EXTRA **TVIC JOURNAL** EXTRA

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NEWSLETTER EDITORS
Helen
and
Wilma Thordsen

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Hi Girls:

It seems that time of the year when good things come to a halt for the summer weather is upon us and Wilma and I take a few months vacation. Hope to see you all in the fall. The weather was good here last night up untill about eight and then the ski let loose with buckets of water, but all the Girls had made it into the house. A nice group here last night for the close of the season. The Girls: Michelle Ann and Dennie from Sommerville, Mass., Yvonne and Vickie from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Alice and Dot from Colonie, N.Y., Eileen and Pricilla from Poufghkeepsie, N.Y., Leslie and Isabelle from Wilton, Conn., Sue from Albany, N.Y., Cheryl from Albany, N.Y., Joan from Colonie, N.Y. Kare from Saratoga, N.Y., Winnie from Schenectady, N.Y., Elanda from Rome, N.Y. Percilla from Scotia, N.Y., Joyce from Manchester, N. H., Brenda from Messina N.Y., Wilma and I.

The meal for the girls tonight was: Stuffed shells, Hot sausage, meat balls Cauliflower with cheese sauce, carrots with honey-lemon sauce, toss salad, garlic bread, butter, for dessert: Strawberry shortcake and cream, coffee.

I was running kinda low on ideas what to make for the girls without repeating the same meal over again. I know what I like to eat some times but when you have to cook for more than twenty hungry girls it better be good and filling. I know the girls don't go home hungry as their is little left when we clean up. I don' t say I'm a good cook but I will say that when the Girls eat the way they do going back for seconds, it can't be all that bad. I will have two months to think of the Sept. meal.

I want to thank all the gals who helped in the kitchen and my good gal pal Karen she dried dishes like a professional. My deepest thanks to Dennie as sh is really my right hand in the kitchen as she is here early morn and right after our coffee she helps me with the preparation of the meal.

It has been a pleasure for me to have the girls in my Home this past year just knowing that I can help them in some small way. Eileen from Poughkeepsie kissed me on the cheeck tonight to let me know how much coming here to Albany has meant to her after she has been to some of the other clubs. This gave me a good feeling knowing that we are able to entertain without any of the girls getting out of line. Thank God that Wilma has prescence of mind to set up a group of rules to follow through out the night. Thanks girls for being so good to follow the rules and really have a nice gathering that we have nothing to be ashamed of. It seems my Wilma had a good old time tonight as I could hear her out in the kitchen. With so much on her mind I am glad she is able to be a good host to all her Sisters.

From now on any one who has slides or film to show I would appreciate it i I or Wilma see them first before we show them to the group. I want to keep this group above board at all times, and not hurt anyones pride at showing a film that might embarrase them.

I'm sorry that some of the regulars wern't able to come to the last meetin for the summer, but do hope to see you all come fall. That means you Kathy, I can't for the life of me think of a good reason for you to stay away so long knowing how much you like to dress. Come on girl send me a nice long letter so that I know that every thing is all right.

My wish for a good recovery for Rachel who by now has had her surgery. She has waited a long time for this so I do hope she is happy in what she has don as there is no turning back once you go under the knife. I know that Rachel has planned this for a long time and in the final stages she has lived and worked as a complete woman. I am sure that when I wish you luck it is also a wish coming from all the girls as well.

Connie and Alice didn't quite make the meeting as they both became ill. It seems Elanda was visiting them and was feeling a little sick by the time she left to go home, getting home she took some aspirin and into bed she went the next day she went to work by noon and seemed to have shaken off what ever she came down with or did she leave it with Connie nad Alice. Oh! well do hope you two gals are feeling better by the time you get our newsletter.

Wilma and I and Dennie and Michelle Ann are going to take the tour to the worlds Fair and we will take in the Grand ole opre. the tour is an eight day affair. It will be my first time in the plane, I am a little nervous about it but maybe a few drinks under my belt will keep me calm untill we land.

Well girls I do wish you all a good summer and keep well so that we may al be together again in the Fall.

