

THE TRANSGENDERIST - NOV/DEC 1992

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

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN: - Winnie [REDACTED]

Our Thursday night meetings have been well attended in recent months, and seating is sometimes tight. We can thank Tina for fixing the leg of our couch, so you don't have to worry about it collapsing. We have two broken kitchen chairs stored in the attic; the metal supports need welding or brazing. Can anyone volunteer to repair them? We are still looking for someone to undertake the task of updating our *Shopping Guide*. Also, nominations for *Club Officers* must be submitted to Joyce by November 19 - don't hold back, we need you!

I was out of town on October 8 and missed the *Poetry Reading* at our meeting, but I hear several members read their compositions and the evening went well. Melodie gave me one of her poems, and you'll find it on p. 8 of this newsletter. However, nobody claimed the Limerick prize.

I happened to be in Houston, Texas that week, and spent the weekend dressed, including a meeting of the gender group GCTC at a Mexican restaurant. They invited a number of local politicians who are running for office this year to come and present their positions on issues of concern to the community, and ten or so showed up; we vote, too. The Houston girls were very hospitable, and showed me where the friendly bars were; I also spent one day in Galveston and another at the Art Museum. Best of all, it's still warm down there, so I got to wear a Summer dress one last time.

Melodie's *Sixties' Party* on October 17 was very much enjoyed by all who came - about a dozen people in all, including Arlene and Karen from Cooperstown. The food and punch were great, and it was fun to listen to the old rock & roll songs again. Tina and Karen provided some live music. Thanks, Melodie; we know you'll love your new house, and hope you have finished the left-overs by now!

DINING-OUT PARTIES: - Winnie B.

Our first dinner party was held on September 26 at the Northway Inn and went very well without a hitch; there were 15 of us ladies at the table in a nook of the dining room, more than I had expected and a good omen for the future of these parties. The menu is very good and reasonably priced, and the meal was enjoyed by all, with separate checks. Afterwards, some girls dallied in the bar at the Northway Inn for a while, but most of us ended the evening at *Deceptions*. This newsletter is being printed before the second party set for October 24, but I'll give you a report next month.

The next party is *Thanksgiving Dinner* scheduled for Saturday, November 21 at 8 pm, again at the Northway Inn. Once more, I will open the Club Room at 6 pm that evening for changing. All coming should sign-up by Thursday, November 19 to ensure reservations. Please sign the sheet posted in the Club Room, or get word to us by mail or phone.

We have set a date for the *Club Christmas Party*: Saturday, December 19. However, the format, place and time are still to be determined by our Programs Committee. If you have any good ideas, do let them know. Since the last two Thursdays in December are Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, this will be our final meeting of the year.

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COOPERSTOWN EXCURSION: - Winnie B.

Final arrangements have been made for our excursion on Sunday, November 8 to Cooperstown for a private visit to the *Corvette Americana Hall of Fame*, located on Route 28 just South of the village. Arlene has invited us to a party at her home in the afternoon, starting at 4 pm, before going to the museum after 7 pm. She will make a room available for anyone needing to change.

We will organize carpools for those who want to share rides. Let us know whether you would prefer to drive or be a passenger. We are asking a donation of \$5 per person party fee to the Club. All of you who plan to go must notify the Club by November 5 and pick up a flyer giving directions to Arlene's place at the Club Room, or give us enough time to mail you a copy.

SHOPPING SENSE: - Paul K.

Crossdressers have three basic problems in shopping:

1) **Sizes.** We aren't built like women. Most of us have bigger shoulders than hips. We can buy separates, but even jackets can be a bit odd if not taken in some. It's surprising how inexpensive it can be to have garments altered, so finding a good seamstress can be very useful. You can then buy outfits for your shoulders, and have them taken in at the waist and hips.

2) **Try-on.** Women spend lots of time looking at how various shapes and colors look on them, but unless we pass extremely well, or find a very unique store, we have to wait until we get home. Most stores have strict rules about women in the dressing rooms, and who can blame them?

