## THE TRANSGENDERIST

#### FEBRUARY 1994

A Publication of Transgenderist's Independence Club, Albany, NY

#### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - Winnie



As you know, this January came close to setting new records for cold and snow in our area. When I feel Cabin Fever coming on, I remember it could be worse and think back to the Winter of 1952 that I spent in Fairbanks, Alaska, 60 miles short of the Arctic Circle.

The sun grazed the horizon for a few hours each day (or so I was told, I never saw it), turning the ice fog grey and allowing visibility for almost 10 yards. The pilot found the place by radar, and assured us that it was the spot where we were supposed to land before thrusting us out into the gloom. For a few weeks, we had 40-below highs and 55-below lows, so I knew it wasn't H-e-l-l. At those temperatures, you have to breathe in very slowly to avoid frostbite of the windpipe, warming the air in your mouth before sucking it into your lungs, and dress like an Eskimo just to cross the street. When the temperature finally got up to 20-below, it felt like a heat wave, and I ventured outside long enough to watch the dog sleds mush.

Another reason why I remember the Winter of 1952 so well is that all the newspapers and magazines were full of stories about this ex-GI who went to Denmark to see a certain Doctor Christian Hamburger and came back a... woman! Yes, Christine Jorgensen was the toast of the town and named Woman of the Year in New York City. Relief of boredom was a good excuse for showing extraordinary interest and twice-reading every last detail of her story. So much for Northern Exposure. As soon as I returned to civilization, I went out and bought the

first bra, panties, garter belt and hose of my very own, unfortunately burnt during a purge a few years later.

Upon hearing of the storm predicted this January 17, I remembered that the holiday in memory of my old buddy Martin Luther King would allow me to relax and delay mailing the final installment of 1993 estimated tax. So, I got up late, watched a foot of snow fall as the temperature plummeted outside and, inside, watched the excitement in Los Angeles on television. I thought about Kymberleigh Richards, editor of Cross-Talk, who lives near the epicenter of the 'quake. She called me later, and says is OK though shook up. Wonder if the Queen Mary survived, or sunk into a pile of rubble?

DINNER PARTIES: Our January party was cancelled because of bad weather. We hope it will be better for our next Dinner Party, scheduled for *February 12* at the *Northway Inn.* Please sign up at the club room or call Joan by Thursday night, February 10.

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#### NEW TGIC MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

With this issue of The Transgenderist. current paid-up members of TGIC are receiving a revised Membership Directory. This directory lists only those members who have indicated a desire to be included, on their most recent membership application or renewal form. While it is now being sent only to current paid-up members, it will be offered to new members upon payment of It is intended to dues. encourage and communication friendship between individual Club Members. The list is sorted by ZIP code. In making contact, please be discreet and strictly observe the following rules to maintain confidentiality:

Address mail exactly as listed. Do not use the "social name" if it is different. Put your own return address on the envelope.

In making a telephone call, ask for the name indicated in that column. Again, do not use the "social name" if it is different. Note: Area Code is (518), unless otherwise given.

The "social name" can be used inside letters and on the phone when you are sure you have the right person.

Do not give this list or disclose individual information to anyone else.

If you are not listed but want to be included in the next revision of this directory, please mark your renewal form or otherwise give your permission in writing for personal information to be listed as follows:

- (1) Name & address only
- (2) Name & phone only
- (3) Name, address & phone

If you are listed but want to be deleted from the next revision, or make any changes, please notify the Club in writing. If you do not renew membership, you will be deleted after final notice.

#### TGIC

PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604 (518) 436-4513 (live Thurs. 8-10 pm)

Transgenderist's Independence Club (TGIC) is a nonprofit, educational, non-sexual social support group for persons wishing to explore beyond the conventional boundaries of gender, including crossdressers, transsexuals and their friends.

#### TGIC Officers

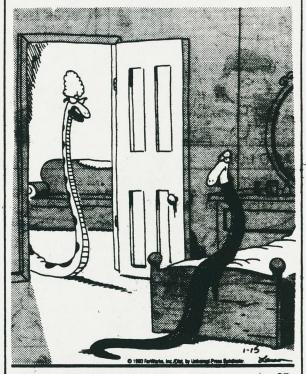
President Wimnie
Vice President Joan
Secretary Joyce
Treasurer Wimnie
Newsletter Editor Wimnie

The Transgenderist is the newsletter of TGIC, published monthly and mailed First Class to members, prospective members, friends, professionals, and exchange publications.

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TGIC General Membership Dues: \$40/yr

#### THE FAR SIDE



"Oh my God, Bernie! You're wearing my nylon?"

Waltham, MA 1/16/94: The Board of Directors of the International Foundation for Gender Education announced today that it will take several initiatives in the coming year to enhance both its educational and charitable programs, and its business base which supports those programs.