It has been my pleasure to entertain you all and we will continue to do so for awhile longer untill I retire then I may want to do some traveling with Wilma before we get too old. GODBLESS and stay healthy. LOVE TO ALL

HELEN

WILMA'S VIEWS

Over the years, I've been priveleged to get to know, respect and care for many of our number. Our interests, while not totally the same, remain both a significant part of us and a link between us, For some of us there is associated a strong sex-link with our interest in things feminine. For others, this is not the case. Each, in our unique way, strive to be happy by learning who we are, who we want to be, and something about setting forth to comence becoming who it is we want to be. I've been priveleged to help some in this quest.

While I don't make a crusade or "cause" of male feminism or behave in such a manner as to give bigots ammunition to fling at us, I do not consider it essential to be secretive, reclusive or hidden in my expression of the whole me as though my wearing feminine clothing as an outward expression of the inner person were somehow dirty, unclean, immoral, evil ot otherwise a thing of which to be ashame. It is none of these, and certainly nothing shameful. Each of us requires a unique situational discretion due to our unique personal circumstance of life. We each owe each other the respect of our individual security. How much and what type of personal security our unique situation demands is an individual personal decision each must have the privelege of making for ourselves.

Just as we each freely choose what we will wear when we dress; just as we each choose with whom and under what conditions we wish to share our physical bodies in sexual encounters, just the same it is our right to be ourselves. With rights and priveliges come responsibilities. We have the absolute right to alienate others, we have the privelege of offending whomever we choose,BUT we, in the exercise of our right to alienate and privelege to offend, incur the responsibility to pay the price. Our society tolerates little without extracting an exacting price. To be different in a conformist culture is to ask for trouble. Genderally liberated males are sufficiently different as to to incur social disfavor if they are indiscrete in behavior or word. It means flaunting ourselves in such a manner as to offend or alienate others. I firmly believe most, if not nearly all of us could dress and groom carefully and go about our business in public circumspectly, inoffensively and quite freely even though we may be detectable. What matters in my view is how one behaves, not if one is crossdressed or not. I truly believe any of us could come and go dressed in present day American society in most of the cities of our country if we were demure, inoffensive and careful to tend to our business.

It is dark in the closet. Fear and downright erroneous ideas can keep people hidden from themselves and others in darkness. There are some who foster this fear for it fattens their purse via mail order sales. There are some who for other reasons, such as exercise of power,foster these fears for it keeps the fearful under their influence. My idea is to give each person the freedom of choice, freedom from fear, and personal regard they deserve as persons and to respect their choices.

NOW LETS TALK ABOUT OBSERVATION. Who observes what...and how much. So many of us worry about being "read" when in femidress in public, or of being discovered wearing pretty panties under our male attire, or, more often, that some horrible person will discover that we shave our arms then expose us to the world as some sort of oddball. In the main this is just not true. People see what thet expect to see.

A frame of reference is the most important part of observation. For instance, if you were to see a round object high in the sky it would be impossible for you to tell the size of the object unless you had a frame of reference. To our eye a toy ballon just a few hundred feet in the air would appear as large as an object that was a mile wide but much higher. Only by seeing a familiar object nearby to compare the mystery object with, or by knowing the altitude, could you learn anything about the size.

The same holds true in impersonation. Any TV who has been in a group of other impersonators will tell you this. In such a group, even though you <u>know</u> that you are a man in femattire and you <u>know</u> that the others are men too, you see them as women and think of them as women. Your eyes sees skirts..and in your lifelong frame of reference skirt means WOMAN! When the crossdresser is public and assumed to be a woman because of the skirt he must completely change the observer's frame of reference in order to be discovered. A typically male action and walk will not. The average person sees a thousand automobiles and thousand women evert day. A particular car would have to be painted with purple and yellow polka dots to stand out and a particular woman would have to be very different to attract attention.
(how about some comments on this page,for or aganst or indifferent.)

THIS IS A COUNTRY OF FAITH. On the installment plan you can buy whay you cant afford. On the stock market you sell what you don't own, and on the tax form they take away what you haven't borrowed yet.

HOW DO YOU COMPARE. The following are Miss america's measurements. Hight 5'6" weight 124, Bust 34, waist 24, hips 27, angle 7, calf (low) 7, calf (upper) 13 knee 14. thigh (low) 15, Thigh (upper) 18.....