3) **Prices.** For most TVs, investment dressing is silly. We don't need good leather shoes that wear well, we need good-looking props. A woman who spends \$120 for a suit may wear it 20 times a year for the next 3 years, or \$2 for each wearing. We may wear it 5 times, or \$24 for each wearing.

If you have the cash then spend it, but make sure you get the service along with your purchase.

My solution to these issues is to collect interesting wardrobe pieces wherever and whenever I see them, and keep them. I recently bought a new skirt, and found it went with a jacket I bought seven years ago and had never worn. I bought the jacket because it was inexpensive (marked down) and I liked it, and it paid off. I know that this style of shopping isn't for everyone, but for me, much of the fun of dressing up is the fun of fashion, building a new look.

Some Thoughts On Clothing

Clothing serves two purposes, in addition to keeping warm. It changes the way we feel about ourselves, and it sends other people social messages about who we are.

Some of us crossdress because of the way it makes us feel. For example, we may feel powerful when dressed in a business suit, comfortable in a sweat suit, or sexy in a silk shirt. We may choose clothing to enjoy the sensations, to change the way we feel about ourselves. We may feel freer to act in a different way while wearing a dress than we would in jeans.

Some may crossdress because of the messages that clothing conveys to others. For example, people respond differently to a person in a business suit than to someone in a sweat suit. We may be saying that we want to express our femininity by playing a role, or that we are transexual, feeling like a woman inside while a man outside.

For most crossdressers, a mixture of these two reasons comes into play. Few of us have one specific reason, and as we learn more about ourselves by experimentation, the reasons may change. The goal of TGIC is to allow people to experiment, to explore their need to wear clothing designed for the opposite sex.

Because we dress for different reasons, we shop for different reasons. Some just want some good lingerie to help them feel good, others need a full wardrobe to live as a woman and send out those messages to others, and others are somewhere in between.

COMING OUT CAPERS: PART II - Laurie B.

(Part I appeared in Jan/Feb, 1992)

Letting the cat out of the bag, and telling folks about crossdressing, can be frightening. And full of surprises, as I recently found out.

After opening up to my wife, who not only supported my TV tendencies, but was waiting for me to start dressing (she thought there was something about me that suggested femininity), changes took place that were noticed by others. Off went the mustache, more attention was paid to dress and cleanliness, and facial moisturizers helped to give a more youthful appearance. Also, an exercise program was started - "just 'cause you're forty, doesn't mean your waist has to match your age". But most importantly, a more relaxed demeanor - "No more acting like I had a bug up my behind", as my wife puts it.

People at work noticed right away, and told me how amazing my "transformation" was. Funny choice of words, but confidence boosting. I laughingly told them it was the added estrogens, especially after my work area went from "landfill" to "neat" (my version, which differs slightly from a real woman's). One woman said women were neat and clean due to the hormones, because her own sons were almost genetically filthy. I told her my female hormones must have jumped.

Some of the other women at work whom I kibitz with noticed that, every time they entered the halls, we were running into each other, almost magically - perhaps woman's intuition? I asked about joining their walking-in-the-rain, trench coat and

umbrella society for women. I could, they said, but only if I shaved my legs (if they only knew)!

My going from a grungy, eternally unhappy male with repressed TV tendencies to a more open intermediate state between male and female, didn't bring down the world, though a large number of amazed folks wondered. But just as my wife picked up on my internal tendencies, which find physical expression whether you wish it or not, so did her friends.

Friend No. 1 saw my bare, shaven hands and forearms on a trip to New York City, and remembered my talk about a great club I belonged to. My wife took a gamble and explained my little secret. "Terrific, I am so glad for him", was the reply. A young, 23 year old woman with a ballerina's (or gymnast's) shape and a feminine sensuality, she was not going to burn me at the stake. The first open disclosure would not result in the end of the world. Such relief! But what was to follow blew me away.

