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# TRANSgenderist

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Monthly Magazine of the Transgender Independence Club

January, 1999

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## Winnie [REDACTED] Hurt

As of December 27, 1998: Melodie called me not long ago to pass along some information. I am very sorry to inform you that Winnie has fallen on some ice and due to the complications of that fall will be out of commission for months.

We have relied on Winnie's tireless energy for years, and are very sad to hear about this. I can still remember that first words of contact with another T\* person, Winnie answering my plea for information about the club, and also giving me her sage wisdom during my transition year. I will sorely miss her during her absence and wish her the speediest of recoveries.

Winnie has requested that nobody dressed as female approach her during her hospital stay, which is logical because this might be misunderstood by her family members.

Winnie requested to be relieved of her duties as club president and treasurer, Melodie reported. I will report this fact in the January Transgenderist, and we will have a meeting to discuss all of these events at TGIC, 7:30 on Thursday, January 14th.

These are the facts as I understand them right now.

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## JD's to Host Another Party February 11th

Karen [REDACTED] reported on January 4th: Denise & I attended the New Year's Eve party at JD's, along with several other TGs (Monica, legendary Barbara, etc.); splendid time had by all, etc. Without warning, JD informed us that he & Rosie are holding a Valentine's Day Party for us (TGIC) on Thursday, Feb. 11 (1999).

This will be the second party JD & Rosie are giving TGIC in less than 3 months; the first -- for Christmas, 12/17/98--was a lot of fun. We're very lucky to have such supportive friends & should show our gratitude by attending en masse. It's a good idea to have an appropriate announcement in the next two club newsletters; e-mail, too! The more people who are aware of its existence, the better, & a tie-in can be achieved not only with Valentine's Day but with Mardi Gras (Feb. 17?), as well. We can talk more about this at next club meeting (1/7) but I thought you might appreciate a little fore-knowledge (not like foreplay).

C'ya,

Karen F.

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## News Briefs

**Anti-Gay Rhetoric:** Examples of anti-gay rhetoric by the religious right are stored at [www.wiredstrategies.com/hate.html](http://www.wiredstrategies.com/hate.html). Here is a sample:

Pat Robertson: "many of those people involved in Adolf Hitler were Satanists, many of them were homosexuals, the two things seem to go together, it is a pathology it is a sickness."

Family Research Council: "There is a strong undercurrent of pedophilia in the homosexual subculture."

American Family Association: "Prominent homosexual leaders and publications have voiced support for pedophilia, incest, sadomasochism, and even bestiality."



Colorado for Family Values: "homosexuals, while representing perhaps 2% of the population, perpetrate more than one-third of all reported child molestations."

Jesse Helms: "They start by pretending that it is just another form of love. It's sickening."

**New Study:** A new study concluded scientifically that Homophobia, fear of gays, is related to Homoeroticism, being erotically aroused by homosexual images. This is considered supportive of the long-held belief that the worst homophobes are themselves closet homosexuals or have homosexual tendencies. [Note: the placement of these two items together is simply a matter of editorial imperative, and is not deemed to construe the leaders of the religious right as closet homosexuals. Right.]

**Transsexual Mayor Recalled:** The formerly popular mayor of Quellendorf, Germany, Norbert Lindner, age forty, was elected to a seven-year term in 1996. That came to an end in 1998 as Mr. Lindner became Ms. Michaela Lindner, and the conservative townpeople recalled her.

**Pediatrician Fired for Having Sex Change, She Charges:** Carla V. Enriquez, a popular pediatrician at a New Jersey HMO in Camden, was fired after she had her sex change procedure done, she charged in a court filing.

**Dame Edna:** Dame Edna Everage's new show in San Francisco, "The Royal Tour," was extended until January 17th.

**Movie Cancelled in India:** The movie "Fire" has been cancelled all over India according to director Mahesh Batt, after protestors began to picket movie theaters where it was playing. The protestors charged the movie was an "affront to Hindu values." The movie describes the loneliness and hard life of India's women, and contains a lesbian kiss and a brief nude scene.



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## **Policy Targets Bias; US Department of Justice to Use Gender Bias Laws to Pursue Some Gay and Transgender Cases**

(from the Nov. 20 issue of The Washington Blade), by Lou Chibbaro Jr.

