The ETVC
NEWSLETTER
VOLUME FOURTEEN, NUMBER 2, JULY — AUGUST, 1995

THE CHANNEL

A Night of New Officers and Awards

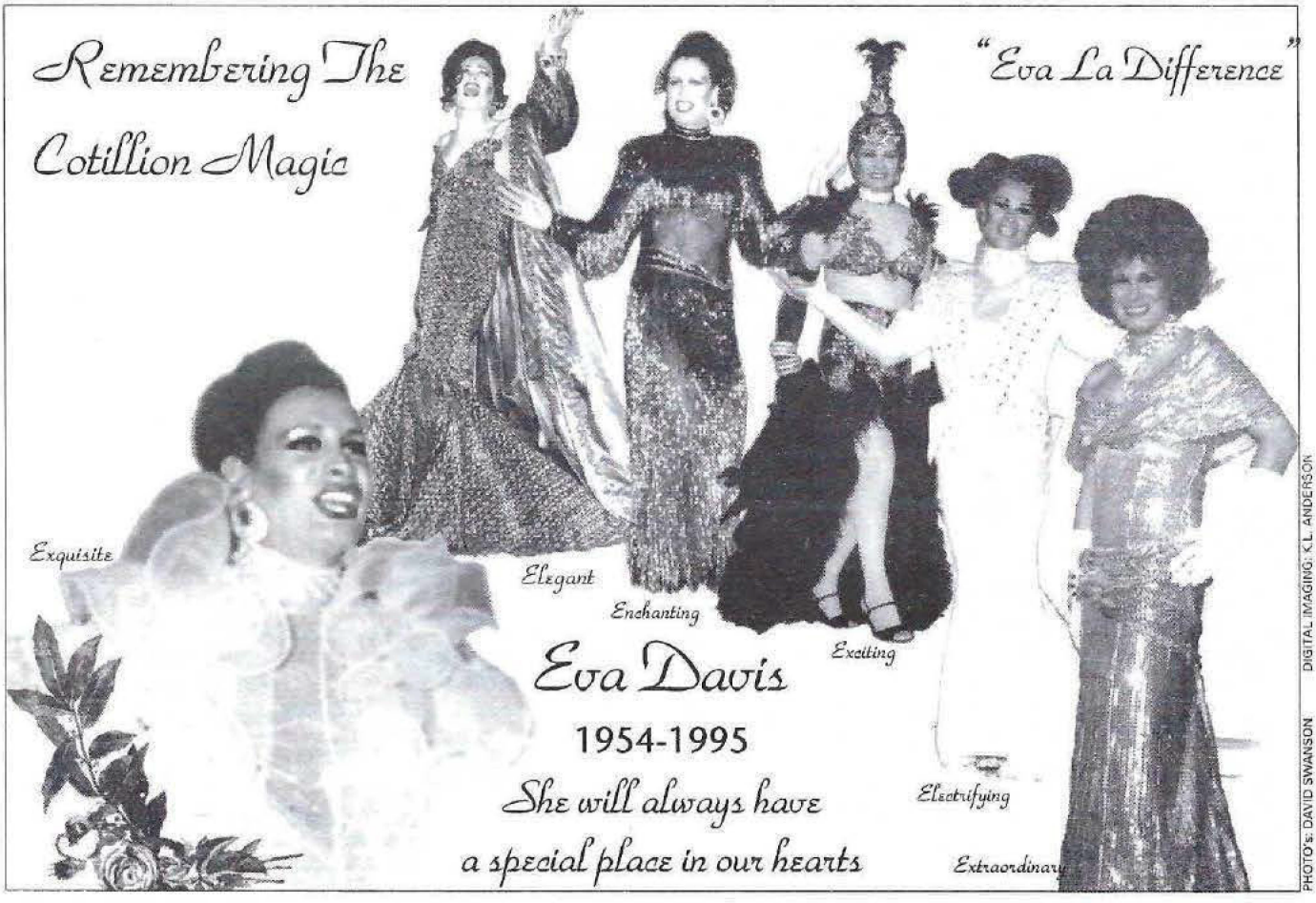
Our last social saw the announcement of our new Executive Committee, after the final votes had been tallied, and the awarding of special honors for those in the community whom each past officer or chair felt had helped the most behind the scenes. Our new ETVC officers for the upcoming year are (photo on page 3): President, Jane Kamper Bentley; Vice President, Lisa Maxwell; Secretary, Jamie Faye Fenton; Treasurer, Jano Bogg; Social Chair, LuLu Blau, Co-Chair Tedra Thomsen; Education Chair, Diane Lask, Co-Chair, Trina [redacted] Outreach Chair, Pam [redacted] Co-Chair, Lauren Rene' Hotchkiss.

Awards went to: Telzy Adams from the President; Robyn [redacted] from the V.P.; Ginny Knuth from the Secretary; Cindy Martin from the Treasurer; Leslie [redacted] from Social; Thalia Gravel from Outreach; and Nancy Ann Martine from Education.


DIGITAL IMAGING: K.L. ANDERSON

Member of the Year Julie Freeman (r) with Ginny Knuth (l)

The coveted Ginny Knuth Award for Member of the Year was given by the Executive Committe to Julie Freeman, who has organized and kept both the SO support group and couples socials going. Ginny wrote an article about her in the last issue, as Julie is planning to step down from those activities after five years of hard work. Ginny happily was on hand to personally present Julie with her award, which had been kept a surprise. Congratulations to Julie and all the award recipients! And we look forward to an exciting year with the new (and continuing) officers.



THE CHANNEL

ETVC Inc., a non-profit corporation, is a non-sexual, membership based organization serving the educational, social, and recreational needs of gender-challenged people, their spouses, significant others, family members, friends, and professionals in the helping services. For details about ETVC programs, membership, article submission guidelines and classified ads, please write to: ETVC Secretary, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486. Minutes of all ETVC committee meetings are available to members on request.

OFFICERS

President	J. K. Bentley
Vice-President	Lisa Maxwell
Secretary	Jamie Faye Fenton
Treasurer	Jano Bogg
Education	Trina [redacted] & Diane Lask
Outreach	Lauren Hothekiss & Pam [redacted]
Social	Lulu [redacted] & Tedra Thomsen

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership (as of 5/31/95)	438
1994 Membership	456
New Memberships this year	139

TREASURER'S REPORT

April income	$ 1,844.86
April expenses	($ 3,310.43)
Difference	($ 1,465.57)
May income	$ 3,606.66
May expenses	($ 2,216.59)
Difference	$ 1,390.07

ETVC is a non-profit corporation. Donations are gladly accepted. How about a Fax machine?

Channel, the ETVC Newsletter, is published the last week of February, April, June, August, October and December. Submissions should arrive at ETVC by the 25th day of the previous month. Contents reflect the opinions of the contributors and the editor, and are not necessarily those of ETVC. Other organizations may reprint or reproduce uncopyrighted portions of the newsletter for their members, provided ETVC is acknowledged. Copyrighted materials may be reproduced only with written permission of ETVC.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor	Francis Vavra
Associate Editors	J.K. Bentley, B. Dunne, J. Fenton, Ginny K., P. [redacted]
Copy Editor	D. Sexton
Advertising	"Your name could be here"
Photographer	Elaine B.
Layout & Design	Kevin Anderson
Printing	Your Place Graphics

AD RATES

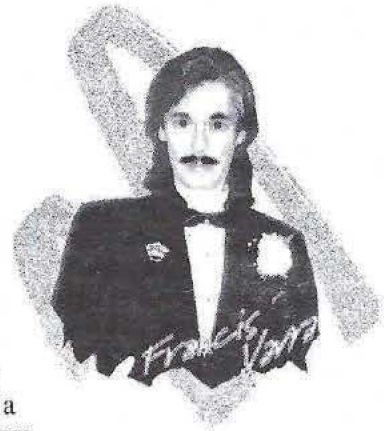
	Per issue	Per year
Business Card	$25	$125
4" X 5"	$60	$300

Personal ads from ETVC members: $3 for up to 40 words. We will *not* accept ads with a sexual objective. Ad deadlines are the 25th of May, July, September, November, January and March. Send ad copy and check or money order to: ETVC, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486

HOTLINE 510-[redacted]
VOICE MAIL 415-[redacted]
B.B.S. 415-[redacted]

EDITORS NOTES

Francis Vavra



With the last issue of The Channel, my second as editor, a few changes have been made. One was to print on white rather than colored paper, for better photographic quality, readability and a more professional look. I had wanted to use a lightly tinted pastel paper, but the cost was exorbitant, so we instead added a color to the masthead, our printer's idea. I have received a number of compliments on the new look and one complaint. Regarding the new ETVC logo design, I held off on printing it on the masthead last issue because the design was in controversy and would not be resolved until the upcoming Executive Committee meeting, after The Channel went to print. I was remiss, however, in not running the winning contest design elsewhere in The Channel. I wanted also to run the second and third place designs, but had difficulty obtaining them in time. I apologize for this error and have rectified it in the article on page 10. It has been decided that the winning design will not be used as ETVC's logo, and the former logo will be retired.

