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12/10/78

THANKS: To all you gals who have helped financially and physically to keep this project rolling on track and on time. Also, thanks to all of you who have expressed support and encouragement for this projects. We keep it up, we will succeed.

THE SCHEDULE: For the next three weeks I will be out of the area, returning in mid-January. Another newsletter will be put out at that time. Then as soon as possible we should get together for another meeting. The weekend of Feb. 3-4 seems to be the least in conflict with anyone else's activities. After that meeting start soliciting memberships, and get out another letter. Then in March have a big spring bash, lot's of fun. Then start looking for facilities.

NEWSLETTER: In January this newsletter will begin to function as a communications and information medium for all interested and involved persons. This means reporting the activities of the Outreach Foundation, Tri Sigma, the International Alliance, Cherrystone, and any other group or person that would like to use this newsletter for communication purposes.

If you have an announcement or message that you would like passed on to others, send it to me and I will be happy to print it.

PARTIES: Tri Sigma's Media Night Thurs. Jan. 11, 1979.

Albany TVIC Sat. Jan. 20, 1979

Tri Sigma Thurs. Feb. 15, 1979

Albany TVIC Sat. Feb. 17, 1979

Outreach Foundation's 'Boutique Fantastique' Fri. eve. through Sun. afternoon, Feb. 24-26. This is a learning experience with beauty-care professionals. For information write:

Outreach Foundation, Suite 433 102 Charles St. Boston, 02114

Saturday Feb. 4, 1979 Our 'Any excuse for a party' party. We can bill this one as a business meeting for there are a few things we will have to cover, but that's no reason not to have some fun. So all you gals who offered to help on a party, here's your big chance. When it comes to giving a party I'm no Stella Jolles Reichmann. Please, somebody else plan it. Volunteers?

Saturday and Sunday March 24-25, 1979. SPRING BASH! Two days, let's do it right. Tina, your chance to shine honey. Shiela, let's put that vidio tape of yours to work. Dee Dee - a concert? With shoulder length black satin gloves of course. Kay? Nancy? Need good photographers, and perhaps a short course in modeling. Sylvia? A fashion show? Will need sexy models Elanda, and a gorgeous exotic EmCee Jackie. And of course lots of good looking women. Come on Gals, let's have a good one.

HELP!!! Need money (of course, hard to grow without it). Need more people who may be interested in this project. Send me their name and address, or have them write me and I will be happy to bring them up to date. Need material for the next newsletter.

Need a good name for our social club. Trying to think of one is keeping Patricia awake nights, and giving me cramps.



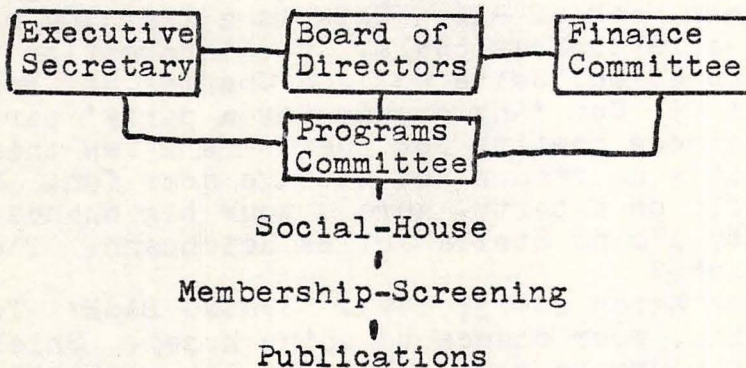
CONSTITUTION: On December 5, Deanne and I got together to put the final touches on our constitution. It seems like the natural evolution of a lot of work of a lot of people, particularly the I.A.M.F., of Ariadne, Diane, and the Cherrystone Club, and more recently of Patricia, Deanne and myself. I think we finally have a constitution that will work, one that is simple, and functional, and practical.

Before we settled on a constitution we had a lot to consider. For instance, although a national organization is in the wind, the main idea is the development of a sound social club. A national organization, as well as business ventures such as country clubs, boutiques, etc. would require a different form of management. Therefore, our constitution had to remain flexible enough to allow for a natural and orderly growth into a national program and business ventures, yet remain social.

Another consideration was power; how to keep it out of the hands of a single person or an elite few, and in the hands of the membership where it belongs. This brings up another consideration. For most, cross-dressing is a form of recreation. It is also time consuming, expensive and controversial (so is most everything worth doing). Crossdressers are therefore particularly vulnerable to such factors as trying to make a living, family situations, the mood they are in at the time, etc. Particularly tough to get firm commitments from crossdressers. So the problem was how to ensure that everything that needs to get done gets done without making unreasonable demands on time and money from the membership.

