

## WENDI &amp; DIANE ATTEND A CELEBRATION



Wendi, Ed Buck (recall founder), & Diane at the Evan Mecham Recall success celebration.

It was a gala event and both Wendi and Diane were present at the celebration party recently held at the Hyatt hotel here in Phoenix. The Even Mecham Recall was over and as a reward to all those who circulated petitions, they were invited, compliments of the recall committee, to the victory celebration. Wendi was the activist here, getting her petitions filled during the past few months. There were probably over 1000 people at the event and Wendi, Judee, Diane and Jennifer, a Tri-Ess member visiting from the mid-west, danced the night away along with all the other celebrants. It was truly a night to remember.

## ALPHA ZETA TAKES TO THE AIR WAVES

by Diane ■

I can't say I was shocked when I opened up the Alpha Zeta P.O. Box and saw the letter from the local Phoenix talk radio station, KFYI. I was a little nervous though. KFYI found our classified ad in the "New Times," and decided we could be a topic for conversation. My first reaction was to call other chapter members, and when Terri agreed to do an interview, I called the radio station and we set a date. The interview was to be with Tom Leykis, the more liberal but also outrageous talk show host, during the afternoon prime-time slot. We were told there would be no pre-show interview, so we were going into the studio somewhat blind, not knowing Tom's stand on crossdressing. On a Thursday afternoon, we drove to the radio

station dressed as women ready for anything! Terri and I walked into the KFYI studio, past two security guards and were met by the man who had set up the interview. As we waited in the lobby we could see Tom Leykis through a window to the studio, where he worked a console littered with switches, buttons, wires, lights and a computer monitor, looking like a scaled down version of the bridge of the Starship Enterprise.



Diane and Terri ■ at KFYI Radio

There was no pre-show interview, except a few reassuring comments from our host. He treated us like ladies, and that's all we could ask. Tom interviewed us for the first segment, then went to the phone callers. Terri took a little heat from him when she said she did not tell girlfriends about her crossdressing on the first date. I dreaded the possibility that Tom would engage us in arguments and I could see the room exploding in a rampage of cutting remarks. But, Terri handled herself well and Tom backed off a bit. A while later, a male caller defended Terri and her discretion about "telling all" at the beginning of a relationship. After that, Tom was much more supportive. However, not all the people who called in defended us. Our first caller was an elderly lady who could not understand us and thought that having us on the air was in bad taste. She would not listen and her mind was firmly set on traditional do's and don'ts etched in granite. Two young girls who called in were fascinated by us and asked some good questions. Some callers tried to argue or make us look silly, but we were able to take a positive approach with each call and did not become defensive. Some



women were extremely supportive. One asked about my relationship with my wife and said that we were probably closer than most couples, because I could understand a woman's perspective and be able to share much more.

Near the end of the first hour, a caller asked for my opinion of which restroom to use. I can't publicly promote using the Ladies Room to crossdressers, so I told him that the only safe answer to the question is to go home and use your own restroom. Anything else is taking a chance, unless the restrooms are for Men, Women and Others. Tom didn't quite pick up my subtle humor saying, "Well I've never seen one marked Others," at which time Terri added, "But you may!" Which broke him up. At that point, they went to the news. Off the air, I told Tom just how ironic the call was, because I really did have to use the restroom. I asked him which I should use and he said that the Ladies room would probably be safer, pointing out where it was. In a way that was a high point for me: I felt acceptable to KFYI.

The next hour progressed smoothly, but the time went very fast. You actually spend less time than you'd think on the air than, due to so many news and weather reports, traffic updates and commercials. We generated enough interest by the end of the next hour for Tom to invite us to stay for a third hour. We covered a lot of ground, with little substantial opposition. Most who did not approve of us were simply confused. One man never did figure out that we were not homosexuals. We didn't change many minds, but at least we had many interested listeners.

After the interview, we snapped some photographs and bade farewell to Tom Leykis and KFYI. It was dark outside and I was thankful for the security guards (some of them women). On the way home, Terri turned on the radio and we heard Mark Williams, the talk show host following Tom Leykis. Mark took the opportunity to rip us to shreds. He used anything he could to generate negative feedback for us, an easy move for him, since we were out of the studio, unable to comment. He did get a few laughs from Terri and I, but only a few callers commented about us, mostly men interested in name calling. All in all it was a good time and we did get some publicity by giving the Alpha Zeta address on the air. It was an interesting experience that wound up to be a lot of fun. The hardest part turned out to be the initial decision to do the interview. The rest just happened.