P A R T I E S

TVIC is ideally suited for the closet TV who cannot dress at home for whatever reason. For those of you who would be afraid to appear in a public situation, our parties are not public; they are private for members and their wives only. We have dressing facilities in the meeting room and there is no need to go outside. You can arrive and leave in male attire and still be your femme self for a while in between. Being "deep" in the closet is no longer an excuse for not coming to a party as you can come to the meeting and still remain in the closet. We'd like to meet some more of you closet individuals. We are the same as you are - Transvestites. We have problems & pleasures in common. Nobody will make fun of you or harass you. We can help you if you'll let us.
PARTY DATES: September 18 - October 16 - November 20. This will be your only notice reference to the Sept. party. So keep it in mind.

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N E W M E M B E R S

I am pleased to announce the enrollment of two new members this month.
FRAN V.....BEDFORD...N.H.....ROBERT J.... NEW YORK CITY....N.Y.....

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H A P P Y B I R T H D A Y T O O (3 months listings, no journal july&Aug.)

Rachel [redacted]	July	3	Elanda [redacted]	Aug.	10
Bob [redacted]	"	8	Thomas [redacted]	"	15
Cindy [redacted]	"	11	Winnie [redacted]	"	15
Dean [redacted]	"	12	Rhonda [redacted]	"	24
Kathy [redacted]	"	17	Sussan [redacted]	"	24
Paula [redacted]	"	25	Viola [redacted]	"	26
Jillian [redacted]	"	30	E Cynthia [redacted]	"	31
Michalle [redacted]	Aug.	1	Jack [redacted]	Sept.	9
James [redacted]	"	2	Louise [redacted]	"	9
Jeanette [redacted]	"	2	Paula [redacted]	"	16
Linda [redacted]	"	3	Joe [redacted]	"	19
Jamie [redacted]	"	#	Gail [redacted]	"	21
Jean [redacted]	"	8	Joyce [redacted]	"	26
Janette [redacted]	"	8	Karren [redacted]	"	30
Ellen [redacted]	"	10	Robert [redacted]	Aug.	1

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H A P P Y A N N I V E R S A R Y

Mr & Mrs. Michalle [redacted] Aug. 29

S P E C I A L T H A N K S

Too Fran [redacted]s & Francis [redacted] for the extra $ for postage.
Too Rachell [redacted] - Pat [redacted] & alice Cuerdon for the news clippings.
Too Lorie for the lovely pictures.
Too Michelle [redacted] for the special printing.
Too Renne [redacted] for the books for the libary.
It is all these little things that keep a good club going. THANGSSSSSSSSSSSS

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C H A N G E O F A D D R E S S

Perter [redacted]
R. [redacted]

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S P E C I A L N O T E

This is to let you all know that RACHELL ANN ADAMS - 300 SCHOOL ST. - SYRACUSE - N.Y. -13204 - has had her operation. She entered the Upstate Medical Center on June 2nd and should now be home recooperating. She says she would like to see many friends at her home and if you can not make it in person to call her at 315 - 488 - 1158 (good luck little lady,wilma)

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Q U E S T I O N O F T H E M O N T H

If a pill were invented that would completely remove all desires for cross-dressing would you take the pill? Why? State the reason why you would or would not take the pill.(we should get lots of answers on this one)

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C O R R E S P O N D E N C E W A N T E D

Fran [redacted]

****

HOW DID SCYROS GET ITS NAME : It goes clear back to G reek mythology. The legendary Achilles is listed in Webster's Dictionary as the ideal of Greek manhood. But the real story is that he & his mother wanted him to aviod military service. His mother dressed him in women's clothes and sent him to the island of S cyros as a maiden. Hercules later visited the island to sell materials for clothes. Achilles wae "read" when he paid too much attendtion to the sword & ~~XXXXX~~ buckle which was nestled in with the soft materials. He was immediately placed into military service in the Trojen War where he died when Paris wounded him in the heel where alone he was vulnerable....

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MISERY is putting on your underarm deodorant and it turns out to be your dogs flea & tick spray.....