Another factor is simplicity, to make it as uncomplicated as possible yet keep it functional. Another is security, to protect the privacy and security of the membership, especially since facilities will be involved.

This is what we came up with: (Because of time Deanne and I tabled discussion of the by-laws and code of conduct. The code of conduct would center around respect, courtesy and security, the by-laws around the proper management of facilities.)



The Board of Directors has the power of saying yes or no, the Executive Secretary is an employee of the club - to see to it that what needs to get done gets done, Finance is self-explanatory, and the Programs Committee is the grab bag for everything else.

## CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I

NAME: The name of this organization shall be (any good ideas?)



## ARTICLE II

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of the - Club is 1.) To provide a social organization for male crossdressers and their families and friends.

2.) To provide adequate facilities for crossdressing, social functions and for storage of personal property.

3.) To maintain an atmosphere of friendship, mutual respect, and support free of guilt and fear.

4.) To provide for its members and guests social activities, special programs of interest to crossdressers, and access to commercial and professional services.

5.) To contact other persons interested in crossdressing, inform them of our existence and activities, and to invite their attendance and participation with the assurance of their willingness to abide by the Club's rules and standards of conduct, and agreement with and support of its objectives.

## ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP: 1.) Be at least 18 years of age.

2.) Membership is a contract between an individual and the -Club for a period of one year. During this period a member agrees to pay all dues in the manner agreed upon between the individual and the Finance Committee. Also, during this period a member agrees to comply with the Club's standards of conduct and any rules established and posted by the Social-House committee. A failure to live up to one's agreement may result in the revocation of membership.

3.) A candidate for membership must first be familiar with the Club's objectives, code of conduct, policies, and operating procedure. A candidate's application for membership will come before the Screening committee and accepted or refused on the basis of the applicants willingness or unwillingness to comply with the code of conduct and if the applicant's private objectives are clearly incompatible with those of the Club.

4.) The membership shall consist of four types, Special, General, Keyholder, and Life.

A special member's fees are \$30.00 per year, and \$3.00 per visit. A Special member's privileges include the use of the Club's facilities during regularly scheduled meetings, and special events (\$3.00 per visit), free mail forwarding service, and to receive all publications.

A Special member may participate as a member of the Programs committee, but may not be involved in voting concerned with membership screening and recommendations, and in voting concerned with constitutional changes.

A General member's annual fee is \$150.00. His privileges are the use of the facilities during regularly scheduled weekly meetings, storage space if desired, the free use of the mailing address, to receive all publications, and the right to vote on all issues concerning constitutional changes and membership.

After an adjustment period of six months a member may apply for keyholder status.

A Keyholder's annual fee is \$200.00. A Keyholder's privileges are the same as the general member plus the use of the facilities at any time.

A Keyholder is eligible for Life member status.

A Life members fee is \$600.00. A Life member's privileges are the same as for a Keyholder.

5.) Should any general or keyholder member choose to change membership status, she may do so without penalty, and without re-embursement. However, the twelve month commitment remains.

If for any reason a general or keyholder member finds it necessary to temporarily suspend her membership, she may do so without penalty with a



letter of intent to the Board of Directors, and by making suitable financial arrangement with the finance committee.

6.) A member of the International Alliance for Male Feminism, or Tri Sigma, or any other organization with a membership screening policy acceptable to our Screening committee, may become a special member for a period of twelve months for a fee of \$10.00 payable to Treasurer -Club. To be a General member or Keyholder member the annual fees are \$130.00 and \$180.00 respectively. Life membership fee remains unchanged.

7.) The General and Keyholder membership has the power, by way of referendum to approve or disapprove any proposal but before the Board of Directors. Any policy or proposal may be put to a referendum at the request of a General or Keyholder member. All changes involving constitutional changes, must be voted upon by the General and Keyholder membership at large.

8.) Any motion involving membership revocation or involuntary removal from office must be voted upon by the General and Keyholder membership.

9.) Females are subject to and entitled to the same membership requirements and privileges mentioned above. However, females may, by their own preference, waive payment of dues.

#### ARTICLE IV

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 1.) The Board of Directors shall consist of seven general and keyholder members. Three of these members shall be elected by the general and keyholder membership at large, one representative from the Finance Committee, two from the Programs Committee, and the seventh representative shall be the Executive Secretary. In the event of no Executive Secretary, a seventh representative may be elected from the membership at large.

2.) Each representative shall hold office for a period of two years. Election of representatives will be held each year (see Article VIII), with the membership representatives being elected one year, and the committee representatives being elected the next.