On a trip back from the Big Apple with my friend, I started discussing my dressing, and how I preferred "falsies that bounced, with long nipples". This made her laugh. But we developed a close woman's communion, and learned of our shared likes (tight Spandex, and short skirts). And then the bombshell. This most feminine woman had always wanted to be a man, and wanted a penis!! I joked about trading body parts, but only to cover up my shaken being.

While I knew I wasn't the only TV in the world, what were the odds that the first person (besides my wife) to learn of my predilection would be a woman with male inclinations? She is aggressive, stronger than two men combined, and not above a fist fight, even with a man or several men. How unlike dainty little me!

This woman had confided in my wife years ago, and saw nothing wrong with people feeling in ways that belied their physical make-up. This certainly supported the claims of widespread gender confusion. And how!

Friend No. 2 and her daughter were the next to hear, and more surprises came out. She's a tiny, petite 50-ish woman from the backwoods of the hill country. And her response to my wife's disclosure? (My wife talks to our friends without me, to soften the road).

Like my wife's initial reaction, friend No. 2 had always thought there was something unusual about me, but couldn't quite place it. She knew it wasn't homosexuality, but "who thinks of transvestism?" - even though she had read extensively on the subject. This woman also thought my TV drives were wonderful, and she also felt that she should have been a man(!), like friend No. 1.

Two discussions of the "secret", two women who differed widely in background and age, but had gender "problems" of their own. Is this America's real secret, a host of women with gender dysphoria who potentially outnumber us male dysphorics?

Showing that age and a rural setting don't have to color one's response to gender dysphoria, this woman clearly explained her views on crossdressing. Women routinely dress like men, with work boots, flannel shirts, short haircuts, and men's suits. And women do manly things, like fixing cars, shooting guns and bows, and hunting. So what's so unusual about men in dresses and blouses, doing lady-like stuff? In her mind, there is no such thing as crossdressing, because it's natural to wear clothes designed for the other sex, from time to time or a lot of the time.

She also said that crossdressing isn't a problem with the TV individual, it's a hang-up on the part of society. It's not illegal, it's not a sickness, and TV behavior is perfectly alright for females. But, put a man in a dress and society tries to discourage it, subtly or coarsely, because feminine men are a threat to the continued dominance of men. Whew! No better way to put it.

(In the "battle of the sexes", we are viewed as traitors by one side and spies by the other - either way, they want to execute us! - Ed.)

While this woman and her daughter couldn't wait to see me dressed, they warned about looking too good in her village, because there was a shortage of women and I might "catch some fellow's eye". Sorry, but I love my wife and she won't allow me to date!

Excusing her bluntness, she gently pointed out that crossdressing women don't paint on five o'clock stubble or roughen up their hands, so why should TV men wear wigs, false nails and breast forms? In her mind, a TV man should express his femininity in dress and behavior without Dolly Parton breasts or other alien physical additions. But, I still like breast "additions" that sway and bounce, and my wig, too.

Conclusion: Coming out is like tossing a pebble into a still pond; a small disturbance from the existing state sends out circles of influence that touch everything, with mixed reactions. In my case, the ripples uncovered similar gender confusing situations in others, a communion of concerns and thoughts that probably would have never surfaced. Friends can not only support us, they can share in our feelings, though total agreement with our fantasies and special likes isn't always assured. But it is wise to remember that the waves we create can uncover hostile responses, so be careful!

LETTER TO EDITOR (1-28-92)

Dear Jennifer,

I read with interest the section concerning wives (in *The Transgenderist*, Jan/Feb '92 - Ed.) and found one vital ingredient missing. No one mentioned how important having a sense of humor can be when a touchy subject is involved. The piece by Laurie B. came the closest.

I make it a rule to reveal my true self after I've been intimate with someone for three months. My attitude being, if she can't accept it now, she won't accept it later. After my share of rejections and learning from them, I came up with what I call the "Betty Davis" approach.

