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Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another,
"What! You, too? I thought I was the only one."--C.S. Lewis

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Items must be received not later than the first Monday of the month preceding the issue date in which they are to appear.

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CHAPTERS

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NIPPING WOLVES

This news arrived much too late for the April issue but, it is sufficiently important to give it space in this issue. Well, ladies and gents the wolves are baying at the moon and nipping at the heels of the Wizard of Bods.

For the uninitiated the Wiz is known to one and all as Dr. Stanley Biber, "father" to several hundred Biber Girls.

The wolves, in this case, are Doctor B's peers. The good folks of the Colorado Medical Society are, for the second time in as many years, baying for discontinuance of Dr. B's malpractice coverage.

Generally malpractice premiums are based on the number of suits brought against a member or members of the State Medical Association. So, if Dr. Quack or Dr. Hastyknife lose more than the average number of malpractice suits the premiums for ALL the members go up. This may be an unfortunate fact of professional life, but it is a fact. If Dr. Biber were the target of suits we could understand why the carrier and the Medical Association would be champing at the bit for him to ease and desist this procedure, but such is not the case. For those of you who doubt the trueness of the much maligned Domino Theory this could easily be the proof of that theory. Certainly, if Dr. Biber's coverage is discontinued each practitioner of reassignment surgery will find himself forced to make a decision -- stop the surgery or lose coverage. It is improbable that any surgeon will, as the insurance carriers say, "go bare" -- that is operate without malpractice coverage.

Two years ago the wolves were put to flight by the enormous outpouring of testimonials and affidavits from the top professionals practicing in the gender field. By strange coincidence the wolves started their heel snapping soon after the odious Meyer Study became public. By the way, the "study" is now part of the curriculum at State University of New York at Buffalo, to name but one, as an example of bad research and faulty inferential logic. Unfortunately the media which trumpeted the findings of the "study" originally didn't see fit to blow the same trumpets with the same vigor when refutation flooded in, so many people and agencies, especially those of the Federal government, continue to cite the study to "prove" the "surgery does no

damn good". Ah, to be a member of the Fourth Estate, just write "the facts Ma'am" and go on to the next story without a worry in the world.

Obviously if the best, and who of his Girls will doubt that accolade?, can be stopped from practicing his skills the less than best will certainly find themselves in the same position -- and not too far down the road.

Now that the spleen venting is out of the way let's get down to brass tacks. Now is the time for ALL you post-ops, whether Biber Girls or not to, get off that sweet and shapely derriere, take pen in hand and come to the defense of the Wiz. Before you turn away, please answer this single, simple question: "Where the hell would you be today without the work Dr. Biber did for you?" Ah, did I get your attention? Good.

Letters, attesting the effectiveness of the surgery, are needed by the bale. Write a letter with the same fierce passion you used to move yourself from who you used to be to who you now are. Okay, got the letter all written? Good on you. Now, go back and cut about 90% of it out. The Association isn't interested in the least whether you think Doctor Biber is a saint or a devil. What they are interested in is how you have fared post-surgically. So, come up with a clear, concise, factual letter providing, in straightforward simple words the following:

Specifically, what is your job situation? (Are you employed? If not why not -- a housewife, perhaps. Are you at the same job you held pre-operatively? Is your salary more now or less than before?) What is your relationship to your family? How functional are your genitalia? How satisfied are you with the new genitalia? Are you married? Do you have specific plans to marry? Do you regret the surgery? How was the hospital staff -- did you feel unwanted? did you feel animosity directed toward you? what was the attitude of the nuns?

Do not, repeat, do not send your letter(s) to Dr. Biber's office or the Medical Association. Send them to the Doctor's attorney Joseph Jaudon, 717 17th Street, Denver, CO., 80202.

HEALTH INSURANCE

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I have lost count of the telephone calls and letters I have received over the past four years concerning the question of changing jobs prior to, during, or after transition.

While a few calls and letters have told of success, the majority have been real horror stories, brought about by either the individuals failure to evaluate all possible alternatives, or a few gender programs and/or social workers virtually insisting upon a job change as a prerequisite to acceptance into their program or approval for surgical sex reassignment, without taking the time to explain the potential problems that go with changing jobs, identity, etc. Furthermore, they generally fail to take the time to explain ways of circumventing these problems without loss of income, insurance coverage, and self-esteem.

I could write pages about this self-and/or inflicted abuse. However, for this article, I will limit myself to the problem of health insurance and how to keep from losing it, should you change jobs.

For the average citizen, group medical insurance is an almost automatic fringe benefit that we seldom give much thought about. It is brought up during the initial employment interview and then forgotten, e.g. "Do you provide group health insurance?" "Yes, we have an excellent plan." End of conversation. Seldom does the prospective employee ask details, such as: "What kind of pre-existing clause is contained in the policy?" "What type of procedures are excluded from coverage?" "Does the policy contain a continuation clause, if and when the employee leaves the company?" These are questions, however, that must be considered before you accept or terminate employment.

