

International Foundation for Gender Education

TIFFANY CLUB/TV-TS TAPESTRY

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SUBJECT: I.F.G.E./TAPESTRY UPDATE
by Merissa Sherrill Lynn, I.F.G.E. Director

TV-TS TAPESTRY, ISSUE #50

I am now nearly 2 months behind, and I sincerely apologize for my tardiness. I still have approximately 300 hours of labor left on it, so please don't start looking for #50 until at least May. Those of you who are subscribers, your subscriptions run for 4 issues, and not annually... at least until we can get re-organized well enough to get things back on schedule (not in the foreseeable future).

Again, I apologize for this inconvenience, but it simply cannot be helped.

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I.F.G.E. 'COMING TOGETHER - WORKING TOGETHER' CONVENTION '87

Our first convention (held in Chicago 3/4 - 3/9) was a success (far above my expectations). We entered the convention with approximately 150 participants and over 30 organizations represented. We brought together people from the spectrum of our community, from transsexuals to casual crossdressers to spouses to helping professionals. We concentrated on working together for the benefit of all, on communications, on networking, on building new groups and strengthening old ones, and on improving our public image as well as our self image. We worked hard, and it paid off.

We emerged from the convention with a personal invitation from Ramada's General Manager to return, an experienced convention staff, an active I.F.G.E. Board of Directors, and a Steering Committee. We emerged with 22 hours of audio tapes which are currently being transcribed into a comprehensive abstract that can be used as a reference by all. and most importantly, we emerged with a comprehensive convention program schedule that works, and over 100 super people ready to see that it does.

Finally, we, as a community, had a chance to say 'Thank you' to the lady who has worked hardest and longest, and made everything we now have possible - Dr. Virginia Prince.

Our challenge now is to make next year's convention even better. If you would like to be part of next year's convention, please let me know.

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I.F.G.E. BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The newly elected I.F.G.E. Board of Directors took office 3/4/87. There are 15 members of the Board with each supposed to serve for a period of three years. Five new members are supposed to be elected each year. Since this is our first year, we elected all 15 members with those placing 1-5 in the balloting serving 3-year terms, those placing 6-10 serving 2-year terms, and those placing 11-15 serving 1-year terms. Those placing 16-22 will serve as alternates to serve on Board committees and fill out the term of anyone unable to complete their term.

3-YEAR TERMS: Merissa Sherrill Lynn (NH), Naomi Owen (IL), Cheryl Costa (VA), Dr. Roger Peo (NY), and Dr. Virginia Prince (CA).

2-YEAR TERMS: Betty Ann Lind (VA), Elaine Willey (MI), Eve Burchert (IL), Joanna Clark (CA), Patricia West (Chairman, ME).

1-YEAR TERMS: Shiela Kirk (PA), Holly Cross (MA), Helen Tibbetts (NH), Ellen Summers (OR), Renee Chevalier (NY).

ALTERNATES: Rupert Raj (CAN), Yvonne Cook (IN), Bette Johnson (TX), Nancy Ann Martine (CA), Lynda Frank (NJ), Maureen Taylor (NY), Samantha Walls (TX).

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'COMING TOGETHER' '87 CONVENTION ABSTRACT

As I mentioned, we have 22 hours of audio tapes of virtually all the seminars (except some Tier II programs and Peer Counseling). Veronica Brown is currently transcribing those tapes (God bless her). (She sent me on transcription of one program, 'How To Form An Organization'. It was 13 typed pages. One down, 21 more to go.) When the transcription is complete, + Dr. Peo's speech, + Virginia's speech, we are going to have a fantastic publication.

We anticipate the cost of the completed abstract will not exceed \$10.00 per copy. (If we can sell it for less, we will, but we have to cover the cost of production, + getting it transcribed, + tapes, + recording equipment, etc., so count on \$10.00.)

If you would like to reserve a copy (or copies), please let me know.

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I.F.G.E. CHAPTER MEMBERSHIPS

I.F.G.E. is set up to have chapters. These chapters would receive a letter from I.F.G.E. to give them tax exempt status. We are not yet able to accept member organizations except for those organizations that already have tax exempt status. It seems the I.R.S. has gotten involved, and red tape bureaucracy has reared its ugly head.

Our Financial Secretary (the one who's responsible for such things), Siobhan Donovan, is currently working with the I.R.S. to prepare an explanation package of specific questions and requests for procedures, and clarify 'ritualistic admittances', 'voting acceptance', etc.

When (and if) that gets done, we can accept organizations.

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MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

I.F.G.E. and the Tiffany Club are now separate organizations with separate memberships.

I.F.G.E. MEMBERSHIPS:

1.) LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION: \$20.00 Includes 4 consecutive issues of the Tapestry. Not considered a membership.

2.) SUBSCRIBER: \$40.00 (\$50.00 1st class postage, Canada, overseas) (increased from \$30.00, effective May 1, 1987) Includes 4 consecutive issues of the Tapestry, voting privileges, receive any I.F.G.E. bulletins & notices, and an invitation to take an active part in I.F.G.E. affairs.

3.) ASSOCIATE: \$30.00 For the spouses and significant others of I.F.G.E. members. Membership runs concurrently with partner's membership. Does not include the Tapestry, but does include any special mailings, voting privileges, and an invitation to take an active part in I.F.G.E. affairs.

4.) SUPPORTING: \$100.00 For those persons who wish to be more supportive of I.F.G.E. Is similar to a Subscriber member, and includes 1st class postage. The balance of the membership fee will be placed in I.F.G.E.'s general education fund.

SPECIAL/SUBSCRIBER memberships will no longer be sold by the I.F.G.E. However, the Tiffany Club will still be offering a SPECIAL/SUBSCRIBER membership package for \$60.00 (\$70.00 1st class postage, Canada, Overseas) (increased from \$50.00, effective May 1, 1987). The membership package will include a Tiffany Special membership and an I.F.G.E. Subscriber membership (combined value \$70.00, \$85.00 1st class).

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