The initiatives include shifting current staff personnel to new responsibilities in some cases, hiring new personnel to beef up the corporation's business management operations, a renewed emphasis on product development, and the provision of service support in the medical and academic fields.

Merissa Sherrill Lynn, founding director of IFGE, explains, "IFGE is an educational and charitable organization. We are also a business. The business supports the educational and charitable objectives. The problem is, demand for our services has far outgrown our ability to keep up. We now have too few people trying to wear too many hats. The Board will now begin the search for a qualified executive director, or business manager, and initiate a special fund drive to hire that person. Once that person is found and the funds raised. I will be better able to pursue my responsibilities as founding director, and give greater attention to the educational and charitable objectives of IFGE."

The IFGE Board will undertake a talent search beginning immediately for a qualified person to fill the new position in Waltham. The first screening interviews will be slated for the IFGE "Coming Together" convention scheduled for March 12-20, 1994 in Portland, Oregon. Potential applicants for the Waltham-based job are invited to write to: Merissa S. Lynn, Executive Director, IFGE, PO Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778. Applicants may obtain further information by calling (617) 894-8340.

"We will need additional funds, if we are going to establish new positions, and that means raising new money," IFGE Chair Linda Buten says. "As we conduct our talent search in the next six months, we will also be implementing a strategy to fund the new employee and to improve the working conditions and efficiency of our current staff," Buten adds. "Announcements of other initiatives in the service and product development areas can be expected in coming months," Buten says, "but right now we want to move forward on personnel matters particularly."

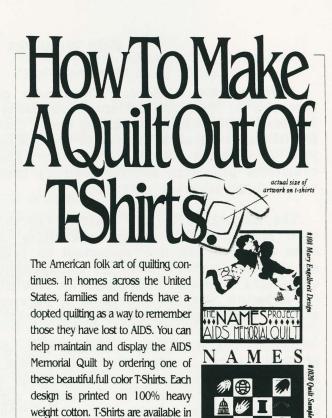
All of the initiatives are based on information developed by IFGE's Strategic Planning Committee (SPC). a group commissioned by the IFGE Board of Directors analyze the organization's mission, strategic intent, product lines and services, and its governing structure. The SPC has examined IFGE's financial position in detail and is in the process of developing long-range plans for staff development, product lines, a marketing plan, and changes in the governance of the corporation, among other areas of concern. "I believe 1994 will "turn-around" the year for financially, and 1995 should "breakthrough" year, if general business conditions continue to improve," notes Laura Caldwell. Chair of the SPC and financial advisor to the corporation. "Our corporate financial health needs constant monitoring but we can be optimistic about our future. IFGE's financial picture has been steadily improving in recent months and the signs remain positive for 1994 and beyond," Caldwell added.

"The demand for gender-related products and services has been expanding rapidly in recent years," notes Linda Buten. "Our educational products, our conventions and outreach programs, our flagship quarterly, <u>Tapestry</u>, and our professional staff in Waltham make it possible for IFGE to meet these growing demands," Buten adds. "But, like many new organizations and like many non-profits, IFGE has experienced growing pains. IFGE has had trouble keeping pace with the demand," Buten frankly admits. "We need to grow along with our consumer base, but that requires development capital.

Our fund-raising efforts have helped tremendously to meet the financial requirements, but more investment capital is needed, if we are to continue to grow and keep pace with the demands that are being placed upon us," Buten explains. "That's why we are taking these additional steps."

"We have taken many bold quantum leaps in the history of our organization," Lynn concludes. "For the Board to commit itself to raising the funds and hiring a business manager is just such a leap. Thanks to this courageous initiative, IFGE will greatly improve its ability to conduct business, raise funds, and to pursue its educational and charitable objectives. It is a great step forward for IFGE, and for our community."





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### MOONLIGHT IN MANHATTAN - S. Kristine

The Greater New York Gender Alliance is proud to announce Moonlight In Manhattan, April 21 to 24, 1994 at the Inn on 57th Street, New York, NY. This will be the premier social event of the year for our entire community. Three days of sight-seeing, shopping, television shows, dining, seminars, and night club hopping will be high-lighted by the fabulous dinner-dance. Thrill to the sights and sounds of the Big Apple.

Go shopping en femme at Macy's, A&S, Sachs, or anywhere. Attend interesting seminars presented by Mariette Pathy Allen, Jim Bridges, and others. Be in the audience of a famous television show. Dine in many of New York's famous restaurants. Dance and socialize in many famous TV night clubs like Sally's II, Edelweiss, Caroline's, Judy's and more.

