

# Femme Mirror

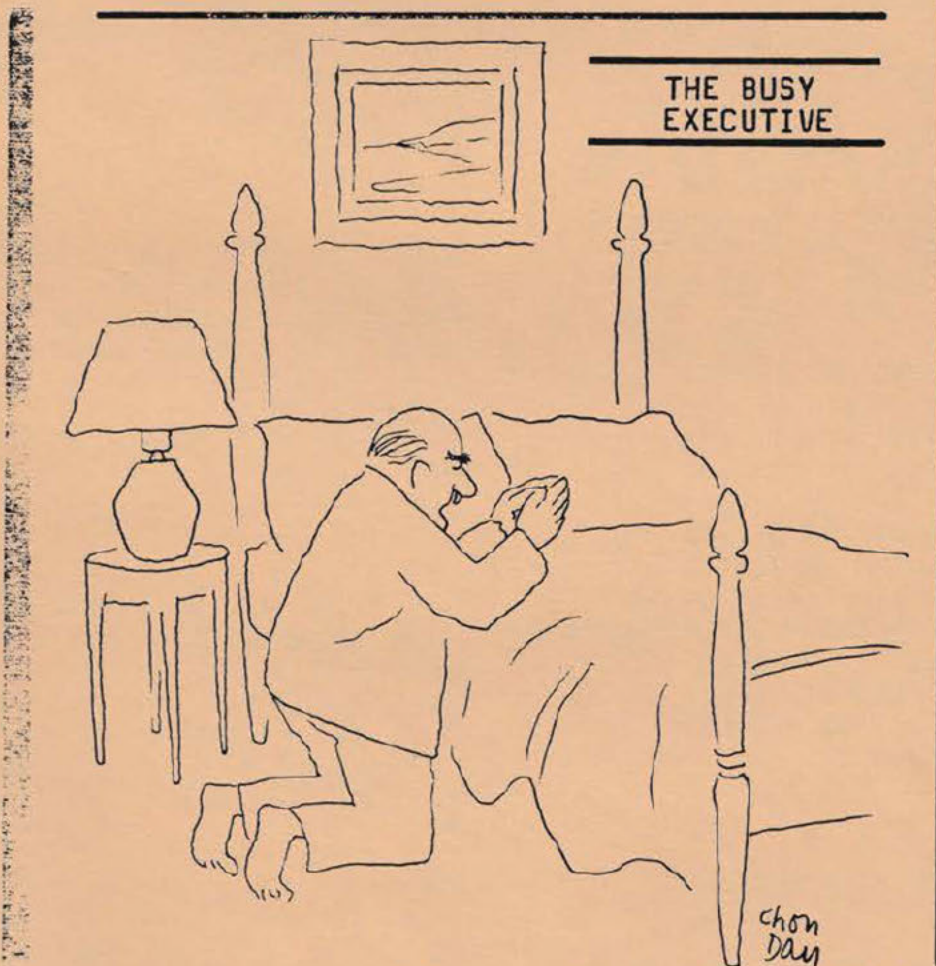
*Reflecting the Feminine*



VOLUME 3 Number 2

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Carol Beecroft, Editor



THE BUSY  
EXECUTIVE

".....and have my wife accept my crossdressing.  
Anen. Read that back to me!"

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Carol Beecroft ■ S. Robertson, Beverly  
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# The Mystery Of Women



Virginia Prince

Virginia tells us that if we can make peace with the "girl within", we can go with her on a guided tour of the strange and mysterious world of femininity.

The other night I was talking with an understanding lady friend who was telling me about an act on a Tv show in which 4 men were gotten up as women. We were discussing the increasing frequency of this sort of thing and the perennial appeal of it.

I tried to answer why it was that a man in femme-attire has always been a matter of great interest - even fascination. Julian Eltinge drew mammoth crowds. The movie, "Some Like It Hot" was one of the best paying comedies of all time. "Charlies Aunt" is surely one of the most frequently produced plays, even though it dates from an earlier period. Why is this so? Apart from the laugh angle of trying to get a large and muscular, highly masculine man to look like a sweet young thing, there is a deeper more fundamental appeal, I think. Of course it is two fold in nature - that is the reason behind it's appeal to women and men.

Women, belonging to the female sex, (which from way back has been sort of a second class sex) get a certain vicarious satisfaction in seeing the "lordly" male come down to their level. This rather boosts them up and puts the two sexes on the same level - much the same underlying motivation for the present popularity of man tailored clothes, boots, etc. - aping the male for equalities sake. But men can't

imitiate women for any urge for equality - if anything such imitation is a down-grading process, something like a comissioned officer hobnobbing with the enlisted men. WHAT THEN IS THE APPEAL TO THE MEN IN THE AUDIENCES? I am not referring to the Tvs in the audience - but almost ALL men! I think it has to do with the mystery of women.

Starting with the most primitive tribes, the ability of women to bring forth babies (a feat that men could not accomplish) has always had a fascination. There is always an element of mystery in why someone else can do something that you cannot accomplish. Though this mystery was originally limited to the area of sex, it gradually extended into all phases of womanliness. Thus in the 19th century when women wore more clothes (and more complex clothes) there was an aura of mystery about how she got herself put together and how she managed to pinch herself in here and yet jut out there and walk on high heels, etc. There is also the element of the unexplainable in the way a man falls in love, loses his good sense and comes all unravelled in the presence of "that certain girl". In other words there is a mystery about women extending from their reproductive role through all of their cultural and social activity.

Curiosity is a natural quality of

# NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

men - it is what makes them better scientists by and large than women - and woman is a natural object of such curiosity for all of the above reasons and many more. The idea of a man entering this forbidden land, taking part in these secret beauty rituals and penetrating to some degree this big mystery is bound to be interesting! To a participant, whether a TV or someone just roped in on a mock wedding, fashion show, etc, it will have a direct experimental aspect. But even when watching someone else on stage, movie or television, there is an element of vicarious penetration of this mystery and I think that THIS is the reason for the appeal to men. My experiences with the lectures on Tvism leads to the same conclusion. Men are really interested in this femmepersonation bit but they are unable to express it directly to anyone else out of fear of being thought queer. Thus, when I am before them dressed as a woman, yet admitting to be a man, they can and do ask me all kinds of questions. In this way they vicariously experience something that is vaguely fascinating to them. Watching someone else perform is to do something vicariously that they have a deep interest in but would never dare investigate.

Not only is there the "mysterious East" which is so because it is so different from what we are accustomed to and too far away in space for us to visit, but there is the mysterious "feminine" which is also greatly different from ourselves and too distant in it's very nature for us to partake of. But making peace with the "girl within" and through her go on a "guided tour" of this strange world is, I feel, one of the vague and almost unexpressible values and interests that motivate us in Femmepersonation.