My only desire and personal goals for The Channel is to produce a newsletter of the highest quality and standards, one of which everyone in ETVC can be proud. There is such a range of experiences, thoughts and ideas out there that I continue to put out the call to all of you to submit your stories, letters, critiques and columns. This is your newsletter and it will only be as interesting and diverse as your own voices let it be. Those of you who have submitted writings have probably noticed I only edit for length, grammar or spelling, never changing style or content. With our new officers joining the talented seasoned ones, this looks to be a promising year for ETVC. I will not be an officer this year, but will continue to put my energies into The Channel. Thank you for your continuing support.

Walk for AIDS Charities with ETVC!

by Jane Kennedy

For the second year, ETVC will have a contingent at the AIDS Walk being held on Sunday, July 16, 1995 in Golden Gate Park. As a group in 1994 we were able to enjoy an exhilarating 6.2 mile walk in the park accompanied by good friends and ... raise close to $2,000 for AIDS charities. Only a few of us walked, and we hope many more ETVC members join in this year so we can increase our group contribution for this important cause.

There is still time to register. Call (415) [redacted] and ask to be a registered walker with ETVC Group #197. They will send you a sign up sheet to list those you have recruited for contributions to your walk. Please come along with us ... it's a special, happy day with many people giving a lot of love and having a lot of fun. For information and details about where we will be meeting in the park, call Jane Kennedy, (510) [redacted] (before 10 PM, please).

TV/TS Tapestry Journal

150+ pages of informational articles by peers and professionals and updated listings on conventions, hotlines, counseling groups, medical and psychological referrals, and other helping professionals.

IMAGINE! **2 years** of *TV/TS Tapestry Journal*... 8 issues for only **$9.00** each. *SAVE $24.00 OFF THE NEWSSTAND PRICE* with this special 2-year subscription cost of $72.00. Remember, as a subscriber to *TV/TS Tapestry Journal* you can place a personal listing with its discreet mail-forwarding service.

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Visa & MasterCard orders can be placed via phone or Fax at:
(617) [redacted] FAX(617-[redacted]
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Letters to the Channel

Dear Editor,

Thank you so much for the totally unexpected tribute and HALL of FAME honor in the SOS section of the May/June newsletter. I was deeply moved by the beautifully written poem and articles by Ginny Knuth.

Those of us who have been involved with support groups certainly are aware of the gratification that comes from helping others find their way in the world of gender. It was certainly fulfilling to me personally to help wives and significant others begin to understand their partners cross-dressing and transgenderism. But I certainly could not have done it alone!

Therefore, I want to take this opportunity to thank Ginny Knuth for her continued support over the past years. Without her advice and help, the Significant Others Support group and Couples Socials would not have been successful. Ginny was there to volunteer to hostess when there was a need, to recommend books or magazines, to find helping therapists!

Thank you, Ginny, for all that you have done to help me and the SOS and Couples' groups.

Love,
Julie Freeman

Dear Editor:

Every so often I run across a TV/TS periodical that has "class" and none of the sleazy stuff that sometimes we see out there. Tapestry is, of course, great and I enjoy Cross-Talk, too. Our local newsletters, the ETVC bi-monthly and DVG monthly certainly keep me abreast of matters (grin).

Well, I stumbled across another from the East Coast. It is called The TV-TS Confidential. The publisher is Abby M. Greene, P.O. Box 6211 West Franklin, N.H. 03235. Don't let the "East Coast" affiliation scare you off. This Journal has a plethora of articles dealing with being the special people that we are. There are some real life stories, prose and poetry, cartoons and humor as well as some fantasy. It is a delight to read and I look forward to my copy each month. You may too. The cost is nominal. Write to Abby for more information. By the way, she is a lovely lady and returns your letters faithfully. Please feel free to share this information with our membership.

Sincerely,
Rachael

President's Message

Jane Kamper Bentley



ETVC President Jane Kamper Bentley

"All the leaves are green and the sky is blue." Sound almost familiar? They're my new lyrics for "California Dreamin.'" Not the song, the convention, which is coming to San Francisco April 1996, when leaves are green and the skies...well, whatever color they are, where's a better place to hold a convention?

Started in L.A. five years ago, California Dreamin' in '96 enters a new phase as a traveling regional event. Southern Cal clubs continue to do the heavy lifting, with Northern Cal clubs invited to participate as co-hosts as much or as little as they wish. ETVC and DVG have already signed on. We hope to recruit at least a couple more groups. How big we go with this ultimately depends not only upon the number of clubs but the number of people who participate. A core group has already begun work. Join us. Contact any ETVC officer, or call 415-334-3439, ex. 5472.

Class, what's August 19? Yeah, sure, the 36th anniversary of the day I joined the United States Navy. What else? It's one of the three dates (August 18, 19, 20) of the first All FTM Conference of the Americas being held at New College and New College School of Law.

FTM's have come a long way in a short time. A few years ago, they were a hidden minority. Today, FTM leaders such as James Green are at the forefront of the entire transgender community. Police Sgt. Stephan Thorne was the first transsexual to go public after civil rights were granted to TG S.F. City workers in a November 1993 charter reform (though he was about to do it anyway, before he knew about the law). James, Stephan and many others will stage what promises to be an exciting event. Look for more information elsewhere in this issue.

Charter reform reminds me to remind you that Shelley Salieri, who authored the TG protections section (which earned her ETVC's Outstanding Achievement Award), has suffered a stroke that paralyzed her legs. As of this writing — about a month before you receive The Channel — Shelley resides at Laguna Honda Hospital, Ward M5, in San Francisco, undergoing physical therapy. Shelley has worked tirelessly for our rights. A call (415-[redacted], a letter or a visit would cheer her, and is certain to speed her recovery. Somber note: Shelley has had to register as a man — a bitter irony — reminding us that our advancement still falls short of the goal.



PHOTO: DAVID SWANSON DIGITAL EFFECTS: K.L.ANDERSON

The 1995-1996 ETVC Officers

Front row from left: Trina B.; Pam S.; Lisa M. (not pictured – Jano B.)
Bk. Row from left: Diane L.; Jane B.; Lauren H.; Tedra T.; Jamie F.; Lulu B.

Special Events

ETVC Dance Soirees at Kimo's

Wednesday, July 12 and Wednesday, August 9

Come join us upstairs at Kimo's for our 'dance and schmooze' soirees. We've had a nice gathering of folks, so enjoy the music, people and surroundings. There is a dance floor for the movin' and groovin' set. Kimo's • 1250 Polk at Pine St. • Starts at 8 PM. • No admission charge.

ETVC Comedy Night

Wednesday, July 19th

Come to Kimo's for a night of video and comedy featuring some of our own local transgendered talent. Kick back and enjoy the laughs and some of our funniest videos at this zany "Comedy Night" event. Your admission charge will help us raise funds for our Educational Committee's future projects. Starts at 8PM • Kimo's • Polk and Pine, SF • $3

Beach Blanket Bingo

Thursday, July 27th

Now that summer is here, it's time for a trip to the South Pacific. So, let's see those short shorts and hawaiian shirts. Prizes will be given for the barest, brightest and best beachcomber. We'll also play our annual "friendship bingo" game. See you there!! Starts at 8PM • Eichelberger's, 2742- 17th St. at Florida, SF • $3 for members, $5 for guests.