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Dear Wilma and Helen:

Thanks ever so much for the materisl you sent which arrived this morning. I have read every word of it and am quite impressed. As I mentioned in my last letter , three clubs had been suggested to me. I have written to all three and your response today completed the returns. The first to reply was the Tifany Club and for some reason I was not too greatly impressed. The second to reply was The society of the Second Self. As I read the material I became more and more conscious of the beauty that can be found in crossdressing under the right conditions. I did not realize there were clubs that were not Sex oriented. The sex bit turns me off. The feminine part turns me on. For awhile my big problem of the double image disapperaed. I was caught up in the frilly world of femininity. Your information came today and became of the word of caution it contained. Dear Wilma and Helen please be a bit patient with me as I know what I am about to do is a TV No No. I have a problem and would like a little advice. So here goes. At age 13 I found the delight of Mommy's Frillies. At age 16 I began my first wardrobe while working as a Boy Scout in Clothing distribution. At age 18 I met "The Girl" and two years later we were engaged. Before going into the service in WWII we decided to wait until I returned after the war. The day I returned we disolved the engagement, mutually. I took it a bit hard nad gradually my crossdredding desire returned. A year later I met another wonderful girlwhom I later married. This marriage was to last a bit over 29 years. Avery very happy and satisfactory union. I was a bit dicouraged as I never could get my wife to ~~in any~~ accept TVism. So when she died 3½ years ago and there was only my son and I at hame. I found quite a few happy hours dressed as a woman. When my son went to live with his sister 64 miles away, I found I was finally alone and pulled out all stops trying to get in touch with the TV world. It was not until January last that the first letter came to me starting, Dear Fran: . What that didn't do to me! I have been in touch with three Sisters and with each letter I sympthise a little more with those who like me have the desire to be feminine. Now the problem. Two years ago I met the same girl to whom I was engaged to, so many years ago. It didn't take long to find that the flame had not gone out. At that time she was still married but to a terminally ill husband who had been given six weeks to live. Today two years later the same situation exists. We both feel that she should fulfill the duties of wife even if it is to a man she can't stand. As She lives thousands of miles away and we get to see each other only every 5 or 6 monthswe have kept things here on an even keel. Now She is to return West until August. ---- The above was written two days agoand had to be removed from the typewriter as my son appeared on the scene a bit early. This is my main problem. He lives with his sister and comes home every eight weeks for the school vacations. ---- Now I am back againmore excited than ever as my son has returned to school and I am alone again. My first realization tha there were others with the same odd desires as mine came to light some 25 years ago. At that time I was a letter carrier and one of my patrons received a publication, Transvestia, which I just found is still being published. Right from the start as I thumbed thru the paper, I was turned off by the TVs who were over made up and poorly dressed. So it has become a mania to me that I dress each time as though I was going out. As long as I wore blouses or pull overs and skirts or slacks I could mix sizes and get by. BUT I wanted to wear form fitting dresses, so I ordered a padded girdle to bring my hip size up to my waist and bust size. Well I waited 6 weeks for the thing to come and when it came today I was in seventh heaven until I tried it on. It was a good three sizes too large. Let me tell you, Girls, I was the most disheartened TV proto gee (Sp). It is already on it's way back with a note Expressing my disapointment. OK, that brings us up todate. My NoNo will not be complete until I add my feelings on crossdressing. For the first twenty years due to my strict upbringing, Sex was for after marriage and I sought physical releif with the Frillies of the female members of the family. Then my introduction to Transvestia and the TV world I became more particular in my dress building a meager wardrobe that could be hidden. As I have mentioned before the sincere desire to dress the feminine way really takes over when the yellow flag is down and I can put my growing wardrobe on hangers in the closetalong side their male counterpart's. My new Sisters are anxious for me to forget hte dressing perfection I crave long enough to make contact if not in person then definitely by phone. Then I remember the words of caution you had on the very first page of your newsletter. My Dear Wilma and Helen I can truthfully say that crossdressing is here to stay for me. I will also have to admit that if my proposed new mate does not take to TVism then I will be forced to return my desire to the back burner. Jeepers, in the past eight months that I have spent in getting in touch with this wonderful sorority of sisters, I have been so carried away that I have even had mailing labels printed with my new name (Fran) on them. I am