I was living with a girl before I went public. I was entering three or four body-building contests a year. The body-building gave me an excuse for constantly waxing, shaving and tanning myself. Hence, she thought nothing of finding boxes of zip or flickers or even makeup floating around the house.

She also took delight in the fact that I helped her with her hair and makeup. Also, as Laurie B. stated, I took an interest in shopping for clothes with her. Even the women who worked in the stores used to comment about it. They would take her to the side and ask her how she got me to come along.

But getting back to a sense of humor; we would go out for dinner and a movie or whatever, get home and take a long hot bath by candle-light and talk. Afterwards, watch the all-night low budget horror movies while I brushed her hair. I don't think there's a woman on this planet who doesn't love to have her hair brushed. All this over peanuts and cold duck.

It was in a setting like this, both of us giggly over a Japanese horror flick, that I would choose to come out. I would get up to fill our drinks and come back wearing her panties and acting like Marilyn or Jane. She thought it was cute. The first time I wore full makeup in her presence, it was her idea to put the makeup on me. She always found my acting like a woman entertaining.

I led up to my crossdressing without ever seeming to reveal a deep dark secret. For instance, we would be out looking at dresses and when she asked my opinion I would say, "I'd wear it". Or the time we were in Frederick's of Hollywood looking at those

crotchless catsuits. We picked out one for her and I suggested we get one for me too, for an even static charge.

I used that opportunity to spill all the proverbial beans. Letting her know how arousing she looked, I slipped into my catsuit. That was the first time I opened my female drawer in her presence and pulled out a pair of heels. She was surprised at how adept I was at walking in them. I had deliberately left my female drawer open and sure enough, she was curious. I let her examine the contents while I played with her hair. That drawer had no lock, I had never attempted to conceal it. She knew that. She had never looked inside, any more than I would have gone through her stuff without an invitation. Actually, I had hoped that she would find it by herself.

We ended up going our separate ways after a long live-in affair. That break-up was unrelated to my crossdressing and we remain close friends. The point I've been trying to make is: lighten up! If you approach someone on any subject, and you're heavy and serious, that will effect how that person receives it.

There is nothing anti-social about crossdressing. I think of it as a hobby, not an affliction. Why is it "normal" to have guns in my closet and abnormal to have dresses? Questions like that convince me that it is in fact possible for the majority to be out of step. I live next to a bank, and I have encountered the same woman making a night deposit many times. As a male, she always keeps a suspicious eye on me, but when it's Sherry walking by, she doesn't even turn around. That's where I rest my case.

Also, Jennifer, I would definitely like to be listed in the directory mentioned after my article. I got quite a kick out of seeing my thoughts in print. You might appreciate how many times someone has asked me "what did you do last night?" and I had to reply with "Not much."

Love, Sherry C.

LETTER TO EDITOR (9-8-92)

Dear Winnie,

Please find enclosed my payment to continue membership. I would also like to take this opportunity to send another picture of myself and ask if you might circulate it among other members. I am, unfortunately, still confined to my closet as I am painfully self-conscious. As such, I am looking for others to correspond with. My greatest joy would be to finally come out and "go public", but I just don't know if I will ever be able to do so.

One problem I have is that when I dress I still am overcome by incredible sexual intensity. This feeling has not diminished since my more youthful days of dressing, as I understand it has for many other CDs. I find this a continuing source of embarrassment. I also find other beautiful CDs and TVs to be sexually exciting and am not sure how I would be able to interact. Perhaps if I could talk to someone I could sort out some of these feelings. Please feel free to publish the picture or this letter. If there is someone who would like to contact me please give them my address.

Love, Shannon

Dear Shannon,

First, let me say that you look fine in your picture and your feelings are quite typical for a crossdresser, so you should not feel embarrassed in the company of others. The best way to overcome shyness is to get out and meet us, very soon you will realize that we are all very much like yourself and you will then lose your self-consciousness. Come to our Thursday night meetings, dressed or not, and talk about anything you want. You can safely express your emotions, we will understand, it's part of being a woman.