### The Editor's Corner By: Wendi Danielle P.

Hello girls, I hope this newsletter reaches all of you in good health and all has been well during the past month. This month I would like to talk a little about some very important people, "significant others". I don't really like this term but it seems to be the widely accepted definition that our subculture uses to describe our female



(or male) mates, friends, etc.. These people, in some cases, are our best and closest confidant in our thoughts and interaction with this subculture. In other cases they are tolerant, but do not wish to actively participate when we are in our counter genetic roles. In other cases, these people are negative toward our desires to explore this side of our nature, and in a few cases, these people have no idea of our desires. We fear that if they ever found out, they would be unable to handle our nature and we would lose them.

With such a diversity of "others" one could ask, "Is there anything that all these people have in common and also, is there anything that we might say that would make sense and apply to all of them?". The answer is, "Yes there is!". The thing they all share is, that knowing or not, they are all deeply into a relationship with a transgenderist. In this context I mean a person who, at least a portion of the time, desires to be in the opposite genetic role. This role, which we have thought about for a good portion of our lives, is a part of us. We have fought it, tried to suppress it, came to grips with it, nurtured it and finally are at the point that we enjoy being in the role to the point where we have become social creatures when in it. Some more social than others, but we all have taken the step of joining an organization that has a transgender theme as it's most basic requirement for being. We have found that we are not alone in our desires any more. We know that even though a small portion of the general population has desires similar to our own, we are in the company of many with hundreds of groups around the country providing the interaction that we all desire.



Now, lets look at the second part of our question a few moments back. What could be said to such a widely diverse group such as our "others". Well, for starters one could say that they are evolving just as we are. Evolution is a fact of life. We all do it and I would guess to say that there are many times in our lives when we could say, "I never thought I'd be doing (or saying) this!". Life has it's hidden surprises for us and it's in our nature to seek these new avenues out.

The involvement of our "other" in our transgender activities is, in most cases, a very desirable thing. If they are actively participating in our exploration of this transgender lifestyle, then we have the opportunity to share much with them. In the past few years Judee and I have met a number of couples that had this type of relationship and you could see the closeness that they had attained. One couple even went so far as to be remarried in reverse roles, a dramatic statement of their commitment to each other. Such a close relationship also helps both to get through the tougher times when major problems not related to the transgender lifestyle need to be surmounted. Others, Judee and I have met, tell of the fun of traveling together and shopping or dining experiences that were even more memorable because they did it together. Group functions can be enhanced when a comparison of mental notes that both have taken during the evening are discussed on the way home. The conversation can at times be more lively and satisfying then the evening itself, because those that are being discussed are no longer present. (They're having the same type of discussion about your outfit ,dear!).

For those that fall into the remaining categories of "other" involvement, the key might be to test the waters a little more once in a while. Maybe you have never given her (or him) a chance, people can really surprise you sometimes, or, maybe they might be more willing to participate if they felt that they had something to contribute. They can be your best critic and teacher (Judee is mine), if you give them a chance. In those cases where there is no knowledge at all, you might start by saying that there is an additional part of your life that you would like to share with them.

We are only here on this orb for a short period of time and if we don't get everything out of this time that we desire, it's only ourselves we have to blame so, until next month girls, "GO FOR IT!".

### The First Lady's Notebook

By: Diane

This is my last entry into the notebook, my "swan song" so to speak. It's hard to think of one specific thing to say, and maybe the best thing to do is to try and tie up some loose ends and attempt to answer some questions still left unanswered. Therefore, this entry will focus on three predictable topics, the past, present and future of Alpha Zeta.



**Past:** I won't dwell on the past, except to say that Alpha Zeta has accomplished the basic goals that were set forth. These goals were simply to offer friendship and information to other crossdressers, to let them know they're not alone; to educate the public, professionals and students on the real motivations and habits of crossdressing; and disprove false stereotypes. Finally, we offered a place for crossdressers to go at least once a month. No matter how large or small the group became, Alpha Zeta continued toward these goals. Being First Lady was a real honor, a lot of work, and a lot of fun. I met many interesting people and developed some close friendships. At times I guess we all wonder why we crossdress, act and feel like a woman, but for those who understand, it may be an expression of beauty, or even a reconciliation of the masculine and feminine sides of our own personalities. Those of us who feel the need to embrace our own femininity do have support, if we need it. There were many people who sought out our support group, not always wanting to join, and we were usually able to help in some way. There are many crossdressers out there who just need the reassurance that they're not alone. We've helped a lot of people since Alpha Zeta began in 1984, and I am just happy to have been part of it.

**Present:** At this time, Alpha Zeta is in the midst of a difficult transition. This follows Tri-Ess national's firming-up of the policy that all members of local chapters must maintain national membership. A plan

was needed to deal with this and to give support to the formation of our sister group, A Rose. This plan required discussion and support, before it could be effective. The critical meetings to discuss the plan were held November and December, 1987, for implementation in January, 1988. This was the reason for the seriousness surrounding the December business meeting, which was held along with the Christmas party. This meeting had sufficient criticism in the January, 1988 issue of the newsletter to warrant some response. Very simply, Alpha Zeta was faced with issues that affected the foundations of the chapter and we, as a group, had to take care of this business at the December meeting. Sometimes, in an organization like this, there must be some sacrifices to keep things running smoothly. That night, we sacrificed some of our party time for the sake of the future of our chapter. The issues covered that night received input from everyone there. This demanded more time than usual, but everyone who desired to speak was heard.