Color Me Beautiful

Wednesday, August 16th

Anna Chun from "Color Me Beautiful" will present an evening of colors for transgendered people. Find out which colors work best for you for both your make up and clothes. We need models, so if you want to participate, please come one hour early and see Diane. Starts at 8PM • Kimo's, Polk and Pine, SF •$3

TS Seminar: It's The Law!

Sunday, August 20th

Have you ever felt discriminated against in your job because of your transgendered status? Learn what some people are doing about it! Two of our members, Melinda Whiteway and Lisa Middleton, will present a seminar on law and employment policy issues based on their attendance at this summer's International Conference on Law and Employment for Transgendered People. Up to date information about your civil rights. Open to all self-identified transsexuals. Kimo's • Polk and Pine, SF • 2PM • FREE!

International Intrigue Night

Thursday, August 31st

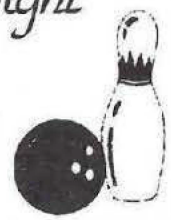
Tired of the winter season on the Riviera, or bored with the same fast crowd at Tangiers? Then book your next flight for San Francisco and join us for cocktails in Eichelberger's "Blue Parrot Room", the meeting place of the jet set crowd. Try a game of chance at our gaming tables, sample exotic brews from the Parrot Perch, dine on international cuisine, and meet and mingle with the beautiful people. All proceeds from the gaming tables will benefit the "Home for ETVC" Fund. Eichelberger's • 2742 - 17th St. at Florida, SF • 8 PM • $3 for members, $5 for guests.

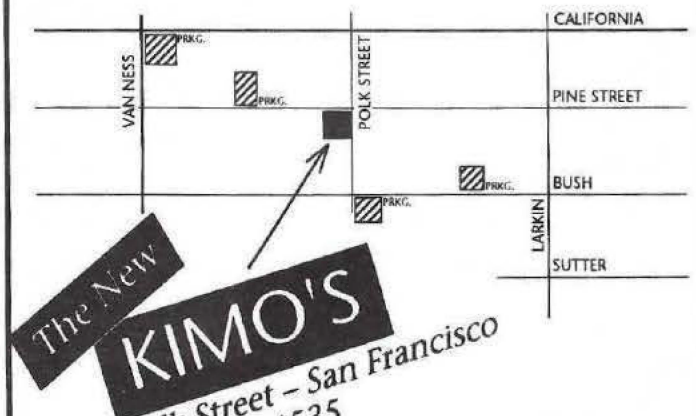
The Uninvited Dilemma
A Question of Gender
by
Kim Elizabeth Stuart
Research Supplement available separately.
Metamorphous Press
PO Box 10616, Portland, OR 97210-0616
Toll Free 1-800-[redacted] Fax (503) [redacted]



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All levels welcome
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TV/TS/TG GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

A Calendar of Events for July & August

July					
2	**ETVC**	**Education Committee**	**Meets at 2 PM**	**Kimo's-Upstairs**	(408) [redacted]
3	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek	(510)
6	DVG	Pacific Center Rap Group	Starts at 7PM	Walnut Creek	(510)
7	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408)
7	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10PM	Berkeley	(510)
7	**ETVC**	**Executive Committee**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
8	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento	(916)
9	**ETVC**	**Newsletter Committee**	**Meets at 11 AM**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
9	FTM	Informational Meeting	Meets at 2 PM	San Francisco	(510)
11	**ETVC**	**Outreach Committee**	**Meets at 7:30 PM**	**Berkeley**	**(510)**
12	**ETVC**	**Dance Soiree**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Kimo's-Upstairs**	**(415)**
13	**ETVC**	**Rap Group**	**Meets 8:30-10PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
13	**ETVC**	**Significant Others**	**Meets 7:30-10PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
14	**ETVC**	**Poker Social**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
14	RGA	Gender Discussion Group	Meets 8-10 PM	San Jose	(408)
14	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10PM	Berkeley	(510)
14	**ETVC**	**Lending Library Open**	**Hours 7-11PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
15	**ETVC**	**Bowling Night**	**Call for details**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
17	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek	(510)
18	RESC	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Santa Rosa	(707)
18	**ETVC**	**Social Committee**	**Meets at 8 PM**	**Eichelberger's**	**(415)**
19	**ETVC**	**Comedy Night**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Kimo's-Upstairs**	**(408)**
20	**ETVC**	**Couples Social**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**TBA**	**(415)**
21	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408)
21	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10PM	Berkeley	(510)
22	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento	(916)
27	**ETVC**	**Beach Blanket Bingo**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Eichelberger's**	**(415)**
30	**ETVC**	**TS Committee**	**Meets at 2 PM**	**Kimo's-Upstairs**	**(408)**
August					
3	DVG	Pacific Center Rap Group	Starts at 7PM	Walnut Creek	(510) [redacted]
4	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10PM	Berkeley	(510)
4	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408)
5	**ETVC**	**Executive Committee**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**TBA**	**(415)**
6	**ETVC**	**Education Committee**	**Meets at 2 PM**	**Kimo's-Upstairs**	**(408)**
7	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek	(510)
8	**ETVC**	**Outreach Committee**	**Meets at 7:30 PM**	**Berkeley**	**(510)**
9	**ETVC**	**Dance Soiree**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Kimo's-Upstairs**	**(415)**
10	**ETVC**	**Significant Others**	**Meets 7:30-10 PM**	**Palo Alto**	**(415)**
10	**ETVC**	**Rap Group**	**Starts 8:30-10 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
11	**ETVC**	**Poker Social**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
11	RGA	Gender Discussion Group	Meets 8-10 PM	San Jose	(408)
11	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10PM	Berkeley	(510)
11	**ETVC**	**Lending Library Open**	**Hours: 7-11PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
12	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento	(916)
13	FTM	Informational Meeting	Meets 2 PM	San Francisco	(510)
13	**ETVC**	**Family Picnic Day**	**Starts at 10AM**	**Castro Valley**	**(510)**
16	**ETVC**	**Color Me Beautiful**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Kimo's-Upstairs**	**(408)**
18	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408)
18	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10PM	Berkeley	(510)
19	**ETVC**	**Bowling Night**	**Call for details**	**San Francisco**	**(415)**
20	**ETVC**	**TS Seminar: The Law**	**Starts at 2 PM**	**Kimo's-Upstairs**	**(408)**
21	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek	(510)
22	**ETVC**	**Social Committee**	**Meets at 8 PM**	**Eichelberger's**	**(415)**
22	RESC	Social	Meets at 8PM	Santa Rosa	(707)
26	SGA	Dinner /Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento	(916)
27	**ETVC**	**TS Committee**	**Meets at 2 PM**	**Kimo's-Upstairs**	**(408)**
31	**ETVC**	**Int'l Intrigue**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Eichelberger's**	**(415)**

OTHER GROUPS

Pacific Center for Human Growth, a counseling oriented growth center, sponsors all-inclusive gender support groups on every Friday except the last one of the month at 8:00 PM, 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley, Call: (510) [redacted]

Rainbow Gender Association (RGA) meets 1st and 3rd Friday of the month 8:00 PM at the New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose. Write: RGA, PO Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170. Call: (408) [redacted]

Sacramento Gender Association (SGA) Blue Rose Chapter meets 8 PM the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at the Townhouse, 1517-21st Street in Sacramento. Write: PO Box 215456, Sacramento, CA 95821-1456. Call: (916) [redacted]

Diablo Valley Girls (DVG) Meets first and third Monday of every month. 8 PM at Just Rewards Nightclub, 2520 Camino Diablo in Walnut Creek. Write: DVG, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885. Call: (510) [redacted]

FTM, a support group for Female-to-Male crossdressers & transsexuals, holds both open,Informational Meetings, and closed, Support Meetings. Write: FTM, 5337 College Avenue #142, Oakland, CA 94618. Call Voice Mail: (510) [redacted]

Redwood Empire Social Club (RESC) Meets fourth Tuesday of every month, 8 PM at Santa Rosa Inn, 4302 Santa Rosa Avenue in Santa Rosa. Write: RESC, P.O. Box 1531, Sonoma, CA 95476. Call: (707) [redacted] or (707) [redacted]

Please Print

ETVC Membership Application

Mailing Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Preferred Name: _____ Family Member's Name: _____ (If Applicable)

Birth Date: Month _____ Day _____ New Member: _____ Renewal: _____

How did you learn about ETVC? _____

Full year membership June 1 - May 31 is $20.00 (Family – $30.00).

