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Buffalo Belles Newsletters

Madeline Davis Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,
Transgender Archives of Western New York

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March 1996

Buffalo Belles

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BUFFALO BELLES



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To
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P.O. Box 1701
Anherst, N.Y. 14226-1701

HOTLINE: (716) 643-2626
NU PHI CHI

MARCH, 1996

Pres. Open
Tres./VP: Janice
Newsletter: Kathy
Helper Wench: Jean

Dear sisters,

The February meeting faced two obstacles. The first was the extreme cold that marked the night. The second, was the conflict of another group using the facilities. The two factors added up to one of the worst attendance figures we've had in a long time.

We can't do anything about the weather. How profound! Like, if we could, would anyone leave it like it's been this winter? Having to use the alternative meeting site on occasion is something we also have to deal with. The last time was in June. To remind all, when you come into the parking lot and see more than say ten cars or so, you should look up to your right and see if the lights are on in the second story room and adjacent to the fire escape. Use the fire escape at your own risk!! They

are very sturdy and well built, but can be very difficult to use in heels, going up or down. So if we need to get out fast, in case of fire take your heels off! Otherwise the EM people will be cutting your panty hose in order to put your ankle in a splint! You may still use the normal entrance doors but work your way up past the bathrooms, down the hall to the meeting room. It would be nice if we could know in advance if there will be a conflict that necessitates our going to the alternative site. Hopefully something will be done and we can announce the conflict on the hotline. Be sure to call the hot line for any new information prior to coming to the meeting.

For those who were there., a very nice time was spent with the lovely Mary Kay representative, Cristina Wheeler. She put a thorough and enlightening demonstration of the product line. Cindy allowed herself to be used as the model, (as if she needs makeup) and got half of her face

transformed, marking the striking transformation as the application went along. I hope Cindy remembered to do the undone side before going out on the town later! For those who would like to place an order or set up a personal appointment with Christina, she can be reached at 624-6082. We really would like to thank Christina, and appreciate that she left her warm home and family to come work with us!

The ladies were so caught up in makeup art, that nobody ever thought to go out for our usual pizza. We made do with just the

ATTENDEES

JEAN
PATTI
RENE
KATHY
TAMMY
PAULA
CINDY
DENISE

CINDY &
CHRISTINA



snack bag items and pop that is always there.

The record for most meetings attended has a new title holder. While Janice was staying home under her blankie on the couch making potato sounds, Jean was able to break the tie they had going. We have held a total of 40 meetings now. Two were not recorded, leaving out of possibility of 38, the girls who have attended in double figures are:

Jean 35	Denise 26
Janice 34	Colleen 24
Kathy 32	Holly 22
Patti 28	Dana 20
Tammy 20	Rene 17
Joan 17	Cleo 11
Linda 10	Cindy 9

We had scads more in single digits, in fact we had 26 different sisters attend one or more meetings last year. That isn't too bad out of a membership of 31! Also we have 7 associate members.



Speaking of all you members, have you paid your dues yet? The time has arrived if you haven't! It's \$25 for full membership, \$15 for associate. Dues not received by the next meeting will drop you from our mailing list... This will be your last reminder and final issue of the newsletter. I hope all of you will be back with us. If you don't choose to renew, could you please let us know where we went wrong, or how we can fulfill your needs?

FOR SALE



Breast forms : Cindy would like to sell breast forms that were only used a couple of times, and are made of silicon top quality. These are a real bargain. Contact the hotline with your interest. Price about \$250.00

HELP WANTED

Would someone please volunteer to write a new introduction application package for us? All of us filled one out at one time or another. With several updates, revisions & changes it has become a disjointed mess. We have a good guideline to use.



If you missed our new program of having a second meeting night, you missed a great time. As you may know the second meeting in January was held at the Stage Door in the city of Buffalo. The people at the Stage Door were very accepting and accommodating. If there were any fears in your inners about being in a public place, dressed in your finest, your fears were unfounded and very unnecessary. The people in

the place were very uncaring about our life style. It was an opportunity for us to be ourselves without feeling the need not to be "made".