## CO-DIRECTORS:

Virginia Prince CA-17-P  
Carol Beecroft CA-3-B

## EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Charlene [redacted] CA-64-P

## SECRETARY:

Isobel [redacted] AZ-2-W

## GREAT LAKES DIVISION LEADER:

Donna Martin IL-11-S

## SOUTHERN BELLES DIVISION LEADER:

Linda [redacted] TX-21-B

## Southern Calif Regional Coordinator

Nancy [redacted] CA-116-W

## North Texas Regional Coordinator:

Genevieve TX-4-W

## Southern Texas Regional Coordinator

Jo Anne TX-2-M

## Oklahoma Regional Coordinator:

Vicki OK-4-E

## Ass. Reg. Coord at large-South Belle

Suzzane TX-16-F

## Northwestern States Regional Coord:

Ellen OR-8-S

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Maxine CA-124-D

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Deanna IL-35-G

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Franny NY-19-F

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## MU PI CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

????? ??????

# New "tool" Available

## Transvestite Information

If you are a male *cross-dresser* who enjoys wearing female clothing this information may be the answer to your prayers!

There is a fast-growing organization with chapters in many U. S. A. areas and some foreign countries that has been helping heterosexual male transvestites for over 20 years.

It publishes an illustrated magazine and newsletter - provides a confidential medium for contacting other transvestites - arranges for friendly, confidential counseling through its regional coordinators and chapter leaders . . . all in a spirit of caring, understanding and empathy . . . in an environment of confidentiality and security.

The organization and its chapters offer no "cures" for transvestism. Instead, it helps its members ENJOY the unique "hobby" of cross dressing - helps them achieve freedom from guilt, depression and loneliness - provides a confidential system for qualified transvestite members to meet other sincere, trustworthy cross-dressers in their local community.

It is an educational and social non-profit organization. Membership in one of its local chapters is subject to the applicant being screened, interviewed and/or being recommended and the payment of modest annual dues, if any.

For more information and referral to the local chapter nearest you, mail your name, age, mailing address, city and zip code to:

SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF  
DEPARTMENT (code #)  
P. O. BOX [REDACTED]  
TULARE, CALIFORNIA 93274

**WHO SHOULD RESPOND?** - Only sincere adult, discreet male heterosexual transvestites who seek a peer group in whose friendly and safe environment they can freely express their "second self".



**THIS IS A MAN** . . . He is a transvestite. He is over six feet tall, weighs about 200 pounds and is around 50 years old. Although he is a good husband, a father, a successful businessman and a respected citizen in his community, some of his most cherished, exciting, memorable and happy hours have been spent dressed in women's clothing. He is but one of an estimated two million male transvestites in the United States. Like most of them, he must keep his unique "hobby" secret. Therefore, he needs and welcomes a specialty like the SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF, which provides a local peer group that features "come dressed" parties, educational meetings, interstate conventions, and other fun-filled activities in a secure, safe environment.

Actual  
Size  
Of New  
"Throw-away"

Before long a new "tool" will be available for use in recruiting new members.

This new "throw-away" has been the brain-child of Genevieve (TX-4-W) who recognized the need for such a tool. The "throw-aways" can be put on bulletin boards (which you will find in many places), into magazines (go to a place that sells Sexology and put one in each issue of that magazine), in libraries (if there are books on Tvism there, paste it on the inside of the back blank pages, doctors offices. It can be sent to those we believe are Tvs and it would be interesting to see several of the girls go to a parking lot some evening (while people are in looking at a movie)

and put a copy of the "throw-away" under each wind-shield wiper.

So you can see that there are many uses for this new tool of ours and I feel that some of you gals will come up with some new original ways to use it.

Would you like some copies? They are free for the asking! Just drop your editor a line, asking for as many as you can use and I will send them to you. I won't object if you ask for 20. But please use them since they are really a valuable way to get new members.

We are indebted to Genevieve who puts in a lot of time doing things like this for our sisters.

## A COLUMN FOR WIVES

# "Wives Talk Back"



I hope that you are finding pleasure in reading my column. Carol is most anxious for us to come to grips with

the real worries and fears that trouble our relationships with our mates and sweethearts. She feels confident that by bringing our hidden fears into the open and discussing them with each other via the medium of the FEMME MIRROR, somehow our husbands will be able to understand us better.

Recently, I received a letter from a husband who has an understanding wife; however, he did not enjoy his transformed femme-self. Quoting from his letter, "I am aware of the difficulty my wife has in accepting Tamara, and feel sure that as she exchanges thoughts and ideas with other women, it will be easier to accept and enjoy. I now know that for some strange reason it is necessary for my well-being to spend time as a woman. I want my wife to be able to enjoy Tamara as a helpmate around the house and as a friend and traveling companion on little trips in the car. I greatly appreciate the anguish I have caused her and do appreciate the way she has adjusted and accepted me. I am primarily interested in helping her enjoy our time together as girls."

This is a big order for us women to try to fill, isn't it? I have been mulling it over for an entire month and have come up with the best idea that has worked with me and Norma-Jean. In order for me to enjoy Norma-Jean, it is necessary that we are doing something together that I truly enjoy under any and all circumstances. I do

with Bernadine

not enjoy doing housework, although I would surely enjoy having Norma-Jean do it for me - which she does not do at the present time. I am a romantic woman and I enjoy romance, and since Norma-Jean is a very romantic person, our evenings can be very enjoyable for both of us. But, most of all, I enjoy our overnight trips to unusual places; and here is where I think all of us can find the best kind of enjoyment. What woman doesn't like to escape for a weekend now and then?

This past weekend the desert was all in bloom. I really wanted to see the wildflowers and the Ocotillo cactus. This gave us the perfect excuse to reserve a room in a nice motel, pack three suitcases, make a huge potato salad and the rest of a cold picnic and head for the desert. Each of us took a camera and plenty of film. We arrived at the motel at 2:00 in the afternoon. I left Norma-Jean in the car while I paid for the room because I didn't care to have the manager take too close a look at her. We rested for a few moments and then Norma-Jean carried the suitcases to the room. We ate half of the picnic that evening in the motel room.

The next morning we got up early and went to a restaurant for a good hot breakfast, then hurried back to the motel where "he" became "she" and then we left for the trip to the Joshua Tree National Monument - to see the desert in all its glory! I believe it was one of our most enjoyable days together. We do this type of mad-cap adventure about five or six times a year and it is a total escape from the every day activities. Everywhere in our beautiful country there are picnic

grounds and motels that have easy-access rooms. And what if someone sees you - does that make a difference? They don't pay your taxes.

