Vol. XI, No. 2

February, 1996

GIRL TALK

Powder Puffs of California — Serving the California Gender Community Since 1987

Inside This Issue . . .

1
Next Meeting — Angela Curry

2
Shop 'till you Drop — *SHOWOFF*

3
Hail to the Chieftess — President's Message

4
Queenspeak by Joan G.

5
Topical Cream (EMLA) Numbs Skin to Pain

6
IFGE's Alison Laing Urges "Put Unity in Community" by Melanie Yarborough

7
Shoes and Foot Problems

8
The Rap Sheet

reminder

schedule for OZZ nights:

saturday, feb. 3 & mar. 2

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm - Happy Hour

7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Dinner

9:00 pm to 1:00 am - Cabaret Show

9:00 pm to 2:00 am - Disco

A Meeting for the Estrogen-Challenged

Prez DeeGrade felt that February would be a good month to call out for Chinese food for the meeting. So what topic would best compliment our cuisine? How about oriental medicine! Good idea, but unfortunately we do not know anyone skilled in the ancient Chinese apothecary arts. So instead, Powder Puffs have asked Angela Curry, a western-trained pharmacist, to address our club.

Whereas Ms. Curry will be discussing pharmacology in general, her presentation on this day so near to Valentine's Day will focus on a topic close to some hearts — WARNING! Here comes the dreaded H-word — *hormones*. I know, hormones are controversial, but accurate up-to-date information is a vital part of making an informed decision and here is your opportunity to get a portion of that information.

Lest I leave you thinking that hormones are the only medical-related topic of interest to the transgendered community, let me point out that interest in electrology rivals that of hormones. With this in mind, I have reprinted an article, starting on page 5, dealing with EMLA, an anesthetic skin cream approved by the FDA in 1992 and available in the U.S. by prescription only. Many in our community use EMLA to reduce the pain associated with electrology, especially around the sensitive upper lip. So while we have Ms. Curry with us, some of you with needs apart from hormones may want to ask her about EMLA.

As usual, the meeting will be at the Best Western Motel on Pioneer Blvd and will start at 7:30 pm on Saturday, February 17th. Be there or be square.

Start Packing Your Bags!

If you're tired of snow, rain, and gloomy winter weather, then by all means put California Dreamin' 96 on your must attend list of gender community events. The ladies of ETVC, Diablo Valley Girls, Rainbow Gender

Please see **DREAMIN', Page 2**

California Dreamin '96

San Francisco

Golden Gateway

April 25 — April 29, 1996

For Registration Information Contact

PPOC/California Dreamin'
P.O. Box 1088, Yorba Linda, CA 92686
Or Call [redacted] (Leave Message)
E-Mail: Dreamin96@aol.com
or PPOC@aol.com

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Membership rates. $30/yr, $12/meeting; $150 covers dues & meetings for entire year. A Renaissance Education Affiliate.

Shop 'till you Drop — SHOWOFF

We would like to welcome a new vendor to the list of those who are open to serving the Southern California Gender Community. *SHOWOFF* is a beautiful dress shop conveniently located in the Bristol Place Target Center, 3394 South Bristol Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92704; north of the 405 Freeway and South Coast Plaza. The store is privately owned and operated by Ms. Nancy McNaughton and is open 7 days a week. Hours are as follows: Monday thru Friday 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM; Saturday 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM; and Sunday 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

She has plenty of junior and misses sizes in small, medium, and large. In some items, the sizes go up to 3X. Ms. McNaughton is willing to help you with any fashion question. She also carries jewelry, purses, and hosiery as well as other accessories needed to complete the look. Also, check out the store's catalog on dresses which can be made to order. Need more info? Call the store's phone number at [redacted].

For the more adventurous, Nancy has agreed to let most of us shop in her business *en femme*. She has stated only Christine (bless her heart) has to call ahead to let the shop employees prepare themselves for her.

So, better start shopping for that new outfit for California Dreamin' 96. Thanks to Theresa for sharing this new vendor with us!

