARDS - FEATURING SANDRA BERNHARD

Did you reserve too late, and get left out of the SF GLAAD MEDIA AWARDS last year? This year you can guarantee a seat for yourself and your friends by claiming a table "on-line". And instead of buying ten tickets up front, you only have to charge "one" ticket to your card, and can deal with the rest later... and the table's yours.

How easy is that? Reserve your table right now at <http://mediaawards.glaad.org/index.cfm?loc=sf>

Questions? Contact Kurt: E-mail: [\[redacted\]@codacreative.com](mailto: [redacted]@codacreative.com),
Phone: 510/[redacted]

Celebrities scheduled to appear at this year's SF GLAAD MEDIA AWARDS include:

- The Inimitable Sandra Bernhard
- Stephen Weber From "Jeffrey" And "Wings"
- Pretty Baby Brooke Shields
- And From Queer As Folk: Peter Paige
- ...And Many, Many Others.

The Thirteenth Annual GLAAD Media Awards, presented by ABSOLUT Vodka, will take place Saturday June 1, 2002 at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in Union Square in San Francisco. If you attended last year's event, you know what a terrific celebration it was - and this year will be bigger and better than ever. Be there as we honor this year's outstanding and inclusive representations of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in film, television, print and online.

Want to be real part of it? Then host a table at the GLAAD Media Awards. The nine friends you bring together will thank you for creating an unforgettable evening of glamour, laughter and celebrities. More importantly, you'll provide much-needed support for GLAAD's important work.

In return, you'll receive two tickets to the private, star-studded VIP Afterparty, which immediately follows the Awards. You'll also receive invitations to three underwriters' parties in the months before the Awards at San Francisco's hottest galleries and restaurants, exclusively for GLAAD's top supporters. At the event itself, you'll also receive premium gift bags and entries in an exclusive raffle for a great weekend getaway.

GLAAD's event coordinator, Levy, Pazanti & Associates, will help you keep track of your guest's reservations and payments and even send out official invitations on your behalf. Just fill out the enclosed form. Tickets are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Sign up for a VIP table by April 9th for priority seating & inclusion in the official invitation. The GLAAD Media Awards always sell out: don't be disappointed, sign up early this year!

Check out www.glaad.org for the most up-to-date information on the event, including information on corporate sponsorship, advertising and volunteer opportunities. Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,
Kurt Stammberger and Janis Callon
Co Chairs

Special Announcements!

NY Times Obituary for Sylvia Rivera

Dear Friends,

I think this obituary is a reminder of how much we owe to the transgendered activists who often stuck their necks out far ahead of more "mainstream" (often closeted) gays and lesbians in the movement that enables so many of us, as mostly "mainstream" gay men and lesbians, to live comfortable lives today.

I think this is an eloquent response to those gay men and lesbians who have at times, unfortunately, questioned whether transgendered people have any place in "our" community or "our" movement. It was actually THEIR movement all along. Most of us would still be living miserable closeted lives without the social changes kickstarted by heroines like Sylvia Rivera.

Bryan at [REDACTED]@ix.netcom.com

SYLVIA RIVERA, 50, FIGURE IN BIRTH OF THE GAY LIBERATION MOVEMENT

By David W. Dunlap
New York Times - 20 February 2002

Sylvia Rivera, who helped lead the charge — in makeup and full voice — at the birth of the modern gay liberation movement, died yesterday at St. Vincent's Manhattan Hospital. She was 50 and lived in Brooklyn.

The cause was liver cancer, said the Rev. Pat Bumgardner of the Metropolitan Community Church of New York, where Ms. Rivera was coordinator of the food pantry.

"I'm not missing a minute of this — it's the revolution!" Ms. Rivera shouted to her lover on the morning of June 28, 1969, when patrons of the Stonewall Inn violently rebuffed a police raid, setting a new militant tone for the gay rights movement.