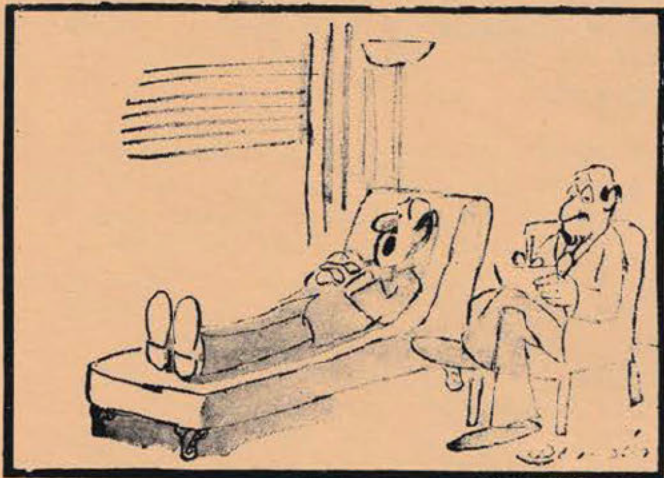
Of course, as you already have no doubt guessed, we ate the remainder of our picnic in a somewhat isolated area. I went to a grocery store and bought milk and ice-cream so we could have it in the room. We had coffee and doughnuts in a little shop.

What do you enjoy that would make for a nice week-end trip? How do you enjoy the time you are being two "girls" together? All of us need the benefit of your experience so please write to me. That way we can help each other get the most out of being married to our unusual men.

There is one other thing that I truly enjoy when I am with Norma-Jean - and that is the meetings of Tri-Sigma. For me it is very interesting and it removes my anxieties when I visit with the other men who cross dress. If there is a special place in the hereafter reserved for men like Norman, I hope that I will be allowed to mingle in that place with them.

I hope that other wives will write to me and help me to do a meaningful column.

Bernadine [redacted] x  
Box 114  
San Pedro, CA 90733



"My panty-line shows, and I can't decide if I should wear underalls."

## A Note From Charlene

OUR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY HAS  
BEEN ASSISTING MANY SISTERS

Sounds familiar to many of you? Ordinarily I work in the background and rejoice in bringing happiness to many as they emerge from the closet. Words fail to express my true emotions. Life is an upward journey - at times the going is easy but then again there are those difficult passes in our mountains that we have to overcome and finally reach the plateau where the going is easier.

As we stop to rest we can look down on the trails we recently traveled. Some were easy; some were tumultuous and caused fears and doubts of ever being able to travel along them. But once we reached the plateau of calm and happiness, we rejoice in the heights we have attained.

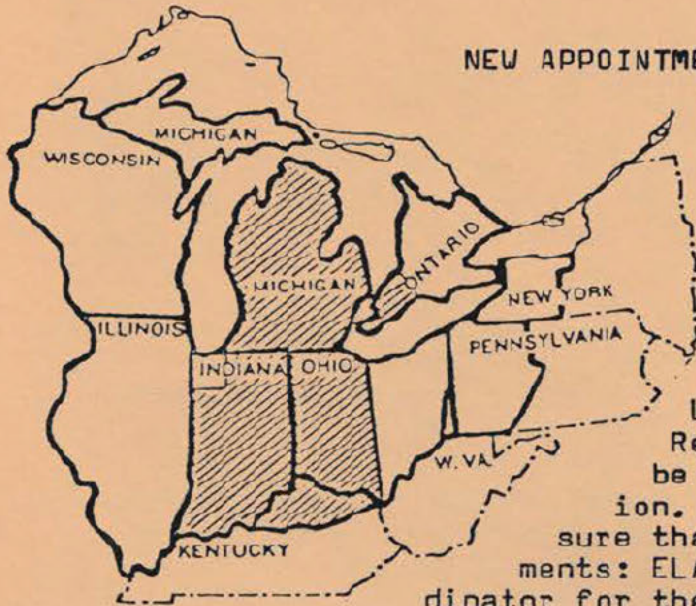
In a recent issue of the Femme Mirror an article about the progress of our sisters made me stop and think. It was wonderful to observe how many of you are now free of the "closet" and enjoying the family living you have in your chapters. For those who do not have the opportunity to have chapter experiences at least you have the Directory to find others who feel the same as yourself.

What each of us never dared to utter before, even to loved-ones, is not something unique since it is common to all TVs throughout the world. I feel that we should be grateful to Virginia - the pioneer of modern Tvism. We should also be grateful to Carol for Editing the Femme Mirror and forming new chapters despite her regular business.

Each new colored flag in Carol's huge U.S and Canada map makes Tri-Sigma look like a porcupine. Let's make sure that the rest of her map gets full of flags. We can do this by bringing in new members. My reward is the happy smile on your faces as you find and express your second self. Charlene (CA-64-P)

# News Release

## NEW APPOINTMENTS.....



Because of increased growth in the Great Lakes Division, it has become necessary to expand the leadership to properly serve the membership in that area. Donna (IL-11-5) was recently appointed the Division Leader for the Great Lakes area, which comprises 5 complete states, 3 partial states and the Province of Ontario.

As a result of this promotion, the Great Lakes Division has been divided into three Regions and new Regional Coordinators will be appointed to work under Donna's supervision. It is with the greatest amount of pleasure that we announce the first of these appointments: ELAINE (MI-16-W) will be the Regional Coordinator for the "Central" Region (name to be selected), which will comprise the State of Michigan and portions of Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Ontario. Elaine has demonstrated a considerable amount of ability and interest during the formation of Delta Chapter in Michigan, and we are sure that she will utilize these talents for the benefit of her Region. As Coordinator, Elaine will maintain individual contact with her membership, assist in the formation of new chapters, and support existing chapters. She will also serve as an advisor to the Division Leader, and assist in the planning of Area-wide programs and activities. As soon as possible Coordinators will be appointed for the "Eastern" and "Western" Regions. We hope that each and every member of the Great Lakes will continue to support Donna and Elaine and the other Regional Coordinators as they are appointed.

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It is also with great pleasure that we announce further appointments in The Southern Belles Division, where Linda (TX-21-B) is the fine Division Leader. Genevieve (TX-4-W) will be the Regional Coordinator and administrative Assistant for North Texas. She also publishes the Division newsletter and helps her Division Leader in so many ways. She is quite enthusiastic about making our sorority grow in her area. JoAnne (TX-20-M) will be the Regional Coordinator for South Texas. She has been a great help to Linda in the past and has many Tv contacts - she is working hard to organize a chapter in her area in Houston. Vicki (OK-4-E) will be the Regional Coordinator for Oklahoma. Vicki is a minister in her church but is glad to take on additional work over and above her ministerial duties. Linda has great confidence in her and things should jell for Oklahoma in the next year. Suzzane (TX-16-F) is appointed as the Assitant Regional Coordinator for Texas at large. Linda feels that Suzzane can be of great help in the great state of Texas and we are pleased that Suzzane has taken on such a great responsibility.

