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NEWSLETTER EDITORS
Helen
and
Wilma Thordsen

Hi Girls:

Here we are back for the Fall and Winter months for all you girls to be in one another's company and hash over all the summer activities. For one Wilma Michelle Ann, Dennie, and I had a nice vacation in Tenn. We took in the Fair, Grand Ole Opry, and all other sites. The rest of the summer Wilma & I enjoyed the rest of our time on the Island.

Usually our gatherings are rather large in Sept. but this Sept. it was a medium size group, I guess some are still on vacation. The girls who came: Eileen and Pricilla from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Brenda from Messina, N.Y., Susan from Albany, N.Y., Pricilla from Scotia, N.Y., Winnie from Schen., N.Y. Joan from Colonie, N.Y., Alice from Colonie, N.Y., Holly and friend from Troy, N.Y., Elanda from Rome, N.Y., Gabby and Marlina from Montreal, Canada. Wilma and I.

The meal I had for the girls was: Roast Beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, cauliflower au gratin, bean casserole, tossed salad, bread and butter, cake and coffee.

It was a pleasant evening as the girls sat around the table and talked with one another. Being a small crowd, and everyone talking it made the closing hour here before we realized.

I'll take this time to thank Pricilla for the help in the kitchen, and the girls for carrying it out to the table.

Michelle Ann and Dennie were not here as Michelle Ann was on the sick list. Seems both her and I had come down with a sickness after we came back from Tennessee. And last night Wilma was a little under the weather, either from her drinking or something she ate. Wilma claims she hasn't been feeling good all week but didn't want to tell me as I would have her go to the Doc. I am beginning to wonder if we should have gone on the vacation.

One of our members would like to know if any T.V.'s out there are interested in velvet or velour clothes, she would like to correspond with you.

Eileen from Poughkeepsie was also on the sick list as she had cracked ribs. They all seem to know when Dennie and Michelle Ann are not here as the little purple car is not outside, so it looks like Michelle Ann will have to hold onto her car a while longer.

It was nice to see Holly back with us again after a long absence, and a nice visit from Gabby and Marlina from Canada.

On page 4 of this newsletter is a piece for the wives of those T.V.'s that don't seem to understand why their husbands have the desire to dress. This session with a professional who may be able to have the wives better understand what a transvestite is. It will be all women in the group so that they will be able to speak openly. It is hard for some T.V.'s to explain it to their wives as they themselves don't really know why they have this desire to be feminine. This dressing goes way back to the 1800's and even then they didn't know why they dressed as they did, some men have to dress all the time and some feel relief when they dress occasionally. People in the 1800's were more acceptable than they are today. When you think of it we women have some inner desires that we would like to bring out in the open but for some reason we think we will be ridiculed as the men who dress do today. No one is perfect, you hear of politicians, lawyers, doctors, housewives, business people have imperfections some are found out and some get away with it. I know I may sound like I know it all but I only wish some of you would take the time to try to read up on cross dressing and really try to see beyond the part that it is not right for your mates to dress. I see, watch, and listen to these T.V.'s and surprisingly they talk about their families, work, or some of the people they have met who have the same desire that they do. So to judge these T.V.'s we would first have to judge ourselves, are we as good as we think ourselves to be. I am only one of a large group of wives who appreciate the good life our mates have given us, that what little joy they get from dressing once in a while that it is a small price for us to pay. We keep this second life a private life. If it is kept in the home no one has to know about it, and when you are with a group you have nothing to be ashamed of as they are all the same. I do hope I was able to bring just a little bit of understanding to some of the women out there in the land of T.V.'s

Well I guess it is about that time for me to say good night and may God Bless all of you and keep you safe and happy.

See you next month.

Love

Helen

W I L M A ' S V I E W S

WHEN IS A WOMAN A WOMAN?

This may seem a very peculiar tittle, but it is asked to stir the reader to some questions for himself rather than for answers to be provided by me. TV's admire women and like to emulate them but it is worth asking one's self a question such as the title of this editorial in order to get some insight into one's own feelings. So-- "When is a woman a woman?"