Individual medical coverage is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. Some companies, such as Prudential, have experienced almost unbelievable losses through the marketing of individual health plans. Consequently, they are beginning to limit

themselves to group medical coverage plans only. Individual coverage, when available, usually costs between \$500 and \$1,500 per year, an amount that is generally out-of-reach for the average person suffering from gender dysphoria.

Even if you can afford the cost of individual coverage, other factors must be considered. First, few physicians and/or hospitals will accept assignment of insurance benefits for services related to sex reassignment surgery. This means, of course, that you will have to pay the physician in advance. Likewise, the hospital will require payment of a large chunk of your estimated bill before admission and the balance before discharge. Second, regardless of the type of individual coverage you apply for and/or obtain, you will have to submit your medical history. Pre-existing conditions are seldom, if ever, covered under individual plans, and it is virtually impossible to hide a pre-existing condition once you file an insurance claim for the condition. The Medical Information Bureau, which operates much like a credit bureau, on behalf of the insurance companies, generally will have the information on file, and you can bet-your-life the insurance carrier will check this file before issuing you a policy.

Okay, lets assume you are currently employed and are just now considering sex reassignment as a viable solution to your discomfort. Further, lets assume that you check your group coverage plan and find that it will more than likely cover sex reassignment surgery.

Next you apply to a gender program, are evaluated, diagnosed as gender dysphoric, and accepted into the program. (You now have a pre-existing condition.)

Finally, either because of your inability to deal with the situation realistically, or the programs insisting that you change jobs, you terminate and begin looking for a new job in your new role.

What are your insurance options? First, individual coverage is probably out-of-the-question. Monthly cost, the pre-existing condition, etc., make this option invalid.

WEDDING BELLS

The group policy provided by your next employer (assuming you find a next employer) contains a specific exclusion denying benefits for sex reassignment. Even if it doesn't exclude benefits, there is the question of the pre-existing condition clause. Fortunately, the pre-existing condition clause found in group policies expires after a pre-determined time, usually six to 24 months (average--12 months).

Option? Most states require that group policies have a conversion privilege, permitting conversion of the group plan to a individual plan. Usually the conversion is unconditional--you cannot be denied coverage because of your health status. However, most states allow only a 31 day period, following termination, in which to decide whether to convert.

Conversion policies vary. Some provide only limited coverage, e.g. \$750 per year surgery benefit, \$2,000 per year hospital benefit. Others provide the same coverage as the original policy. Regardless of coverage, they are expensive and, therefore, are nothing more than a means of buying time without loss of coverage.

INSURANCE WAR CHEST DONATIONS

Word has trickled down the old grapevine concerning those making contributions to the Health Insurance Legislative Project. As of mid-March donations have been received from the following people: Kelly (CA-73); Shannon (CA-142); DeAnne (CA-152), Rachia (MA-10); John (CA-50); Gerri (CA-54); Christopher (CA); Eugene (TX); Dena (CA); TR Graphics (made thru the ACLU) and of the course the GGA.

We know these people didn't make contributions so they could see their name in print, and possibly will be embarrassed by it, but we want all of you out there to know just who is "putting their money where their mouth is" and to whom you will be saying "Thank you" when this bill is finally passed for the benefit of both the contributor and non-contributor (the silent majority apparently).

And, of course, one huge "Thank you" will have to go to Joanna, for all time he has donated free of charge to drawing up and lobbying for this Bill. Her friends and associates of the ACLU TS Rights Committee will also be in line for a share of the thanks.

Beth (CA-129) was wed in October, '81 to Wayne. Beth graciously provided the picture below. I wish we could have done it in color.



Rebecca (AZ-16) writes "I am happy to inform you that, through my listing in the GGA Directory, I met a very wonderful man. After corresponding and finally meeting each other (he lives in Florida) we are engaged to be married, and he put a very beautiful diamond engagement ring on my finger -- WOW!! We plan to be married in August '82 after my surgery.



LONG ISLAND NEWS

Eve, NY-22, advises she has located a source for the FTM to purchase clothing and obtain advice out in the hinterlands of Long Island.

A little shop called Ellen Allison's Boutique in Roslyn is owned and operated by a lovely and talented young woman willing and eager to help clients with dressing, make-up, wardrobe coordination, body language/movements, etc.

To quote Eve "she is sensitive, discreet and can do wonders for the person just coming out of the closet. Since one doesn't generally find places, or people, like this on Long Island it is important that the ladies of our Group, out here, patronize her. Please call, asking for Ellen, (516) 484-4387 and arrange a private consultation. Her help enabled me pass in public".

So, you Long Islanders now have a place of your own and someone willing to work with you. Patronize it. Remember, if you want a flower to grow and blossom, you need to water and feed it.

ON BEING 'DIFFERENT'

May 14-15, 1982

Announcing a Sexual Attitude Reassessment (SAR) seminar designed specifically to meet the needs of gay, lesbian and bisexual people.

Sponsored by the Program in Human Sexuality, Department of Family Practice and Community Health, Medical School, University of Minnesota and planned in cooperation with Chrysalis: A Center for Women, Family and Children's Services, and Gay Community Services.