In a significant move, the U.S. Justice Department announced last week that it will use existing federal civil rights laws to take legal action against businesses and state and local governments that engage in employment discrimination against Gay and transgender persons. "This reflects a significant response on the part of the Justice Department generally to seriously apply existing laws in ways that can remedy current injustices against Gay people and gender-non-conforming people," said Lesbian-activist attorney Chai Feldblum, who heads a legislative clinic at Georgetown University Law School. Feldblum said the Justice Department's response was prompted by recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions, such as one in a case involving same-sex sexual harassment, and that "the actual impact of this change will depend on the results we get in court."

Justice Department official Aaron Schuham said DOJ believes that existing U.S. civil rights statutes that explicitly ban discrimination based on sex can be applied to cases of anti-Gay discrimination in a number of circumstances.

Schuham, an attorney with DOJ's civil rights division, said high-level DOJ officials, including Attorney General Janet Reno and Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Bill Lann Lee, approved the DOJ "initiative" to take on such cases, even though no federal civil rights law explicitly bans discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Helen Norton, deputy assistant attorney general for civil rights, emphasized, in an interview with the Blade, that the DOJ efforts



described by Schuham cannot be used to assist Gays or transgendered people who suffer discrimination based solely on their sexual orientation. "Civil rights laws don't cover Gays," [except in RI and a handful of other states] she said. "But all Americans are entitled to protection under existing laws that cover them. If a Gay [or transgender] person is discriminated against for some reason other than their sexual orientation," such as gender non-conformity which could be considered a form of sex discrimination, DOJ "may be able to go after that."

Feldblum, who praised the DOJ for adopting the policy, said it could have the effect of providing more protection for the segment of the Gay community that most often faces discrimination — women who are perceived to be masculine and men who are perceived to be effeminate. "There's more protection for Gay men, Lesbians, and transgender folks who are non-conforming to gender stereotypes," said Feldblum, a professor of law at Georgetown.

Schuham announced the new DOJ policy on Nov. 14, while speaking on a panel at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Creating Change Conference in Pittsburgh, Pa. More than 1,800 people attended the conference. Schuham said Lee put the policy into place "several months ago," although neither Lee nor the DOJ formally announced the change.

"It's a very serious commitment that has been directed by everyone from Janet Reno all the way down," Schuham said. "We can really bring our resources to bear on this."

"We intend to work on cases ... [where] an employer fails to hire you, promote you, or fires you or retaliates against you because you don't live up to the employer's expectation of what a male employee should act like, or how he should hold himself out," Schuham said. He said the department will take similar action against an employer that discriminates against a female because she doesn't conform to "sex stereotyping."

Schuham said DOJ plans to apply the gender stereotyping strategy to a number of other instances where Gays and transgendered persons commonly face discrimination or harassment. Among them, he said, are anti-Gay harassment of students in public schools and anti-Gay discrimination or harassment in prisons. He said DOJ will also consider taking action against local police departments that fail to provide adequate protection for Gay and transgendered people.

Schuham said that under standard procedures for enforcing civil rights laws, the Justice Department has authority to force employers to end discriminatory practices through civil litigation. He said the department represents the person or persons facing discrimination in such civil litigation free of charge. Schuham said anyone with information about possible Gay or transgender-related discrimination at the workplace can reach him at (202) 514-3878.

Feldblum said the adoption of the Justice Department policy follows several years of discussion on the matter between Gay civil rights attorneys and Justice Department officials. Feldblum said groups such as the transgender organization Gender PAC and the legal groups of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights have worked on the effort over the past year.

"This is an excellent step forward," Feldblum said. However, Feldblum said the policy should not be considered a substitute for a national Gay civil rights law, which Congress has so far declined to pass.

Lambda's Managing Attorney Beatrice Dohrn echoed Feldblum's assessment, characterizing the DOJ action "a very sound interpretation" and "application" of existing laws. Dohrn said Justice Department officials have indicated they will use Title VII of the U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title IX of the U.S. Civil Rights Act Amendments of 1972 as part of their arsenal of laws to crack down on sex discrimination against Gay people. Title VII bans



discrimination in employment, and Title IX bans sexual harassment at the work place.

Dorhn said the DOJ is also expected to use provisions in the U.S. Constitution which the Supreme Court has held to ban local, state, and federal government entities from engaging in discrimination based on the same categories as Titles VII and IX. She said the DOJ is expected to buttress its linkage of sexual orientation discrimination and sex discrimination by invoking the 1997 Supreme Court decision in *Oncale v. Sundowner*. That decision established that same-sex sexual harassment is illegal under existing law. In addition, Dorhn said, the DOJ is expected to use the 1989 Supreme Court ruling of *Hopkins v. Price Waterhouse*, which established that gender role discrimination and gender stereotyping is covered under Title VII as a form of sex discrimination.