Is a woman worth emulation under the age of twelve? Does she become a woman at puberty, as she begins menstruation--as her breasts begin to develop? Would you emulate her then or between the ages of 18 and 35? Or what about this person after the age 60 let us say. No longer young, no longer attractive as she used to be physically, Is she something to emulate? When you get to be 60 would you emulate a woman of 60? Or would you go back and try to be like somebody say in her twenties? And what about the matter not just of time but of work? Do you feel a woman worth emulating during her menstrual cramps, or during childbirth? Do you like to emulate her when she is cleaning house, doing laundry, the dishes making beds, dusting. Is she a woman at this time? Or is it true for you as it is for so many TV's that they tend to think only of those aspects of womanhood which are attractive, beautiful, and glamorous?

This is all well and good you understand, I am not being critical, only I think it would be very enlightening to most of us to stop and ask ourselves just what it is in a woman that we are emulating. I suspect that we would discover that we are, that is, our femme-selves are, women usually only to the extent that some particular aspect of womanhood appeals to us as men. Now as men, we are obviously attracted by glamorous, pretty females, from the point of view of clothing, make up, appearance, behavior. These things we enjoy, these become that aspect of womanhood that we feel is desirable, worth emulating and this is what we strive to achieve. We don't spend much time or energy trying to copy or seeking to experience the harder more exhausting, discouraging, difficult or painful aspects of womanhood.

Now if this is a valid conclusion it should lead to ~~TV's~~ further insights into the causation (probably I should say satisfactions rather than causation) because it is not as though we were females trapped in a male body, as so many contend. If this were the case we would be as interested in the less desirable aspects of womanhood as the more desirable. It is therefore our very masculinity which provides the stimulus for our femininity. I am talking here about TV's and not about Transsexuals. I believe that becoming aware of the nature of our attraction fortifies further my gender theory as the motivating force in true TVism rather than the sex approach which professional psychiatrists tend to prefer and which they tie in with both. In other words, the appeal of TVism is a contrast to, escape from, and parallel expression for our masculinity rather than for our maleness.

As indicated in the beginning, this editorial was not to much to air a view as to encourage thinking on the part of those of you who read it for the development of insight into the nature of our common interest. Greater insight leads to greater perspective in handling our hobby.....

One thought that may be of interest was noted the other evening in one of the local newspaper columns (but which disappeared before I could clip it) had to do with men's "health belts" and the hypocrisy displayed in not calling them girdles. The writer (a woman) poked fun at the gents who go to great lengths to avoid calling them by their proper names and spend a great deal of time manufacturing "medical" reasons for wearing them. What a pity??

TV & WIFE : The domestic problem between the TV & his wife are neither the wife's ~~or~~ nor the husband's fault, for neither the wife or the TV are wholly correct, now is it desirable in the interest of domestic harmony, that one or the other position should win. Although a wife may succeed in enforcing her will & restrict her husband's activities she will not win in the long run. She will merely drive him underground. Also it will build up resentment and antagonism in them and brake up the marriage. Such feelings on the part of the husband will erode away a lot of faith-trust-love that he had for his wife-something which should be manytimes more important to her than the transvestism which she is attempting to destroy. At the same time a husband might appear to win by forcing the wife to put up with his dressing against her will. For although he would have achieved the temporary gratification of his desires, he too would ~~have~~ have destroyed something much more precious in the form of his wife's love, respect and admiration. This being the case, They should come to a reasonable SATISFACTORY COMPROMISE.

The average American in a lifespan of 70 years, uses 26 million tons of water, 21,000 gallons of gasoline, 10,000 lbs. of meat, 14 tons of milk & cream, 9,000 lbs of wheat, & great quantities of other products from the earth. (I wonder how much lipstick he uses.)

You know! My wife must think that she is a comedian. We were in a store and I was trying on a dress that I wanted to buy. So I asked her "Is my dress too short dear?" And she replies " Its either too short or you are in it too far!"