This two day program is a mixture of large and small groups, which will allow participants to examine their sexuality in all its perspectives, including physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual. Specific topics are listed in the brochure.

The fee for this seminar is \$110.00 per person, which includes two meals. The program will be held at the Program in Human Sexuality, 2630 University Avenue, Southwest, Minneapolis, MN.

For registration information, or to receive a brochure, please contact Diane Campbell at (612) 376-7520.

HELP WANTED!!!

Well, now that we have your attention we'll explain, by way of making a short story long, what help is wanted.

Joanna Clark, your ever hardworking "legal beagle" or is it "legal eagle"?, has been compiling, over the past few years, reports of court cases in which trans-persons have been involved. As practitioners of law know most civil cases are settled on the basis of precedent. Few judges like to be put in the position of having to set a precedent so they look back in the dusty old law books and see how similar disputes were settled and hopefully find a stack of precedents to cite in their findings. This, then, is how many court decisions are made -- on what happened in the past and how far into the past they have to delve is not relevant.

There have been many instances where the legal hassles of TSs and TVs have been reported in local newspapers -- as opposed to "scandal sheets" -- and these are what Joanna is looking for. So, if you see something in a newspaper, or magazine for that matter, concerning the legal actions of, by, or against a trans-person please remove the sheets on which the story appears and send it to Joanna. Joanna needs the names of the individuals involved, their attorney's names and the place and dates so if the name and date of the publication are included she will have an easier time tracking the information down. She will then do what is necessary to get the "real" information needed from the court or parties involved and can determine whether or not to cite these cases when dealing with similar situations in the future for others. Now, be sure and send everything you happen to see since one never knows when a precedent will come in handy.

Joanna's address is Joanna M. Clark, 31815 Camino Capistrano, Suite L, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675. (Yes, that's where the swallows come home to -- as the fabled song sez.)

AN ADVENTURE OF COURTNEY DAVIS

"The Adventures of Courtney Davis" is a platform in which readers of The Phoenix may submit their own humorous, dramatic, harrowing or just plain embarrassing stories. We have chosen the neuter-gender fictitious name Courtney Davis so our FTM and MTF readers will be more willing to tell their adventures under a cloak of anonymity. You need not identify yourself when sending us your story. So come on! Let's hear yours.

A Trip to New York
by Ann (IL-14)

Being a hot-blooded American male I love females and their beautiful clothing. My intense desire for the latter has provided me a life of joy and happiness mixed with sorrow and sadness and I'd like to tell you about it.

I have early recollections of wanting to dress as a girl and secretly doing so with Mother's clothing. Mother's much younger sister came to live with us when I was in first grade and she delighted in putting my hair up in curlers, putting make-up on me and dressing me in her lingerie and shoes. She was very small, wearing a size 5 dress and size 4 shoes, so they fit me quite well.

My growing up was entwined with escapes into the world of lace and perfume. Motivation to excell in school was always the result of periods of being my female-self. All my years up to and through college were normal in that my release from tension was always a reality, however difficult it was at times.

Adult life made me more aware of my need to express myself as the woman I wanted to be. It took three marriages to find the one woman who understood my desires and needs. She filled me with a joy and happiness I didn't think I'd ever find.

Our marriage is blessed with twin sons and a good life with the proper mixture of work, community service, church social activities and most important of all, several outings each month as lady-friends.

My business requires my being away from home much of the time so it is only natural that my wife accompany me. It's on these trips that we go out as lady-friends. My life as a woman has always been kept secret from our sons -- and still is.

Through the years we have visited just about every city within a few hundred miles of our home. We always stay at the largest and best motels and going out as girl-friends always follows the same routine.

We usually check into the motel late in the afternoon and I immediately begin my transformation into the woman I have always wanted to be. I always dressed very properly and conservatively so as not to draw attention to myself. I always wore low-heeled shoes in public. The procedure to become a well dressed middle-aged woman usually took two hours, which would allow my wife time to shop or sightsee. When she returned I was no longer the man with whom she had checked in but her lady friend, all dressed and ready for a night on the town. Most nights we'd go to dinner and see a play (musical or whatever) or a movie or attend a sporting event, or a concert or just go shopping. All of our outings occurred at night. As I stated, I always dressed very conservatively and wore low heels so no one would have cause to take a second look. I might add, that in all our years in public I have never been read. My wife has encouraged me to be more daring in the way I dress in public, saying "Stop being an old lady -- you're very convincing and could dress more attractively." Deep inside I wanted nothing more, but my concern to remain secure overruled her wishes for me to wear higher heels and more feminine clothing.

Writing this was prompted by what happened last summer and I'm certain it will be of interest to one and all.

As I indicated, most of my dressing occurred out of town and very seldom at home because of the boys although I do wear pretty things at home when the boys are at school or gone for a few hours.

It seem to be taking me forever to get the reason for writing this, but here goes (finally).