Part year membership from January 1 - May 31 is $10.00 (Family – $15.00) (New members only).

Please remit by check or money order to:

ETVC, P.O. Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486



Gender Skybox

By Pam [redacted]

The lights have been on in the Skybox for many nights due to my recurring nightmares. I keep dreaming that next year's Miss ETVC will be Dennis Rodman. The cover of the May 29 Sports Illustrated leads me to believe that Madonna's ex-squeeze (and NBA's leader in rebounds) may have lifted a few items from her closet before splitting. We can be thankful that the Material Girl never dated NFL's William "Refrigerator" Perry, lest there be no spandex or leather left for the rest of us. Still, give Rodman credit for having nice legs. But the tattoos and orange hair (for this week) may cost him points from any judges.

This is the time of year when sports columnists habitually take issue with fans' choices for the American and National League All Star Teams. Many of these scribes, as well as fans, will indulge in the creation of fantasy all star teams of players from other eras, particular regions of the country, or particular nicknames or initials. Some, like two fans I encountered at a Rolling Stones concert, may even try to put together an all star squad of rock stars or other entertainers. What follow are my choices for the first Gender Cinema All Star Team:

First base - Divine (Hair Spray, et al.). Since it's a fantasy team, I can make a posthumous selection. While not having much range or speed in the field, Divine would definitely have pop at the plate.

Second base - Dustin Hoffman (Tootsie). Mainly because those little, intense guys make good second basemen. (Billy Martin, Roberto Alomar).

Shortstop - Barbra Streisand (Yentl). Scrappy, smart, intuitive, all good qualities for the busiest infield position. Directing experience makes her a good candidate for player/manager. Grammy Award winning National Anthem before the game.

Third base - John Lithgow (The World According to Garp). Many forget that in the same year Hoffman got the best actor nomination for Tootsie, Lithgow also got a supporting nod for his portrayal of transsexual former football star, Roberta Muldoon. Figure the athletic ability carries over.

Catcher - Robin Williams (Mrs. Doubtfire). Built in chest protector for one. Also, nobody else could do a better job at keeping the pitcher relaxed and opposing batters rattled.

Outfield - RuPaul (Crooklyn), Tim Curry (Rocky Horror Picture Show), Jaye Davidson (The Crying Game). The best legs for covering all that territory.

Starting Pitcher - Jack Lemmon (Some Like It Hot). High leg kick. A classic performance deserves the honor.

Relief Pitchers - Terrence Stamp, Guy Pearce, Hugo Weaving (The Adventures of Priscilla: Queen of the Desert). Their uniforms alone should provide enough late inning intimidation.

May your July and August be anything but the "dog" days of summer, gender fans!

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Secretary's Report

by Jamie Fenton



Jano Bogg did double-duty last year, serving as both Treasurer and Membership Secretary, handling both jobs ably. He did this on top of operating a busy accounting and tax preparation business. So that he can take some well deserved rest, Jano has handed back membership responsibilities to me.

Naturally, I could not resist reprogramming the ETVC database application and moving it over to the Apple Macintosh computer. This issue of the Channel is the first one sent out under the new system. Hopefully (knock on wood), things will go smoothly. If Murphy's law strikes, it will be entirely my responsibility. Thanks Jano for helping out so much!

Unfortunately, increases in the production costs of our newsletter have caused us to increase the rates to advertisers in the Channel. Effective immediately, the rates will be as follows for all new and renewed ads: business card $25 per issue, $125 per year; 4" x 5" $60 per issue, $300 per year.

The last issue of the Channel was the first one mailed out under our non-profit bulk rate permit. The Postal Service now requires that we fully spell out the name of our organization on all mail that goes out under this permit. We realize that this may pose a security problem to some of you. However, the postage savings are significant, enough to avoid a dues increase this year.

To address this, the Executive Committee has created a new membership category. For an additional $5, we will mail all newsletters to you First Class, with only our Post Office box in the return address. This has the added advantage of speeding the delivery of your newsletter by several days. If you want this option, please drop us a note along with your check and we will note this in our records.

One final apology. The membership renewal form included with the last issue asked for your birth month and year. We meant to ask for the birth day and month only. Some of you put in your year anyway. Rest assured that this fact will not go into your record!



PHOTO: JOE PULIDO DIGITAL EFFECTS: KEVIN ANDERSON

In Loving Memory

Sissy Spaceout

Empress XX de San Francisco
a.k.a.

Steven C. Lindsay
1955 - 1995

One of the best friends ETVC ever had died of AIDS-related complications in April. Those of you who went to the many parties held at Lily's will remember Sissy as a warm and caring person, always working hard to raise funds for charities. She gave much of her time and energy organizing countless Imperial Family events over the years and serving on the boards of various groups including the Cable Car Awards, the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Celebration and the Tavern Guild Foundation. She was a very popular empress and activist.

Sissy was one of the first in the gay community to open her arms to ETVC. Often working as an MC, she always made it a point to recognize us whenever she saw us in the crowd, and usually attempted to explain who and what we were about. Sissy paved the way for our acceptance and the current rapport we so dearly cherish with our friends in the Bay Area drag community. She was one of our strongest supporters who has been in our corner for over ten years. Grieve for the loss of our friend — we will truly miss her.

Contributions in Sissy's memory may be made to the Imperial Council Benevolent Fund, P. O. Box 423693, San Francisco, CA 94142. This fund was established to help members of the Imperial Family cover their burial expenses, if necessary.



Night Man

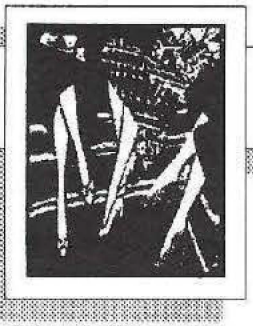
Rite of Passage

Francis Vavra

For several years, I have been seriously contemplating getting a tattoo. Beyond simply being a beautiful design somewhere on my body, the idea of something so permanent and personal stirred strong ancient feelings within myself. Tattooing is such an old ritual, primitive societies originally gave themselves sacred designs denoting special events in their lives, such as coming of age, marriage, or denoting a particular tribe or gender. Though many women in this country are using tattoos as personal adornments, I felt receiving one would be a personal statement about my maleness, and I wanted a woman to do it. For me it symbolized commitment, pain withstood, and a private symbology to be worn the rest of my life. Even though I don't feel I actually am a man, I still relate to a feeling of maleness more than femaleness, a concept difficult to describe. I have been handdrawing a small rose on my business cards, and often give roses to my dates. Recently I discovered that the rose is an old symbol of transformation, along with butterflies and fairies, other favorite images of mine. So a rose, with feather leaves, thorns and blood drops (for my vampire tendancies) was what I chose for my tattoo.