I believe most of us at one time have had feelings of high sexual intensity while dressing up, and still sometimes do when alone. Looking back to my closeted days 20 years ago, I would relieve my sexual

tensions just before I had to take the clothes off and hide them away again. This was a method of rapidly bringing myself back down to earth, ready to face the real world, but brought on feelings of guilt and wondering why I had to do it. One problem is that we start by selecting clothes specifically designed to heighten sexual desires in males, such as frilly undies, evening gowns, very high heels and glamorous makeup.

Soon after coming out, I signed up to go on a trip to a week-long event (Dream '73). One week before, I started to pack and quickly realized that I didn't have a single thing a respectable lady would wear during the daytime. In a panic, I rushed out and went on a shopping spree, buying more things than I ever have at any one time before or since. When one can stay dressed for an extended period of time, the "different" feel of the clothes begins to wear off, and it is impossible to maintain sexual excitement all the time. So, one becomes accustomed the feel of women's clothes and it seems quite natural and comfortable to wear them.

So, I would suggest you buy some everyday women's clothes; plain white cotton underwear, including a tight panty girdle to physically suppress excitement, a housedress or simple skirt and top, and heels no higher than 1". Then, pick a time when you can stay dressed for a day or two (say you're sick in bed if someone knocks at the door), take a bath and shave the night before, sleep in your nightie and dress in the morning. Use a minimum of makeup and simple jewelry, then go about your everyday household affairs. Fix your meals, do the dishes, some light housework, write letters, read, watch TV, or whatever. After a day or so of this, you'll want to get out and come to our meetings!

Love, Winnie

THE LEGENDARY BARBARA: - Paul K.

When you think of skin tight dresses, serious hair, perfect makeup and high heels, the first person that jumps to mind is the Legendary Barbara. Barbara, who you may have seen in some advertisements for local

bars, has been a fixture in both TGIC and the Albany bar scene for a number of years, making friends for herself and for crossdressers in general.

Barbara's polished looks are the result of years of effort, including electrolysis and sophisticated corsetry, but no hormones. "I think that you can be beautiful and feminine, be the queen of the night, and wake up in the morning and continue your real life. I have been told that I provide a role model for crossdressers who want to be good at both sides of their life."

Barbara's male side has a full life. "My kids and ex-wife, my boss, and a few friends know about Barbara, but it's on a need-to-know basis. That means that I can have a normal life. I am in a couple of clubs based on my other interests, and enjoy them. I tend to get a little wild on Halloween around my friends, and some have read me from that, but that's OK."

Life has not always been smooth for Barbara. "I have had rape attempts, been harassed by police, had a very painful divorce, and other issues. But it was the price of what I needed to do, and I have found that even the bad things can open up new opportunities."

When Barbara goes out, she has a clear attitude. "You have to be like a bartender, with no problems of your own. People will accept you if you are pleasant and fun, but not if you are tied up with your own issues." Barbara is well accepted because she is a fun and comfortable addition to any party.

Because Barbara goes out to many bars, she is aware of how people see crossdressers. "I have seen instances where I have returned to a bar and have been told that I couldn't enter because they had a bad experience with one crossdresser. I work hard to give a good image so I am dismayed when one bad apple leaves a bad taste in the public image."

"Even in my male life I have heard stories about a crossdresser who has offended someone or made a fool of herself, and I feel very badly. We can easily be discriminated against and those of us who offend others make life difficult for all of us."

Barbara's idea of great fun is a weekend in New York City. "I go to the clubs where the girls hang out, and to some other, very interesting places. The scene can get rough, but there's lots of fun too, like going with a group to brunch with Madonna at the Four Seasons."