DREAMIN'

continued from page 1

Association, and the Sacramento Gender Association are delighted to invite you to attend California's premier weekend event. This is the California Community's sixth year of sponsorship and we're going all out to bring you the greatest value, dollar for dollar, of any community event.

Check in early and enjoy the delights of San Francisco. Most of the great city attractions are within a five- or ten-minute taxi ride. All the serious matter (workshops, seminars, and speeches) will take place in the daytime hours with our evenings devoted to rest, relaxation, and entertainment. We've pulled out all the stops to make sure that you get the fullest enjoyment and fulfillment for your convention dollar. Whether you love to shop, go out on the town, grapple with ideas and issues, or just enjoy a few days of being your feminine self, we have something for you.

You'll experience workshops and seminars on improving your femininity, personal fulfillment, and there are programs for spouses and partners plus workshops for couples issues. All programs are staffed by caring and knowledgeable members of our community along with working professionals sensitive to the gender community.

HELP LINE

continued from page 3

part of her life in order to move on. Stepping in to fill Lianna's high heels will be our own, Dee Grady. Even though Prez DeeGrade is already juggling job, personal life, and Powder Puffs' duties, she has decided to carve out enough time to help out — who needs sleep anyway. "This is a source to and for the Community which is too valuable to let die out just because one person has to leave," said Dee.

For many years, people have called The Center for help with transgendered problems and Lianna has always been very helpful, steering them in the right way for professional psychological and medical help, as well as the helping them get to the right support group. Lianna will be missed very deeply.

☎ **Update:** The phone number for the Gender Help Line is [redacted]. If one can not call on Wednesday evenings, they may call any time the Center is open and leave a message.

President's Message

by Dee Grady

On January 16, we held a Board meeting and I just wanted to pass along what was discussed, decided, and not decided. First item on the agenda was our financial and bank status. In the combined account for the club and the convention, there was over $2900. This is well above the amount need to have our monthly service charge waived by Great Western Bank. We have a couple of changes over problems when we first went to Great Western, but they finally got their act together, and everything is okay for the time being. Our money was never in jeopardy, just us keeping our money and account there was.

I did check out only one new possible meeting place, the La Mirada Marriott Residence Inn. The meeting room(s) on a Saturday night were too small and cost more money. Plus, we had to use their catering services. We estimated the cost of the meeting would be over $20 per person and it just might be too expensive. The Board decided to not accept this location, so the search continues.

Joan G. reported our new PacBell Voice Mail system is in place and working very nicely. So we are going to stay with this system. It is only costing us $6.50 a month and Joan doesn't have to answer those late night "what are you wearing?" phone calls.

Neutral Corner President, Melanie Yarborough, ask me if I wanted to share the expenses of bring Riki Ann Wilchens out from New York and have Riki be a guest speaker at our May meeting. The Board said it might be good idea, but we have never undertaken something like this before. That is, paying to have a guest speaker. We figured it would cost the group nearly $500 and May would be a good month, seeing the convention was over and we might have the money for it then. Right now we are waiting on confirmation of Riki Ann being available on the third Sunday in May.

The Board has decide to adopt the Butterfly as our mascot. In keeping with the tradition which Born Free and Neutral Corner has started, we chose this lovely creature from the animal kingdom. We encourage all Powder Puff members to wear a pin or other jewelry to show some pride in our club.

We reviewed the list of catering vendors. We have plenty of inexpensive restaurants and caterers to choose from to keep our meeting costs down as long as we are at the Best Western. Most of them have something to choose from $6 or less per person.

Joan G. asked the Board for some help at the check-in desk at the meetings. She was getting tired of just sitting at the back all by her lonesome. So from now on, there will be help from other members of the Board at the check-in desk.

Ren. Education Association is building a Web Page for each of the groups and affiliates. So we will soon have a place on the "World Wide Web". This will be done at no cost to the group.