PARTY DATES :

Please note that there is a change in the December party date due to CHRISTMAS.
 Party Dates - OCTOBER 16th - NOVEMBER 20 - DECEMBER 11th.
 December 11th will be our big christmas party that we have been having for the past 15 years.

NEW MEMBERS :

I am pleased to announce the enrollment of five new members this month.
 LORI M. PITTSFIELD MASS. - PAT J. W. LEBENAN N.H.
 DON W. VALLEY COLLEGE N.Y. - STANLEY H. PATERSON N.J.
 J.C.G. STAMFORD CONN.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY :

BARBER [REDACTED]	OCT.	2	Mrs. MINA [REDACTED]	OCT.	20
HENRY [REDACTED]	"	3	SAMANTHA [REDACTED]	"	21
FRED [REDACTED]	"	6	PATRICIA [REDACTED]	2	22
CAROL [REDACTED]	"	8	MILTON [REDACTED]	"	27
PAUL [REDACTED]	"	16	WILLIAM [REDACTED]	"	28
FRANK [REDACTED]	"	18	WILLIAM [REDACTED]	"	29

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY :

Mr & Mrs DOUGLAS (DEE DEE) WATSON OCTOBER 8th
 Mr. & Mrs PAUL GALLAGHER " 15th

SPECIAL THANKS :

- T00 Barbra Philpots - Paula Dodge - Percilla Welch - Joyce Dolon for the extra dollars sent in to help along with the postage.
- T00 Carol Fox - Lori MacDonald - Frann Vose - Don Williams - Janet Fochs for the lovely pictures sent in for the club album.
- T00 Alice millard - Pat Wells - Elizabeth Johnson for the news articles.
- T00 Terry of Fantasies In Lace - Fran Vose for the front of the envelopes of mail returned.
- T00 Don Williams for the cartoons.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH :

If you found that your son wanted to dress in women's clothing what would you say or do? (this was sent in by Florence H. of West Paterson, N.J.)

ADVERTISEMENT :

TRANSSEXUAL VOICE - A newsletter written by and about transsexuals. Free personal ads. \$2 per copy; \$12 per year. Payable to Phoebe Smith, 764 North ave., Hapevill, Ga. 30354. (this is also a good news letter for the TV also I have read every one she wrote. Wilma.)

BEAUTY HINTS :

PADDING. - Most TVs require certain areas of their anatomy to be padded out in to simulate a feminine figure. These areas include the breast & hips & buttocks Bust pads in general, come in 5 types. The fullest pads are in silicone - filld full-bust pads designed for women who have had breast surgery (radical mastectomies). These pads have the shape of the real thing, and the silicone inside gives them weight and hang....A full feminine bosom is supplied by a device which contains two realistic breast, cleavage and covers the full chest area. It imitates skin tones and is virtually undetectable....Less expensive foam-filled pads which insert in the bra and are full-sized take the place of each individual breast and provide a natural look and feel...The more familiar falsis round with simulated nipple tips, are also fashioned from foam rubber hollowed out to fit over your own breasts, They do the job well, and they are quite inexpensive. They can be doubled up to give a fuller bustline. For those of us who may need less padding, half pads and push-up pads are also available. To pad out hips and buttocks to a more feminine form, it is usually advisable to fashion your own out of an inch thick sheet of foam rubber, using a single edged razor blade. Its a big job, but it allows you to get exactly the amount of padding needed for your individual problem. Hip padding is usually needed more often than buttocks padding.

SHOES: If you want your shoes to wear well, don't let them get too down at the heel or toe, too dirty or too scratched. You can dust od polish leather shoes yourself or brush suede shoes with a stiff brush. Look at the bottoms from time to time and take them off to the shoe repair shop if they need heels, toecaps, or soles.....