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And last, but not the least, we wish to announce the recent appointment of ELAINE (OR-8-S) as Regional Coordinator for Oregon and Washington. Up to this time, Elaine has been a secretary for your Editor but she has demonstrated so much ability that I felt that she could do a better job for our sorority if she were to supervise activities in those two states. There is a possibility that she will have an assistant in the state of Washington.

## SALLY ANN

Waving a jeweled wand over me will  
not change what I am,  
nor will continual seeking discover  
another true self,  
as deception comes from self de-  
lusion, and avoiding the obvious  
precludes finding truth.

What do I feel as I lovingly put  
on nylon stockings, wiggle slow-  
ly into high heels and connect  
my garters to my soft smooth  
stockings?

I enjoy an inner surge of emotion  
that ripples up and out and en-  
velopes me in my own femininity.

As I carefully costume myself,  
feminize myself in feminine at-  
tire,

I glorify the girl within me and  
bring her out as myself.

I am feminine and I am secure in  
my femininity - happy and con-  
tent.

To keep harness on my own sanity  
and to nurture my mental health  
I must admit to my total femi-  
ninity and my love of wearing  
feminine attire.

Oh, I am not alone at all among men  
who are male-woman - who flutter  
a lash, swish in a skirt and  
carefully cross their nylon cov-  
ered, smooth legs.

Totally feminine, yet also male,  
with love of the haunting beauty  
that soft, feminine genetic wo-  
men impart.

I adore soft feminine clothes, with  
lace, frills, flounces, ribbons,  
and bows to adorn me.

I protest no more, seek no more,  
within or without myself, but  
stand proud in heels, a dress, a  
wig, and purse and say I am a  
male-woman called Sally Ann.

That I adore wearing dresses so  
much, with makeup, perfume, wig  
and in heels, is responding to  
my own self,

As a combined man-woman with my  
masculinity and femininity in  
a delicate, soft balance weighed  
toward my girlish urges and re-  
sponses, yet still on the solid  
base of my being a male.

## Poet's Corner



No magic wand or ar-  
guments can erase  
this truth.

What was me at birth  
destined me to be-  
come a man with deep  
femininity,  
which evolved into the  
girl within myself.

This girl who is myself,  
must be expressed in her  
choice of feminine adornment,  
poise and appearance.

This girl, myself, by a genetic  
woman was named Sally Ann, long  
ago when I was young, and met  
her and she brought Sally Ann  
out from within herself in won-  
derous dresses, gowns, perfumes,  
and satin nightgowns on satin  
sheets, discovering for me the  
intimacy of feminism.

Now her sweet memory still haunts  
my mind like baroque music softly  
from a harpsichord so long ago.  
I am no longer young, but not yet  
old, and though I dream of her  
soft breath and her radiant hair,  
her smooth, loving self of beauty  
incarnate, I awake to the unkind  
reality of that lost love which  
I, not knowing myself at all, re-  
nounced, and buried Sally Ann in  
the debris of my emotional des-  
truction.

Slowly I regained the shadow of  
reality, yet I lived in darkness  
for 25 years before, in despera-  
tion I tore asunder the faked  
fabric of my prison and let Sally  
Ann burst forth.

I can no longer deny my girlhood,  
this male-womanhood that is my-  
self. When I, Sally Ann, put on  
feminine attire I am not dressing  
as a woman - I am dressing ac-  
cording to myself, Sally Ann, and  
her tastes, her feminine needs,  
and her total appearance to her-  
self.

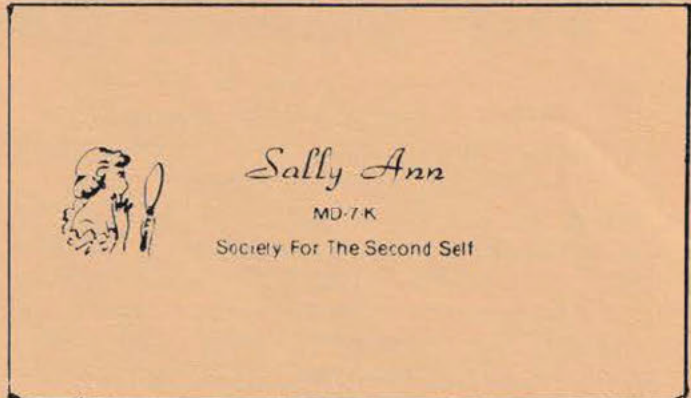
This is not cross-dressing as called,  
rather the inner need for Sally  
Ann to wear the soft, feminine  
clothes she loves. Thus do I,  
Sally Ann, express my femininity.

# HERE & THERE

The following is a facsimile of a  
of a "card" carried by a sister:

HOLLAND -

Little boys  
in some towns  
in Holland dress  
exactly the same  
as girls and can  
be known only by  
a small patch in  
the center of  
their bonnets.



-----  
We are sorry to announce the death  
of Clara (TX-2-C). She will be  
missed by her many friends all over.

We are also sorry that Michael  
(PA-9-W) has also passed away. She  
had just started developing a chap-  
ter in Philadelphia.

-----  
Please note that the Shopping Guide  
for Tvs is rather limited at this  
time; however, it can be enlarged  
if YOU will take the time to write  
to your Editor and advise her of  
places that her sympathetic to Tvs.

-----  
The following appeared in the FAM-  
ILY WEEKLY in New York:

Boys may be more creative if  
their fathers are less macho,  
say researchers at Fordham and  
St. John's Universities. Af-  
ter studying the fathers of  
creative high school boys and  
those of boys with comparable  
grades but less creativity,  
the researchers report the  
creative boys have fathers  
who consciously express mas-  
culine as well as feminine  
aspects of their personalities.

-----  
We appreciate all the library cards  
that you sisters have put out. But  
we do want to call to your attention  
to the fact that Joan (IL-6-C) has  
also donated a number of books to  
the libraries - that's going the  
extra mile.

-----  
Many sisters do not know that your  
leaders at headquarters have started  
a quarterly newsletter, called IN-  
SIDE STUFF, which is sent to all  
leaders on a quarterly basis. In-  
cluded in this newsletter is in-  
formation designed to strengthen  
and teach leaders how to "lead".

-----  
Have you noticed our ad in two con-  
secutive issues of Human Behavior?

-----  
Congratulations are in order for  
the girls in the Dallas/Fort-Worth  
area since they have started a new  
chapter named MU PI (Metroplex).  
Your Editor knows that the sisters  
wish the Mu Pi girls much success  
and happiness. A special thanks  
is in order for the Division Lea-  
der - Linda (TX-21-B).