Having been initiated into prostitution on 42nd Street as a boy (she was born Ray Rivera), she worried about "kids who started to hustle on the streets, as she had, at age 10 or 11 and, within a few years, were dead from a stabbing or an overdose or were locked into dead-end lives," Martin Duberman wrote in "Stonewall" (Dutton, 1993).

With Marsha P. Johnson, Ms. Rivera opened a short-lived shelter on East Second Street called STAR House, for Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries.

Ms. Rivera often tangled with gay political leaders who favored a more conventional public front. When the Gay Activists Alliance eliminated transvestites from its civil rights agenda in the early 70's, she turned on the group, Dudley Clendinen and Adam Nagourney wrote in "Out for Good" (Simon & Schuster, 1999). "Hell hath no fury like a drag queen scorned," she warned.

But she became less of a force to be reckoned with as she slipped into drug addiction, hustling and homelessness. By the early 1990's, she was living on a pier in the West Village.

Five years ago, however, she found a home at Transy House, a private shelter for transgendered people in Park Slope, Brooklyn, patterned on STAR House. There, she met her partner, Julia Murray, who was with her yesterday at her death.

Over the years, there were reconciliations with the mainstream gay rights movement. In 1994, Ms. Rivera was given a place of honor in the march marking the 25th anniversary of Stonewall.

"The movement had put me on the shelf, but they took me down and dusted me off," she said in a 1995 interview with The New York Times. "Still, it was beautiful. I walked down 58th Street and the young ones were calling from the sidewalk, 'Sylvia, Sylvia, thank you, we know what you did.' After that I went back on the shelf. It would be wonderful if the movement took care of its own. But don't worry about Sylvia."

TG Models Wanted!

I Love It Boutique Fashion Show

Girls needed to model clothes from
"I Love It" for fashion show on

May 30, 2002

at the Blue Muse.

If Interested contact Joanna at 510 [REDACTED]

or Rachael Janelle at 408 [REDACTED]

No experience needed!

TG College Student seeks information on Research Sources — please help!

DEAR EVERYONE,

I am a student at San Jacinto College. I will be doing a research paper about the effects on children when one of the parents is a Crossdresser. I am required to have 10 primary resources for this paper. Since this subject is so limited on availability of studies, I am asking each of you if you might know where I can go to find those resources. Hopefully there are some studies available. This Psychology course is Life Span. Any help you could give me will be greatly appreciated.

Jo Paully Pittsworth

[REDACTED]@prodigy.net

Director, The Society For The Second Self, Inc.
Co-Chair, Houston Transgender Unity Committee
Facilitator, Helping Transgenders Anonymous

CHANGE IN TGSF ONLINE CALENDAR PROCEDURE

I changed a setting on the TGSF calendar on the web page at www.tgsf.org to let individuals post events directly.

You will notice a form at the bottom for this purpose. Please feel free to use it (carefully) to post events. People will want to know which date and time, the location, what the event is about, how long it lasts, and if there is a cost involved.

Hopefully it will not be abused. If it is, I will remove obnoxious event postings. If the problem persists I have other ideas on how to make the event system work better than the "send it in and hope someone deals with it" approach we have now.

So please go ahead and post an event notice directly if you can. Let me know if we have to cancel a mistake, though.

Jamie Faye Fenton

Takin' Care of Biz...

TGSF BALANCE SHEET

(February 21, 2002 through March 17, 2002)

Assets

Cash	\$2,192.70
Event Equipment	
Decorations	\$1,000.00
Food Service	\$200.00
Office Supplies	\$50.00
Total Assets	\$3,442.70

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Educational Fund	\$1,600.00
Taxes	\$0.00
Insurance	\$0.00
Utilities	\$0.00
Operations	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$1,600.00
Equity	\$1,842.70
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$3,442.70

Monthly Income Statement

Revenue

Membership	\$60.00
Advertising	\$0.00
Cotillion	\$100.00
Donations Received	\$43.50
Social	\$220.00
Education	\$0.00
Outreach	\$0.00
.....	\$423.50

Expenses

Cotillion	\$3,191.15
Halloween Party	\$0.00
Big Shew	\$0.00
Pride Parade	\$0.00
Social	\$0.00
Education	\$100.00
Outreach	\$0.00
Newsletter	\$464.48
Operations	\$263.07
Donations Paid	\$1,200.00
.....	\$5,218.70
Net Income (Loss)	(\$4,795.20)

TGSF DONATIONS

*Our Friends Who Give
as of March 17, 2002*

Nicole and Debbie Cook \$17.50

Bless You and Thank You!