TO ALL TVIC MEMBERS:

This letter is for all crossdressers living near Albany whose relationship with their wives and girlfriends are in trouble due to their dressing, A discussion group for wives and girlfriends of crossdressers is being formed. It will be lead by JEAN B. CALLAHAN, M.A., M.S., a marriage and sex therapist who has worked with my wife and I for a number of years. We both are satisfied with her counseling ability and I believe, she is one of the reasons we are still married.... This group will be for wives and girlfriends ONLY & will not have TVs present. It will be held at her office on Fuller Rd. in Albany. Security will be maintained. The only people will have to know that your wife is attending will be the other people in the group and Jean. Also many health insurance policies will pay for counseling and they do not have to know the reason for the counseling. Check with Jean for details.... Those of us who have come out of the closet and who have achieved a degree of self-acceptance and peace-of-mind realize the importance of a supportive group of people. Our wives/girlfriends also need such a supportive group. Some are able to get the needed support at the TVIC parties, however others (my wife included) are too threatened to attend and be around TVs who are dressed. The purpose of the group we are trying to form is to provide needed support without the presence of TVs. I again stress that security will be maintained.... Interested persons can call Jean. If she is not there, give your number to her answering service and she will call back. Just indicate to the answering service that you are interested in "the new group", "CHERYL GROUP" or whatever. Her address is JEAN [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

YOURS CHERYL

Dear Wilma:

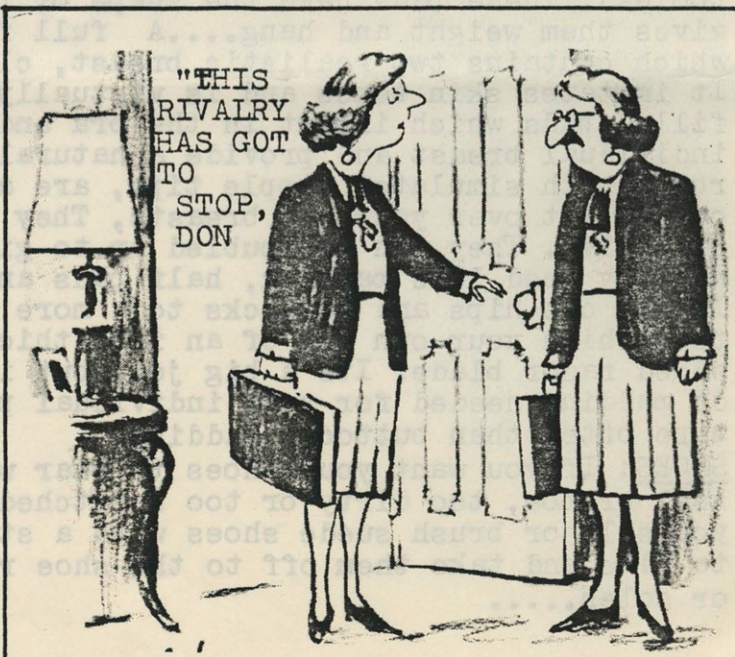
This is in answer to the May Question Of The Month. As a transvestite, I believe that I can really accept other transvestites on a friendship basis regardless of the other personal enjoyments they might have. I can say that "I believe" because I have never met someone known to be a TV. I feel that, after the many aspects of TV interests have been discussed with a new acquaintance, the conversation is bound to drift into other areas such as; are you married? Do you have children? What type of work do you do? What are your other hobbies? If the other person has some downright "filthy" interest and insists upon regaling his audience with details, I will just quietly separate myself from the group & seek out others to talk with. It all depends upon the social context. For example: The use of profanity. I don't like it, but frequently I use it. Out in the field on a construction project, profanity is every other word. In the office profanity is kept under greater control. At an elegant social gathering, profanity is unacceptable... The question for may makes the assumption that we TVs desire the general public to accept us. I for one, do not care about acceptance by the general public. My overriding concern is to avoid detection by the general public. If TVs were widely & openly practiced and accepted by the general public, some of the mystique and excitement would be lost. It's just like profanity. When swearing is normal conversation, what does a person say when really stirred up and in need of a swear word? The uniqueness is lost. Lets keep our hobby of transvestism to ourselves. If we feel compelled to "come out of the closet", let us enter a room filled with others like us. When we desire to go out in public, let's go in such a way that the general public will have no doubt as to what gender we are... DON W....VALLEY COTTAGE..N.Y.

