

Cross-Port InnerView

P.O. Box 54657, Cincinnati, OH 45254

The next meeting is September 15 at 8:00pm

A New View

By Elaine

There were approximately 25 ladies at the last meeting. This is a good turn out for August. I would like to thank all those that attended. I also hope everyone had a good time and will return in September.

I wish to thank the ladies who came to the meeting we had at The Old Street Cafe. We had a excellent time and we got to see just how much the place has changed since we were last there. I wish to extend an Invitation to everyone to attend the next get together there. It will be on the second Thursday of every month. Starting at 8:00pm and ending whenever.

As you know we are going to host the Be All here in Cincinnati in 1996 and we are looking for volunteers to help out. We especially need people in registration and support positions. Please help make the Cincinnati Be All the best one yet. So come down and be part of something great and have fun as your Fem self at the Be All.

THE VIEW INSIDE

by Bobbi L.

Ladies, this month's View Inside is a bittersweet one. The object of our view is a lady to whom Beverly and I have grown very close in the past three years. She always looks great, conducts herself properly, and is always ready with some clever maxim, pithy philosophy, or even a bawdy limerick. She and her S.O., Maureen are pure pleasure to be around, even if only to enjoy the sound of their British voices. As if our topsy-turvy TV existences aren't fickle enough already, the world's volatile economy often makes changes for us which shatter our comfort zones. Such is the case with Tami and Maureen. By the time you read this, they will have sold most of their material possessions, packed up the rest, and boarded the Q. E. II for the long voyage to England. From there they will have journeyed to (former East) Berlin where Tami will begin her new job. They will be greatly missed. I know that they will greatly miss

Cross-Port. So, for those of you who did not get to know Tami Smith better, let's take an overdue view inside.

T.V.I.: Why did you choose your femme name?

Tami: It uses my first initial (which is convenient for mailings). Also, it's easy to spell.

T.V.I.: Tami, what are your earliest and your most favorite recollections of cross-dressing?

Tami: In my early teens I began to "borrow" my mother's satin panties. My favorite recollection came a little later in life. Last Fall Maureen and I attended the Erie Sisters' Riverside Gala Weekend. It was two days en femme during which I experienced total acceptance. Maureen and I participated in a very successful (for us) seminar on TV marriage. Of those who participated in that session, she and I seemed to be uniquely well adjusted.

T.V.I.: Tami, we all know and love your wife, Maureen. What does she "really" think of your "special" nature?

Tami: I am very lucky.

Maureen is extremely supportive, helping me with make-up, shopping, etc. She loves Tami as much as she loves Eric (and I, her).

T.V.I.: How long have you been a member of Cross-Port? And how did you learn about us?

Tami: Six years ago, I called the Cincinnati Gay & Lesbian Hotline. They referred me to Cross-Port. We have been coming to meetings for those six years.

T.V.I.: Tami, what has become the most satisfying aspect of cross-dressing for you?

Tami: When life for Eric has me stressed out, a few hours as Tami can relax me more thoroughly than anything I know.



T.V.I.: On the other side of the coin, what is the most disturbing facet?

Tami: The thing that upsets me most about this lifestyle is the fact that it divides my friends into two groups: those who know and those who must not find out.

T.V.I.: Can you offer any insights on presenting a more feminine appearance?

Tami: If you have a big (read that: "beer") belly, you need **BIG** tits!!!

T.V.I.: There's that wonderfully irreverent sense of humor!! Tami, tell us a little something about your wardrobe.

Tami: Well, I do covet **everything** I see in size 6 but can't wear (I'm an 18 W). My shoes are mostly flats, a few 2 1/2" heel pumps, and sandals (size 11). I like my wigs curly and about shoulder length.

T.V.I.: What do you do for fun?

Tami: Cross-Port meetings, of course! Also, listening to and playing New Orleans Traditional Jazz. When it comes to art, I'm a complete Philistine.

T.V.I.: And your favorite films?

Tami: I do not subscribe to the American worship of overpaid, so-called "stars." For me a movie has to be funny or factual.

T.V.I.: Do you mind revealing your statistical data?