The next two topics of discussion was California Dreamin' 1996 and California Unity 1997. It is time to get the ball rolling on 1996 convention! I'll be taking a trip to the Bay Area on Feb 10th and Feb 11th for meetings with ETVC and DVG on how their progress is doing. Joan will be taking a trip in March to tie down remaining details with the hotel in San Francisco. Sue has only a few vendors "signed up" right now and is mailing out vendor packages to other vendors in Northern California. We will be printing up another 500 pamphlets and doing more postings for the convention on the Internet.

Finally, we had an earlier discussion with Alison Laing about the combined IFGE and California Dreamin Conventions in 1997. As many of you know the new Executive Director of IFGE, Alison Laing was in Southern California in January to look at convention sights. As of this writing the leading sight is the Queen Mary (the boat) in Long Beach. The alternate sight is the Van Nuys Airtel Hotel where the Gender Convention was held. We are right now very concerned that if the convention is held at the Queen Mary (the boat), we might also be in contention with the Long Beach Grand Prix held every year in April. We also discussed what roles and responsibilities we will be holding at the convention.

So that's what happened or didn't happen. I just want to keep everyone informed as to what is happening so far with the group and conventions. I also want to take this moment to thank everyone for all of their support of me as I continue to make what changes and "non" changes I feel might be needed to bring back the "spark" to our meetings. As long as I continue to get this support, my job will be a lot easier. And as everyone is thanking me, they should also be thanking the other members of the Board (and not to forget our new newsletter editor). They are working just as hard as I am.

Help is Just a Phone Call Away

For several years now Lianna Lawrence of the TG support group PEAL has operated a help line at the Orange County Gay and Lesbian Center in Garden Grove on Wednesday evenings from 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM. But now that time grows closer for Lianna's SRS, it has become necessary for her to give up this

Please see **HELP LINE, Page 2**

QUEENSPEAK

by Joan Goodnight

CAVEAT EMPTOR and then some!

It was reported in the last issue of *Girl Talk* that a couple of the gender community's better known vendors were in serious financial trouble and were contemplating filing for bankruptcy. Well it seems that my source made an error in reporting that NS Products of Glendale, CA was one of the companies. Apologies are extended for this erroneous reporting.

Alison Laing visits the Southland

IFGE Executive Director Alison Laing made a much welcomed visit to Southern California the weekend of January 13th. On hand to meet with her on that Saturday to discuss details of the upcoming combined 1997 IFGE/California Dreamin' convention were Powder Puffs prez Dee Grady and secretary/treasurer Joan Goodnight. Besides visiting a couple of potential hotel sites, Dee and Joan escorted Alison to the Alpha Chapter meeting where chapter prez Kathy Helms and Neutral Corner prez Melanie Yarborough were on hand to extend their welcomes to her. On Sunday Alison had dinner with Born Free prez Arlene R. All in all, she got to meet and chat with the majority of the Southern California group leadership and we certainly enjoyed having her.

Alison also had meetings with noted psychologist and friend Dr. Richard Docter and toured some more southerly sites as potential locations for the upcoming event.

Site Selection for IFGE/California Dreamin 1997 Narrowed Down to Two Choices

During Alison's visit a number of hotel properties were explored and the selection has been narrowed down to two choices: The AirTel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys, and the Queen Mary (the boat, not the nightclub) Hotel and Convention Center in Long Beach. Alison, who as a negotiator puts this old queen to shame, is squeezing everything she can out of both establishments. The selection will be made as soon as the Dreamin' organizing committee can visit the QM (the boat). One fly in the ointment as far as the QM (the boat) selection is concerned is the scheduling of the event so as not to interface with the Long Beach Grand Prix (pronounced pr-eee, we've had far too many prixs in the community as it is). The Grand Prix doings make for a lodging and traffic nightmare for a couple of weeks before and after the race. The general public is generally confused as to why we cross dress, and on the other hand, I can't help but wonder why anyone would sit out in the hot sun and watch a bunch of noisy damn cars go around in circles. What would we do if everything ran smoothly and we didn't have any problems? One thing is for sure: you can bet your bottom dollar that the IFGE/California Dreamin' team will make the best economical and pleasing choice for our convention customers.