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Dr. "Now Cheryl, relax & tell me all about it" "Well Doc., it started when I was a Little boy up and in need of a swear word? The uniqueness is lost. Lets keep our hobby of transvestism to ourselves. If we feel compelled to "come out of the closet", let us enter a room filled with others like us. When we desire to go out in public, let's go in such a way that the general public will have no doubt as to what gender we are... DON W....VALLEY COTTAGE..N.Y.

(How about some replies to Dons letter I know that there must be at least 10 different view points here. WILMA) *****

Alot of the girls have gotten caught up on their membership dues, while some of you are still behind... We feel at this time that unless those of you who are still owing dues are not paid soon that this will be the last newsletter that we will be sending you & that you no longer wish to belong to TVIC. I wish to inform all of the girls that have paid their dues that this in no way is ment for you. You are doing your part & we wish to express our deepest THANKS. We have been operating since 1954 with your help. Lets hope it last another 30 years.



Honestly,
Louise,
She really
is my
Father!



JANET F..

Dear Helen & Wilma:

I am renising my past opinion on your question of the month "What do you think a TS is. Since the subject of TVism & TSism is so broad I will first generalize. I feel that in order for a person to classify themselves a TS, they would have to score very high in at least 2 of the following areas. #1 SEXUAL IDENTITY, #2 SEX PREFERENCE (weather male or female), #3 SEXUAL RELATION (hetro,gay,bi). I feel most TVs sexual identity remains constant as to there biological self. There sex preference may be different and their sexual relations Hetro. So I feel a typical TV would only score 1 out of 3... I feel a TS would score high in 1 & 2 leaving the third open for descusion... I feel that if a person scores high in all three areas then that person should be considered for sex reassignment, depending on the acuteness of the situation... Other factors to be considered are physical attrabutes, job training, education and future financial stability, family relations. The other factors are to minamize to the greatest degree so such person can better lead a more fulfulling life style. Sex re-

assignment is not for every TS who comes along, to say it is a whole new person is not only wrong but also missleading and may be self destructive...Crossing the line to the other side presents just as much problems & maybe even more. I just hope that the Drs who do cater to our kind be realistic & Compasionate in there diagnosis and not be so fast to change a fee or to sharpen a blade. TVs & TSs have been on earth since time began and probably until time ends and until then people like us at least can have that hope that life exists after death and that we have the choice of who we would rather be.

JANET F.

Dear Helen, Wilma & all the Albany TVIC:
The March issue has enough questions of k of the month to last thru 1982 and beyond. Page 3 asks about advising the children. In my case, my brother barred me from his house to protect his children from the truth of an uncle who became an aunt. I protested his unfair stance. Oh! My own children? I never did tell them. I feel that they should be protected from such news... Page 4 has a 1/2 year supply of questions. (1) Why am I a TS. (2) why am I still a TS (3) am I a TS. Lets put those questions into one stew and stir well. Yes, I am a TS - possibly caused by a combination of genetric predisposition coupled with parental attitude. Having become a TS, there is no known way of becoming a non-TS. (4) Would you rather have been born without the problem? I was born as a male and am in the process of becoming as female as the state-of-the-art will permit. Life would have been so much more enjoyable if I could have started with a complete female body and avoided all the pain, expense and heartache associated with the change. (5) How would you like to be cured? My surgical reassignment is the only known cure. If a tecknique were available to provide a functioning uterus and ovaries, I would welcome it at any price. But if a way were developed to leave my male body intact and somehow make me enjoy the loss of femininty - I would completely reject such a tecknique. (6) Am I straight, gay or bi? Dammed if I know. Let's first define gay. If my male body is drawn to another male body, some would classify that as gay. But when my female mind is attracted to a male mind, those same people would call me straight. But I can't be both. I contend that I am straight insomuch as my female mind is attracted to male bodies. There is another criterium used for determining sexual preference. The personal history is reviewed with the assumption that any sexual experience results from preference. Since my experiences have been with both sexes, the histoical approach would have me classified as BI-SEX. However, a closer examination of motivating force and attendant circumstances would show the preference has always been for male friends. In that respect, I still qualify as heterosexual... JOYCE DOLAN,,HARTFORD..CONN....