Dorhn noted that the plaintiff in the *Hopkins* case was a woman who was denied a partnership in the Price Waterhouse accounting firm because her superiors believed she dressed and acted in a way that was inappropriate for a woman. The woman's sexual orientation was not identified in the case and did not become an overt issue. "No one said she was a Lesbian," said Dorhn. "But they accused her of having traits not characteristic of a woman and said that was inappropriate for her work."

Dana Priesing, an official with Gender PAC, a national group that lobbies Congress on transgender issues, called the Justice Department action a "very important" development that could provide job protection for transgendered persons. "We believe this is well grounded in case law," Priesing said. "We believe they clearly have the authority to do this."

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A woman came home to find her husband in the kitchen, shaking frantically with what looked like a wire running from his waist towards the electric kettle. Intending to jolt him away from the deadly current she whacked him with a handy plank of wood by the back door, breaking his arm in two places. Till that moment he had been happily listening to his walkman.

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## Transition Diary, Part 2

by Vicky [REDACTED]. Summary of Part 1: After the announcement that I was a transsexual and was going to transition, a transition team of managers was set up. This team was entirely confidential, and team meetings were even held away from the normal place of business. The first three transition team meetings were very stress-filled and confrontational, especially over the bathroom issue, but that changed in the next meeting. \*\*\*

The bathroom issue took on a life of its own. I prepared to defy my management if necessary, while continually telling management that their proposed solution of having me use the men's room was unacceptable. It was not a confrontation at the personal level, but rather an effort by the people involved to try and find a solution which would be workable.

I understood that using the women's room would break with departmental precedent, and that the law would not be necessarily on my side either, at least be nebulous, since I was still legally male. And they understood my reticence about using the men's room as a female, and the potential lawsuit which this presented. And I also cued them into the fact that I knew about the New York State Human Relations Law, by saying their proposal was not an acceptable accommodation, a very specific term for transsexuals which is considered a type of disability in New York State.

The pressure paid off. At the beginning of the fourth meeting, the managers said they were ready to provide a completely locked bathroom just for me, and I backed off and said that I would accept that accommodation temporarily, until we could complete the transition into the women's room. I proposed a date of July 6th, 1998 to complete that transition, but our concerns were now of a more immediate nature, namely how to tell my fellow workers about this. The date was set, May 11th in the afternoon, the day after my 51st birthday, and



the largest room in the department was reserved for "a meeting." A cryptic memo went out to all divisional staff to reserve that date for a mandatory meeting, the first such mandatory meeting anyone had ever heard of.

That announcement had everyone wondering what was going on. The rumors were flying fast and furious. Maybe someone was going to retire; maybe the division was going to be disbanded; maybe...; maybe.... We of the transition team were constantly monitoring these rumors, chuckling quietly to each other, and communicating only through cryptic e-mails about "Project V." Each of us on the team was to be evasive about this meeting and its purpose, and each of us was very careful to not give away the secret.

Security was at the highest level, except for the e-mail which had to be risked because having the transition team members consult verbally would arouse even more fears and rumors. Besides, e-mail provided a vital link to my shadow transition team of therapist and transsexual friends who were working hard to insure that my transition would go well.

At two weeks before the telling I began to quietly xerox handouts for "the telling" as we referred to the May 11th date, in small batches so as not to arouse suspicion. As that week progressed, the script for the meeting was constantly revised in response to comments from my friends outside and the transition team inside. A total of eighteen drafts circulated before just the right one was found.

At eight days from the telling, the first major leak occurred. Business Administration, when asked to provide a lock for the downstairs women's room, required a reason be specified for that request. The reason was that a transsexual woman, name unspecified, was going to use that bathroom exclusively. When that hit the typing pool, all hope of total confidentiality was lost. But the identity of the transsexual was not known, and the rumor mill circulated and figured out several candidates, all rather effeminate men. My name was not mentioned,

nor was my division mentioned, and although several of the transition team members were pushing to have the telling early, I held firm for the 11th.