Our boys were going to spend a week with their grandparents in California and I should have suspected something when my wife volunteered to drive them to the airport. As she was leaving she whispered into my ear "Why don't you slip into the pretty things I left upstairs for you and be a lady when I get back?"

Because I know you're interested in the details I'll tell you what happened next -- step by step.

I had shaved my legs the day before because I knew I'd be spending some time as a woman while the boys were away so it didn't take me too long to bathe and get ready to slip into the things so neatly laid out on the bed for me.

First I put on the suntan pantyhose and the white padded girdle, a white longline C-cup bra -- it's the only C-cup I own as all the others are B's. I stepped into the full-skirted full-length white slip and tucked the darling short sleeved blouse with the Peter Pan collar she had bought for me into the waist of a straight-cut beige skirt before stepping into the new three inch heeled pumps. I was just putting the finishing touches on my make-up when my wife returned. I expected we would spend the evening at home watching television as two ladies but she said she was going to dress and that she had a surprise for me -- little did I know what would happen next.

All my questions were answered with "Please trust me.", which I did. After dressing -- in a skirt, blouse and heels -- she asked me to follow her to the garage (we have a three car garage attached to the house). Once I was in the passenger side of the stationwagon she asked me crouch down while she drove out of the garage and down the street in broad daylight. I asked where we were going and got "Trust me dear." as a response. I noticed several suitcases in the back of the stationwagon and before I knew what had happened we were at O'hare Airport, on a plane and on our way to New York City.

After we'd been airborne for half an hour or so she said "For years we have been living this impersonation by sneaking out of town for a night out as two old ladies and I've had it. If you want to be a woman you're going to have to learn to be one all the time -- not just at night and you're going to have to stop dressing like an old lady.

"We are going to spend the entire week in New York and there isn't one item of male clothing in those suitcases. And you had better act the way I expect you to or I'll never go out with Ann again."

Well, you can imagine how I felt. Deep inside I'd always wanted to do just this very thing and yet my desire to remain unnoticed by wearing ultra-conservative things had always been uppermost in my mind. She also told me that I would have to be the "leader" while we were in New York. You see, in the past, she had always spoken for both of us, ordering our food and drinks and so on.

I was never so nervous in my life. The room was reserved in my feminine name and I spoke to the desk clerk in a slow, low tone and was treated just fine. The clerk was very polite and a gentleman and I just felt warm all over by the way I was accepted.

While unpacking my suitcase I noticed none of my "old lady clothes" were in it. In addition to the new skirt and blouse she had bought for me there was a very dressy black skirt, a long sleeved black blouse for evening wear and a pretty light summer dress. She had purchased and packed four pairs of shoes for me and they all had 3 or 4 inch heels.

It was obvious she had been planning this week for some time because we had tickets for three plays, two baseball games and one afternoon piano concert.

We also shopped and went on an afternoon sightseeing bus tour of the "Big Apple". Never before had I realized how well I passed. I had always had a fear of being out in broad daylight but after the first day I didn't think of myself as anything other than a total female.

Wednesday evening the most memorable event of the trip occurred when we went to dinner and a play in long gowns. About four years ago I had purchased the most lovely black gown with large red roses on the skirt, sheer long sleeves and a high neck. I had never worn it out anywhere and I might have gained a few pounds in the interium so it fit very well -- if you know what I mean. With it I wore Barely Black hose, a padded black girdle, a B-cup longline bra, a long black half-slip, golden sandals with 3 inch heels and I carried a gold evening bag.

My first few days in New York found me with sore feet and legs. Let me tell you, it's something to wear 3 or 4 inch heels

all the time. But, by the time we were ready to leave I was used to them.

We both had a simply grand and marvelous time. I now feel more much more at ease and have no fear of wearing very feminine clothing in public and can adjust to the higher heels. Because of our trip to New York we are planning two more trips next year.

Oh how happy I am now that I can, at long last, truly express myself as the woman I have always wanted to be -- and, no more "old lady clothes" for me.



YOUR VOICE AND YOU

by Doreen Daniels, M.S.

Speech and Language Pathologist

Your voice is a bold trademark which accentuates your individuality. It gives the listener of your speech information regarding what part of the country you are living in or were raised, your educational level, cultural background, economic status, health, posture and gender.

Voices often inform the listener of the speaker's beliefs, attitudes and outlook on life. The person in transition from male to female often finds the voice is a lingering problem. Because female hormones do not affect pitch, as male hormones do, the voice is often the last stumbling block in asserting femininity. Often transitional people, and the FTM crossdresser out in public, attempt to sound more feminine by raising the pitch of their voice. This causes vocal strain and abuse of the vocal cords which may result in serious, permanent pathology. However, there are many other parameters of vocal patterns and speech that can be manipulated to create a speech pattern that listeners identify as female.

A person's ability and success in creating and using a new speech pattern depends on many factors. However, everyone can benefit from learning about voice mechanisms and how it works. Contact with a voice specialist can also increase the overall confidence of the speaker in addition to the factors mentioned above. Any voice specialist or speech/language pathologist holding certification with the American Speech, Language, Hearing Association can provide such vocal training and education. Often a specialist can be recommended by friends who have gone through such a program. Many voice specialists run one-day workshops, seminars, evening sessions and small group instruction sessions to accommodate varying schedules and pocketbooks.