ALICE G.,

ELANDA M.,



JOYCE D..

OK. Girls - I'm ready! Do you think I'll pass?

ELAINE S.



YOU MUST BE THE TS ROOMATE *
GEORGE IS ALWAYS TALKING *
ABOUT! I ASSUMED ELAINE YOU *
WERE IN SHOW-BIZ? *

of any kind were for your TV/TS impules, would you take it? NO. Is there a need for a cure? Not for me there isnt and of all the hundreds of TV/TS people I know, I have only met one person, who said she wished she wasnt that way, so I would say no there is no need for a cure. #6 Do you consider yourself straight, gay or bisexual? & Why? Straight. Because I have a sexual preference for the oppisite sex.... ELAINE ██████████ ...LAKE CITY...FLA...

Dear Wilma & helen: *

Answer to the question of the month march 1982 *
(1) Why am I a TV? I think because I was a shy *
youth in my teens and allthrough intirgued by *
girls after pnbeity, was to shy to take the first *
step and make any sexual onetree. Getting ~~sexism~~ *
satan linere I founf exciting to look at and *
fondle and I suppose I develpoed a slight fetish *
I finly statted dressing in some of my mothers *
things. when I was ateen and in the house alone I *
found it exciting to watch myself in the mirror *
when I was dressing. - I was shcked. *

(2) Why do I continue? *
Because it gives me pleasure and does no one *
else any harm *

(3) Which am I? TV or Ts. *
A TV. I have no wish to become a TS *

(4) Would I rather not have been born with the *
problem? *

No . I find now that Tv tendenciess add a spice *
to life that would otherwise have been missing. *

(5) Is there a need for a cure? *
No, I would not take it if there was *

(6) Do you consider yourself straight, gay or bisexual? Bisexual. I enjoy sex *
with a women and enjoy it when I am dressed as a woman with another TV. I am *
not attracted to straight men. ..DENISE ██████████ MISSISSAUGO...ONT...CANADA. *

Dear Wilma & Helen:

Your TVIC club has helped and given outlet to so mant of us. I want to again *
say thank you. Just your presence, your courage and your love of others, you *
are just special people.... ELIZABETH ██████████ .TULLAHOMA...TENN. *

NEWS: CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE: Male or female, one thing is certain. Convicted ~~xxx~~ *
thief R.J. Ellington is going to prison. BUT what prison Ellington will go is *
far from certain. Problem is that Ellington is going a sex-change procedure *
that is still incomplete-leaving him in a state of sexual limbo. Ellington, 25, *
of Detroit, pleaded guilty to passessing women's clothing stolen from a shop in *
Waterford Township. Ellingtons attorney thinks his client should go to a womens *
prison g but Judge G. H. LaPlata said he will base his decision om an examinatio *
ion by Dr M. Petrini, an authority on gender identification at the Mayo Clinic. *

Elanda boarded a bus. All deats were taken so she leaned over and whispered to a *
man: Please sir, could I have your seat? I'm pregnant! Of course and jumped up & *
and gave his vacant seat to ELANDA. But Noticing her slim waist whispered. *
Pardon me. Ma'am, but how long have you beeb pregrant? ELANDA glanced at her *
watch and said brightly "EXACTLY 32 MINUTES."

hey Pop... can I have a sex change operation?



Man gives birth to a baby

New Novelette Releases for the transvestite



Send remittance to:
EXECUTIVE IMPORTS INTERNATIONAL Dept. AST
 210 Fifth Avenue - Suite 1102
 New York, N.Y. 10010

Dear Ms. Avery:

I hereby request that the items I have listed be sent to me at the address indicated.