CONTACT TGSF!

ExCom Members

President

Aiyana Eveningstar @earthlink.net

Vice President

Rachael Janelle @hotmail.com

Secretary

OPEN

Treasurer

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Or tgsfeditor@yahoo.com

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Comments and suggestions concerning the TGSF
web site www.tgsf.org

Information @tgforum.com

Requests for information concerning TGSF and up-
coming events

Calendar @tgforum.com

Submissions of descriptions of upcoming events of
TGSF and other groups for publication in The Chan-
nel, the calendar on the TGSF web site, the TGSF
Telephone Hotline, the TGSF email list, and shar-
ing with other groups.

KANSAS SUPREME COURT SAYS TRANSSEXUAL MARRIAGE INVALID

Rejects Claim For \$2.5 Million

JOHN HANNA, Associated Press Writer
SF Chronicle - March 15, 2002

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — A marriage between a man and a transsexual woman is not valid in Kansas, the state Supreme Court declared Friday, rejecting a transsexual's claim for part of a \$2.5 million estate. The ruling came in the closely watched case of J'Noel Gardiner, whose right to inherit half of her late husband's estate had been challenged by his son.

The sex change operations took place years before her 1998 marriage to Marshall Gardiner. He died a year later, and his son, Joe, challenged the validity of their marriage after discovering the sex change. Kansas law declares same-sex marriages invalid, but it does not address marriages involving transsexuals.

Transsexual advocacy groups had praised the Kansas Court of Appeals decision in May that said the woman's sex at the time of marriage was the crucial issue. But the high court, in a unanimous opinion, said J'Noel Gardiner is not a woman and therefore cannot marry a man.

"The Legislature has declared that the public policy of this state is to recognize only the traditional marriage between 'two parties who are of the opposite sex,' and all other marriages are against public policy and void," Justice Donald Allegrucci wrote. "We cannot ignore what the Legislature has declared to be the policy of this state."

The decision was in line with a ruling in Texas that the U.S. Supreme Court let stand in 2000 by declining to hear a transsexual's claim about her husband's "wrongful death." In rejecting that case, the Texas Court of Appeals declared that a transsexual's female anatomy was "man-made," and said it was up to the Legislature to legalize marriages involving transsexuals.

Bill Modrcin, attorney for Gardiner's son, said he was not surprised by the Kansas ruling. Had the court ruled otherwise, "it would have been a quantum leap," Modrcin said. "Quite frankly, I don't think it closes the door to transsexuals. It just lateralizes the issue to the legislature."

Neither J'Noel Gardiner nor her attorney had immediate comment. In New York, an attorney for a transsexual advocacy group that filed a friend-of-court brief on behalf of J'Noel Gardiner called the ruling "thoroughly outdated."

"It strikes me as the Supreme Court trying to bury its head in the sand and ignore the reality of 21st century science and medicine," said Jennifer Middleton of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. "More importantly, it ignores the reality of J'Noel's life."

J'Noel Gardiner, who teaches finance at Park University, just north of Kansas City, Mo., was 40 when she married Marshall Gardiner, an 85-year-old university donor. Gardiner died the following year of a heart attack.

Attorney Sanford Krigel had warned the court that concluding J'Noel Gardiner's marriage invalid would leave her the right to marry only women. "You're creating a situation where you would essentially be approving what would appear to be a homosexual marriage," Krigel said.

The court didn't address that possibility in its ruling. It did [however,] grant the \$2.5 million estate to Joe Gardiner.