-----  
Your Editor is pleased to announce  
that she and her wife are now as-  
suming the sales responsibilities  
of CHEVALIER PUBLICATIONS. This  
is Virginia's business of Tv publi-  
cations, etc.

# The Editor's Mailbag

Dear Carol: Thanks for expediting my letter to Lynn (MD-4-S). I had made reservations at a motel in Easton for adjoining and connecting rooms for Rita and me and it worked out fine after Rita (MD-10-Mc) and I lead them in prayer. We went through three rooms before they finally got the message and gave us what we wanted. They had me on the second floor - Rita on the first - then put me on the first and Rita next door, but not connecting; then Rita was changed to the other side with a connecting door. Finally we could sit down, have a drink and have something to eat.

Later we drove into town and visited a thrift shop that Sally Ann (MD-7-K) had recommended. There was nothing that really appealed to us that day although I did see a couple of long dresses in my size for \$8.00. They were quite pretty. They even had a man's department but NATURALLY we didn't spend any time there. My area of concentration is dresses and skirts, at this time - gosh, what freedom you have with a skirt! It's just wonderful, isn't it?

Well, we returned to the motel and took a nap and later started to get ready to go out. I had just gotten out of the tub (after luxuriating in some sweet-smellin' bath oil) when the phone rang - it was Sally Ann saying that she had someone who wanted to talk to me. Carol, it was Lynn!! She had just received my letter! It was so nice to talk to her.

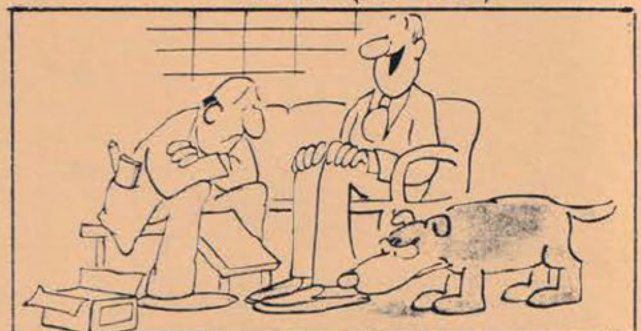
We finally finished dressing and left for Sally Ann's place. We had not gone for three blocks when I felt for my wallet in my hip pocket, but there was no pocket or pants - it was a dress. I had left my wallet and motel key in my purse back at the motel, so back we went. We were lucky that Rita had her key. If she hadn't had her key she said that I would be the one to ask the desk for a spare key. What fun that would have been!!

We then we on to Sally Ann's where we met her spouse, a nice lady and then went to meet Lynn and her spouse. There were four TVs and two wives and all in all it was a wonderful evening. The food was delicious and the company most congenial. We all took many pictures.

Rita and I returned to the motel at 1:30 A.M. and as we had done before, yakked and yakked until 4 A.M. I put on a short nighty and it just felt wonderful - the first time that I have done so - and for a whole night.

We woke up around noon, stopped at a diner for breakfast and then we parted company - Rita to D.C. and I to Pa. It was a beautiful weekend.  
Monica (PA-7-P)

Dear Charlene: I am so happy that you wrote me such a sweet note of welcome to our sorority. It thrills me to think of myself as one of the Tri-Sigma girls. You know, of course that you are the first to address me by my femme name of Lois. Knowing that new name actually belongs to me is an added pleasure. I'll save the welcome card as my second birth certificate. I hope it marks a real beginning of finding my second self.  
Lois (AK-2-D)



"I'd like to try on some women's shoes. Any objections?"

Dear Carol: As a brand new member of our sorority I have just received my first issue of the Femme Mirror. I was so happy that I rushed upstairs to my bedroom, took off my male things (I had just returned from a full day at work), took a leisurely bath and dressed as my femme self, so that I would be more relaxed when I read the "Mirror".

Virginia's article, "Don't expect too much" gives most sage advice on breaking the news that you are a TV (to your wife), for what she described is the unfortunate story that led to my divorce from a beloved wife of almost 30 years. The story of Nancy's visit to the Gold Coast is a dream I have had for some years, especially since I love New Orleans and in my several visits there I have been enthralled with the idea of filling my suitcases with "teddie's" feminine attire, boarding the "Panama Limited" from Chicago, and, once there, going as my femme self. Bernadine, who writes "Wives Talk Back" is a wonderful person to be able to field so many questions and thoughts that are thrown at her.

The "Editor's Mailbag" is really thrilling to read, because here we have a whole group of sisters who are pouring their hearts out to me! And I was especially impressed with Sally Ann's letter where she envied the women in the restaurant who was dressed so nicely. It really tugged at my heart. Her remembrance of a conversation with a real girl who felt that we TVs have the best of both worlds is a summation of all that we really hope for. All the other letters touched similar feelings in me as I read them. I want to thank you for running your ad in the F.I. News where I first saw it. Thanks for the sweet joy of receiving the Femme Mirror and the pleasure I derived from reading it.

Teddie (IL-29-S)

Dear Carol: By a strange and roundabout way I received your letter inviting me to join your sorority. The letter was sent to my old address in Germany but I am now liv-

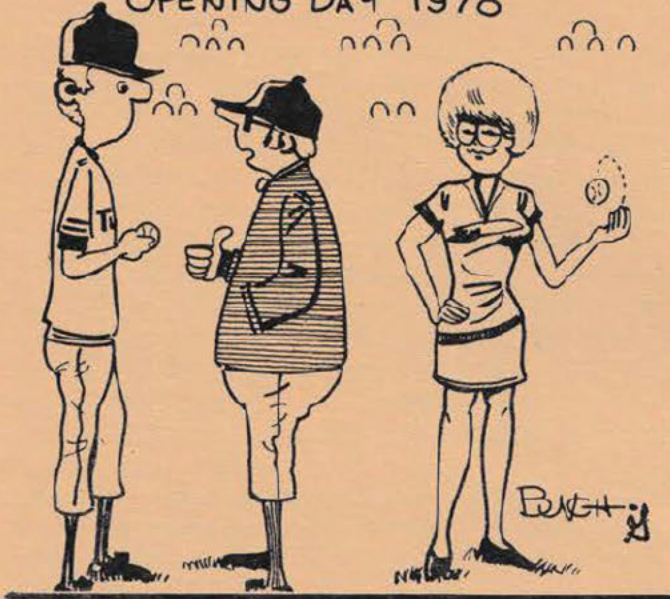
ing and working in Brazil. I do not know anything about the sorority but I would like to know the conditions of membership. I am married and have children and live in the largest city in Brazil - San Paula. I doubt very much if there are other TVs here so I would like to have some interesting correspondence with other hetero TVs as near as possible. I also would like to exchange pictures. The political and economic situation here somewhat restricts easy contacts like I had in Germany. So let me know what the objectives of your sorority are and I will respond quickly. Rita (Brazil)

Dear Carol: I had the real pleasure of meeting my first Tri-Sigma sister (Carole MA-5-A) this last week. Carol, I wonder if becoming a Tri-Sig girl is as exciting for your other members as it has been for me. I just hope that I did not come on too strong with Carole when I first met her because I had been storing up my feelings for over 40 years. Carole described you as a warm, friendly person who, along with Virginia, do a fine job with the Sorority. My life has taken on a new dimension - thanks to you and Tri-Sigma. I am eternally grateful.  
Priscilla (CT-6-S)



"As Chairman of the Board, I'll wear whatever I darn well feel like wearing!"