Last year I found the person I wanted to perform this artistic ritual, a wonderful eclectic spiritual woman living in the Mendocino, California area. I wasn't quite ready then; now I was. I had just lost my secure, stable, soul-stifling job of eight years, was in my ninth month on male hormones, and had begun a burst of creative energy. Floating between worlds, I was ready for a rite of passage. I made the appointment, rented a blood red car (coincidental) and with state of the art sound system blaring gypsy music, drove up the coast in a 3 1/2 hour non-stop meditation which continued in Madame Chinchilla's tattoo studio. She carefully sketched the design on my right arm, had me sit awhile looking at it in a mirror, and when it was exactly to my liking, Chinchilla ("Chi Chi" for short) applied fresh lipstick (on herself, her personal ritual), offered me a mint, and began her artistry. She does very delicate, precise work and had designed the stem to give the illusion of entering and exiting my skin. It took three hours, and as my gypsy tape played on her boom box, we became close, the pain was much less than I had expected, my endorphins kicked in and I became euphoric, and when it was over, I treated Chi Chi, her partner and a friend to dinner at an East Indian restaurant, as we were all famished.

The following day I returned, having decided I wanted the stem lengthened, but she couldn't work on it again for another 3 weeks as the healing process had begun. Instead, she excitedly pointed out that this very date, May 16, was the anniversary date in 1944 on which a number of Jewish women and gypsies were non-consentually tattooed with numbers at Auschwitz, and she had a list of them in her tattoo museum. Jewish herself, Chinchilla spontaneously decided to have one of those numbers tattooed on herself in remembrance. Without hesitation, I decided to have her tattoo a tiny "Z" on my left shoulder, in memory of my unknown gypsy relatives who died there, as all gypsies had Z's (for "zigeneur", German for gypsy) prior to their numbers. As she marked the letter in traditional dark blue ink, I thought about the pink triangles for gay men, black triangles for lesbians, yellow Stars of David and the gypsies playing violin music in the camps. We both cried and hugged each other, and said our farewells. I spent the rest of the day sitting among the trees along the Mendocino coast watching the waves crash over the rocks, and slept in my car that night in a campground beneath the stars, feeling the rose and the "Z" throbbing on my arms, and gypsy music playing in my head.



Other Voices

Other Voices is a newsletter within the ETVC newsletter by and for Significant Others. Send letters and articles to: Other Voices, c/o ETVC, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486.

California Dreamin' is Coming to SF in April 1996

by Julie Freeman

Donna and I recently attended the California Dreamin' conference in Burbank and had a great time as usual. For most of you who have NEVER attended a conference, it is an experience not to be missed. In fact, our very first exposure to the gender world came in 1987 when we attended the Tri-Ess Holiday in SF. Our only knowledge of gender groups at that time was a phone number listed for Tri-Ess in Chicago. From that number, we found out about the conference to be held in SF and after much soul-searching, Donna decided to try it and I joined her after a couple of days. It was an experience I will treasure always, and I firmly believe our lives changed for the positive from that weekend on.

Thankfully, Tri-Ess was invited by ETVC for a mutual dinner during that conference and that was how we found out there was a group in the Bay Area. Although we did not join ETVC for about three months (it takes courage you know), at least we were now aware there was a group closer to us than Chicago!

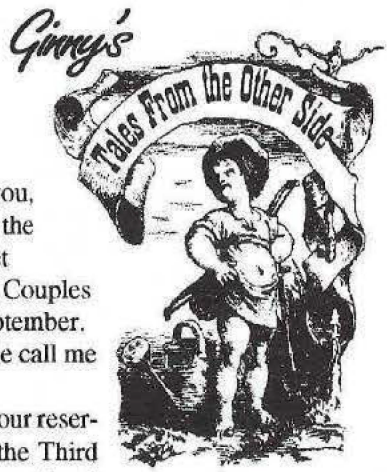
So we think it's important that all of us who are involved in our local groups - whether it be ETVC, DVG, RGA, SGA or FTM, etc. - realize the importance of supporting conferences such as Dreamin' because they bring in new faces and ultimately new workers and members for local groups.

To those of you who attend the conference, whether it be one day or several, there are programs on all aspects of gender. TV/TS/SOS/Couples issues, seminars on make up, voice, hormones, etc., a wide variety of topics for a widely diverse population. There will be entertainment, vendors, scrumptious meals, and ample opportunities to visit with old friends and make new ones from all over the country and perhaps some from abroad. You will have fun!

All the local groups will be participating in helping to make the conference a success. We will be looking for volunteers to help from registration to even participating in a program or perhaps being part of the entertainment. Please start thinking about how you can help.

Significant Other Support Group

The Significant Other Support Group invites all Significant Others to attend our meetings. Group members define Significant Others as wives, lovers, friends, children and others close to TV/TS persons who are themselves not TV/TS. We encourage you to ask the SO in your own life to attend, particularly if she or he needs support from peers in dealing with feelings about the TV/TS in her or his life. All meetings are kept STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL to help insure that a safe, supportive environment is created in which all attendees feel secure enough to freely share and talk about their feelings. We are frequently assisted by a helping professional with a specialty in our area of concern. Our next meetings will be Thursday, July 13 and Thursday, August 10. We will have a Family Day Picnic at Lake Chabot on August 13. You are welcome with open arms. For more information call Ginny at (415) [redacted]



How nice of those of you who have responded to my plea for help. To Diana, Wilhelmina and Elaine - thank you, thank you, thank you! We have the SOS Group meeting locations set through October. We still need Couples Social locations for July and September. Hello, anybody out there? Please call me at (415) [redacted]

You still have time to make your reservations for Memphis to attend the Third Annual Spouses/Partners International Conference for Education (SPICE) This Conference, geared to the needs of the significant other, will be held from July 26-30, 1995. Diana will be attending from our group, so if you have any questions or need information, please feel free to call Diana at (510) [redacted]

More and more often we find ourselves searching for answers or at least guidelines for the 'wife with two children' to follow when her husnband says he is a transsexual. We are putting together a referral list of professionals who can counsel with some expertise in the areas of taxes, real estate, general and child psychology, divorce, custody issues and general legal advice. We have learned in our research there is an ongoing support group meeting for significant others of TS's and TV's at the office of Dr. Mildred Brown, a highly respected gender counselor in the Bay Area. The charge is $30 per session, the group meets on the third Wednesday of every month from 5:30PM to 7:00PM in Los Gatos. Call Dr. Brown's office at (408) [redacted] for information and directions.

In August, the SOS Group is joining the Couples Group for the Second Annual Family Picnic Day on Sunday, August 13th from 10AM to around 2PM at Lake Chabot in Castro Valley. This picnic is a non-crossdressed event (one of our few). We had a lot of fun last year and hope you will join us this year in the Park. Maybe you will meet a friend with whom you can share your thoughts and feelings about the transgender lifestyle. Call (510) [redacted] for details.

Do We Belong in TG-Land?

by Ginny Knuth

A common complaint at our SOS Group meetings is that crossdressing takes time away from the significant other and is an isolated activity that excludes the significant other. The SO then resents being ignored and shut out, and is negative to any activity relating to crossdressing. The crossdresser experiences guilt for creating this problem and bingo(!) your relationship is in trouble. I think this is a cop-out by the SO. Life doesn't always work out the way you might have expected. If you have a loving relationship with someone, it's important to trust each other enough to allow the other to be who they really are. He needs you desperately to stand by him and assure him of your unconditional love as you look for ways to understand and deal with this unique situation.

In May, Julie Freeman received the Member of the Year Award for her outstanding contributions to ETVC. The Executive Committee has recognized a significant other for this award for the sixth time. Previous winners were Diane Richwine (twice), myself (twice), and Sandy Kasten last year. We all volunteered our talents to help ETVC.

Diane (SO/Denice), a skilled Event and TV Producer, handled the Social Committee (with over a dozen members), produced two excellent Cotillions and the Talent Show at the IFGE 1989 Convention in SF. I helped where I could administratively and worked as Assistant to the Treasurer (SO/Nancy Ann) for ten years. Sandy Kasten (SO/Jano), a tax attorney, prepared, filed reports and obtained our non-profit status charging zero dollars. Julie (SO/Donna) has done administrative work on the newsletter, the membership list, worked the door at socials, planned, scheduled and facilitated many SOS and Couples Group meetings and given seminars for couples at California Dreamin'. Significant others have truly been significant to the success of ETVC over the years. Here's how some of you made a difference and shared your partner's interest in crossdressing.