----- CALIFORNIA GG -----

ATTRACTIVE White female, mid-30's would like to meet SINGLE hetero-TV for dating/relationship. I'm easy-going, intelligent, caring and sincere. I enjoy skiing, dining out, reading, walks along the beach and quiet evenings at home. Seeking a male professional with similar interests and characteristics. No bisexuals or TSs please.

Write GGA, attn CA-301, PO Box 62283, Sunnyvale, CA 94088

DECEMBER DREAM
by Valerie
(Az Subscriber)

I turned slightly in the big arm-chair, crossing one nylon clad knee over the other and settled deeper into the chair's upholstery and my own languor. Vogue was open on my lap and I turned the pages slowly, seeing only partly fabric, color and skirt length. My own attention was directed to my own skirt, Nile green and to its fullness which spread across the width of the chair and my knees; I was even more conscious of a feeling of well being which spread throughout my body like a warm fog giving me a sensation of delicious relaxation.

After a while I replaced the magazine on the coffee table, rose from my chair, stretched and walked to the window to adjust the blinds. Across the park buildings were silhouettes against a western sky in shocking coral which almost matched the color of a dress I adored. Down, in the street below my apartment, people walked with quick steps, bending slightly into a cold December wind. Most carried bundles or shopping bags which bulged and swayed; one man struggled with a Christmas tree which, in the morning, I knew would be just glorious with lights, tinsel, brightly colored ornaments and a full skirt of gaily wrapped packages.

I felt strange. Intensely so, and wondering why, I walked into the bedroom, flipped the light switch, turned to look into a full-length mirror and gasp. The image looking back at me was real! Not an imposter, not a strong-jawed impersonator with big feet, but a real, live beautiful woman. I was blonde with large, expressive blue eyes, delicate features and a sensational body.

"Oh, my God." I cried, "Thank you. Thank you for this miracle." I closed my eyes and euphoric with rapture I sought Him for understanding and, as I did so, my doorbell rang.

My first reaction was one of terror, but looking at myself again, I told myself I had nothing to fear and went to the door. I peeked through the peephole, recognized my father and opened the door. As he entered he showed no surprise and turned and stood quietly while I closed and relocked the door. I remained mot-

ionless, breathless and I stared into his eyes while he looked at me. He was so tall, so straight, so strong.

At last. "You're very beautiful", he said.

"Thank you."

"This is what you've always wanted, isn't it." It was a statement, not a question. He smiled a wonderful smile and held out his arms to me.

"Yes. Yes. Oh my God, yes!" My words became winged with gold and soared through my apartment. I rushed into his arms and while he held me I sobbed and relished the hot tears of happiness running down my cheeks.

Not far from my ear there was the sound of a click, followed instantly by music from the radio-alarm which brought me awake, out of my dreams. I swore softly while my hairy, muscular arm reached to the control and brought quiet, again, into the room.

"Damn!"

It had been such a lovely dream.

"Damn! Damn! Damn!"

I lay quietly for a moment with closed eyes, thinking about my dream, and I wanted to cry. But men don't cry. Certainly not a man who fought in a war and who was, at present, industriously climbing steps toward top management of a major bank. No, no tears.

I turned toward my wife who continued to sleep and who would sleep through a small war but whom I had not awakened. Propping myself up on an elbow I stared at her; her thick black hair fanned out on the pillow, her features, fragile as always, were softer in the half-light. I loved her deeply and passionately and, as well, I wanted to be her. I leaned over and kissed her tenderly on the mouth, on the cheek, I nibbled on the lobe of her ear and said softly "Wake up, my darling. It's time for us to get ready to go out into the real world."

STOP!

Somehow the nurse hadn't been alerted to the fact that two office surgery procedures scheduled for one afternoon had been transposed. Walking into the room where she thought she was supposed to prep a sebaceous cyst she said cheerily to the patient anxiously awaiting his vasectomy "Would you mind showing me your little thing before the doctor cuts it off"

MAIL BAG



GAY OLYMPICS
TO BE HELD IN
SAN FRANCISCO

The first Gay Olympics Games will be held, in part, in San Francisco's Kezar Stadium August 28 - September 4th, 1982.

Contests in basketball, billiards, bowling, boxing, cycling, golf, marathon, physique, powerlifting, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, Track and Field, volleyball and for both males and females will be held.

Additionally there will be both rugby and wrestling for men only.

For additional information call (408) 861-0882 or write G.O.C., Post Office Box 14874, San Francisco, CA 94114

Dear Editor,

Help! I'm on the verge of changing my phone number. I've never minded taking phone calls for my husband, but recently our phone has gone crazy with thousands of calls from women all over the country asking for "Bill". It's as if he were advertising for calls. I couldn't understand it, and he was getting upset. I was reading the March issue of the Phoenix and lo and behold! there on the inside back cover was a BIG notice "Feel like you're the only one?call....for the female-to-female -- ask for Bill."