As the day came nearer, the only known breach occurred. My boss's secretary reads his e-mail when he is out of town, and even though the cryptic Project V was alluded to, she did eventually figure it out. But she wisely held her counsel, realizing that the day was only four days away, and realizing just how important it was for me to tell everybody all at once.

So as I approached the telling day, only nine people in my department knew, the six of us in the transition team, my boss's secretary, the EAP person in the department (who had to be taught to handle questions) and the campus nurse who was brought in at the last minute. I was in a total flurry of activity as I xeroxed and printed and quietly checked out the new bathroom, that the key worked, and we made sure that all the material we needed would be available in the telling room. In addition I constantly practiced my part of the speech, which I would give by memory on the telling day. It was the most intense time of my life.

Our last pre-telling transition team meeting was held the Wednesday before the 11th. In that meeting we went step by step over the script, and I turned over the materials to be brought to the room. It had to be a complete surprise; I had to walk into that room just as any other member of my division, not carrying the materials. I showed them a folder I had prepared with a picture of me in male mode, 340 pounds, on the front, and for those who wished to look, a picture of me as Vicky inside.

On the morning of Monday the 11th, I began to prepare the e-mail version of my coming-out speech. I attached several useful articles to the e-mail, and then began the laborious task of entering the 150-odd addresses that this e-mail would go to, people all around the state that interact with me on a regular basis. I read it and reread it until I was convinced it



was right, and then placed the cursor over the "send" icon, and then let the screen saver cover it over. And then I waited; the waiting is the worst, absolutely. Your mind conjures up the worst possible things that can happen, so you are in an utter panic, while at the same time you are calm and collected and focused.

What amazed us all was that my identity as the transsexual had never been revealed, and I was going to go into the telling meeting without my secret having been compromised. It gave me a lot of hope that things would go well. In transition team we had discussed the negative possibilities, what if someone was so upset that they left, or passed out, or... or... At the last minute I had asked the campus nurse to attend so that if anyone had a medical problem from the shock, she would be available, and she agreed.

At last it was time. I cannot describe the calm that envelops you when you can finally tell people who you really are inside, when you no longer have to keep the tight reign on your feelings and can just freely express yourself. The tension of remembering the carefully-rehearsed speech was there, but at the same time I knew that was merely a detail and that no matter what happened, this day would change my life forever. I followed my co-workers down the stairs to the main conference room, sat in the crowd, and the telling meeting began.

"As one door is closed today, a new one opens before you. Pause briefly at this threshold and know that what you are leaving behind is good. Approach this new door with great confidence in your heart, for you have prepared well for this moment. Open each new door with trust, holding your hopes and dreams very near..., knowing that the world is waiting for the excellence and the love you carry with you." It is perhaps the perfect message for a transsexual, and these words of M. E. Miro echoed in my mind. Then the head of the division began to speak. The stage was set, the drama was begun, and all of the actors were in their places.

[To Be Continued]

## Welcoming Churches

by Tina [REDACTED]. Christmas to most people, even those who have been alienated by churches, is a time that people tend to want to return to church...but now you're Gay or Lesbian Bi, or Transgendered, and I bet some of you are wondering how closeted you have to be over the holidays.....and still sneak back to church....

GOOD NEWS!!!! You dont!!!! You can come to church, in leather, or lace, in drag or whatever, just come as you are. God loves us all..... as we are..... as MCCHV's mission statement says... Metropolitan Community Church of the Hudson Valley (MCCHV) exists to: Worship God, Encourage Spiritual Growth, and Be a Witness of God's Inclusive Love.

We meet on Sundays at 1pm in a large old church in Albany on State Street, Emmanuel Baptist Church, 275 State Street, between Dove and Swan. one block west of Central Ave, and only ~ 3 blocks south of the gay area on Lark Street. The Pastors are Jill Farnham and Karha Us email at MCCHV @aol.com. Board of Directors includes Rich Frank (sorry no email at present), Loren Fay (LVFay@aol.com), Ruth Pushee (ellenruth@prodigy.net), Tina Andrus (tinasparty@yahoo.com), and Heather McNally (Hmcna@aol.com). Hope to hear from or see you soon.

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[and Cheryl commented:] I've been going to the Unitarian Church of Pittsfield, openly as a TS, and have been welcomed by those who know my gender status.

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[My first time out as Vicky in public was as a Capital Pride performer in the Albany Unitarian Church's celebration as a welcoming church. I was very well received there. I also understand that the Presbyterian Church in downtown Troy has a policy of inclusion, but do not know of any T\* people going there at this time.]