Tami: My measurements are 40 - 36 - 38. I weigh: 204#, stand: 6' 2". I am 59 years old, but, as a lady, I've stopped counting birthdays.

T.V.I.: Do you wish to express any gripes about the lifestyle? Remember, you'll be in Europe by

the time this is read....!

Tami: I think my biggest gripe is that Cincinnati seems to have a surfeit of hypocritical bigots and an abundance of loudmouthed, fascist broadcasters.

T.V.I.: Finally, what do you imagine the future holds for Tami?

Tami: Who knows?

T.V.I.: Tami, thank you for your candid responses. Beverly and I, and all of the Cross-port sisterhood are going to find our lives emptier because you've gone. We know that you and Maureen will stay in touch and hope that, someday, we might be able to attend a meeting of our Deutschland chapter. We wish you the best. Stay Healthy. Stay Beautiful. Avoid Runners. Bon Voyage!

POTPOURRI

by: Bobbi L.

UPDATE: The Issue 3 controversy is back in the news. I hope we will see a new volley of opinions from our girls concerning this "hot potato."

Surprise! Charles Winburn has taken off the velvet gloves. The U.S. Constitution be damned...he wants to eliminate the concept of separation between church and state.

ON THE NEWSSTAND: Kristine Jones sent me a page from BAZAAR, June '94. I missed the review of "Just Like a Woman." This film "gets down to the real issues of cross-dressing." It deals with a transvestite' relationship with his/her girlfriend. According to the writer, the TV

"has the better wardrobe."

Looking at more recent issues, I found in the September BAZAAR several noteworthy sections. On page 220 is another invitation to "Wigstock." Page 226 offers a great short story about a "magical" satin slip. An expose of an FTM reassignment of a San Francisco police officer begins on 410. It's a very positive presentation. "Men in Dresses" is the subject of a segment on 476. But the best article is a photo-rich view of Tim Burton and his recent undertaking, "Ed Wood." [By the way, I understand there's a new release of a documentary about E.W., with a title something like "...Look back in Angora."]

September's ELLE also promotes "Wigstock" (113), and showcases this season's sexy stiletto heels (162 and 298).

UNWELCOME CHANGES!

Am I paranoid, blind, or totally off-base? At the last meeting at Golden Lions I felt the proverbial chill in the air on the part of the "regular" patrons. It really bothered me to think that we were not welcome there. Did anyone else feel that way?

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

There never are any!!!

Doesn't anybody ever read this stuff? Don't any of you girls have an opinion about what is printed?(Yeah, like I'm going to believe we're doing a perfect job. And even if we are, how about a compliment or two?) It only takes five minutes and 29¢ to express yo' se'f!

SOME GIRLS

Did any of "us" participate in the WEBN drag contest held before the Rolling Stones concert? I wasn't even aware of it until I saw it on the news. The prize was backstage passes for the "Night of the Living Dead" event.

Stay Healthy. Stay Beautiful.
Avoid Runners!

COURTROOM

vs.
TV/TS
by: Lilli

[Editor's Note: Due to constraints on time and space, the following article will appear in 3 parts]

PART THREE:

Perhaps responding to the sympathetic parties before it, the court responded knowingly and empathetically to the situation of transsexuals. The court reached a similar decision in the case of Doe vs McCann, 489 F. Supp. 76 (S.D. Texas 1980). This case provides a good example of a judge attempting to understand and describe the nature of transsexualism (distinguishing it from transvestitism) and the necessity to address it through surgical procedures. The court deemed that since transsexualism was not a matter of choice, a transsexual cannot be subject to criminal prosecution for actions that are a matter of medical necessity. Other than displaying general empathy for transgendered persons, these two decisions would not necessarily extend protection to transvestites.

A lower Ohio Court has likewise

held that the particular situation of transsexuals creates a judge-made exemption from prohibitions upon wearing clothes of the "opposite sex." The case was that of Columbus vs Zanders, 25 Ohio Misc. 144 (1970). This court also discussed the nature of transsexualism at length and held that because of a "mental defect" the defendant could not be criminally responsible for dressing as a female (as a general rule of criminal law, a person cannot be held criminally responsible if his or her acts arose from a mental defect). This court did not base its decision on constitutional grounds.