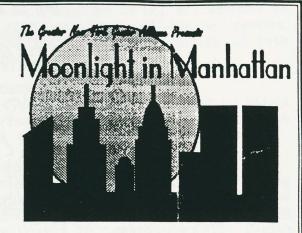
AND THEN... the divine dinner-dance on Saturday, April 23 in the Imperial Ballroom of the Inn on 57th Street. You will experience a sumptuous, all you can eat fabulous entertainment dinner buffet, provided by the highly acclaimed ladies of the Imperial Court of New York, and meet your friends from all over the world. There will be dancing until the wee hours and then the hardy souls will head out to New York's after hours clubs. The weekend will conclude with a buffet breakfast on Sunday.

The 1994 proceeds will benefit IFGE and the Gender Identity Project of New York (teenage program). Registration forms and information can be obtained from:

New York, NY 10036

Phone: Monday through
Thursday evenings from 6 to 10 pm EST.

(Some forms are available in the TGIC Cub
Room).



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Contact: Lynda Frank, Registrar GREATER NEW YORK GENDER ALLIANCE

330 W 45th St., 3H New York, NY 10036 212-765-3561 Mon-Thurs 6-10 p.m. EST

# Gay beauty pageant aids Philippine charity

MANILA, Philippines — Wearing heavy makeup and silicon breasts, 24 contestants paraded down the catwalk Saturday in the fifth annual "Miss Gay Philippines — Five Prettiest" beauty pageant.

More than 1,000 enthantastic spectators, mostly from Manila's homeexual community and one-third of them in drag, packed into the Philippine International Convention Center for the glitzy four-hour spectacle.

Proceeds from sales of tickets, priced at \$5.50 each, will go to the Dominican Sisters of the Holy Rosary, a Roman Catholic charity, pageant organizer Jun Encarnacion said.

Linda



#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

POLICY: Short announcements and advertisements from Club Members are published free for two consecutive months (once each in TGIC News and The Transgenderist), unless cancelled by the originator or a specific request to continue is made.

#### **BOOKCASE WANTED**

With recent donations of books and magazines, the bookcase and file cabinet in our Club Room are overflowing. If any of you have a spare bookcase you are willing to donate to the Club, please contact us. Measure its size, so we can make sure it will fit somewhere in the room.

#### ACCESSORIES BY MAIL

THE RIGHT TOUCH, a new mail order catalog, offers exclusive, specially proportioned, high fashion accessories (jewelry, belts and more) for the larger woman, including the transgendered.

Belts fit waists from 31" to 50" with special orders taken for larger sizes. 19" chokers and 9" bracelets all have removable links to adjust the size if desired. Completing the collection are earrings, pins, watches, scarves and wraps, as well as handbags made with extra-long shoulder straps.

The catalog has an unusually large selection of designer belts and the majority of items are not found at retail. All of this was in answer to the constant demands by the larger woman for fashion accessories that are exciting to wear, but until now have been left out of the mainstream of fashion. To receive a catalog, you can write or call:

1-800-233-2883 The Right Touch 95-60 Queens Blvd., Dept. TN205 Rego Park, NY 11374

#### TRI-ESS MEETINGS

The LCL Chapter of Tri-Ess, a National organization for heterosexual crossdressers, meets in Schenectady on the third Saturday of each month. They encourage wives and girlfriends to attend, and have a more active couples focus than TGIC at this time. Members of TGIC are welcome to attend their meetings; there is a meeting fee to pay for the motel suite. Contact us for LCL meeting times and location. In a reciprocal

agreement, members of LCL are welcome at all TGIC meetings and dinner parties. Several individuals are members of both groups.

#### HORMONES BOOK

The Club has copies of this book by Shiela Kirk for sale @ \$8 if picked up in the Club room, or \$9.50 by mail. Ask Winnie.

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518/486-6149

#### John W. Morse

Computer Programmer/Analyst

Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Information Support 800 North Pearl Street. 2nd floor Albany. New York 12204-1822

#### CALENDAR

Regular Meetings are held every Thursday at the TGIC Club Room on Central Avenue in Albany, 7:30 - 10:30 pm. Some come earlier and stay later, but it is wise call if you are not a Keyholder or if it is your first visit. Come dressed either way, meet and talk with friends. Many continue to socialize at one of the Central Ave. night spots after the meetings.

#### FEBRUARY 1994

Feb 10 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Feb 12 Saturday, 8 pm

Dinner Party, Northway Inn

Feb 17 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Feb 24 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

#### **MARCH 1994**

Mar 3 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Mar 10 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Mar 12 Saturday, 8 pm

Dinner Party, Northway Inn

Mar 17 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Mar 24 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

Mar 31 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm

#### MAJOR COMING EVENTS

Contact TGIC for more information. Some registration brochures are available in the Club Room

Feb 25-27 Texas 'T' Party, San Antonio

Mar 12-20 IFGE Convention, Portland, OR

Apr 21-24 Moonlight in Manhattan, NY

4/27-5/1 California Dreamin'. Burbank

May 19-22 Paradise in the Poconos, PA

May 20-22 A Taste of Esprit, Port Angeles, WA

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#### HOSTS:

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