OPENING DAY 1978



"Kolchek is our best pitcher, so if he wants to be a girl, then he's a girl!"

Dear Carol: Hearing from you is something I really look forward to. Down here in Florida we don't have the opportunities that others have but we are working together for the benefit of all. I enjoy the Femme Mirror because it becomes a fashion letter and an encyclopedia of other sister's experiences and knowledge - which is unattainable in other periodicals.

Last week I received an application from a bank for a master-charge. There was a space for the name of a second person to use the card, so, being in a giddy mood, I signed MY name and put in "sister" where it asked for "relation".

I have been invited by Edna Marie (FL-10-H) to spend my off day from work with her in Juno Beach. As I am unable to live as Vicky here, Edna said that she would help me for 2 days - she is really a dear girl. I can wear her clothes because it is impossible for me to take mine. Heard from Gypsi (FL-1-L) last week - she asked me to write to a former FPE sister so I wrote and asked her to join. The reason being that we can accomplish more as a whole body than as single

individuals. I gave her some background and am now waiting for a letter from her. I recently went to the cleaners and picked up my gowns, skirts and blouses, etc. I was given a bill that would normally shock the average person - \$79.80. But when a girl has pretty clothes she ought to take care of them if they are to look nice on her. Not so long ago Edna came over and her 'brother' took me for a walk - it took me one hour to shower and get dressed. I wore my pink skirt with an off-shade of pink jersey and my new cardigan sweater, which is the same color as my skirt - my hair is a long-flowing shoulder-length brown and when the wind blows it feels fantastic. The cool air blowing around my legs is a feeling that can only be felt and understood by those who have gone out dressed. Well, we walked up to the shopping center and then to the post office. After our walk we returned home and at no time was I nervous. I hope to eventually go out to a drive-in and a movie.

Gypsi told me in our conversation how much you have done plus the fact you have your own business to run. I guess it can be said that there are those who must work to make things happen and those who wait to enjoy the fruits of what we make happen. Vicky (FL-4-G)

Dear Charlene: Thank you for your note welcoming me into Tri-Sigma. From my slight and short exposure to the group and the officers representing it, I would say that the personal interest and caring demonstrated does in fact run throughout the membership. Linda Thomas (TX-21-B) the leader of the Southern Belles Division, has already contacted me for a MU PI welcome and invitation. Your personal attention is most appreciated.

Linda (TX-8-D)

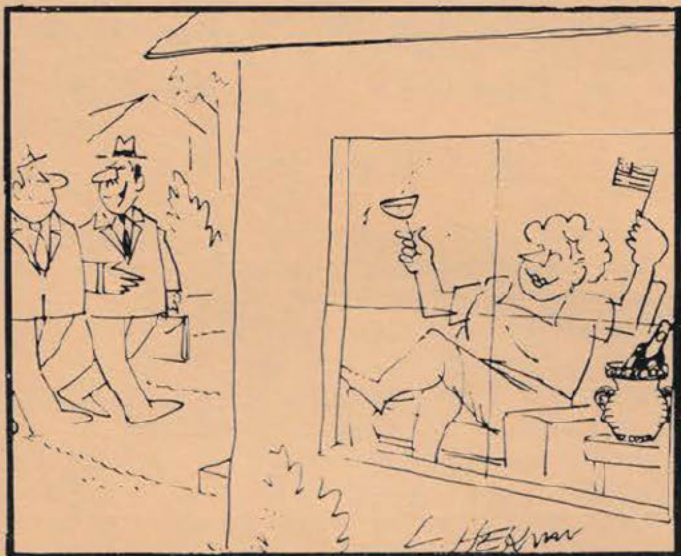
Dear Virginia: I am writing this letter with the excitement of a 16 year old debutante, for that is how I feel! After years of felling guilty I simply had to tell someone of my entry into womanhood and nobody seemed more appropriate than you. I have been a Tv for years

but through this letter I am telling the world about the woman within me and the joy it brings.

Nothing gives me as much satisfaction as a full bosom, a prettily made-up face, a flowing skirt and high heels. I am a tall girl but my figure is soft and supple and my legs are truly feminine. Perhaps I may never have the courage to live completely as a woman but even part time is better than nothing. My hobbies are few and all are reflections of the woman within me. I do enjoy shopping for clothes and my wardrobe is already enlarging to meet the daily needs of a busy girl. Makeup is especially fun to experiment with and suiting it to my mood is a daily labor of love. Jewelry is the icing of the cake with earrings being my favorite bit of jewelry.

As you can see, Virginia, my life is growing and changing just as the debutants entry into womanhood reflects growth and change. My fondest hope is that someone day women may look at me and know that I am one of their sisters. Carol M (an inquirer)

Dear Carol: Just this last week of Transvestia and as a newly accepted member of Tri-Sigma I also received several past issues of the Femme Mirror. I have happily devoured



"Poor Helen will be so relieved to see me. I left her a gag note this morning saying I was leaving her because she won't let me dress

all of the information and am ready to leap into the activities and work towards furthering the sorority.

I have put out cards in the library and on bulletin boards. I also hope to write to other nearby sisters. I would like to help start a chapter in this area. There are furnished apt complexes near the St Louis airport that I would be more than happy to rent for a meeting. By the way it is not against the law to crossdress in public as far as I know. So we would be free to come and go. Fun? I think so!! Definitely!!

As you can see I am extremely happy to be a Tri-Sig girl and I'm more than ready to do my share. With a class C/D wife I feel that my own efforts to help the sorority will be returned many times over by being able to do for others and be with those who do understand! I want to thank you and Virginia for all that you are doing for our cause. I also thank Charlene for her personal interest - she's a doll! Becky (MO-6-S)

Dear Carol: I would like to tell you and my other sisters why I feel that my mother rates a B+ rating. When I told my mother about my Tv inclinations she understood the whole thing! She has read Virginia Prince's book on Understanding Crossdressing and she said that she is glad that I am not homosexual. I try to show my appreciation by buying her nice things from time to time. She in return, buys me some pretty, feminine clothes. Christina (OH-24-P)

Dear Carol: I want to take this occasion to congratulate you and Virginia and all my American sisters for the splendid job you perform in the USA for the better understanding of all of us. We in France are really way behind despite the appearance, regarding acceptance by people in general and there is nothing here which is equivalent to Tri-Sigma - so we have to manage by ourselves. I do not complain, personally, as I can

find my way and have a lot of joy and humor in the situation. But I am sure that there are many would-be sisters who do not know which way to turn or to whom to talk to.