Gosh, maybe you should pay your proof-reader more.

Wife of Bill

Dear WOB,

All those calls seem to indicate there are a lot more Phoenix readers out there than we know about -- and apparently a lot of the GGs are into "she-ing and she-ing". Or, mayhaps they think a "female-to-female" is someone who has gone full cycle (from she to he to she). But, seriously, the typo and misspelling rate has declined dramatically since the first of the year when Marie volunteered to help with the editing. Now each article is gone over three or four times by two people rather than only one as before, but still a goof is missed occasionally.

Editor

Dear Editors,

This is in response to Beverly's letter in the February Phoenix. I asked Georgia at a meeting and her answer was, as I expected, "I can't print them if I don't get them."

So, where do we start? I joined the San Jose Chapter in October '81 and every meeting has uncovered something new for me. Just finding out you are not the only TV in the world and this behavior is not as far out as it used to be considered is something.

I've been a practicing TV for about 50 years and have continued for many reasons (pleasure, stimulation, enjoyment, entertainment, etc.).

I told my wife about my crossdressing before we were married and I've promised her many times that I would stop, but I've always started again.

CHAPTER CHATTER!!!

PORTLAND. The Northwest Chapter of the GGA got off to a roaring start in 1982. This newest Chapter of ladies from the Pacific Northwest based in Portland held their first organizational meeting on January 4th.

Olivia (OR-1) was elected President, Carol - Vice-president, Ellen (OR-2) Corresponding Secretary and Linda Ann, Treasurer. Olivia was prevailed upon to accept the responsibilities of NW Area Coordinator.

The second meeting was held at, Darcelle XV, 208 NW 3rd Avenue, a local restaurant show lounge in Portland on February 4th and was attended by 18 ladies from the Area. After a wonderful gourmet dinner, prepared with special care by Shirley, their chef, the group was entertained by Darcelle XV and Company who perform nightly and are quite famous in the Portland Area. Darcelle, our hostess, invited all the ladies back as her guests in future months for another party.

Anyone interested in contact this Chapter may do so by writing: Northwest Chapter, PO Box 13173, Portland, OR 97213

SAN FRANCISCO. The meeting of February 10th was well attended and since it was "Picture Night" flashbulbs popped with blinding frequency. Diahanna used 2 packs of color film with her Polaroid XR-70. Jean, sans camera, brought some delightful pictures of herself. (Anyone need a maid?). The several "first-nighters" expressed their pleasure in "finally meeting others" and will be at future meetings.

SAN JOSE. The meeting of February 19th had a large number of members and non-members in attendance. Two new members, Jennifer (CA-186) and Sandy (CA-187) were welcomed to the meeting. Dr. Millie Brown, therapist to many was a welcome and surprise guest this evening. After the business part of the meeting closed members became so enraptured in socializing and gabbing that the meeting went on 'til 1 a.m. (the longest in quite a while). Rather than going from member to member and collecting the Attendance Fee and causing embarrassment for any attendee a small heart shaped box on the table with a sign requesting donations to defray the rent. When the evening ended the "Heart Fund" was wellfilled.

Northeast NJ Chapter



1st Meeting

NEW JERSEY. The Northern New Jersey Chapter held its February meeting on the 6th at Jane's home in Linden. Ten ladies from the NYC-NJ and eastern PA area were in attendance. We were also honored with the presence of another woman-friend of Jane's

Muriel Olive, president of the GGA-NYC Chapter, a student of astrology, delighted the ladies with her forecasts during the evening.

Dorothy and her GG related some of their life experiences to the enjoyment of all. They are always a delightful addition to our meetings.

A lovely meal of corned beef and cabbage, fish (which Jane herself caught the day before at the Jersey shore), boiled potatoes, vegetables, bread and butter was served. Since Jane's two GG friends who attended our previous meeting couldn't be in attendance this time they baked and sent us some delicious pies for dessert. (Oh! those lovely calories.) Many thanks, ladies.

The attendees started leaving about 11:30 each remarking how much they enjoyed another meeting.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 2nd then May 1st. We look forward to seeing YOU there. Oh, by the way I'm Ellen (NJ-1) holding the beautiful GGA Chapter Charter in the center of the above picture.



Michelle Eileen (pres) Ellen

CHICAGO. Fat Tuesday (isn't that a terrible name for a day?), February 23rd saw a crowd of about 70 people, including 25 GGA members, at the Lite Factory nightclub to celebrate the TV/TS Mardi Gras co-sponsored by the GGA Windy City Chapter and the Lite Factory.

The gala party featured a free buffet, 2 (count 'em) 2 special female impersonator shows including one entitled "The Teasemasters" by the "Cycle Slut Drags" from Houston, Texas.

Between shows we held a Door Prize Raffle and a contest for Best Costume and Best Female Impersonator. Contest winners were awarded trophies. Our designated photographer forgot the camera or we'd have pictures to show you.