Arden (SO/Ken)	A founder of ETVC. Counselor, make up advisor, Social Committee Chairperson.
Lyn (SO/Vanessa)	ETVC Secretary, worked on IFGE Convention and hostessed ETVC barbecues.
Arlene (SO/Sunny)	Founder, original facilitator of SOS group.
Cathy (SO/Gloria)	Created artwork and layout for newsletter, appeared on local and national TV shows.
Judy (SO/Barbara)	Talked on radio and TV shows for outreach.
Laura (SO/Bernice)	Founder of Couples group.
Jan (SO/Diahanna)	Created ETVC's TV pamphlet still used today.
Paula (SO/Joanne)	Elected Social Co-Chair, gave Mary Kay parties.
Marilyn (SO/Joan)	Shops and dines with crossdressed SO; hostess for SO tours at IFGE Convention.
Geri (SO/Joanne)	Member of Social Committee, Newsletter Folding Committee, received Joanna Caron Award of Excellence for her advertising efforts at Cotillion 1993.
Margo (SO/Paulette)	Organized and set up lending library.
Juana (SO/Veronica)	Regular columnist and newsletter staff member.
Nicki (SO/Jane)	Team Captain Aids Walk, 1995.
Diana (SO/Janelle)	Runs Karaoke at socials. Sews SO's clothes. Publicity Director for SPICE 1995.

Well, you get the idea. All these women and many more have found ways to share their SO's transgenderism. I don't really know if we belong in TG-land, but I know for sure accepting and even enjoying this lifestyle will strengthen your relationship. I think you have to do three things to make it work for you: love your partner, find fulfillment in helping others and keep a sense of humor. Don't feel ignored and isolated. Be a part of the action — it might be fun!

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The Girl With The Stars In Her Eyes

© 1994 by Lauren Rene' Hotchkiss

A number of people have asked me about the lyrics to the song that I performed at the Cotillion this year, "The Girl With the Stars In Her Eyes" — so here it is. Is she someone outside of me, or the woman within? — you decide.

Verse 1
I awoke in the night a strange sound in my ear
A cold pale light coming out of my mirror
The glass grew dark and cloudy
And then began to clear
And in its depths I saw the face
Of the girl with the stars in her eyes
The girl with the stars in her eyes

Verse 2
She looked at me with her hypnotic gaze
My will lost, I couldn't take my eyes away
She reached her hand out to me
To lead me through the glass
And I knew I had to go with her
The girl with the stars in her eyes
The girl with the stars in her eyes

Verse 3
She beckoned to me and unlocked a door
Revealing a world like none I'd seen before
And beyond a sea of flowers
But the fairest sight before me there
Was the girl with the stars in her eyes
The girl with the stars in her eyes

Bridge 1
But there was something with us
I could feel it in the air
Not a breath was stirring
But the wind was in her hair

Verse 4
Lost in a maze made of living stone
Near a strange house of shadows that never was a home
There were stairs that led to nowhere
There were windows in the sky
And in each pane I saw a face
Of the girl with the stars in her eyes
The girl with the stars in her eyes

Bridge 2
I reached out to touch her
My hand passed right through her
As if she wasn't there
Her Cheshire Cat smile remained
As she vanished in the air

Verse 5
But soon her warm smile started to freeze
touched by the chill of the murmuring breeze
And in the stillness of approaching dusk
The scene began to blur
But I heard her whisper on the breeze
The girl with the stars in her eyes
The girl with the stars in her eyes

Verse 6
I opened my eyes to find all was gone
My only companion the cruel laugh of the dawn
Around my bed, the mirror lay
In shattered pieces on the floor
But for the rest of my life I'll always remember
The girl with the stars in her eyes
The girl with the stars in her eyes

ETVC Logo Design Winners

The following designs were the first, second and third place winners in the ETVC logo design contest. First prize went to Amy Kantz, second to Amy [redacted] and third to Denise [redacted], with cash awards of $100, $50 and $25 respectively. 27 designs in all were submitted, and the judges were Melinda Whiteway, Joan Sheldon, Cindy Martin, Geri [redacted] and Joe Pulido.

First Place, Amy Kantz:

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a california non-profit transgender organization

Second Place, Amy [redacted]

Third Place, Denise [redacted]

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The New Woman

Roberta "Bobbi" Dunne
Member of the Board of Directors
San Francisco Lesbian/Gay/
Bisexual/Transgender Pride Committee

The phone call came this morning. One of the local papers is running a story about my latest bout with the State of California over employment rights issues and wanted a photograph. "Would I be home at two for a photo shot?"

"Sure I'll be home", I said, but I knew this was different. The article and the picture were for a prominent gay newspaper, and represented a coming together, a healing so to speak, wherein at least in this, we speak as one community for our right to work without fear of discrimination.

This for me has been a long time in the making. I have been convinced from the beginning that the struggle for transsexual rights are tied both now and historically to gay rights. Yet from January of 1994, when I first began dealing with the press, it saddened and confused me to meet others who felt passionately otherwise. It saddened me because I am all too familiar with the strategy of "Divide and Conquer". It confused me because to those in the workplace who called me a "faggot", there is no distinction. The average guy does not appreciate the subtle differences in the Diverse Lifestyles Community, and he certainly is not privy to our enumerable theorists. To him we are all the enemy, the same enemy.

The Gay Press is now taking notice of my case, for the State, in its latest attempt to avoid responsibility to its citizens, says:

"Since you had clarified to your employer that you were not gay before you were laid off in August 1994, it would be difficult to establish that he discriminated against you because he perceived you to be gay. You would in essence have to prove that the employer did not believe your statement that you were not gay, and then took action against you because of your perceived sexual orientation."

Simple enough, however:

One of the great tragedies of life in the United States is that many of its most productive citizens must live and work in fear simply because they are members of a minority. It is difficult to imagine the number of gay men and women who have denied their true nature when confronted by an accusing supervisor or employer in a workplace confrontation. Denial does not protect one from discrimination. Many of us were shocked to learn the Department of Industrial Relations, as a result of this ruling, was now prepared to withhold or severely limit protection to anyone who was discriminated against as a gay, simply because they told their boss they weren't. Sort of a reverse "Don't ask Don't tell" policy. Common decency and the spirit of fair play dictates one examines the actions and events and not absolve someone of responsibility for their actions based solely on selective definition of terms.

The State of California must be held accountable for protecting its citizens from abuse. And it must be encouraged to enforce its own laws.

I am thankful to the press for its realization of the importance of this ruling. The political mood is not favorable to protecting our right to live and work as productive citizens. Together, we can prevent erosion of those laws designed to protect us from abuse, and if we remain aggressive in our stand, we can increase protection, until one day all of us, including those of us who are transsexual, feel secure under California law.

Just a note to those of you who have written to me in care of The San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration Committee. Thank you, its always an honor to get such neat mail, however if you want me to write back and answer your questions, you need to include a return address. Also, if you wish to e©mail me, my address is: [redacted]

P.S. I may also be reached by writing care of the Channel Newsletter. Thanks.

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Respect: *the Old Fashioned Way*

by Stephanie Eng

I walked into the San Francisco State University Student Union poolroom as inconspicuously as possible, as I was entering a male domain. I casually walked up to the person who looked to be in charge and asked about the upcoming nine ball tournament. Julie, the assistant manager, enthusiastically encouraged my participating in the women's division as they were always welcoming new coeds. I agreed to enter the tournament if I could play in the open division but was told that play there was much more competitive and that men generally played in that division.

I assume that most people know I am transgendered, but I'm told I blend well and that I'm my harshest critic. Regardless, I didn't want to start another Renee Richards controversy, I just wanted to compete in a game I enjoyed and haven't played for a very long time. I remained firm and after showing my student ID was allowed to register for entry in the SFSU Spring Open Division Nine Ball Tournament. I was given some instructions and told to arrive on Saturday, April 29, 1995, before 10:00 for the first round.