Phyllis Frye Comments on Kansas Ruling

KANSAS JOINS LIST OF STATES APPROVING SAME-SEX MARRIAGES

Today, the State of Kansas joins the growing list of states that have approved legalized same-sex marriage. The Kansas Supreme Court ruled that a person with a surgically created vagina is legally male for the purposes of marriage. Therefore, once again, any vaginaed transgendered woman can legally marry another originally vaginaed lesbian woman, and any penised transgendered man can legally marry another originally penised gay man.

When the Texas 4th Court did that in Littleton, we began to push through such transgender-lesbian marriages. For details on the STUPIDITY of it all, go to my website at <http://transgenderlegal.com> and read about the Wick's same-sex marriages. Also, read about the legality of same-sex marriages in 64 Albany Law Review 1031 (2001) which is posted on my website.

In reaching its conclusion, the Kansas Supreme Court could have easily been preparing a Sunday sermon for the members of any religious right, so-called Christian church. **It was a religious decision!**

The Kansas Supreme Court embraced the STUPID AND OUTDATED Corbett case out of England that relied on the medical science of the late 1960s. Let us hope that the medical profession in the State of Kansas does not use medical science of the late 1960s. Alyson Meiselman, Katrina Rose and I trounced this STUPID AND OUTDATED thinking in the recent law review that is cited as 2 Georgetown Journal of Gender and the Law 735 (2001). I wish it was on my website, but my webmistress has been busy. Hopefully soon.

The Kansas Supreme Court left the legal plight of the intersexed in limbo as it trashed Professor Julie Greenberg's law review article found in 52 Florida Law Review 745 (2000) which is frequently cited in my "Cider House Rules" law review article found on my website at <http://transgenderlegal.com> and discussed at length in the Littleton appeal to the Texas Supreme Court that was done by Alyson Meiselman and Me and is on my website for you to review.

The Kansas Supreme Court embraced the Karen Ulane vs. Eastern Airlines DECADES-OLD ruling which stated that while discrimination on the basis of sex is illegal, discrimination on the basis of change-of-sex is not. This STUPID AND OUTDATED reasoning was chewed up over ten years ago by the brilliant (and unfortunately deceased) Oregon TG lawyer, JoAnna McNamera, who pointed out that a person who was discriminated against on the basis of change-of-religion would certainly not suffer such a STUPIDLY REASONED fate. The details of her analysis are related in detail in my "Cider House Rules" law review article that is found on my website at <http://transgenderlegal.com> or as is cited as 7 William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law 133 (2000). The McNamera logic was also argued in the Littleton appeal that Alyson Meiselman and I made to the US Supreme Court (which is also available in our Writ for Certiorari found on my website at <http://transgenderlegal.com>).

That the Ulane decision was referred to recently in disparaging terms by the Schwenk Court seemed to have no effect upon the STUPID AND OUTDATED Kansas Supreme Court. The details of that analysis are related in detail in my "Cider House Rules" law review article that is found on my website at <http://transgenderlegal.com> or as is cited as 7 William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law 133 (2000).

Continued on Page 15

LEGAL CASES REGARDING T MARRIAGES

I have recently been involved with the case in Australia and the case in Kansas. In the former I was called in as a consultant early on and was able to make a difference in the arguments and presentation of legally pertinent materials. Marriage for Ts will most probably be legal in Australia as a result of this case. In Kansas my work was cited but I was not called in as a consultant and thus, only very late, able to offer constructive materials.

Below is a letter I have today sent to the Supreme Court of Kansas in a sort of amicus position. Unfortunately, it is probably too late to have any effect. Had I known about the argument and court case earlier I might have been able to do more.

Can I suggest that, if you think it appropriate and worth while, you offer my name to others that might be able to use me as a consultant to provide scientifically accurate information in the defense of their transsexual clients.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Aloha,

Mickey

Dear Members of the Court,

I write in several capacities. The first is as a professional sexologist with a study of gender and sex for the 40 years since my graduation from the University of Kansas (Ph.D., 1962). My second reason for writing is to offer for consideration copies of my past research findings and publications that relate to the case in hand. My third reason for writing is to counter information you may have been sent from those acting on emotion, not science, and with comments that have no basis in fact, or standing in the scientific community.