Well Done, Powder Puffs!

In last month's newsletter I wrote an editorial pointing out the need for the transgendered community to help worthwhile causes in the community-at-large. While it is my personal opinion that battered women shelters are an obvious choice for us to begin helping, there are many, many ways in which we can contribute. An excellent example in point is the "Look Good Feel Better" Program sponsored by the Greater Los Angeles Cosmetology Association. Powder Puff members have already been donating wigs to help the unfortunate women undergoing cancer treatment. Other Southland clubs (Born Free comes to mind) have also given generously. Many of us, especially the folliclely challenged, truly understand how important the proper "Crowning Glory" is to our self-image. Thus, we can empathize with the many unlucky women who must undergo radiation and chemotherapy.

What follows is a "Thank-you" note from the President of the Greater Los Angeles Cosmetology Association in appreciation of our donations. It is uplifting to know that there are people in responsible positions whose first-hand experience with us is as generous, contributing members of society and not a bunch of weirdos who only show up on Geraldo or Oprah during sweeps week.

Please extend my thanks to those who have donated wigs to our wig bank. The 'Look Good Feel Better' Program is a success due to all those who can give of themselves to help others. Those wigs will go to cancer patients who cannot afford the little extras to look better. Thanks again!

Sincerely,

Maria Jimenez
President, Greater Los Angeles Cosmetology Association

Well done, Powder Puffs! — *Cyndi Silk*

California Dreamin 96

San Francisco

April 25 — April 29, 1996

Topical Cream Numbs Skin to Pain

By Mary R. Hiller

Taken from "The Medical Adviser" column which apeared in the Press-Enterprise, Decmeber 5, 1995

Q: Since the birth of my three sons, many little skin tags have developed around my breasts and armpits. I'd like to have them removed, but the thought of needing an injection for each little tag seems laborious and painful. Recently, I heard of a cream that numbs the skin. Can this be used? — E.S. Lowell, Mass.

A: An anesthetic skin cream approved by the FDA in 1992, called EMLA, can significantly reduce pain from medical procedures that go beneath the skin, such as injections or incisions. And it can eliminate all pain from procedures at the skin's surface, such as drawing blood, establishing an intravenous line, removing birthmarks or snipping skin tags.

However, it may not be available for everyone who would like to have it. Wholesale, EMLA costs $2 to $4 per application; it may cost the patient $4 to $10. It will likely be widely used by patients — especially children — who must endure numerous needle sticks.

Another drawback to EMLA is the hour or two it takes to work. With health care in a cost-cutting mode, physicians are reluctant to adopt procedures that require longer office visits, especially when the outcome may not be improved.

One way to circumvent this problem is to apply the cream at home before going to the doctor's office. Several studies have found that home application of EMLA is feasible and produces comparable results to office application. A study in Norway of 228 patients scheduled for outpatient surgery showed that home application of EMLA cream is safe, easy to perform and well tolerated. Dr. A. B. Guttormsen's findings were reported in the January issue of the International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology.

For more than 30 years, two anesthetizing agents named lidocaine and prilocaine have been used to numb open or damaged skin, or mucous membranes such as the lips or genitalia. they're common in treatments of sunburn and other burns, cuts, and abrasions, and teething pain. But neither lidocaine nor prilocaine alone can numb undamaged or intact skin.

Then, more than a decade ago, a Swedish scientist mixed lidocaine and prilocaine. Both are powders at room temperature, but when combined, they form an oil compound. And this compound could do something neither lidocaine nor prilocaine could do: It could penetrate and numb intact skin. The product was dubbed a eutectic mixture of local anesthetics, or EMLA. (When two solids mix to form a liquid, it is called a eutectic process.)

EMLA had been available in Europe for more than 10 years, and Canada made it available without prescription in May 1991.

In late 1992, the FDA approved EMLA to be used by prescription in the United States in adults and in children over 3 months old. In April 1993, Astra USA, an American subsidiary of a Swedish pharmaceutical company, began distribution.