Saturday arrived soon enough. What should I wear? It was overcast and threatening to rain. My usual shorts or jeans? I suppose jeans and athletic shoes were more appropriate as I'd be bending over the table on some of the shots. But I'm pretty bold, what with interacting with literally thousands of students daily, so I opted for the comfort of shorts which as it turned out, made only me feel comfortable. About 9:30 a.m. I walked into the tournament room amidst the sound of clicking balls and enough testosterone to start a war. I made my way around groups of male students as they not so discreetly eyed my every move. I reached the registration area unscathed but felt as if I had been visually raped —is there such a thing? Anthony, the poolroom manager, greeted me and asked if I wasn't sure I'd rather participate in the women's division as I'd be competing against up to 40 men in the open division. I said I'd prefer to play in the open division. He wished me luck and that I could warm up at one of the table prior to starting the tournament. I picked out a house cue which instantly set me apart from the other contestants, as they all had expensive custom cues with fancy leather cases. I walked up to a table with several players and asked if I could practice with them. One of them said the tables were reserved for contestants. I said I was one and that I'd like to play with them. They said I could play the winner of the game in progress. As I waited, I examined my house cue. It looked fairly straight and the tip looked good. It wasn't like one of the custom cues that the other players were using but, as we all know, looks can be deceiving. They continued practicing and seemed irritated by my presence. My turn came so I racked the balls for my opponent. He broke but nothing went in. It was my turn. I hadn't picked up a cue in over six years, so it felt pretty foreign as I eyed my first shot. A tough, long cut shot on the one ball with difficult position on the two. I made the one and ran out the rest of the rack. I heard someone whisper, "She's just luck," and "This is only practice, just wait until the tournament."

I should mention here that before transitioning, I was a pretty decent pool player. I took up the game when I was thirteen so you might say I have quite a few years of experience. I was the caliber of player who traveled to other cities and states in order to find a game. I played for money primarily and also won quite a few local tournaments. But that was then. Other things became more important in my life so I gave up playing pool.

The tournament started promptly at 10:00 a.m. The format was double elimination, race to five. This meant that for each match between two contestants, the first to win five games won the match. The double elimination format allowed you to lose two matches prior to being eliminated. At the end of the day, there would be a winner of the winner's bracket, who would have no losses, and a winner of the loser's bracket who would have one loss. The two bracket winners would face off to determine the champion. The first round match-ups were announced on P.A. I didn't hear my name so I went outside to have cup of coffee and spend a few minutes studying. One of my girlfriends came by to see what I was up to. The first thing she said was, "I can't believe you wore shorts, especially those shorts. You are asking for trouble!" I was expecting a "good luck" or something like that. At about 10:45 a.m. I heard my name announced. Extremely nervous as I returned to the tournament area, as I entered the room I got the feeling that because I was a coed, some resented my participating in the open division. I could just imagine them thinking, "that's why there's a women's division." I interpreted this silent opposition as, "women just aren't as good as men." I also had the feeling that the women there felt as if I had abandoned them. Such is the world of being in-between. I had to weave my way to my assigned table, no one made way for me which made maneuvering a competition all by itself.

By 6:00 p.m. I was the sole undefeated contestant in the winner's bracket, which meant I only had to win one more match to become school champion. Up to this point, no one had won more than two games against me. I waited for the outcome of the remaining loser's bracket matches. I got cold, I was tired and hungry. The restaurants had all closed. I waited for an hour and a half until the championship match was announced. My opponent, whom I had already tortured with a score of five to one looked pumped and eager for revenge. He won the coin toss and won the first game. I was unconcerned. He also won the second and third game, I started to worry. I had lost my momentum and my concentration. I no longer cared about winning, I was only fearful of failure and defeat. I needed to be aggressive. For a moment, I regretted taking my estrogen that morning. I managed to win two games but by now, the score was two to four, my opponent was breaking and needed only one game to win, and I needed a miracle. He broke and failed to pocket a ball. It was my turn. I bent over the shoot. I paused to look at the trophy which stood about two feet high and had marbled tiers. It was absolutely stunning. Instead of shooting, I got back up and thought, wouldn't it be something to be the first transsexual SFSU pool champion, and in the open division no less. I was re-inspired. But I had to win the next three games. I tried to do the best that I could.

As I compose this story, I can look up and see the trophy as it sits atop my desk. I moved to the Tenderloin recently and can only afford this cozy little studio so I have no other place to put it. It looks somewhat out of place here amidst all my books. I look at the inscription — 1st PLACE, NINE BALL - OPEN DIVISION, SFSU SPRING 1995. I am so proud. I was on the Metro on the way home after the tournament and someone said, "Way to go, Stephanie," I looked up to see Anthony. He looked at my trophy and asked if I'd noticed that the statue on top was a male. No, I hadn't noticed. He said the university hadn't anticipated a woman winning the open event and made an offer to send the trophy back for a female figurehead. I said, "I think I'd like that."

Peace and Freedom

by Bishop PMR

It is a sad thing indeed that so many misguided or misinformed "Christians" stand in judgment of their brothers and sisters when they know they aren't to do so if they read their bibles instead of waving them in the air. It is an odd thing that they use the Old Testament to back up their narrow-minded viewpoints. Some people point to laws in the Torah to condemn anyone they dislike. There are hundreds of laws in the Torah, many of which applied only to ancient Jewish religious leaders even then. Other laws like the often quoted one saying it is a sin for a man to wear women's clothing was enacted to stop crime (theft and rape) when women's clothes were used as a disguise . . . it had nothing to do with God or religion.

[The laws were a guide the Jewish people who looked on them] as a way of salvation through observance. There were so many laws it was impossible not to break some every day, and every time a minor law was broken, it was a sin that alienated them from God.

The good news is that the apostle Paul was chosen by Jesus to bring the Gentiles into Christianity and to lead the big church at ancient Antioch where the word "christian" was first used. Paul points out in the book of Romans, Chapter 7, Verses 4, 5 and 6 that because of Christ, we are released from the laws of the Old Testament! Free from the old laws, they no longer apply.

There is no doubt of Paul's strong belief that the Old Testament laws died with the resurrection of Christ. We were given two new laws by Christ: Love your God with all your body and soul; Love each other (unconditionally), treating others as you would have them treat you.

God loves us all not because of what we wear or with whom we have sex. He loves us for who we are, not what we are, and because we love Him in return. Our salvation no longer depends on how well we keep "the law." Our salvation was paid for by Jesus Christ on a cross. Don't let misguided people beat you down with laws that no longer are valid and lay guilt where none shoud be. The guilt is theirs for not following Christ's two laws.

Pax Christus.

AIDS March in Hayward

On Sunday evening, May 21, the current reigning Empress Tiffany of the Imperial Star Empire of Alameda County, and Miss ETVC 1990, led a group of 40 people in the first candlelight AIDS vigil to take place in Hayward, California. This was in conjunction with the San Francisco march, and hundreds of others throughout the country. Empress Tiffany, along with her co-reigning Emperor, Taco Tony, has been a tireless worker this past year, raising thousands of dollars for local charities, including many which are AIDS-related. The ISE court openly welcomes people of all orientations and gender status to help them in their fund-raising activities. ETVC's Evette, who is a Baroness in Tiffany's court, also marched.