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so anxious to meet face to face my new sisters but I have this bit of reservation of when I have to operate under the yellow flag every eight weeks or so. I would even love to take the drive to Albany and meet you two, you sound like such down to earth people. When I wrote to The Tifany club I asked if it would be proper to drop in on their outing on a day basis not being a member. Here too I am anxiously awaiting a reply. I can say that I doubt very much that in any case I could go dressed as Fran. I have been very cautious to write to people many miles awaywhen I express my desiresto become a Transvestite. The word and the idea so natural to me but as I am quite prominent in several fraternal organizations that I do not wish my picture published. Oh for TVs OK but it is the chance that some Non TV might pick it up and I'd have so much explaining to do. There you have it, Dear Sisters. What do I do? Do I pull out all stops for the next 12 to 18 months and have a fling? Would the honest to goodness TV Sisters with whom I have ~~streudk~~ strouds up a friendship approve? Honest to goodness, Girls, the mood I am in right now, I'd sure like shed my everyday turtle neck and skirt and slide into a frilly blouse and a skirt , straighten my nylons, touch up my hair and go out. Unfortunately I have an appointment shortly where such dress would not be appreciated.

There I have stated my case. I have asked for advice. I am leaving it up to you. Does the above disqualify me from joining TVIC? If so, are there any sisters that you know of who would like to correspond and or get together. I really would like to hear for such a sister a little closer to home. If I do by chance qualify, let me know and a check will follow by return mail. That would be a happy day.

Inclosing I have enclosed a photo that I'm not too proud of but it is the only one I have left. I was experimenting with fast film, a timer and lighting with two one hundred watt light bulbs. I was not too particular about my appearance as I was not too used to the timer. Good or bad it is me, Fran. I have so much to learn before Fran can walk in on one of your parties and say Hi Wilma and Hellen. Golly Gee would I love to be leaving to meet with a sister for my first lesson in becoming more feminine!

Thanks again for bearing with me but I was desperate.

c/o F. Robert [redacted]

With sisterly regards,

Fran

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NEWS: TRANSSEXUAL HAS SISTER SERVE AS SURROGATE MOM: LOS ANGLES (AP).
Bobbie lea Bennett, a transsexual whose sister served as a surrogate mother for Bennetts new 6-pound,10-ounce baby boy,says she wants more children.

"We plan on havinh a whole bunch of babies" said Bennett, who is handicaped and confined to a wheelshair. "Children are what make a home. I love children and we plan on having more."

The baby, whose natural parents were Bennett's husband and sister, was delivered by Caesarean section.

The sister, who was artifically inseminated, agreed to give the baby to Bennett to adopt and raise.....

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RUTHANN REVEALS SECRET FORMULA FOR SUCCESSFUL BEARD COVER

Heh, heh. How pretentious can you get, eh? Let's puncture one mythological balloon right at the outset, by saying that there are virtually zillions of successful formulae. Most experienced TV's have a highly personalized one, developed over the years by trial-and-error and consultation with others (TV and non-TV). Personally I don't like make-up or made-up women, so I try to get away with as little as possible. (Fortunately mine is an average beard, so I've been able to pull it off, so to speak.)

For starters, a good make-up job requires decent light and a good mirror. Portable lighted mirrors are probably the best solution, especially if you do much motel room dressing. Somehow, though, I've managed to get by with a makeshift arrangement. I have a 2-sided mirror on a handle. (One side has the magnifying mirror that I use in the meticulous transformation process, especially in working around the eyes. The other side I usually use to check the back of my neck, via double reflection with my bathroom mirror. I also use this second side for my final check-up, after I'm done, to see if it all hangs together in front of the normal eye.) I plunk the mirror stem into an empty wine bottle or into a paper towel tube that still has lots of towels on it. Then I move my fluorescent desk lamp right up next to - but behind - the mirror, so that it illuminates my face directly. Now I'm ready to begin making up.