## Tyra Hunter Wrongful Death Case Won

As you all likely remember, Tyra Hunter was the transgendered woman who died on August 7, 1995 in the District of Columbia following an automobile accident. The local community was galvanized by reports that D.C. Fire Dept. emergency medical technicians, upon discovering Tyra's male genitals, used derogatory epithets, backed away, & ceased treating her. Tyra's mother brought a wrongful death & survival action against the District of Columbia, the supervising ER physician, & the EMT who allegedly uttered the slurs.

This afternoon [December 13?] a reporter for the Washington Post called & gave me the following details concerning the jury's verdict.

1. The jury found for defendant Adrian Williams (the EMT), apparently concluding that plaintiff had not proved that Mr. Williams uttered the epithets.

2. The jury awarded plaintiff \$100,000 for emotional harm suffered by Tyra as a result of the epithets uttered at the scene. (So the jury apparently did find that epithets were uttered by some DCFD employee(s).)

3. The jury awarded plaintiff \$500,000 for damages attributable to the withdrawal of medical care at the accident scene.

4. The jury awarded plaintiff \$1,500,000 for conscious pain & suffering endured by Tyra in the emergency room as the result of medical malpractice.

5. The jury awarded plaintiff \$400,000 for damages attributable to the wrongful death of her child (i.e., what Tyra would have contributed to the household had Tyra lived).

6. Finally, the jury awarded plaintiff (in her capacity as representative of Tyra's estate) approximately \$373,000 for damages attributable to the loss to Tyra's estate (i.e., what Tyra would have retained in her estate after a lifetime of work, had she lived). Total damages: \$2,873,000. No word on whether defendants will appeal. Best, Dana Priesing, tsq.

## Shorts

**With a Little Help from Our Friends!** Police in Oakland, California spent two hours attempting to subdue a gunman who had barricaded himself inside his home. After firing ten tear gas canisters, officers discovered that the man was standing beside them, shouting pleas to come out and give himself up...

**And What Was Plan B?** An Illinois man pretending to have a gun kidnapped a motorist and forced him to drive to two different automated teller machines. The kidnapper then proceeded to withdraw money from his own bank accounts...

**And These Nitwits Are Teaching Our Children?!!** A 9-year-old boy in Manassas, Virginia received a one-day suspension under his elementary school's drug policy last week - for mints! Joey [redacted] allegedly told a classmate that the mints would make him "jump higher."

And a student in Belle, West Virginia was suspended for three days for giving a classmate a cough drop. School principal Forest [redacted] reiterated the school's "zero-tolerance" policy.

**Some Days, It Just Doesn't Pay to Gnaw Through the Straps...** Fire investigators on Maui have determined the cause of a blaze that destroyed a \$127,000 home last month - a short in the homeowner's newly installed fire prevention alarm system. "This is even worse than last year," said the distraught homeowner, "when someone broke in and stole my new security system..."

**The Getaway** A man walked in to a Topeka, Kansas Kwik Shop, and asked for all the money in the cash drawer. Apparently, the take was too small, so he tied up the store clerk and worked the counter himself (to get more money) for three hours until police showed up and grabbed him.

**Did I say that?** Police in Los Angeles had good luck with a robbery suspect who just couldn't control himself. When detectives asked each man in the lineup to say the words, "Give me all your money or I'll shoot," the man shouted, "That's not what I said!"



## Cat

The sun has set and I awake  
to the rising of the pale moon.  
The shadows play among the leaves  
and it's time for me to come alive.

As I move through the dark shadows the moon  
catches the blueblack shine of my coat,  
And the shimmer lasts but the faintest blink of  
the eye and plays tricks upon the mind.

What did you see?  
Anything, nothing, something a blur?  
Unless you can look into the darkness of my  
soul you will not see this phantom of the night.

I am the strength and grace of the night  
and take my power from the moon.  
I am the lonely hunter and move with such  
stealth  
That I am defined by the silence.

You have nothing to fear from me  
if you are strong and swift.  
For I am searching for the weakness  
to destroy....to kill...to devour.

Sometimes I call out to another,  
It is the gentle growling sound  
That only my kind will hear,  
And will echo it's answer through the darkness.

I sit very still and silent in the shadows  
and see you standing there.  
I can see you in every detail and  
my green orange eyes can pierce through your  
soul.