As you probably know I travel widely and have some Tv friends in various countries. I plan to be in the US soon and will visit a personal friend in Texas. Please feel free - and welcome - if you come to France to visit me. I'll try to meet you in Paris and show you around. Monique (FF-1-M)

Dear Carol: Just a note to tell you that I am going to join SSS. Linda Thomas (TX-21-B) is helping me. For 30 years I've been a closet TV and have harboured inner guilt and shame. WHAT A RELIEF!! It really feels great! I told my wife a bit about it four years ago. At that time she thought it was a passing fancy but after I had found out about our sorority and confronted her again all I got was hell! However we both read Understanding Crossdressing and had a visit with Linda. From her I received a copy of Virginia's book A TV And His Wife. But when I returned home I was greeted with tears and confusion. However my wife did read the latter book and did a complete reversal. She now rates herself a "B". The situation is still new to us both but things are coming along. She did assist me with my makeup the other night and we are going shopping in the near future. ISN'T THAT FANTASTIC?! She says that she hesitates in going to a meeting but I'm sure she will come around. I thank you for the information that you sent to H.N. - the relief has been indescribable.  
Barbara (An inquirer)

Dear Carol: We are about to have meetings in Florida and have made sure that wives are invited, too. I've been speaking to Vicky often. She is like a bird that has been let out of the nest for the first time. It appears that our sorority is the best thing to ever happen to her. I don't think she can believe that there are others like



" Sorry to take you from your Tri-Sigma meeting, Fred, but it's time you finished tending your sheep."

her and that we're all pretty much normal and well adjusted human beings. Haven't you noticed that Tvs from all walks of life are pretty super people? We're a different breed in more ways than one. Can't wait until I can get the backyard fence up so I can get out of the house en femme any time I want, without the neighbors seeing me. What a wonderful place to hold barbecues and outside Tri-Sig parties.  
GYPSIE (F1-1-L)

## tv study

By now most of you have received the questionnaire which is connected with the research study on Tvism by the two Psychistrists from Australia. I hope that you will fill it out quickly and mail it back. No name or address is wanted and your Editor does NOT read them. When they are all in they will be bundled together and mailed to Australia. We have been promised that we will be informed of the results. All sisters are urged to participate so that the study will be valid. Won't you kindly send your completed forms back.  
Carol

# Sussie Can Help

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Several of the sisters have written in to offer suggestions about subjects which might be of much help to many of you out there so I offer the following:

I ordered a set of Virginia's hip pads several years ago and was delighted with what it did for my appearance. However, they were a bit difficult to insert inside my girdle. But my wife bought some super-soft, smooth cloth and enclosed the pads with them - much like cushions or pillows. They now slip into place with ease and they never tear. I strongly recommend the procedure, Nancy (VA-4-B)

And Fennifer (CA-54-H) has this to say about dipilatories: I recently shaved the hair off of my body. When the stubble started to return I bought a dipilatory. I did my chest first; however, I do not feel that I used enough because it removed only about half. The directions said that if the stubble was not removed completely, then the user was to repeat the process in a couple of days - but I couldn't wait. I put on a second application and waited longer than the recommended 10 minutes before washing it off. My chest was a bright red! I had burned my skin severely with the chemicals and I developed small blisters all over my chest. So, please follow the directions and don't over do it, gals. (Ouch!)

And Patricia (ME-3-W) wrote me about pierced ears - I'd like to add to the discussion about pierced ears. For those who cannot take the plunge by leaving ear-studs in their ears for the six week break-in period, here are some alternatives: First, pierce one ear and then six weeks

later do the other. While doing the second one, the first may be periodically reactivated in private. This method is suitable for those whose life style and male self-image permits ONE earring.

Another way is to purchase self-piercing earrings in 14 kt gold. These single hoops come in various sizes and do not generally pierce the ear or even leave much of a mark in the course of a few hours wearing. They give the look and feel of pierced ears.

A third way is to buy pierced earrings that have ear wires attached through a circle at the top. Remove the ear wire, slip the smallest size self-piercing earring hoops through the circle and voila! You're ready for an evening on the town.

And now, we will start on the answers you girls gave in reference to the question of why you chose your femme name. The next issue of the Femme Mirror will continue the discussion and I would welcome any additional comments as to why YOU chose YOUR femme name.

Shirley (CO-25-W) comments that the reason for her femme name is that "I figured that I would "surely" get into trouble someday being Shirley." Thanks for the humor, sweetie, and she closes by saying that she thinks it is fun being able to pick a femme name instead of inheriting one. True - true!

And Dorothy (NJ-7-S) says, In the religion of Judism it is customary to name a new born after a deceased person - usually a close relative. I was named after my father's father. If the male is named after a female relative, a name that is similar to that name is given - for instance Donna becomes Donald. For a female to be named after a male, Max becomes Maxine. Now my grandmother had no females born to be given her name. I thought it befitting to take her name for my femme self. That is why I am called Dorothy. My grandmother was a wonderful person.



GYPSI  
FL-1-L



OUR DELTA CHI GIRLS



THE BOSTON "7"



TERRI NV-1-D



Helen - UT-1-C



CONNIE NY-25-N; MURIEL NY-26-W; JOAN FCO-14-S  
and JENNIFER FCO-13-B



LORA PA-5-W



MONICA - PA-7-P



DENISE FP-1-P



LINDA CA-129-B



TEDDIE - IL-29-S



TONI FMA-1-M

# TRI-SIGMA GALS...

# The TV Shopping Guide:

## COSMETICS

### FAMILY FASHIONS BY AVON

Catalog Request Dept

Box [REDACTED]

Farmingdale, N.Y. 11735

Catalog contains familiar AVON products including cosmetics, all at reasonable prices

### MERLE NORMAN COSMETIC STUDIO

[REDACTED] LaMirada Mall

LaMirada, Calif 90638

714-994-[REDACTED] 81

Opel Pollinger - Owner/Manager  
She will be happy to arrange a personalized beauty analysis and lessons before or after regular hours. She can come dressed for the after-hours session. Is willing to help Tvs select a wig from another shop and is a big help to our sisters.