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The key to good beard cover is Phase I of the makeup process — the base or foundation. An old TV friend called it "preparing the canvass" — making sure that you've got a nice, evenly-colored and reasonably dry surface on which to paint. I used to use a formula that was really more suitable to heavier beards. After washing and shaving as closely as possible, I'd start with a coat of Recover facial cover up cream. (You can order it directly from the manufacturer, Commerce Drug Co., Inc., 565 Broad Hollow Road, Farmingdale, N.Y. 11735 — last I heard it cost about $5.00 per tube.) Recover has the feel of Clearasil, and should be applied to your entire bearded area, including your neck.

The edges of the bearded area are important. Rather than a stark dividing line, there should be a gradual fading toward the non-bearded area. This means applying a lighter dose at the edge of the bearded area, and a still-lighter dose at the edge of the non-bearded area, and blending them together.

Next I'd apply a coat of Mehron Star Blend theatrical make-up. (You can order this stuff from Lee Brewster — Lee's Mardi Gras Enterprises, 565 Tenth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10036 — write first for an order blank and/or catalog — last I heard, this stuff ran about $4.00 per jar.) Mehron comes in lots of different shades. The shade you need is dependent on your skin tone. I'm somewhat fair-skinned and use #25A (lighter) or #26A (darker) depending on the season (lighter for the paler days of winter). Mehron is applied with a damp sponge, dabbed or lightly stroked on. Apply it over the Recover and on every other part of your face and neck (front and back), and even a little ways down your chest (the part that's exposed to view). It dries quickly but a bit streakily. You can even out the streaks by lightly running a powder puff over the areas that need it. Some times I pat some pressed powder over the Mehroned area (in a shade that's as close as possible to the Mehron).

You should now be ready to paint (i.e. to apply your eye makeup, lipstick, rouge, etc.)

These days I've been skipping the Recover step entirely. If you've got a medium or lighter beard, you could probably afford to do the same.

RUTHAM [redacted]...MADISON...WIS....

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Dear Wilma & Girls:

In response to your question of the month about Transsexuals. NO, you do not write to much or give the wrong impressions. I feel that everything that you have ever wrote has been a very good and very usefull to those that need to know more. People should try to understand some of what a person has to go thru to reach the final goal - that of surgery. Its an awful lot. Very rewarding for those that want and need surgery. Try to not only look at the failure of the ones that has had surgery, but how about the ones that are doing very well for themself. Very proud and happy.

RACHEL [redacted]

****

Dear Wilma:

In Reference to your question of the month; Are we as sisters ready to accept each other. As long as society does not accept us I would say yes, but if society does accept us than I would say no. My explaination of this comes in the form of an anology. If an american is in another country strange to him and meets another american, it wouldn't make any difference if he were white,black,greek or jewish. Once back in the states he would therefore discriminate and align himself with people of his own background of similarited. This is what I consider as the "tribel consept" it seems to be human nature.

JANET F...[redacted].

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Dear Wilma:

My wife and I are about the same size. For years she raided my closets and took my jeans,shirts,sweaters,etc. When I complained, she'd tell me to buy more. This I did time & time again, but she continued to wear my clothes. Finally I put on one of her dresses and paraded into the kitchen. She said I looked "cute" and went about her business. I tried this a few more times, then a funny thing happened. I started to like it. She started to help me put outfits together - panty hose, heels, then makeup and a wig, and she'd wear the pants. We've done this only at home. We enjoy switching roles. It's done wonders for our sagging sex lives and it has made our every day life happier.

MARGRET F.... [redacted]

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TRANSVESTITES OR TS'S - Vacation in sunny Florida. Dress as you please in comfort of private home. Write P.O.BOX 100279 ,FT. LAUDERDALE,FLA. 33310

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NEWS FROM ENGLAND: I have been told about a beauty contest in Gloucestershire almost won by Caroline who turned out to be a male student.

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Dear friends of Lydia,

We are pleased to announce the opening of our new shop. Now you can come in and try on the clothes we have to offer. We will still be mostly mail order, but for those who would like a place to shop, we have it.

Our address is 13837 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 8, Sherman Oaks, California 91423. Our telephone number remains (213) 995-7195. Our hours will be 12:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M. Tuesday through Saturday, with Thursday and Friday evenings by appointment only.