Your night is my day.  
I can sense your fear of me.  
I can smell the essence of who you are  
and can hear the quick pounding of your heart.

I have the power to quickly strike  
and rip the heart from your body.  
In the time it takes you to blink an eye  
I can tear the life from you.

Or I may choose to let you live  
another moment, hour or lifetime.  
If your heart is pure and true,  
I will know that and spare your life.

My luminescent cat eyes peer into your soul  
and see and know the creature that you are  
inside.  
I can sense your loneliness and pain  
And know that at this moment you are alone in  
the Universe.

In the flash of pure terror and agony  
you can be gone from this earth.  
Unlike some, I never kill from anger or despair  
but only in the natural order of things.

Maybe it is your time and maybe it is not.  
Do you know? Can you sense that I'm here?  
I move quickly through the night  
A flash of quicksilver!

So am I here or only the panic  
in your soul?  
Am I to be your end or your beginning?  
I am the Cat and I know the answer.

Michelle ■■■

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[Michelle is a transsexual woman in therapy and hormones, preparing to come out to people as she transitions. She has written many poems. Reprinted with permission.]

*Errata: The article on Charlie's  
deception in November was by  
John ■■■ of the Post-Star.*



TGIC  
PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604  
(518) 436-4513 (live Thurs.7:30-10 PM)

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

#### TGIC Officers

President	Winnie [REDACTED]
Vice President	Tina [REDACTED]
Secretary	open
Treasurer	Winnie [REDACTED]
Newsletter Editor	Vicky [REDACTED]

The Transgenderist is the newsletter of TGIC, published monthly and mailed First Class to members, prospective members, friends, professionals, and exchange publications. Copyright 1999 TGIC unless otherwise stated. No part may be reproduced without prior permission from the originator.

Readers are invited to submit articles relevant to the Transgendered Community for consideration. You may bring or mail typed pages for publication to the TGIC clubroom. Format should follow that shown in the current newsletter. You may also e-mail the articles to [REDACTED]. The article should be part of the body of the e-mail.

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

### *Lady Di's*

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#### BECOME AN IFGE MEMBER

The International Foundation for Gender Education is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Basic membership is \$25 per year. Subscriptions to Transgender Tapestry are \$40. Brochures and forms are available in the TGIC Club Room. Call or write to:  
IFGE (617) 899-2212  
PO Box 229  
Waltham, MA 02154-0229

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#### ANONYMOUS HIV ANTIBODY TESTING

Your regional HIV Counseling and Testing Program provides free HIV counseling and antibody testing, support and referral. No names will be asked.

(NYS Health Department)

Call: (518) 486-1595 or 1-800-962-5065.

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#### TGIC On-Line

All transgendered people are invited to join TGIC On-Line, an informal e-mail network sponsored by Transgenderist Independence Club (TGIC). Messages exchanged on TGIC On-Line focus on events of interest to transgendered people in a region from Lake Placid to Newburg. If you are interested in joining the network, or want more information about TGIC, send an e mail message to: TGIC-request@hartebeest.com with any subject line and in the message body, the text:

JOIN TGIC  
STOP

(Please note: JOIN TGIC must be on line 1. STOP must be on line 2) You will receive an automated acknowledgment (Journal) of your request, which must be approved with the list moderator.

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## Calendar and Events

TGIC meetings are held Thursdays at 7:30 in the clubhouse.

### Events of Note

- January 9                    Twenty Club, Hartford, CT  
Transsexual Support Group
- January 23                    Twenty Club, Hartford, CT
- January 21-24                First Event,  
Woburn, MA  
(See Article in 12/98 TGist)
- February 11                  JD Party  
(See Letter This Month)
- February 16, 1999          Mardi Gras Party  
or thereabouts              Proposed, for planning
- February 20                  Starlight Ball, Hartford, CT  
(See Summary Below)
- March 18-21, 1999          IFGE, Louisville  
(See Article in 12/98 TGist)
- March 21, 1999              Equality Begins at Home  
Grassroots GLBT lobby

**Starlight Ball.** Please see [www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/9721/coron.html](http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/9721/coron.html). The Starlight Ball, with plenty of other activities, the weekend of February 20 in Hartford. This is the weekend for all you glamour queens or glamour queen wannabes to see the top gals and be seen yourself.



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Comments? Vicky E. [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED] c/o TGIC,  
PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604  
All the news that fits.