Judging from all the positive comments made by those in attendance, and the response to our mailed invitations, it is safe to say this night was a smashing success and the Mardi Gras will become an annual event for the Windy City Chapter.

FLORIDA. There were eighteen members and 3 guests in attendance at the February 20th meeting of the Success Chapter. Dana (FL-6) was hostess of the meeting held in her home and served a lovely meal prepared by Dana, Shirley A. and others. One of the guests was an long time friend, Gloria Neal (no, not CO-17). Terry, who operates Fantasies in Lace, was elected to membership because of the free advertising she does for the Chapter.

Bobbie C., Edna, and Michelle W. were attending for the first time even though they have been longtime Chapter members.

Our next meeting, scheduled for 7 p.m., May 1st, will a dinner at the New Port Richie Holiday Inn. Contact Susan Armstrong, PO Box 1601, Pinellas Park, FL 33565 for a reservation form and information for this meeting.



PITTSBURGH. As you can see by the above the most recent meeting of the PI Chapter was well attended. I wish all those in the picture could be named, but I forgot to send a list if names with the picture.



WASHINGTON (DC). Michelle was too busy taking this picture to be in it. As usual our meeting was well attended. Look for more about our Chapter in future issues.

TEXAS. The Southwest Chapter of the GGA has been quietly increasing attendance at its monthly meetings. The meeting in April saw a doubling of the number present -- we hope this increase will continue, although if it does we'll have to hire a hall.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

In this regular feature we list the meetings of various groups and special functions known to be scheduled. If your group wishes a FREE announcement in the PM-I, send it to: The GGA, Post Office Box 62283, Sunnyvale, CA, 94088. Copy deadline is the 1st Monday of the month preceding the issue of the PM-I in which the announcement is to appear.

**** NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA ****
GATEWAY GENDER ALLIANCE

Meeting time at each location: 8 PM.
SAN FRANCISCO: 2nd Wednesday.*
SAN JOSE: 1st & 3rd Friday.*
*A donation of \$2.00 requested!
Write PO Box 62283, Sunnyvale, 94088 or call (408) 734-3773 for information on specific meeting locations.

OTHER GROUPS

PACIFIC CENTER, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley. 1st & 3rd Wednesday rap sessions. Last Friday, special topic or guest speaker. Meeting time: 7:30 'til 10:00pm
BI-SEXUAL CENTER. Rap sessions from 7:30 each Tuesday and Wednesday (\$3.00 donation is requested). For specific information write PO Box 26227, San Francisco, 94126 or call (415) 929-9299.
SOCIETY of JANUS. For those "into" or seeking adventure in S&M. For information concerning meetings and events write PO Box 6794, San Francisco, 94101.

**** SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA ****

SALMACIS: Unstructured social get-together on the second Saturday of each month. 7:30 pm. Contact Lynn or Ann (213) 2419093.
SHANGRI-LA: (Scyros Chapter). First Saturday each month, 5-11 pm. Contact Nancy (714) 834-0928 for information.
SHANGRI-LA: Nancy Watsn, PO Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713 for information.
MISSION VIEJO AREA: Gender Dysphoria Program for Orange County. Informational brochure "For the Record" - \$2.00. Contact Joanna M. Clark, 31815 Camino Capistrano, Suite L, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675. Group counseling: Dana Point facility on the 2nd & 4th Mondays; San Juan Capistrano facility 1st and 3rd Mondays.
SAN DIEGO AREA. Contact W Thomas, Post Office Box 99732, San Diego, CA 92109 for information on meeting times, dates and place.

**** COLORADO ****

TV/TS GROUP: Meeting every Monday, 8 pm. Members begin assembling about 7:30 so often no seats are left, so early arrival is suggested. Programs of primary interest to crossdressers are presented on even dated Mondays; programs of primary interest to persons in transition are presented on alternate Mondays. Location: corner of 11th Avenue and Filmore, Cherry Creek Area of southwest Denver. Call (303) 830-7353 for specific information.

**** CONNECTICUT ****

XX-CLUB. Primarily a TS Support Group. Contact Rev. Clinton Jones, 45 Church St, Hartford, 09103 for information.
HARRIET LANE'S "The TV Set". Private facilities. Parties 2nd & 4th Saturday. Contact Harriet Lane, Post Office Box 2, Yalesville Station, Wallingford 06402 or call (203) 288-1166 for party information.

**** DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ****

DELTA CHI CHAPTER (GGA): Sandy Machin, Post Office Box 11254, Lincolnia Station, Alexandria, VA 22312.
CAPITOL CHAPTER (GGA) (Balt-DC Area): Lisa Rouse, Post Office Box 21 Burtonsville, MD 20703.
ACADEMY AWARDS (Drag-gay): Carl Rizzi 1015 S. Quebec St. (#9), Arlington, VA 22204.

**** FLORIDA ****

SUCCESS CHAPTER (GGA) Meetings on the 2nd Saturday of each odd numbered month. Contact Susan Armstrong, PO Box 1601, Pinellas Park, 33565.
PARTIES: Contact: Fantasies in Lace, PO Box 100279, Ft. Lauderdale 33310 OR (305) 587-6270.