There are women in Barbara's life, with her male side being a charming escort. With her business of supplying wigs, she meets not only crossdressers, but a number of female exotic dancers, who are good for business because "floor work will ruin a hairpiece quite quickly!"

Barbara's advice to others? "I get uncomfortable when I talk to someone who thinks that there is some sort of magic potion to change themselves. Anything good takes time and effort, and too much emphasis on one thing, like taking hormones, can be self destructive."

"Each of us has important relationships with others. I have seen the pain that can be caused when those relationships are torn apart. We need to be aware of other's needs. I have heard people who got advice that was too self centered and damaged their marriage, and many of them regret it to this day."

Dressing is not a new thing for Barbara. "I was riding buses dressed in 1964. I think if I had known anything about transsexuality in the late sixties I would have pursued it. I could have been a woman all through the 1970's! I was bright enough to find ways to be satisfied in the male role, so I settled down."

And in the future? "If I won the lottery, I would probably start on the transexual route, although for me it would be expensive because I want *everything done!* Seriously,

I think about having Barbara go out to find a job, and I may try that sometime. Even then I may choose to live a dual life and let Barbara go out dressed as a boy sometimes."

Whatever her future, we can be sure that whatever Barbara does, she will do it with style, and continue to be an Albany legend.

Editor's Note: If you have not yet met Barbara, you should hang out with us at *Deceptions*, or elsewhere along Central Avenue. You will recognize her immediately! If you are a member of another CD group, you probably know a girl like Barbara among your friends; maybe she is called Linda, or Marilyn, or Victoria.

But, who is this *guy* Paul, who is writing so much for the newsletter of late? By the way he writes, surely not a **F-to-M!** Well, in his own words: "I'm not a girl. I'm just a guy in a dress!" Now, this *is* rather unusual in active CD society and might cause confusion; most of us choose *femme* names when we come out. We have suggested that Paul do likewise, and he has begun to consider the matter, maybe "Alexandra?" So, pick a name for Paul, and send it in - anything but "Paula," he hates that! Incidentally, how did you select *your* name, it might make an interesting story to tell in these pages.

COMING OUT - Melodie [REDACTED]

His clothes on one side of the knob,
Her clothes on the other.
Costumes of the future
Whatever dress will suit yer.

Don't be righteous brother.
Remember those who have tried.
They're all worn and dried,
And didn't know how to live.

We each have more to give
If we can only be ourselves,
And put the past upon the shelves
And lead on to the future.
Whatever clothes will suit yer.
Forget the old. Be true. Be bold.
And lead on to the future.

Society says "Don't do that!"
And they don't really know why.
I say - stick it in your hat!
Don't let the future go by.
You are on the cutting edge.
You know you have to try.

Remember standing on that ledge,
Crying all those tears,
Regretting all those years,
Longing to die.

Today is the first day
Of the best of your days,
But only if you forget
Those bygone timid ways.

You are the mistress of tomorrow.
No need for pain or sorrow.
Look ahead to your future.
Whatever dress will suit yer.

All you need to ask, my sisters,
Is what really makes you soar.
To be the most that you can be
You have to walk through that door.

You are the gracious future.
Whatever dress will suit yer -
Put it on!

Be not afraid! Be not alone!
We've all been where you stand.
And if you take that first long step,
You'll find that promised land.

Boulton and Park Society
Fifth Annual

Texas 'T' Party "Tea for Two"

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in San Antonio, Texas

*A fun weekend for cross-dressers,
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Come for:

- a weekend to dress with the girls
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write to: **Texas 'T' Party**
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"He's been that way ever since he picked up that female impersonator by mistake."

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TGIC PUBLICATIONS

Transgenderists Independence Club (TGIC), PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604, Phone (518) 436-4513, is a nonprofit, educational, social support group for persons wishing to explore beyond the conventional boundaries of gender, including crossdressers, transsexuals and their friends.