The members that did attend found a very safe and secure meeting place upstairs from the bar. If one felt they wanted (or needed) a drink it was no problem to wander downstairs and ask the pleasant bartender for a drink. Upstairs was a very clean and pleasant mood setting for a relaxing evening. We also had one of the nicest changing rooms that I have ever seen. The changing room was very roomy (about 10x12) and had very good lighting. It had mirrors galore. (a crossdressers dream come true) We had our own bathroom so the timid ones did not have to go to the bar if they elected

not to. We only had one incident of someone leaving the seat up, that I know of.

There were about eight members present, not a bad showing for the first time meeting at a different place. We had no problem at all eating the whole tray of Pizza and conversing in a relaxing surroundings.

Hope to see you at the next off site meeting.

Jean



first and foremost to produce it as a musical gift to the other several thousand dollars it cost in recording studio produce and distribute the album. Should there will be any other related funds. Cost of the album is \$9.00 plus \$1.00 made out to **SOUNDS-GR8**.

itly appreciated. Possibly you could announce it at one of our newsletter, or even print this letter or the ad that I have

re and additional tunes. I would be happy to provide please contact me if you would like to discuss the

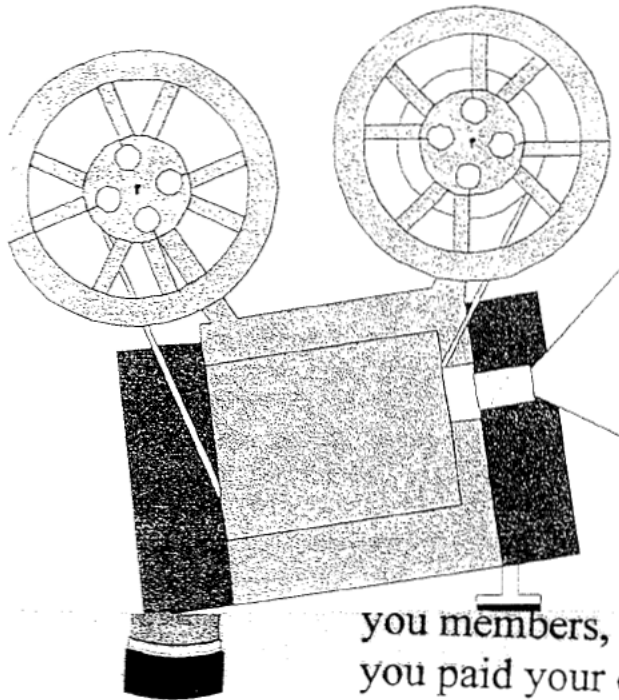
VOTE FOR THREE
SISTERS TO BE OUR
TRIBUNAL!

CINDY -
JEAN
JOAN
KATHY
PATTI

Please see the announcement of the album in *Transgendered/Tapestry*, issue 74, Winter 1995, pg. 23, entitled **Mandy Mandy**. See also the ad on page 10.

Be a movie Star!

We will have a video camera set up at the meeting. You will have the opportunity to record yourself and see instantly what you look like. Bring your favorite dresses, skirts, tops and wig. You can practice your most feminine movements. Laugh and smile. Bring a blank VCR tape and take your movie home! Make your moves, sing a song, have fun!



you members, have you paid your dues yet? The time has

arrived if you haven't! It's \$25 for full membership, \$15 for associate. Dues not received by the next meeting will drop you from our mailing list... This will be your last reminder and final issue of the newsletter. I hope all of you will be back with us. If you don't choose to renew, could you please let us know where we went wrong, or how we can fulfill your needs?



DAR

r video

ons at Niagara on the Lake.

athy the tailor comeing to help make

Amanda [redacted]

P.O. Box 426
Western Springs, IL 60558

Dear Sisters,

I would like to tell you about the release of an album of special music for the "*engendered species*." **Go Lite on the Dressin'** is its title, and its tunes express the joy, warmth, humor and fantasy found in the wide range of experiences of transgendered persons.

The purpose of this album is to give our community an uplifting musical experience. Playing it while dressing up, getting ready for an outing, driving to work, jogging with a walkwoman, etc., will serve to lighten the load we sometimes carry, and help us to feel good about ourselves. After several playings, the listener will find herself humming or singing her favorite verses as she goes about her daily life.

Amanda is a professional musician with years of performing, teaching, directing choral groups and composing. Every lyric is her own original creation and all but 'Tis the Gift and Bus Trip are original melodies. Every vocal and each instrument you hear are sung or played by Amanda. They all blend together in a variety of styles. Songs include:

Go Lite On The Dressin' - 50's style rock and roll about calling in sick so you can stay home and play!