The December meeting included a party and a gift exchange, but as with all of the Alpha Zeta meetings, the business meeting was also on the agenda. I was under the impression that everyone had enjoyed the evening. I was very surprised to read in the cover story in the January, 1988 newsletter that some didn't consider the party a success and it was assumed that many left with "an unsatisfied feeling." Much time went into the preparation for the party, and all was appreciated. There were also many hours spent preparing materials and information for the business meeting. The appreciation for the extra effort and time we put in is often difficult to quantify. Also, we sometimes have to put in a little more time than anticipated for the good of the organization. In December, we had business to take care of that couldn't wait, and it was taken care of. For those who were "frustrated, bothered or bored with the events of the evening," as stated in the newsletter, please accept my apologies.

**Future:** Terri has been elected as First Lady of Alpha Zeta for 1988 and I would like to wish her all the success and support for the future. This is a time when the chapter is growing and there are many opportunities. She has served as the Secretary/Treasurer for two years, been very active in chapter affairs, contributed consistently to the newsletter, attended national Tri-Ess events and been active in speaking publicly on crossdressing. She'll be an excellent first

lady. But, along with leadership, the future of the chapter rests with a commonality in purpose of the members. We're all trying to deal with crossdressing, and all the complexities that go with it. And we offer support to others like us.

Thanks to all of you in the chapter for your friendship and participation during my time as your first lady!

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### A Special Letter to Alpha Zeta

February 6, 1988

Sisters,

Thank you for your confidence and faith in electing me First Lady (of Alpha Zeta). I will work as diligently as I can to fulfill the duties required of my position, but talk about a hard act to follow! My predecessor, Diane, has been the architect and driving spirit behind this chapter since its inception, and I have witnessed its rise like a true Phoenix from the ashes. It's my goal to have it spread its wings and soar to new and greater heights. But, I can't do it alone and I know that I won't be alone. I am happy to have Diane and Ericka as sister officers, to tap their logic and expertise in administrative and business matters. I am glad to be able to appoint other capable sisters to supplementary important positions. What I really want is to get a certain degree of commitment out of every member, so that when ever we do something, we do it as a group. Everyone has ideas, let's share them and work together to make our chapter what we believe it can be.

Sincerely,  
Terri ■

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### A Rose Update

By: Wendi Danielle P.

In February, we had our first social gathering. There were 25 tentative members, guests and associate members present and before the night had ended, we had a commitment from almost all that they would like to join the group. A few were also generous enough to help our treasury out a little with their annual dues, however, a prospective member can attend three functions before dues are required.

The festivities began about 8:00pm and by 9:30 most had arrived. Several Spectrum members were in attendance and it seemed



like old home week for some, seeing friends that had not been contacted in years. Also, several people had traveled quite a distance to attend. We had a tentative member from Flagstaff and of course Rosalind from New Mexico. California was not represented, but I have been in contact with our tentative western most member and she indicated that she will be in town next week for a brief visit. She also said that she would love to meet some of the other girls.

No business was presented or discussed at the social gathering as is the policy with our group, but there will be a business meeting prior to our next social event. Both the business meeting and the social event will be at Terri J.'s on Saturday, March 5th. The social evening will begin at 8:00pm and there will be a \$3 per person or \$5 per couple cover to defer the cost of refreshments and munchies. Prior to the social gathering, we will hold a brief business meeting starting at 7:00pm. We will be discussing officer elections and also any comments you may have on our constitution. All members and associates are urged to attend so we can get these necessary items resolved. See you on the 5th. (ed: local members See enclosed map)

#### Alpha Zeta Update

by: Terri

The January meeting was held at Diane's house. In attendance were Rosalind, Diane, Ericka, Terri F., Wendi & Judee, Sandy, Jackie, Norma & Betty, Lynda & Jackie, Terri J., Angela & Kathy, Mae, Cindy, Vanessa (with little Matthew), Joanna and Jessica. We were joined by a new friend and sister, Tricia, who we hope will become our newest member.

Several things were accomplished at this meeting. First of all, we held our elections for officers and because we had a quorum, we were able to confirm Terri F. as our new First Lady, Ericka as Second Lady and Diane as secretary/treasurer. Congratulations, Girls! We also decided to stay with fifteen dollars a year for chapter dues, and to keep the third Saturday of each month as our meeting night. Ericka has been chosen chairperson of a committee to look at our present constitution. joined by Terri F. and Diane.