We have many new items at the shop which we have not yet offered by mail. We have blouses, dresses, and new shoe styles and colors in regular and extra wide sizes. We are building up our stock and plan to add new items as the year progresses. Come in and see us!

We have two new catalogs to offer. Our Centurion catalog, which contains 150 pages of the most bizarre fashions, costs $15; however, with an order of $150 or more, the $15 is refundable. Our other catalog, Bizarre Video, has a selection of videotapes available. The cost of this catalog is $3, and you must state that you are 21 years of age or older to receive it.

Remember, any mail we receive is strictly confidential. If, for any reason, you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please write us.

Sincerely,

Lydia

LYDIA

****

Dear Wilma :

In answer to the question of the month. "Am I a TV or TS. I think that deep down, I am a TS though I have no plans for the operation. But if I could wish it and have it happen exactly as I whish, I would be reborn as a girl. In looking bach over the years I feel that I'm a crossdresser basically for 1 major reason. I always have been jealous of girls and have wanted to be like them. I always was athletic and no one besides me knew my innermost thoughts, so no one ever suspected my deepest desires. My younger sister, my best friends 3 sisters plus other girls friends were able to get away with so much simply because they were girls. They were taught how to be pretty and wear dainty things. They could cry for no reason or express emotion that I could never have done without looking foolish in the eyes of those around me. I do not everremember kissing or being kissed by my father, but I saw my sister do it every day. I was told to play ball, put on a pair of jeans and wear tennis shoes and even then I knew they didn't compare to slips,nylons and other pretties I knew girls wore. I was tought a girl was to be respected, cherished & treated like a lady & on no account could I be rude or ungentlemanly with her. Yet this respect was not reciprical and many shortcomings were simply explained always with "Thats just a girl for you" or "She didn't mean it the way did it, or said it" etc. In other words, a girl could do no wrong. I've always had girl friends and have had many good relationships with them. I'm not a woman hater because if I were so, I wouldn't want to be like them. From a young age to my teens I can rember these thoughts so it wasn't a sudden thing. KATIE T....NORTH CHARLESTON...S.C.....

Dear Wilma.

I have difficulty applying my false eyelashes also how can I apply mascara to my lower lashes without smearing it on my lower eyelids. JANET C.,CAMDEN,N.J.

Dear Janet; Yes, false eyelashes are a real problem. The best method I found is to look down with the eyes you are working on, and use a small piece of tissue placed under the lash while you apply the mascara.

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Dear Wilma; I like to wear a full slip, but find it bunches up under my pants. Have you any sugestions? CARALIN D.,BAY SHORE, LONG ISLAND.

Dera Caralin: Purchace pettypants. This will give you the silken feeling and avoid the bunching.

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VIE says she don' mind DEE DEE'S transvestism, it just that he's giving himself a bigger dress allowance than he's giving me.....

ORDEAL OF SEX CHANGE PRIEST

By JEAN HARMON

A TRANSSEXUAL Baptist minister is embroiled in a bitter struggle with church officials to keep her license to preach the gospel.

Priscilla Ann René, 26, of Winter Haven, Florida, has created an uproar in the conservative Southern Baptist Church since undergoing a sex-change operation in January.

She has changed her name from Andre De Bejare, obtained a divorce and legally become a woman.

"Just because I've had a sex change doesn't mean I'm not a Christian," says René.

"I was called into the ministry to serve God, and I intend to continue preaching His word."

But church officials are equally determined to revoke the minister's license De Bejare received three years ago, after graduating with a religion degree from California Baptist College in Riverside.

Rev. Jimmy Rogers, of Inman Park Baptist Church in Winter Haven, says: "We're still dealing with ministers who are divorced. How can you expect us to deal with a transsexual?"

Rev. George Horton, the minister of First Baptist Church in Fontana, California — the church that granted De Bejare her license — says it will be revoked as soon as possible.

"There is no way we will transfer the license into a woman's name," he says.

"We do not believe in this kind of thing. It goes against the Bible."

René says she has known for years that she was a woman trapped in a man's body.

"I may have been born a boy, but I felt like a girl for as long as I can remember," she says. Even so, she joined the Army Reserve and married a childhood sweetheart.