In order to be effective, EMLA must be applied to the skin and covered for one to two hours by a bandage such as Band-Aid, Tegaderm or plastic wrap. EMLA numbs the top 5 millimeters of skin and tissue. (Five millimeters is about the thickness of the skin that moves on the back of your hand.) When the cream is wiped off, the numbness will remain for around three hours.

EMLA's qualities make it appropriate for a number of uses.

- EMLA has made it possible to remove skin lesions called molluscum contagiosum by scalpel without pain.
- Flat, off-color, frecklelike lesions called lintiguines have been removed using the razor-shave biopsy technique without pain.
- Other procedures that EMLA renders pain-free include: skin grafting, finger sticks, lumbar punctures, venipunctures (drawing blood), debridement (through cleaning of a wound), mole removal and other superficial procedures. It can take the sting out of hair removal by electrolysis, waxing or epilation.

Please see **EMLA, Page 7**

Sally Forth

By Greg Howard and Craig MacIntosh

IFGE'S Alison Laing urges "Put Unity in Community"

By Melanie Yarborough, Neutral Corner

"Isn't this a great time to be transgendered?" So asked Ms. Alison Laing, Executive Director of The International Foundation for Gender Education's (IFGE) in an address to the Tri-Ess Alpha Chapter in Burbank at their January meeting. Ms. Laing pointed out that as recently as 10 years ago, support group meetings would have been difficult to even hold. But now, there are many local and national transgender groups serving the community; people have been able to successfully transition on the job! She even jokes that a Lane Bryant saleslady once confided in her that "10% of our customers are crossdressers!"

Ms. Laing has a long history of leadership in our community. She is co-founder of the Philadelphia group, *Renaissance*, which now has branches and affiliates in half-a-dozen states. She has been director of the New England area *Fantasia Fair* convention for the past 10 years, and is a recipient of the "Trinity Award" for her many services. In the Spring of 1995, she was appointed to head IFGE during its current restructuring.

But, she hastened to add, "If we're not careful, it's going to rain on our parade." There are many people out there who do not understand us, who think this is wrong. And if the enemy is ignorance, then the weapon is education.

Education is one of IFGE's primary functions. The newly renamed *Transgender Tapestry* magazine, which is published quarterly, features community events, legal and medical issues, a personal classified section, a directory of groups and resources, and social commentary editorials. IFGE also works closely with the professional community, and tries to get a trans-presence at Psychological and Social worker gatherings. But their "Hot Line" is one of their most important functions. Every day they receive calls from all parts of the country ranging from, "My wife just found out," to "I think my son may be transsexual." Alison tells us that, "Every day there's a tragedy," including people who have contemplated or attempted suicide. IFGE tries to refer callers to local support groups when possible, recognizing the need for proximity of resources.

In terms of a personal mission, Alison spoke poignantly on the situation of the urban disadvantaged transgendered youth; sometimes called 'Street Queens' or 'She-Male Prostitutes'. "Almost every week in every major city, a transgendered minority youth is murdered." If they aren't killed, many spend time in and out of jail, become HIV positive, develop a drug habit, share needles, or damage themselves with street hormones or silicone injections from fly-by-night vendors.

During the question and answer session, the topic of congressional legislation came up. The gay community's recent Employment Non-discrimination bill (ENDA) last year pointedly excluded transgender rights. It has been conjectured that some in the gay community leadership felt that the bill was an "iffy" proposition for many legislators, and inclusion of "transvestites, queens, and fairies" would kill it. However, such groups as *Transsexual Menace* did leafletting and advocacy to call attention to this in a positive way. This all played a role in last October's Transgender Lobbying Day, when representatives from many groups met with members of congress and staffers on Capitol Hill.

Special attention also needs to be focused on areas where anti-gay (and by extension, anti-transgender) legislation is proposed or pending. States such as Colorado, Washington, and Oregon have become the new hot spots for this. Many on the political right cleverly introduce such legislation by attaching discriminatory provisions to "Family Values" legislation or school funding. Moreover, these same individuals get elected to local positions, and use their accumulated grass-roots power to put forth their agenda. The transgender community needs to be ever vigilant against these candidates and their proposals.