Diane informed us that our request for associate members for chapter members not currently enrolled as National Tri-Ess members has been vetoed by National, but that everything else in our plan to realign with National Tri-Ess was acceptable. Simply stated, as of June 1988, all Alpha Zeta members will be required to join National Tri-Ess without exception.

In other business, Diane and Terri F. talked about going on Tom Leykis's show on KFYI radio January 14th. They will spend about three hours on the air, talking about and taking calls about heterosexual cross-dressing. We hope that we will educate the public a little and, hopefully, reach some sisters still in the closet. We would like to thank KFYI for allowing us to appear and for treating us so graciously. By the time this newsletter comes out we also will have spoken before another of Dr. Whitham's classes at ASU. Also in coming months, we will be speaking at a number of Psychology seminars at Paradise Valley Community College. I will have more to say on this at the February meeting.

After this meeting, Diane's living room may never be the same, after being turned into a bargain basement for our first "Swap Meet". Everyone got into a "wardrobe feeding frenzy", picking over clothes, shoes and other articles brought in by each of us. Donations were at the consumer's discretion, and our treasury swelled by \$19 by the end of the evening. Thanks Lynda for the great idea!

The February meeting will be at Cindy's home (ed: local members see enclosed map). The program will feature the playing of some of the KFYI radio interview with Tom Leykis, don't miss it!

#### Alpha Zeta Treasury Report

Balance as of 12/31/87.....	328.18
Paid Out.....	0.00
Income.....	10.00
Interest.....	1.65
Balance as of 1/31/88.....	339.83

#### Alpha Zeta Monthly Meeting

By: Diane I.

The meeting for this month will be held at Cindy's house on February 20th. Social activities will begin at 7:30 p.m. and a business meeting will be held at 8:30 p.m. The program following the meeting will be on community outreach in the Phoenix area and includes selections from a radio appearance



by Diane and Terri. Also, there will be clothes (left over from last month's swap meet) available for sale to raise money for the chapter. Further, a limited number of Tri-Ess pins are available for sale to current national members for a cost of \$7 each. This is Terri's first meeting as Alpha Zeta's First Lady. See you there!

#### A Rose Treasury Report

Balance as of 1/1/87.....	30.00
Paid Out.....	0.00
Income.....	247.00
Interest.....	0.00
Balance as of 2/6/88.....	277.00

#### National Events

##### "1988 I.F.G.E. Convention"

The I.F.G.E. is ready to roll in Chicago this month. The dates will be February 24th to February 28th, 1988. It's should be a good convention, a chance to meet many new friends and learn about the issues that our subculture is dealing with.

This year the I.F.G.E. is trying to get as many professionals as possible to attend the convention and participate in the workshops. There is also a good possibility that continuing education credits will be forthcoming for these workshops. If you know of someone or are seeing a counselor who specializes in gender related issues, please inform him or her of this event and contact either Diane or Wendi to get a brochure to pass along.

If you need more information write to:

I.F.G.E.  
Po Box 19  
Wayland, Mass. 01778  
(617) 358-2305

#### Spring 1988 Pocono Fantasy Festival

On May 13-15th this fully catered event takes place in Stroudsburg, Pa.. Highlights mentioned include parties, contests and a secluded resort environment. For more information Contact:

Joyce [redacted]  
[redacted]  
Jackson Heights, NY. 11372  
(718) [redacted]

#### Tiffany Spring Fling

The last weekend in May the Tiffany club will sponsor it's annual spring outing in Provencetown. For more information contact:

Tiffany Club  
Po Box 19  
Wayland Mass. 01778

#### Be All You Want To Be Weekend

June 8-12 will be the dates for this annual event. For more information Contact:

Crossroads Chapter  
PO Box 1298  
Flint, Mi. 48601

#### Shangri-La West Summer Fun

In July the Shangri-La Club will be sponsoring this annual event in Stallion Spring, Ca.. For more information Contact:

Shangri-La Club  
PO Box 18202  
Irvine, Ca. 92713

#### Food For Thought

(Ed: Due to the amount of information this month, this regular column is being omitted)

#### Personal Adds

Room to Rent: TV has room to rent in large Scottsdale home, private bath, share kitchen, would prefer TV or TS individual, contact Anita or this newsletter.

Volunteers Needed: Doctoral candidate in Clinical Psychology seeks individuals interested in participating in research on crossdressing. Privacy completely respected. Contact: Glenn [redacted]  
Box 11 NY, NY. 10001

#### TV-TS TAPESTRY

P.O. Box 19  
Wayland, Ma. 01778  
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Mesa, Arizona 85204

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Your electrologist wants you informed.

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## The Photo Page



Top row: Angela, Rosalind, Ericka, Mae, Norma, Joanna, Terri ■ Diane, Lynda  
 Bottom row: Sandie, Wendi, Terri ■ Cindy, Vanessa, Jackie, and Jessica