3.) The responsibilities of the Board of Directors shall include: a.) overseeing all phases of operations, and approve or disapprove all proposals put before it, b.) informing the membership of all decisions, c.) informing the membership when referendum votes are required, d.) conduct a proper meeting at least once a month, e.) keep an accurate record of all that transpires at each meeting, copies of which shall be distributed to each member. Unless otherwise specified, these meetings shall be open to the general and keyholder membership.

The Board of Directors is responsible for handling Club affairs efficiently and effectively. In the event of a failure to fulfill these responsibilities, any or all members of the Board may be removed from office by referendum of the general and keyholder membership. Such a vote may be called for by any general or keyholder member, and must be acted upon within four weeks of request.

4.) The Board of Directors shall elect a chairperson, whose responsibilities are to conduct an orderly and businesslike meeting, and act as correspondant between members of the Board when meetings are not in session.

5.) A quorum shall consist of the members of the Board present.

#### ARTICLE V

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 1.) The Finance Committee shall be responsible for the collection of dues and guest fees, the monthly payments for rent and telephone, and establishing a budget for social and special programs, publications, and house needs. The committee shall be responsible for any problem, program, or situation concerning finances not mentioned above.



2.) The Finance Committee shall consist of a chairperson, the treasurer, a representative to the Board of Directors, and any additional persons necessary for the effective management of finances.

3.) The chairperson shall be elected by popular vote of the committee, and shall be responsible for overseeing all committee activities.

The treasurer shall be elected by popular vote of the committee, and shall be responsible for maintaining an accurate record of all transactions.

The representative to the Board shall be elected by popular vote of the committee to serve for twelve months on the board of directors, and shall be responsible for accurately reporting to the Board all finance committee activities.

#### ARTICLE VI

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE: 1.) The Programs Committee shall be responsible for all social functions, and for the care and maintenance of facilities. The committee shall be responsible for the maintenance and improvement of professional and commercial services, maintaining an effective membership program, for publications, public relations, and for any event or program not mentioned above.

2.) The Programs Committee shall consist of a chairperson, two Board of Directors representatives, (three functioning subcommittees (Social-House, Membership-Screening, and Publications), and any additional persons necessary to effectively manage any committee function.

3.) The chairperson shall be elected by popular vote of the members of the Programs Committee and shall be responsible for overseeing all committee activities, and for calling for and conducting orderly and businesslike meetings when deemed necessary.

The representatives shall be elected by the Programs Committee to serve a two year period on the Board of Directors, and shall be responsible for accurately reporting all committee activities.

4.) The Social-House subcommittee shall be responsible for all social and educational programs, and for the care and maintenance of facilities.

5.) The Membership-Screening subcommittee shall be responsible for all membership programs, screening guests, making recommendations on membership applications and reapplications, and training members to interview and escort new persons to the Club's facilities.

6.) The Publications subcommittee shall be responsible for all Club magazines, newsletters, directories, and any other publication not mentioned above.

#### ARTICLE VII

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: 1.) The Board of Directors may appoint, subject to the approval of the membership, a general or keyholder member to act as Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary would work on the membership's behalf to assure the proper and effective management of the Club's affairs, communications, and programs.

2.) The Executive Secretary may be removed from office by majority vote of the Board of Directors, subject to the approval of the membership.

3.) The Executive Secretary shall be a member of the Programs committee, the Finance committee, and Board of Directors.

4.) The Executive Secretary's responsibilities shall be outlined in writing by the Board of Directors.



## ARTICLE VIII

ELECTIONS: Elections for offices requiring a membership vote shall be held the first week of - . The Board of Directors shall be responsible for distributing information of each candidate and ballots to each general and keyholder member at least two weeks prior to the election, and for totalling the ballots.

The newly elected persons shall assume responsibilities the first week of - .

## ARTICLE IX

CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS: 1.) All records and addresses are to be considered private and confidential. Only persons authorized by the Board of Directors on a need to know basis will be allowed access.

2.) General access - members of the Board of Directors.

3.) Access to financial records - Treasurer

4.) Access to addresses - Director of Publications subcommittee.

This constitution is the product of much thought and long hours of hard work. It has the advantages of keeping the organization democratic, and encouraging maximum membership participation, yet being able to survive with as little as one person, the Executive Secretary, to do all the work.

There is flexibility for growth and cooperation. This constitution could be used by many local groups, each with their own Board of Directors and income. The \$30.00 special membership fee could go toward a national or even international organization, and organization with its own Board of Directors, and its own magazine and communications network. A network of facilities, sort of a YWCA for TVs, could develop as well as mutually beneficial business ventures. The possibilities are limitless.

Damn I'm excited.

I LOVE YOU ALL,

*Merissa Sherrill Lyon*