In conclusion, Alison emphasized the need for harmony and cooperation in the often disparate and clashing transgender world. In closing, Alison left us with this quote from writer M. Scott Peck, "A true community is like a salad; lettuce, tomato, cucumber, radishes. It's not a green soup. You don't all have to be alike."

"I tell you, that federal witness-protection program did one hellwa great job on Eddie."

Why do women seem to have more foot problems than men do?

By Michael O'Shea, Ph.D

Taken from Parade's Guide to Better Fitness, Parade Magazine, January 7, 1996

It's a simple matter of cause and effect — men generally don't wear high heels, so they're less prone to the various discomforts associated with heels. In fact, many "fashion-statement" shoes have narrow, pointed toe boxes that crowd the toes and force them into an unnatural triangular shape. This is where many foot problems begin.

"High-heels shoes distribute the body's weight unevenly, placing excess stress on the ball of the foot and the forefoot," notes Dr. Carol C. Frey, associate professor of orthopedic surgery at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. "This uneven distribution of weight — coupled with the narrow toe-box characteristic of most high heels — can lead to discomfort, painful bunions, hammertoes and other deformities."

Science proves it: Recent studies have made the connection between fashion footwear and foot problems. The studies found that women are nine times more likely than men to develop a foot problem because of improperly fitting shoes. They also found that nine women in 10 wear shoes that are too small for their feet, and eight women in 10 say their shoes are "painful." More than seven women in 10 have bunions, hammertoes or some other painful deformity — with 90 percent of these deformities caused by tight shoes.

Here are some common-sense guidelines that Dr. Frey and I suggest women follow when purchasing shoes:

- Do not wear shoes with a heel higher than $2^1/_4$ inches.
- Make sure that shoes conform to the natural shape of your feet and that the back of the shoe fits snugly, without slipping.
- Plan ahead so that you wear heels only when absolutely necessary. Example: Commute to and from work in comfortable walking shoes and keep a pair of heels at work for meetings.

The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons offers a free brochure with tips on how to select properly fitting shoes. For a copy of If the Shoe Fits, Wear It, call [redacted]

EMLA

continued from page 5

No adverse effects have been reported with the use of EMLA cream. Studies have found that EMLA application prior to skin-testing injections did not jeopardize the validity of the results.

But because EMLA is so expensive, you probably won't see cost-conscious physicians commonly offering it.

"No one likes needles. Should we use EMLA routinely? Yes, but as a society we can't afford to," said Dr. Linda Jo Rice, professor of anesthesiology and pediatrics at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., in an interview. "EMLA ia a wonderful scientific advancement, but its usage becomes an issue of priority."

Rice was the chief consultant and study designer of the Children's Hospital EMLA Efficacy Research Trial, a study that tested EMLA in 160 U.S. hospitals on 8,000 children ages 7 to 15.

S.P.I.C.E.

Please note that S.P.I.C.E., 1996 will be held July 24-28 at the Wilmington Hilton. The hotel is located 11 miles from the Philadelphia, PA airport. For more information write to:

Ms. Peggy Rudd
P O Box 5304
Katy, TX 77491-5304
or better yet, call Betsi at [redacted]
FAX [redacted]

⚓ ANCHORS AWEIGH ⚓

WHO? Gender-gifted Friends & Families
WHAT? Dignity Cruise 7 with Peggy Rudd
WHEN? September 1-8, 1996 (7 nights)
WHERE? Bermuda (Roundtrip from New York)
HOW? Royal Caribbean's *SONG OF AMERICA*
WHY? For fine dining, pampered service, & FUN & FELLOWSHIP with other members of the gender-gifted community
CONTACT: CRUISES INC.
5111 Rogers Ave, suite 551
Fort Smith, AR
[redacted]
Ask for Brenda

NOTE: This trip is planned as a floating seminar. Presenters are stepping up! It promises to be FUN.!