TV NOVELS - \$5.00 each or any (5) for \$20.00

<input type="checkbox"/> A Transvestites Dilemma	<input type="checkbox"/> The Training of Evelyn By His Sister
<input type="checkbox"/> Marlens's Transvestite Adventure	<input type="checkbox"/> The Transformation of Robert
<input type="checkbox"/> Transvestite Tyro	<input type="checkbox"/> TV Tantalus
<input type="checkbox"/> Transvestised - Book I	<input type="checkbox"/> Transvestised - Book II
<input type="checkbox"/> Masquerading in Drag Book I	<input type="checkbox"/> Masquerading in Drag Book II
<input type="checkbox"/> Obedient TV Husband Book I	<input type="checkbox"/> Obedient TV Husband-Book II
<input type="checkbox"/> She Made a SheMale Maid	<input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL all (13) novels for only - \$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Bizarre Video Cassette and Fetish Movie Catalog	<input type="checkbox"/> Centurians Whole Catalog of the Exotic and Bizarre SPECIAL - only \$12.95

Amount enclosed \$ Check Money Order Cash
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Man Gives Birth to a Baby

By DAVID WRIGHT and MARSHA MAY

Jason Cope is like any other two-fisted warehouse worker, except for one thing — he gave birth to a baby!

It's one of the most bizarre stories ever told.

Jason, who was in the process of a sex change from woman into man, fell in love with another man . . . and they decided to have a baby together before the final procedure in Jason's sex change made motherhood impossible.

So on June 1 — after a routine nine-month pregnancy — Jason gave birth to a healthy 8-pound, 9½-ounce blue-eyed baby girl, Taron.

"Our baby is so adorable! So perfect!" said Jason, 26, as he tenderly cradled his rosy-cheeked newborn during an exclusive ENQUIRER interview at the couple's home outside Atlanta, Ga.

"I'm the man I've always wanted to be — and yet God has given me the ability to have a child to bless our love for each other."

And the baby's father, 24-year-old animal welfare officer Myles Swain, told The ENQUIRER, "When I first saw my baby in Jason's arms, I started crying tears of joy. I couldn't put into words the happiness I felt!"

But not everyone reacted to the story with joy. "How bizarre!" declared a stunned Joyce Schmidt, coordinator of the gender identity program at the University of Virginia Medical Center.

"I just feel so terribly sorry for this baby! My heart goes out to it. It's going to be so terribly confused!"

Jason, the child's mother, started life as a female — but even as a child he felt he was really a boy. When he grew up, he wore men's clothes and worked construction jobs, disguised as a male.

Four years ago, Jason, who was born Joyce, decided to become a man. He had surgeons remove both breasts and construct a penis from muscle taken from his thighs. Injections of male hormones upped his weight from 130 to a burly 165 pounds, gave him fluffy facial hair and deepened his voice.

But by then the medical bills had reached \$5,800 — wiping out all his life savings. He was unable to get the other \$3,500 for surgery to remove his internal female organs and complete his sex change.

Shortly after that, Jason met Myles — and the two fell deeply in love.

"Myles told me he desperately wanted to have a child," said Jason, who had told Myles of his incomplete sex change. "I still had the unwanted sex organs that would enable me to have a baby."

But the decision to have a child was a difficult one for Jason, who had dreamed for so long of being a man.

"I was a man — in my mind, in my heart and almost completely in my body," Jason said. "I was no longer a woman!"

"I was torn between wanting to be a man and wanting to have a baby."

"But Myles and I prayed together.

And we decided that because we were going to be together for the rest of our lives, we should have a baby of our own while we still could — a baby that would be the center of our lives forevermore."

Myles recalled, "I knew it was going to be hard on Jason. It was proof of his love for me that he was willing to go through with it."

So last fall Jason stopped taking his male hormones. And six weeks later, he learned the happy news — he was pregnant!

The couple wept, laughed, embraced and drank a toast together in celebration.

But Jason's double-life nightmare was just beginning.