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ETVC 's Lending Library Open To Membership

by Ginny Knuth

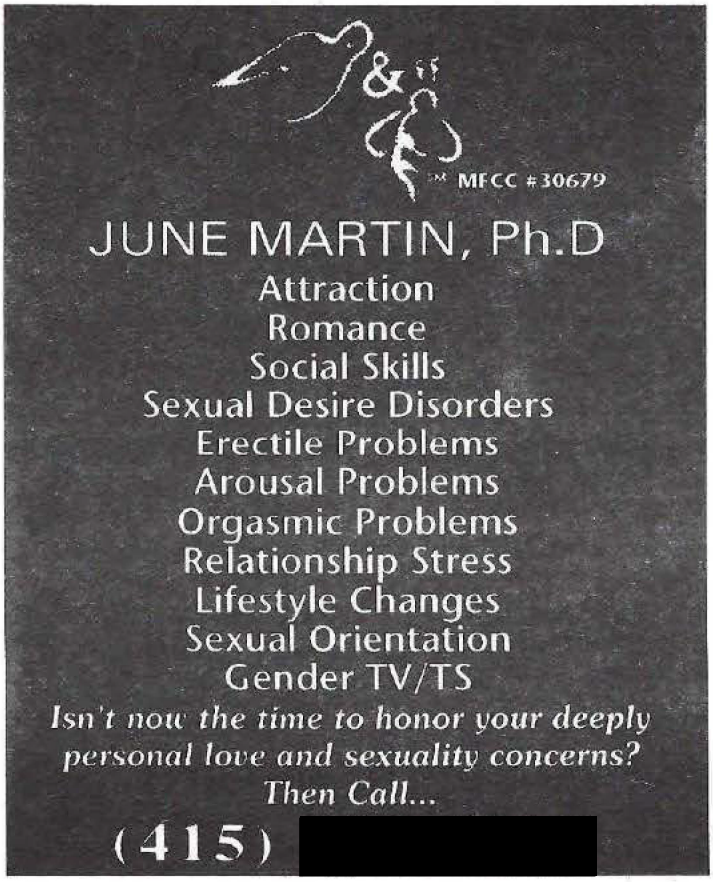
In an attempt to make the books and tapes in our lending library more accessible to you, we have decided to open our home (where the library is kept) once a month for you to browse through the over 175 items available. If you decide you want to check out any of the items, you may do so by becoming a library member (a $10 refundable deposit is required). Only two items may be borrowed at one time, for no longer than a 30 day period.

Library hours will be the second Friday of each month from 7PM to 11PM. Please call me at (415) [redacted] before making the trip to be sure everything is on schedule. Important: Only active members will be admitted, so be sure to have your 1995-96 membership card with you.

Some of our new additions to the library include:

B0161	The Zuni Man-Woman	Roscoe, Will
B0163	Genderspeak	Haden-Elgin, PhD, Suzette
B0169	Hormones for the Female to Male	Kirk, Dr. Sheila
B0170	Tale of Two Sexes	Monroe, Carolyne
B0171	Crossing the Stage	Ferri, Lesley
B0172	Transgender Nation	Mackenzie, Gordene
B0173	The Lenses of Gender	Lipsitz-Bem, Sandra
B0174	Ladylike Deportment (VHS tape)	Sinclair, Paula

A complete, updated lending library list will be available by September. We need volunteers to catalog and write short summaries of each book. Will you join our Library Committee? Please call if you can help.



FTM Convention Update

by Francis Vavra

Our April social was a fundraiser for the upcoming FTM Convention, and we raised $448! At the following Executive Committee meeting it was decided to add $52 to that amount from the budget, so that we could present FTM with a check for $500, which I did. I would like to especially thank Dillon, Mr. ETVC '95, for his help with the auction. He was not feeling well, but drove up from Santa Cruz just for the event. Thanks also to all who donated items for the auction and bake sale, particularly Ginny Knuth and Ralph Judd for their multiple contributions, and Jackie O'Conner for her heavenly cookies. It was great to see Cori again, in town from Denver for the weekend.

The schedule for the FTM Convention, August 18, 19 and 20, is nearly finalized; there is an impressive line-up of speakers, panels and workshops lined up. Friday evening will be a kick-off with a slide show by Loren Cameron, play vignette by David Harrison, and welcome speeches, to be followed by an entertainment show hosted by Stafford and Jordy Jones at Club Confidential on Polk Street. Saturday will be workshops, where one can choose which to attend at any given time; Saturday evening dinner at Eichelbergers (extra charge); and Sunday will be "doctors' day", with presentations and question and answers with renowned surgeons and endocrinologists. Sunday evening will be a cruise around the Bay ($22.50 extra). ETVC will have a booth, as will other local gender groups. Registration is a bargain for both days, see separate form with this newsletter. This is the first FTM convention ever, and we hope to have many FTM's from around the country. It should be emphasized that although the topics are FTM-related, MTF's, SO's and others in the gender community are cordially invited, as this is a wonderful opportunity to meet and network with FTM's, gain a better understanding of their issues and let them know that others are interested. Hope to see you there.



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L.to R. - Katherine, James, Francis, Jane, Will.
In front: William Henkin, Lin Fraser.

Bay area gender community therapists William A. Henkin, PhD. and Lin Fraser, PhD., put on a 3-day symposium for graduate psychiatry students at the California School Of Psychiatry in Alameda, California on April 14th. Each of five diverse panelists, ranging from transsexual to former cross-dresser, told their personal stories, and took thoughtful questions from the students. James, Jane and Francis also took the opportunity to let the students know about the FTM and ETVC transgender groups. The interesting discussion was concluded with a dinner attended by the panelists and facilitators.



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Ask The Therapist

Relationships - Are You Available?

by Luanna Rodgers, M.A., MFCC

One of the true joys of life is a loving relationship with a special other person; a mate, a loved one. Too often single people who crossdress, gender blend, or cross gender boundaries, feel insecure about meeting and getting close to possible significant others because they fear rejection. Often, especially in the early stages of coming to terms with cross-gender feelings, the individual believes that the self-doubt and condemnation they hold towards themselves is shared by all others. This leads to reclusiveness, reluctance to seek partners, or, if already involved, to fear disclosing to that partner, all leading in turn to a plummeting sense of self-worth and increased insecurity about their desirability as a partner for someone.

As a therapist working primarily with crossdressers, transgenderists and transsexuals, I find that one of the most common concerns is finding or maintaining a loving relationship. I believe that one of the primary stumbling blocks to finding that special other with whom you may form a relationship is a reticence toward or active rejection of oneself as a crossdresser or cross-gendered individual. Very often I hear people state that their ideal partner would like and value them for themselves, their whole person, but not like or be attracted to their crossdressing, gender blending, or cross-genderism. Certainly no one wants to be objectified and appreciated as a one-dimensional character: a crossdresser, a transsexual. Why though the failure to embrace oneself fully and allow others to appreciate them in their true wholeness? For example, the leggy blonde does not want to meet someone who only likes her because she is long-legged with blonde hair. But is she likely to be upset with someone who enjoys her intelligence, enthusiasm for life, love of children, animals and opera, plus likes long-legged blondes? Probably not. Yet many crossdressing and cross-gendered individuals grapple with this very issue.

"I wouldn't belong to a club that would have me as a member" stated Groucho Marx. Many cross-gender individuals seem to be saying they wouldn't belong to a partner who would have them. I've heard crossdressing and cross-gendered people say they feel uncomfortable if someone seems interested or "turned on" by them and their status. Over the years, many of my clients have stated that they would try a personals ad but they are afraid that, if they stated their gender status, they wouldn't get any replies or would get only replies from people "into" crossdressers or cross-gender people. Again, the example of the leggy blonde: why try to deny oneself and attract someone who only wants a short brunette? Only shame about oneself, in this case transphobia, could explain the rejection, suspicion and constant testing of those who accept crossdressing or cross-gender status in a partner.

If you are single and seeking a partner, it may be worthwhile considering your own self-image and level of self-acceptance. Are you afraid of meeting and dating prospective partners? Would you scrutinize to within an inch of their life any partner who expressed an interest in you? Does your sense of self-doubt and low self-worth convey the label of pervert on any prospective partner who would accept you totality as a crossdresser or crossgender person? Is that what you call yourself in your deepest, secret moments? If so, you are probably not truly available to be loved and cared for. Consulting a knowledgeable gender therapist, attending a supportive group, or talking to others who have worked through this issue themselves could help you free yourself from the barriers preventing you from forming a successful, rewarding, intimate relationship.

Luanna Rodgers is a Bay Area psychotherapist specializing in work with the crossdressing, transgender, and transsexual community.

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Summary of Treasurer's Annual Report

FISCAL YEAR ENDING 4/30/95

Receipts	$33,227
Dispursments	$32,446
Net Revenue	$781
Assets	$15,110
Liabilities	$897

A line-item report (unreconciled) was prepared for the annual meeting by ETVC Treasurer Jano Bogg. For a copy of the complete report contact the Treasurer c/o ETVC, P.O. Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486

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