The Transgenderist

Bimonthly (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov) to Members, Subscribers, prospective new members, friends, professionals, and exchange publications. Devoted to TGIC self-help and outreach to others, with original articles by Club members and local news of significant interest outside of our membership. Club business and other matters are limited to updates.

TGIC News

Bimonthly (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) to Members, Subscribers and prospective new members. Devoted to TGIC business and inreach from others, containing Club business matters, local news of little interest outside of our membership, selected reprints and other outside items such as clippings and cartoons.

Submission of Articles

Members and friends are encouraged to submit original articles and stories for either publication, preferably on a 5.25 in. DOS floppy disk with files in ASCII and/or their own WP format. Letters and artwork are also welcome. The opinions expressed in TGIC publications are those of the authors and are not necessarily endorsed by the Editor or the Club membership. Sexually explicit material will not be printed.

Advertising

Announcements and ads for special events, services and publications of interest to our members will be printed free at the discretion of the Editor on a space-available basis. Paid advertisements will guarantee publication at the following rates, based on 3.5 inch wide columns, for each insertion: The Transgenderist: \$3/column-inch TGIC News: \$2/column-inch (A business card is 2 column-inches)

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TGIC MEMBERSHIP DUES

General Member	\$40/yr
Couples	\$45/yr
Key Club / large closet	\$40/mo
Key Club / small closet	\$30/mo
Key Club / attic storage	\$15/mo

All the above categories include a one-year subscription to both TGIC News and The Transgenderist, mailed First Class.

Subscriptions:

The Transgenderist, 6 issues: \$25
TGIC News, 6 issues: \$25

PLACES TO SHOP

POLICY: Short notices of places to shop submitted by Club Members are published free for two consecutive months (once each in TGIC News and The Transgenderist), and then transferred to a file for updating the TGIC Shopping Guide.

Lady Emma,

454 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.
(518) 587-6750. Lingerie, etc. Located in a small mini-mall; you can shop dressed. Contact Cynthia Finger or June Simmons for appointments before or after hours.

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.

TS SUPPORT GROUP

To meet each month, starting in November. Location, date and time to be determined. Contact the Albany Gender Project, Jennifer [redacted] coordinator: (518) 432-7092.

ANONYMOUS HIV ANTIBODY TESTING

Your regional HIV Counseling and Testing Program provides free HIV counseling and antibody testing, support and referral. No names will be asked. (NYS Health Department) **Albany Area:**
(518) 486-1595 or 1-800-962-5065.



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LAFAYETTE, LA.

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.

NOVEMBER 1992

- Nov. 5 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm
- Nov. 7-8 Law Conference Planning
(see TGIC News - Oct/Nov p.2)
- Nov. 8 Sunday, Cooperstown Excursion
Corvette Americana Hall of Fame (see p.2)
- Nov. 12 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm
- Nov. 19 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm
(Dec. News deadline)
- Nov. 21 Saturday, 8 pm
Thanksgiving Dinner,
Northway Inn.
- Nov. 26 Thanksgiving - No Meeting

DECEMBER 1992

- Dec. 3 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm
- Dec. 10 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm
- Dec. 17 Thursday Meeting, 7:30 pm
(Jan. News deadline)
- Dec. 19 Saturday, *Christmas Party,*
Location to be announced
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - No Meeting
- Dec. 31 New Year's Eve - No Meeting

EON Calendar - Saturday Events

EON, 523 West Onondaga St., Syracuse, NY 13204. (315) 475-5611 / 475-7013

- Nov. 7 Moderated Rap Group, 8 pm
- Nov. 14 Workshop with Mary Lynn White,
9:30 am - 3 pm, with lunch
Reservations by Oct. 17 - \$65
- Nov. 21 Thanksgiving Dinner,
Candy's Restaurant, 8 pm
Reservations by Nov. 7 - \$20
- Dec. 5 The "T" Community & Friends
Outside social, location TBA
Reservations by Oct. 31 - \$30