Summertime - A fantasy tune about mini skirts, the beach, lookin' good and getting noticed.

I Need A Real Live Girl - A tribute to those special genuine girls who help us look our best.

Behind Closed Doors - Encouragement for those who who are trying to come out.

A Girl Needs A Friend - About a pet that will make a girl feel great.

Oh So Beautiful - A music box plays as a girl gets dressed and transforms herself.

I'm In A Trance Over Trans - Waking up and deciding if you'll be a guy or girl today.

Let's Dress Up - A guy and his honey decide to spend some time dressing up together.

Bus Trip - Your mind wanders as you daydream.

Crossdressin' Blues - Humorous rhythm and blues on some of the pains we endure to look pretty.

Fancy Panties - Your mother always told you to wear clean underwear; but...

I Wore My Ladies Clothes Last Night - Warm reflections, the morning after.

'Tis the Gift - Acceptance and love of the gift of man and woman within the same person.

Though the album is for sale, my motivation was first and foremost to produce it as a musical gift to the community. The sales revenue will serve to cover the several thousand dollars it cost in recording studio costs, equipment, and advertising needed to produce and distribute the album. Should there will be any profit from it, I will contribute a share of it to gender related funds. Cost of the album is \$9.00 plus \$1.00 for shipping. Checks and money order only, made out to **SOUNDS-GR8**.

Your help in getting the word out would be greatly appreciated. Possibly you could announce it at one of your meetings, or include a line or two in your newsletter, or even print this letter or the ad that I have enclosed.

I am also available for live performances of these and additional tunes. I would be happy to provide entertainment at one of your special events. Please contact me if you would like to discuss the possibilities.

Sincerely,

Amanda [redacted]
Amanda [redacted]

Please see the announcement of the album in *Transgendered/Tapestry*, issue 74, Winter 1995, pg. 23, entitled **Mandy Mandy**. See also the ad on page 10.

by Roger E. Peo, Ph.D.

The ending of one year and the beginning of another is often a time for reflection. What have I done in the past year and what would I like to do in the new year? Perhaps the scope can be even broader, encompassing long-term life changes. As an ancient sage once said, "The longest journey begins with a single step." In fact, the journey is made up of many single steps. Some steps are more difficult than others and some require moving ahead on faith alone.

For those of you who are struggling with transgender issues, perhaps the upcoming year will bring you some peace. Others of you have surpassed the struggle and have found that peace. Where do you go from here? Still others are in a relationship with someone who has transgender concerns and/or desires. What will the new year bring for you?

In a light-hearted way, this new year brings a clean slate upon which you can write "fun" things. As I wrote in an earlier column, transgender persons often take themselves too seriously. When I see you at the various conventions, I often see people having fun. You are enjoying yourselves. However, the tone of newsletters is often somber. Problems and complaints seem to find more room there than do the "fun" happenings and light humor.