The matter is of such broad import that I feel motivated to move forward at this time. I apologize that the time is late but mention of the legal situation in today's issue of "Time" prompts my actions (thankfully your address was available from the court's website.)

The ramifications of any decision will be long lasting and I would like to think that my allegiance to Kansas and to humanity at large is such that, were I not to write, I would feel great remiss. Also, as current President for the "Society of the Scientific Study of Sexuality" and as a past president of the "International Academy for Sex Research," I write in hopes my comments will carry some weight.

My first comment is to the views of laypersons. They are often filled with emotional comments, which, possibly true in a tabloid way, do not actually attend to the situation as seen by the majority of sexologists, psychologists, physicians or sociologists.

Transsexualism is increasingly coming to be seen as an immutable trait and not amenable to treatments, as we currently know them. The phenomenon is seen in all societies and certainly also in those in which the exposure is known to warrant the death penalty (e.g., Iran). It thus is not a manifestation taken as a whim or desire to be some fictional beauty queen. It is a solution to an inborn psychic drive to be either male or female as determined by experiences and insights. The feelings of transsexualism are often fought against by the individual and only taken as a life expression as a last resort where the only remaining option is suicide.

I am inclosing several publications of mine that I hope can shed further insight to the matter. These publications relate to the development of one's sexual identity (how seen by the self) which is recognized, in the case of transsexuals, to be distinct from one's gender identity (how seen by society). From this, it is thus obvious

Kansas Approves Same-Sex Marriages...

Continued from Page 14

Although it is a sad ruling for my people, I can certainly understand it. Until more transgenders come OUT, get politically active, and FIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT for their dignity, more of this so-called Christian, religiously based legal-drivel will emerge. SURELY WE DON'T THINK THE BIGOTS ARE GOING TO JUST BE NICE AND GIVE US OUR RIGHTS BECAUSE WE SAY PLEASE! I suggest we take the STUPID AND OUTDATED Kansas Supreme Court ruling and shove it down their throats!

How?

I hope that transgendered women and their lesbian lovers, and transgendered men and their gay lovers will go to Kansas — with full media attention — and get legally married the same way we did it in San Antonio, Texas (see my website at <http://transgenderlegal.com> and read about the Wick's same-sex marriages). Also, read about the legality of same-sex marriages in 64 Albany Law Review 1031 (2001).

If anymore transgendered women and their lesbian lovers, and transgendered men and their gay lovers want to get legally married in San Antonio, Texas, let me know. The media there is very good to us.

UNTIL THEN, IF YOU ARE TG AND STILL CLOSETED, THEN SHAME ON YOU. YOU ARE THE PROBLEM!

Phyllis Randolph Frye
a.k.a. the Phyllabuster
<http://transgenderlegal.com>

that a male can develop to be a girl or woman and a female can develop as a boy or man. This transsexual development is due to the elaboration of the brain that follows from a combination of genetic, hormonal and other influences and most often against the social wishes of family and others.

The relevance of such medical/biological/psychological findings is such that the Supreme Court of Australia is presently in the process of accepting, for the legalization of marriage, that one is the gender in which they are married (<<http://www.wallbanks.com/news.html>>). I have no doubt that other jurisdictions will eventually follow suit.

Let me leave the Court with one last thought. To deny an individual the right to live and marry as only they can determine, as man or woman, will without justification, deny to them the blessings, rights and privileges offered to every one else. This will be, at no fault of their own, and without their having committed any legal offense. Basic human compassion should recognize this.

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Addressed to Phyllabuster List

WE ARE ALL MARGINALIZED

by Sue Sponnoble
[REDACTED]@aol.com

Phyllis,

Your most recent Phyllabuster makes a very important point. Your assessment is accurate. The movement needs to be much more inclusive on all fronts — Transgender people, sex workers, Black people, and "non traditional" people. I salute your advocacy and encourage you to continue the battle.