Powder Puffs Rap Sheet

Community Events and Other Happenings — "All Work and No Play Makes Jill a Dull Girl"

On the Local Scene

Places to go, Things to do, People to see.

First Tuesdays
Come Taste the Night at Marlayna's T- Party. Tommy Tang's, 7313 Melrose Ave., West Hollywood. Reservations: [redacted].

First Fridays
Peal — TS support group, 12832 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, 7:30 pm. Call [redacted]

First Saturdays
Powder Puffs Night at the Ozz — 6321 Manchester Blvd., Buena Park [redacted]. Time: 6:30pm-2:00am.

Ladies Knight Out (Heterosexual couples in a committed relationship only) for information write to: LKO, P.O. Box 19608-0179, Irvine, CA 92713

Second Saturdays
Alpha Chapter of Tri-Ess: Meets at Burbank Holiday Inn. Contact Kathy Helms, 818-352-9448 or Virginia Prince, [redacted] for information and requirements.

Born Free: University Room of Hampton Inn, 1590 University Ave., Riverside. 8:00 pm. Contact Born Free, P.O. Box 3822, Riverside, CA [redacted] for info.

CHIC: CHIC emphasizes strict security. Meetings are closed except to members and invited guests. Write to CHIC, P.O. Box 8487. Long Beach, CA 90808 for information and requirements.

Second & Fourth Saturdays
"On the Scene Night" and "Fetish Night," presented by Marlayna & Melissa at the Queen Mary Show/Lounge, 12449 Ventura Blvd., Studio City. [redacted]

Third Saturdays
Powder Puffs of California, Pioneer Room of the Pioneer Best Western Inn, Artesia, CA. 8 pm. Contact P.O. Box 1088 Yorba Linda, CA 92686. [redacted].

Club Cherchez La Femme, "Suite Sauturday Dance Party" by Marlayna & Tasha at the Executive Suite, 10 pm, 3428 E. Pacific Coast Hwy., Long Beach [redacted].

Fourth Saturdays
Neutral Corner, meets at King's Inn, Hotel Circle, 7:30 pm. Contact P. O. Box 12581, San Diego, CA 92112. Contact [redacted]

Second Sundays
The Los Angeles Gender Center, monthly support & informational group meeting for the transsexual (FTM & MTF), transgender communities. The Women's Center, 1512 S. Robertson Blvd., LA. Contact The Los Angeles Gender Center, [redacted].

Tuesdays & Wednesdays
Androgyny, meetings Tuesday nights from 8:30 pm-9:30 pm in Santa Monica, CA; Wednesday nights from 8:00 pm-9:30pm in Riverside, CA. Contact Androgyny, P.O. Box 480740, Los Angeles, CA 90048. Call between 9:00 am-9:00 pm, mention your call is concerning Androgyny, [redacted] (ask for Shirley or Sheila) or [redacted] (ask for Paula)

February 3, *Within the Hearts of Gender* Talent/Beauty Contest, Burbank Holiday Inn

On the National Scene

From Sea to Shining Sea

Feb 22-25, 1996, Texas "T" Party, Dallas, TX. Info: P.O. Box 700742, San Antonio, TX 78270, call [redacted]

Mar 24-31,1996, IFGE "Minnesota Pride Celebration '96", Minneapolis, MN. Contact IFGE, P.O. Box 229, Waltham, MA 02154. call [redacted]

Apr 25-28, 1996, California Dreamin', San Francisco, CA, Contact P.O. Box 1088, Yorba Linda, CA 92686, [redacted] E-mail Dreamin96@aol.com

Jul 24-28,1996, S.P.I.C.E., Philadelphia, PA. Contact Dr. Peggy Rudd, P .O. Box 5303, Katy TX 77491. call [redacted] ask for Besti, FAX [redacted].

Sep 1-8,1996, Dignity Cruise 7. Contact CRUISE INC., 5111 Rogers Ave., Suite 551, Fort Smith, AR 72903. Call [redacted], ask for Brenda.

Dates in February

February 14 ❤ St. Valentine's Day

February 15 Susan B. Anthony Day