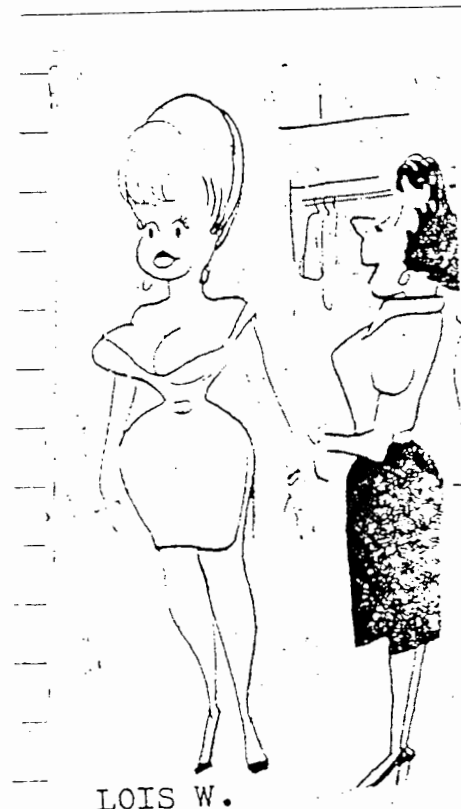
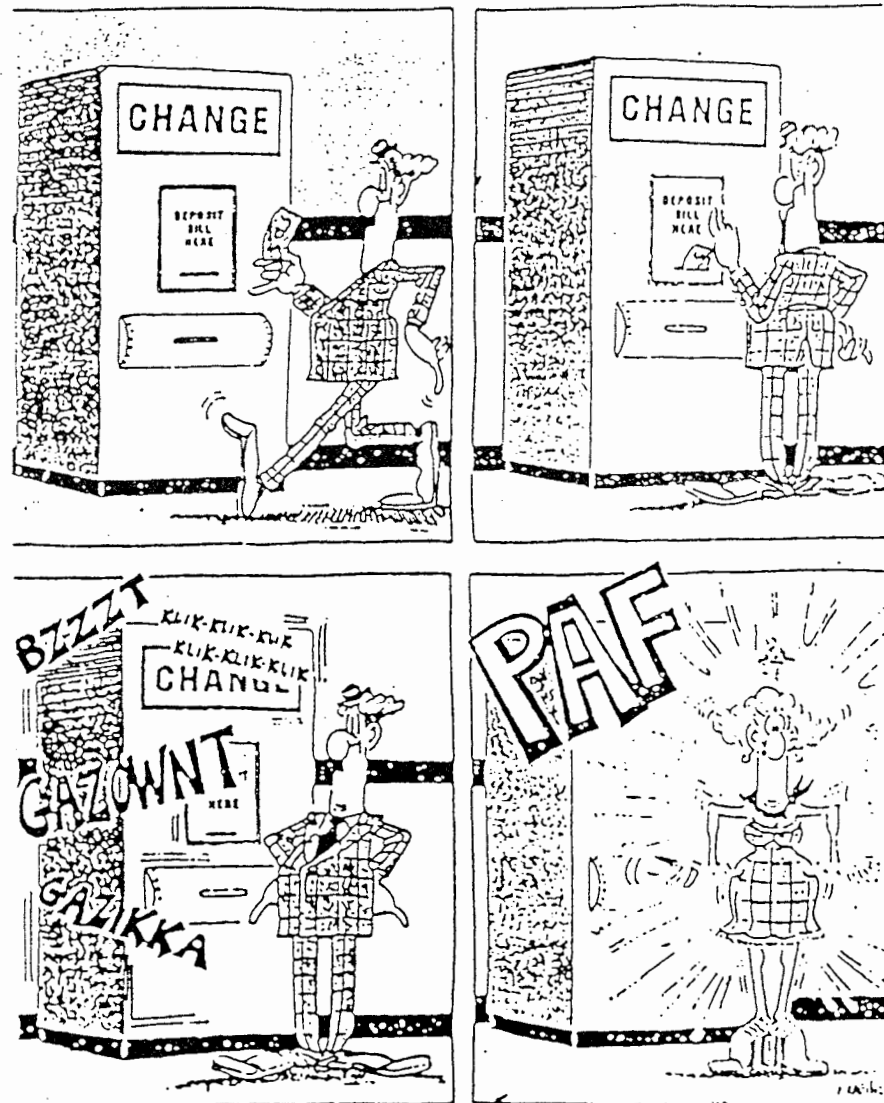
On a different note, we need to look at the future of our community. I still see many of the same people carrying the load.

They are the ones who write the newsletters, collect the dues and organize meetings and conventions. The service they perform for the community is immeasurable. Yet often they are ignored. Worse yet, they are berated for not doing enough or ruffling someone's feathers (ostrich plumes on a fan?). Yes, I know about the 80-20 rule (80% of the work in an organization is done by 20% of the members) but as we take in more members, I don't see new names picking up some of the load.

As a therapist I am trained to see problems and help people find acceptable solutions to them. This sometimes gives me a negative view of life. One of my goals is to take time to have some fun — the problems will wait — they always have. The trick for me, and I suspect for many of you, is not to be overpowered by the problems. I know intellectually that having fun increases my energy so that I can more easily tackle the things life sends my way. The problem is to feel that need and do something about it. This is considered a feminine trait and one we all would do better to adopt.

So, as we move into a new year, further into a new decade and toward the millennium we need to examine our goals and decide what is really important. Somewhere near the top of the list we must include taking time to have fun, to relax and enjoy being alive. Through that focus we will find ourselves rejuvenated and more ready to move forward into a promising future.

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Debbie Chadwell

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