Also, I think it would be helpful if we could all recognize that the story is not entirely one-sided. Throughout our community's history, there have always been some activists who recognized that Transgender leaders were at the forefront. The names of many individuals are lost to history. Some names we do remember. They include Mary Dunlop who openly chastised movement leaders for a range of non-inclusive behaviors. Mary pointed out that Transgender activists fought at Stonewall and many other anonymous street battles.

God only knows how many Transgender activists lost their lives in the early days. For most, there were no memorials, no media attention and no recognition. Unfortunately, that is still the case.

We have all been marginalized. Tragically, we have done more harm to ourselves than the Christian fundamentalists have ever done to us. We must try to heal ourselves. We cannot continue to lay waste to our own people.

Too many talented and dedicated people have left activism as a result of internecine warfare. A decision to step back from activism is not a lack of commitment or a lack of courage. It is often the last resort after months or years of crippling and vicious attacks. We are human beings. We have only so much energy. We are all entitled to live our lives in peace, dignity and freedom. We are a small minority. Within this small minority, fewer yet are out and active. We need everyone's energy.

The foregoing is not intended to suggest that we compromise when it comes to the involvement of Transgender people or any other minority; nor is it intended to suggest that we give in to the argument that Transgender people be left out of ENDA.

On the contrary, we need all the "fire" of the movement, Transgender people included.

We should acknowledge those individuals and organizations that have been supportive of Transgender people. One organizational example is NLGLA, which was the first to include the Transgender legal activists in the Lavender Law conference. This first step, taken at Portland, Oregon, was important. It marked the time when our movement began an organized effort to educate our own people in larger numbers, about Transgender legal issues.

It is important for us to take a moment to acknowledge that not everyone is against Transgender people. Given an opportu-

nity, increasing numbers of activists will become allies. Education and outreach are key ingredients.

Why is this recognition important? It is important because it is a victory and we need to celebrate our victories. We are all entitled to recognize that our emotional involvement and sacrifices have resulted in gains. God knows, we have suffered too much already.

Celebrating and congratulating each other is a positive and encouraging form of energy. It helps to stoke our fires. It allows us to feel good about ourselves. It allows us to feel gratitude.

More than anyone else, Phyllis, you have made this all happen. Stop and give yourself credit. Give yourself credit for the national recognition of Transgender people, for the awareness, for the greater understanding.

And, for goodness sakes, keep fighting!

[Phyllis reply: yes, Sue, I will take some of the credit, but we are blessed with MANY leaders, and this is a TEAM effort. There are a lot of people that I do not know and who do not know me who are doing very meaningful grassroots work to educate their neighbors, co-workers and civic leaders about who we are. Even so, Sue, thanks for letting me use your words to educate us all about being marginalized, and I love you too!]

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A PROPOSAL FOR TAKING THE NEXT STEP IN OUR MATURITY

By: Sarah DePalma

██████████@mail.ev1.net

Director: Texas Gender Advocacy Information Network

Well it didn't take long for my E-mail box to fill up. I want to thank all the people who have sent kind words and expressions of support. I've received supportive letters from all over the country and I am humbled by your kind words.

I also want to thank the people who have been expressing their concern, disappointment, and anger. Some of the criticism is valid and will be addressed in this post. Those who sent hate mail have been filtered from my E-mail program.

To my knowledge this will be the first time anyone has attempted to create a national strategy for dealing with the Human Rights Campaign (HRC). This strategy requires the mutual cooperation of virtually every transgendered organization in the country. Some of this strategy could be put in effect immediately. Other parts of the strategy will require that egos be put aside and vested interests in particular strategies to be restructured. This strategy will test the limits of our ability to cooperate and may stretch the maturity of our community to the maximum limit.

To make this easier to read I've chosen to present this in FAQ format.

What Do We Do With Our History And Other Meetings Involving The HRC?