**** GEORGIA ****

ATLANTA TransPersons Group. Meets in the Atlanta Gay Center, 931 Ponce deLeon each Tuesday. Time: 7:30. TS/TVs, wives/lovers welcome. Primarily a rap group. Call 876-5327 for information.

**** ILLINOIS ****

WINDY CITY CHAPTER of GGA.
Meeting schedule:
April 14th May 26th June 30th
Meeting time 7:30. Contact (312) 472-4510 for the location.
CHI CHAPTER (Tri-S).
Donna Martin, Post Office Box 218, Markham, IL 60446

**** MASSACHUSETTS ****

BOSTON AREA

TIFFANY CLUB: Tuesdays & Saturdays, 7-11 pm. Very attractive private facilities with overnights. GGA members welcome. Write Tiffany Club, PO Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 or call (617) 358-5575.

KAY-MAYFLOWER SOCIETY: Every Wednesday, 7-11 pm. For information call (617) 2547389.

CAPE COD AREA

TS SUPPORT GROUP: Contact Rachia Heyelman, PO Box 25, S. Orleans, 02662 for information.

**** MICHIGAN ****

CROSSROADS: Irregular schedule. Following meeting date has been established: April 17, 1982 location not set. If you need additional information send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Grace Bacon, PO Box 3013, Flint, 48502.

**** NEW JERSEY ****

NU CHAPTER (GGA) (Northern NJ): Meetings: 1st Saturday of each month. Facilities for changing on premises. Doors open at 6 p.m. and meetings run 'til ?. For specific information call (201) 540-0042 after 6 p.m. or (201) 925-6067 between 2 and 7 p.m. Ask for Jim.

**** NEW YORK AREA ****

GGA CHAPTER, NEW YORK CITY
Muriel Olive, 157 W. 57th St., Suite 601, NYC, 10019. Meetings: 2nd Saturday of each month. A facility for changing is available for those members needing it. Members may arrive anytime after 4:30 but the meetings start at 7:00 and run 'til 11:30ish. The building is locked at midnight (so like Cinderella we must be out by then).

TV PARTIES: Contact Joyce Dewhurst, 27-50 76th Street, Jackson Heights, 11372 or call (212) 335-3048.

ALBANY-TVIC. Meeting every 3rd Saturday. Contact Wm. Thordsen, 1104 Broadway, Albany 12200 for specific information.

**** OHIO ****

PARADISE CLUB.(Akron Area) Contact: Paradise Club. PO Box 24363, Cleveland, OH 44124. Reservations required as meetings are held at a motel and a room is often required for an overnight stay.

Meeting Schedule:

June 19th; August 21st; October 23rd; December 11th.

**** OREGON (OR) ****

NORTHWEST CHAPTER (GGA). Regular monthly meetings. For information concerning activities in the NW Area contact Olivia Perel, PO Box 13173, Portland OR 97213

**** PENNSYLVANIA ****

PI CHAPTER (GGA) (Pittsburgh Area)
Contact Patricia L. McDermott, PO Box 576, Export, 15632.

PGH CHAPTER (GGA) (Pittsburgh Area)
Contact Rachel Osman, PO Box 16080, Pittsburgh, PA 16080.

PHI CHAPTER (GGA) (Philadelphia Area.)
Contact Michelle Williams, PO Box 322, Collingswood, NJ 08108.

**** RHODE ISLAND ****

HALCYON SOCIETY (Tiffany Club R.I.)
Meeting 1st Saturday each month - 7pm.
Contact: Occupant, PO Box 143, N. Kingston, RI 02852. Call (617) 678-0609.

**** TEXAS ****

SOUTHWEST CHAPTER, (GGA) Galveston.
Meeting April 17th, 8 pm, 809 Church St., Galveston. Contact Alice (713) 763-6227 for information.

**** VIRGINIA ****

NU RHO CHAPTER (Tri-S) (Norfolk-Virginia Beach Area) N. Cooper, S-180, P.O. Box 2400, Virginia Beach, 23452

**** WISCONSIN ****

WISCONSIN TV NETWORK. Contact Post Office Box 813, Madison, 53701.

**** CANADA ****

CANADIAN COORDINATOR (GGA). Information for the TS and TV. Also information on Canadian TV/TS activities. Write Linda T. O'Connell, 710 504 Main St., Winnipeg R3B 1B8 or call 24 HOUR HOT LINE (204) 947-1774!

TORONTO CHAPTER (GGA). Individuals interested in increasing the membership of this Chapter should contact Yvonne King, (416) 298-7540.

24 HOUR HOT LINE (204) 947-1774!

WINNIPEG CHAPTER (GGA). Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Friday each month. Contact Linda T. O'Connell, 710 504 Main St., Winnipeg R3B 1B8 or call (204) 947-1774 for time and place.

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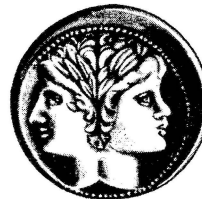
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