### TOMOKI'S

[REDACTED] W. Ball Rd

Anaheim, Calif 92804

714-[REDACTED] 32-[REDACTED] 0

Tomoko Fujioka - Owner/Manager  
She features Shisedo cosmetics. Just say, "Charlene sent me" You can go in dressed if you wish. Also available - wigs for sale and styling.

## CLOTHING

### BERNICE'S FASHIONS

[REDACTED] 5 Livernois Ave

Detroit, Mich. 48221

Bernice says that they carry the latest in fashionable clothing. She has private showings during store hrs and private dressing rooms. She is interested in helping Tvs.

### IMPORT HOUSE OF LUCK

[REDACTED] 5 N.E. Sandy Blvd

Portland, Oreg. 97213

Serve Tvs - many types of women's clothing. Selection limited in larger sizes. Call before coming in. Will instruct in cosmetic technique after hours by apt. Prices of clothing is reasonable. They also have a large selection of wigs. As for "Luck"- very sympathetic to Tvs. Phone # 503-287-[REDACTED] 02

### Lane Bryant Stores

Provide catalog for tall girls and half sizes and Tall-betweeners. Good quality at very reasonable prices. Good for hard-to-fit sizes. Has some shoes. Also consider many Lane Bryant stores in shopping centers. Catalogs can be ordered at: Lane Bryant, Indianapolis Ind. 46201. The Lane Bryant Shop in the Puente Hill Mall in Industry, Calif can help. Phone # 213-96-[REDACTED] 341. The mgr is Sharan Nichols. If you wish to go in dressed call Sharan ahead of time and she will have a dressing room set aside for you. She is experienced with Tvs and is most helpful.

### ALDENS

Box [REDACTED]

Chicago, Ill 60680

Can furnish catalog - similar to Ward's and Sears. Good quality. Has standard women's sizes

### THE BODY

[REDACTED] LaMirada Mall

LaMirada, Calif 90638

714-99-[REDACTED] 241

Has small shop. good quality styles, good selection altho many Junior sizes. Mgr and

sales girls are used to having  
Tvs come in. Semi-private  
fitting rooms so you have to  
come in dressed to try anything  
on.

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ROAMANS

Saddlebrook  
New Jersey 97662

Has contemporary fashions in  
large and half-sizes; some  
shoes, etc. Reasonable prices.  
Mail Order business

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## ELECTROLOGISTS

GEORGIANN CAIN

Las Palmas Prof. Group Suite 2  
Harbor Blvd  
Fullerton, Calif 92635  
714-520-64

Comes recommended for Tvs

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INGRED LUNA, R.E.

Newman, suite C  
Huntington Beach, Calif 92647  
714-84-44

She works in the office of a  
physician and thus a local  
anesthetic is available. She  
is experienced with Tvs.

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JUNE BRENNAN, R. E.

Lakewood Blvd  
Lakewood, Calif 90712  
213-420

She works in the office of a  
physician and thus a local  
anesthetic is available. She  
is experienced with Tvs.

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VOGUE ELECTROLYSIS

at Vogue Hair Styles  
South St  
Cerritos, Calif 90701  
213-331

Ask for Ruth Lopez. She is  
familiar with Tvs. Shop can  
offer services to Tvs.

## FOUNDATIONS

THE BARE NECESSITIES

LaMirada Mall  
La Mirada, Calif 90638  
714-62

Jean is the Mgr/owner. Shop  
specializes in Vasserette lin-  
gerie. Has typical woman's  
sizes, but Jean will order out  
other sizes if available. The  
whole staff is helpful to Tvs.

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APRIL ADAMS FASHIONS

Box  
Philadelphia, Pa 19105

Products are sold by mail and  
are of good quality and price.  
They have an excellent catalog  
and their "shapemakers" are the  
very best in corsetry.

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## MAKE UP LESSONS

IMPORT HOUSE OF LUCK

N.E. Sandy Blvd  
Portland, Oregon 97213

Caters to Tvs and will instruct  
in make-up after hours by apt.

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DON LING

La Baig #16  
Hollywood, Calif 90028  
213-46-95

Don is a professional make-up  
artist with lots of experience  
in movies and theater work. He  
is available for instruction by  
apt.

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## OPTOMETRISTS

DR DONALD KINEDER

Phelps St  
Youngstown, Ohio 44503  
( ) 8 by appt.

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REGAL OPTICIANS

W. 6th St  
Los Angeles, Calif  
213-50

## PHOTOGRAPHY

JOHN MORAN

Monterey Rd #1  
South Pasadena, Calif 91030  
213-255-30

Is very understanding and will also go outdoors with you and shoot pictures in the park, etc

## SHOES

THE FACTORY SHOE STORE

West Federal St  
Youngstown, Ohio

They advertise latest styles in wide widths and extra large sizes.

LAWSON HILL LEATHER & SHOE SHOP

Lawson Hill Way  
Waltham, Mass 02154

Have sizes 2½ to 14, AAAAA to EEE. Catalog shows nice looking shoes.

CUSTOM SHOE COMPANY

Box  
Westminister, Calif 92683

Catalog is \$1.00. Feature shoes made in Europe. Prices high but very good quality. Pick from catalog or design your own and they will custom make. Any size heel to 7". Another catalog features corsets and is called High Heels and Corsetry (\$3.50)

STANDARD SHOE STORES

Many locations in S. Calif.

Wide variety of shoes at reasonable prices. See Bob Bray in the Anaheim store

APRIL ADAMS

Box  
Philadelphia, Pa 19105

Products are sold by mail - has a number of high heels up to 7" high. Excellent catalog

## WIGS

PEARL'S WIG CASTLE

New London Mall  
New London, Conn

Also does wig styling

HILLSIDE HAIR FASHIONS

East Greenwich  
Rhode Island

Ask for Connie Thomas

IMPORT HOUSE OF LUCK

N.E. Sandy Blvd  
Portland, Oregon 97213  
503-

Large selection of wigs - call for appt and ask for "Luck"

TOMOKO'S

W. Ball Rd.  
Anaheim, Calif 92804  
714-

Tomoko Fujioka - Owner/Mgr

Just say "Charlene sent me"  
May go in dressed

## JEAN SARTRE

"....The main reason I surround myself with women is simply that I prefer their company to that of men. As a rule I find men boring. They have specialized sensibilities and they talk shop. But there are qualities in women that derive from the female predicament of being both a slave and an accomplice. That's why her sensibility ranges so much wider than a man's. She is available. For instance, one cannot sit in a cafe and talk with a man about the people passing by. He gets bored with this and goes back to his professional worries, or else to intellectual gymnastics. Discussions with men never much entertain me; the conversation always sinks. But from a woman you get the sensibility of a different being, an intelligence perhaps superior to a man's, and not hampered by the same preoccupations...."