There are organizations across the country that simply exist to criticize the HRC. While I can empathize with these feelings, hurling vitriol at the HRC will not move us one step closer to our goal of protecting transgenders in an employment nondiscrimination piece of legislation.

Now before you start E-mailing me in anger, just try listening for a moment. I am not-not-not-suggesting that we take the heat off the HRC. On the contrary, there is mounting evidence that the pressure that has been applied has produced results. What I am suggesting however is that we let the past die in peace. The issue is not where have we been? The issue is from this day forward where are we going?

Whatever did or did not occur on lobby days past is over. Whether the HRC did or did not attempt to sabotage our lobby days is over. We should never forget our past but neither should we dwell in the past. The road to past leads to a dead end. The road to future leads to new possibilities.

So What Does This Mean?

From this day forward accusations of HRC misconduct must be focused, disciplined, and provable with who-what-when-where-how-on this date-our sources of information are. One of the rea-

sons the campaign against the alleged sabotage of lobby days has not been a success is that it has become a ?he said-she said? argument. For all I know every allegation made against the HRC may be true. The question remains whether continuing to press these allegations will bring us to our goal. My belief is that dwelling in the past leaves you living in the past. We must move forward.

Personal attacks are out of bounds period. This means no more personal attacks on Elizabeth Birch, no more personal attacks on the leaders of transgender organizations, no more personal attacks on each other. The back biting and backstabbing must stop. It must stop now, today, this minute. Horizontal hostility has practically killed the transgender rights movement. Vicious attacks on Elizabeth Birch (I plead guilty on this) will not win us the cooperation of the HRC.

I Thought You Said We Should Keep Pressure On The HRC?

We absolutely should keep the pressure on. This organization thrives on money. We should continue to ask our friends not to donate to the HRC until we are included in protective legislation. We should continue to picket whenever it seems appropriate. We should continue to write articles and educate the gay/lesbian community about our relationship (or lack of relationship) with the HRC. We should continue to meet with Elizabeth Birch and her staff whenever we can.

What needs to change is the tenor of our dealings with the HRC. Nobody is going to negotiate with a bunch of wild-eyed radicals looking to dump crap on them every time we speak to one another. If you want a wonderful example of how positive communication takes place I direct your attention to Courtney Sharp in New Orleans. At various times her organization has protested and at various times they have talked. But at no time has Courtney ever attacked. Neither has she ever released her pressure. She gets her facts together and talks to the HRC professional to professional. Guess what? This strategy works.

What Needs To Be Done?

Politics is a game played as a blood sport by people with the hide of an elephant. We have been out played and out maneuvered at every turn. We must learn how to play this game equal to or better than the HRC. Politics is largely a game of perception. In political language perception is called spin. The truth is that the HRC has defined our issues because they play the spin game at an expert level and we don't. We have to get over our fear of applying spin to our discussions with the HRC and we have to do it immediately.

We also need to become thicker skinned. Everything said by the HRC does not indicate the end of the world. Knee jerk reactions are not helpful. Well thought out documented responses get read. Like it or not those are the facts.

Continued on Page 18

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Message for
Appointment:

Taking The Next Step...

Continued from Page 17

Elizabeth Birch complained several times that the HRC talks to different leaders and gets different advice. I know this complaint is accurate and so do you. Now there are several ways this can be changed but all of the proposals carry a certain amount of pain with them. Choose your poison carefully.

a) My proposal is that we draft, appoint, or draft volunteers to handle any further negotiations with the HRC. I suggest five because four is too few in case of illness etc.: five because six could have a tie vote, and five because seven leads to infighting. I would also suggest two alternates. This committee would report back to a national transgender list perhaps once a month. Major decisions could be brought to a vote of the national community through an on line news group. My two solid nominees if they are willing are Katrina Rose and Dawn Wilson. Katrina because she is a solid skeptic of the HRC and an out transgender attorney. I nominate Dawn because she has worked in the Congress and she is wonderful at separating nonsense from fact. (Please don't suggest Phyllis Frye. Her health is really unstable and participation would be virtually impossible.)