By contrast to the above decisions, older New York cases hold that these types of statutes are valid (see: Annot., 12 ALR 4th 1242). Hopefully these courts will reconsider these decisions when next presented with these issues.

Although the laws and those who administer it are far from perfect, the cases discussed above do show that, on occasion, judges (even those we elect) are willing to reject popular prejudice and take a rational look at medical and social reality.

Sincerely yours,

Lilli

THE END

[Any opinions, comments or questions regarding the above article may be sent to Cross-Port. They will be forwarded to the author for reply]

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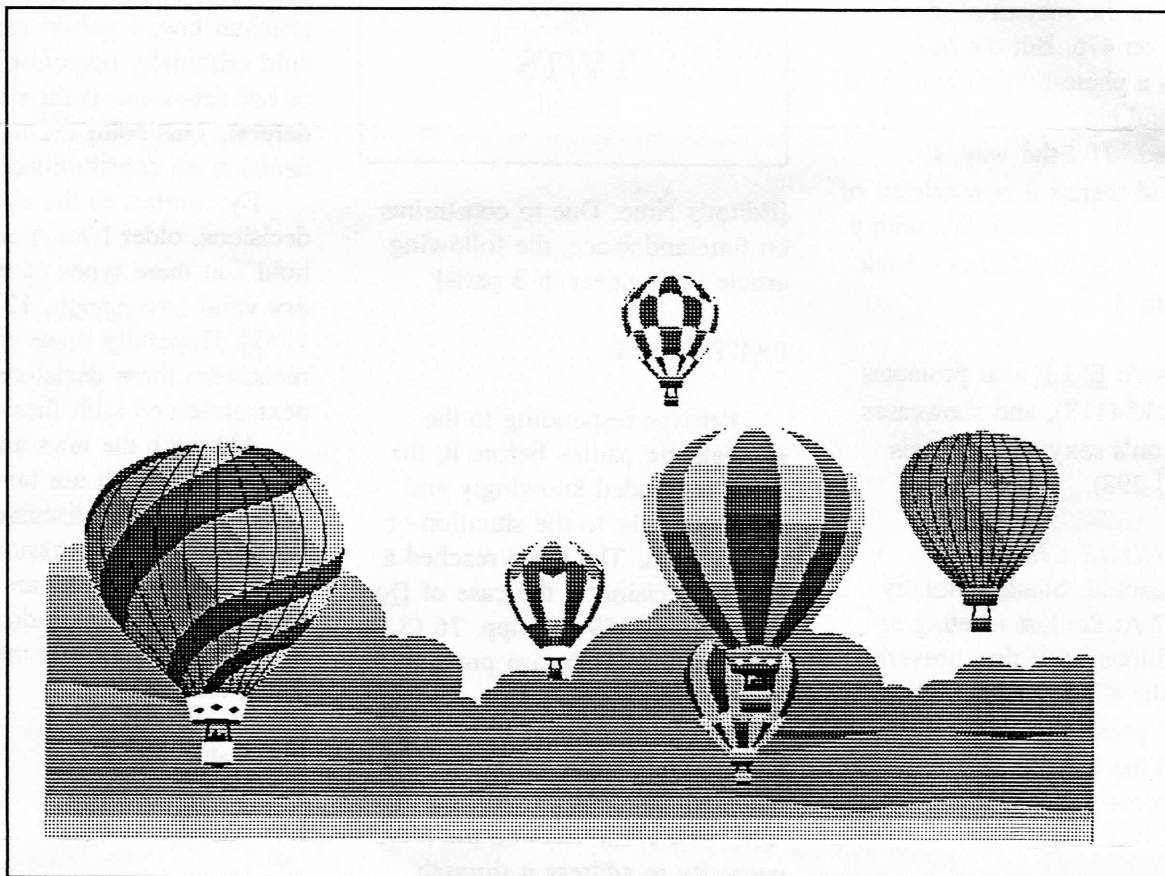
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Cross-Port is a not-for-profit support group which meets solely for the support of cross-dressers, trans-sexuals and their family and friends.



Goodbye Summer