"I went on working in the warehouse," he said. "The guys at work were regular construction guys, people I went out and drank a few beers with after work. Everyone believed I was a man," he said.

"We'd laugh and tell men-type jokes and they never guessed my secret . . . that I was pregnant."

As his pregnancy progressed, Jason found himself starting to get bigger.

"I went up three inches in pant sizes. I started wearing my shirt loose outside my trousers to try to hide it," Jason said.

In his fifth month, Jason left his job and went into hiding at home. "I became a recluse. I dared not go out during the day."

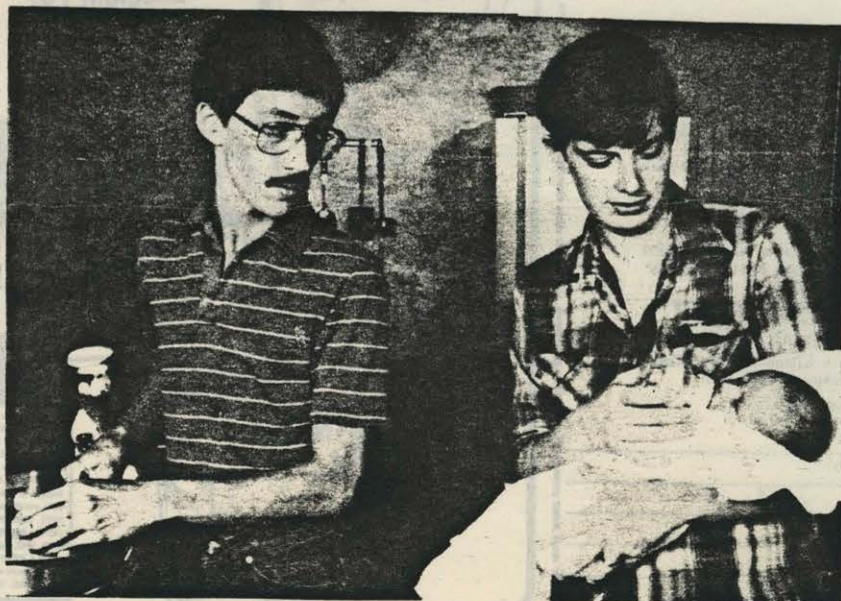
"Sometimes I'd look at myself sideways in the mirror, see my pregnant stomach and

say to myself, 'This is crazy. I'm a man. I can't be having a baby!'"

And finally, under conditions of total secrecy, Jason was admitted to a private room at Atlanta's Crawford W. Long Memorial Hospital.

From medical records and personal examination of Jason, the doctor who delivered the baby confirmed that Jason's sex-change surgery was incomplete and "left him with both a penis and a vagina."

Even During the Birth I Didn't Feel Like a Woman



DAD WITH MAN-MOM: Dad Myles Swain (left), 24, prepares formula while male-mom Jason Cope feeds bottle to their daughter.

I Was Torn Between Wanting to Be A Man and Wanting to Have a Baby

"On June 1, I delivered his baby girl," said the doctor.

Jason remembered the scene in the delivery room.

"Myles was there the whole time," he said. "I was squeezing his hand. But even during the birth I didn't feel like I was a woman."

"When I first saw the baby I knew that God had truly blessed me and Myles and our love for each other. I looked down at Taron and said, 'You'll never be sorry. No baby will ever have as much love as you!'"

And Myles added, "When I saw Jason and my daughter together I just broke down and wept tears of joy."

Gazing fondly at Myles, Jason said, "Now I see it was an act of God that I didn't have enough money to fully complete the sex change."

"God wanted it this way, for us to have this baby who's going to be the bond that keeps us together the rest of our lives."

And now that their daughter has been born, Jason plans to complete the surgery that will at last turn him into a total man.

"As soon as the operation is finished, I'll be 100 percent a man — but a man who had a child."



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Jason took his wife out on the lake for a canoe ride. On the return she said "want it lovely out there on the lake? darling. And with a happy sigh she replied, "It's lovely any place"