b) I propose that a meeting/conference of every state transgender organization (TGAIN for example) be held as soon as possible. This could be done by telephone conference or on line. The goal of this meeting is to find a way in which all of our organizations would sing the same tune in any future meetings with the HRC. This would blunt the argument that the committee of five says one thing and the community organizations say another. Let's bury this excuse before it becomes an issue. It's also about time we all go to know one another. The more cohesive we can become the greater our chance of success becomes. Since NTAC already has many national contacts I suggest that NTAC would be a good organization to bring this conference about.

c) I propose that we create a national transgender bank of sorts. For example, Vanessa Edwards Foster paid \$400.00 out of pocket for the hotel room etc. in order to hold our wine and cheese reception. Others have put out similar expenses for plane fare etc. How we would raise the money and who would administer the funds is open for discussion. No matter how it is done, this goal needs to be accomplished.

The Hardest Issue For Our Community

Ok. I saved the hardest issue for the end. We must-must-must learn patience. Even if Elizabeth Birch snapped her fingers tomorrow and said that we were in ENDA, this would not mean we would stay in the legislation or that it would ever pass. Read the previous sentence until you understand it. Getting into protective legislation is one thing. Getting into protective legislation that will pass is entirely a different matter.

Someone wrote me a really nasty response saying we have people dying as a direct result of unemployment issues and how dare I suggest that we wait a year. To this person I say, grow up! I

SEEKING ROOMMATE

Passable crossdresser, soon to relocate to San Francisco, looking for passable CD/TS for roommate. Will share with expenses. Will need help on where to go and shop, being new to the area. Write: Gail, PO Box 4463, Columbus, GA 31904. Photo would be nice.

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must have told Elizabeth Birch the same thing at least ten times. The truth is that ENDA is virtually dead. We lose nothing by trying out a new approach for a year to see if we get better results. Furthermore political action takes time. A new piece of inclusive and passable legislation will require polling, drafting, and testing that will easily take six to eight months. We can either try something bold or we can keep doing the same thing the same way and getting the same results. Which is the more realistic approach?

Isn't This Just A Big Power Grab? Haven't We Been Here Before?

I want to talk to all the conspiracy theorists. Don't waste our time anymore. The proposals or others that are certain to follow are not part of some greater plot to consolidate power. These proposals are intended to maximize the few resources we have in this community. Truth be told the two biggest issues in the community is educating our community about why they should care what activists are doing and how they can participate. Educating legislators and assuring them that a vote for our inclusion is not political suicide for them at home is the other part of the equation. We don't have time to fight off your conspiracy nonsense. Leave your ego at home, roll up your sleeves and get to work.

Finally, A Thank You.

Finally I want to say a few words to the leaders of the many transgender organizations across the country. Thank you. Without your hard work and tireless dedication we would never have reached this point. Now I ask for your help in creating a comprehensive national strategy to deal with the HRC. The ideas I have put before you are starting points for action. Because I know this community can rip ideas much better than they can create ideas, let's set an end date to the discussion so we can move on the work ahead. I propose a discussion cutoff date of March 23, 2002. I further suggest we publish an action plan no later than March 30, 2002. Together we can bring about positive change. Let's start today. And please, let's remember the mantra of leadership: Focused, Disciplined, and On time.

Remember, the issue is not where have we been? The issue is from this day forward where are we going?

Significant Other Support - East Bay

Questions or concerns about your partner's crossdressing? Please call Julie at (925) [REDACTED], e-mail [REDACTED]@attbi.com or write to: Julie Freeman, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885.

ARE YOU A VETERAN?

Are you aware that there is a gender discussion group every Monday afternoon at the Ft. Miley Veteran's Center in San Francisco? The group is open to all TS, TV, and TG's who are qualified veterans. If you are interested and wish further information, contact Lorraine Hall at: [REDACTED]@aol.com or call 510-[REDACTED]

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