"I was really excited about getting married," says René.

"I felt it was the ultimate proof that I was a man."

De Bejare even fathered a daughter, now two years old. The child lives in California with her mother.

René's license enables her to preach the gospel, but not to become the minister of her own church. For that, she would need to be ordained.

Despite her fight to keep her license, René is confident she will soon be ordained into the Baptist ministry.

"My ambition is to create a church for people who are shunned because of their appearance — such as transsexuals, homosexuals and black people," she says.

"Who is going to minister to these people? They have as much right as anyone to hear God's word."

RENE: "I intend to continue my preaching."

Dear Ann Landers: My husband and I have been married for two years. He seemed normal in every way and I never had any reason to question his masculinity. Our sex life is good but I never had any experience before I met him so maybe I'm not much of a judge.

About six months ago, B asked me to make up his face "just to see what he'd look like if he were a woman." I thought it was a big joke and did it. I must say he looked beautiful.

A few weeks later, B asked me to make up his face again. This time I was uneasy and told him it was the last time I'd play the game. An hour later he came into the living room wearing my best housecoat and a wig, which he must have purchased himself. I was so upset I couldn't look at him.

Now I know what has been happening to my "missing" bras and pantyhose. I am just sick. Is this a hormone deficiency, a mental illness or what? I need some answers before I go crazy. — Morristown, N.J.

Dear N.J.: Your husband may be a transvestite whose kicks end with the dressing up. Some psychiatrists say all transvestites are either homosexual or bisexual.

Please discuss this problem with a counselor. Your letter raises many questions which I cannot answer. Since you've been married only two years, it may be that the way to fight this situation is with your hat. Grab it and run.

Dear Ann Landers: I read that Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, where they pioneered sex-change operations in this country, has stopped doing them. Follow-up research apparently failed to prove the operation showed justifiable improvement in the lives of the patients.

A few days later I read that sex-change operations are a legitimate and necessary expense and should be covered by standard employe medical insurance. That decision was handed down by a New York appeals court judge.

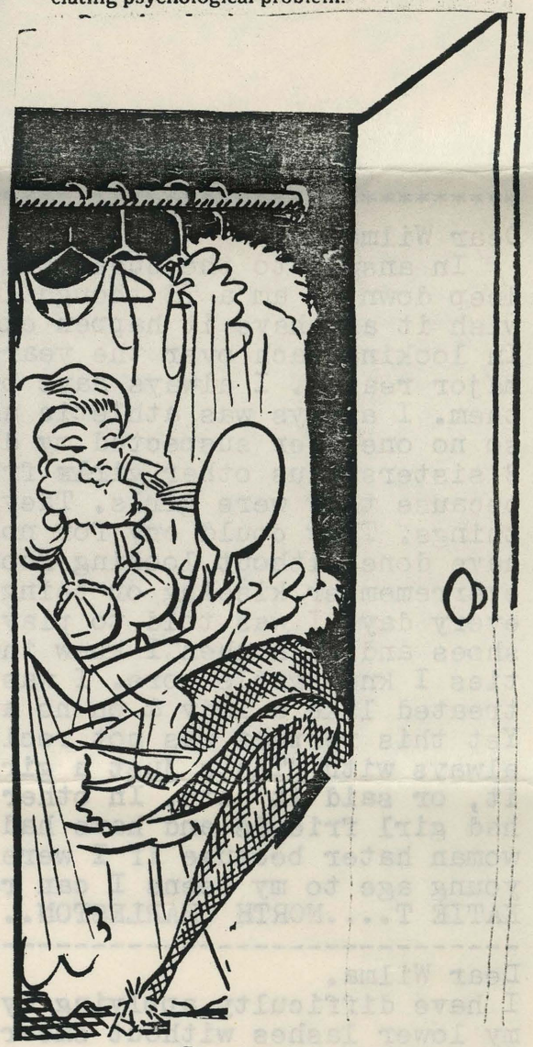
The insurance company lawyers took the position that such surgery was "cosmetic," but the court decided that for the person to live a normal life, sex reassignment surgery was imperative.

Where do you stand on this question? Do you dare say? — Vitally Interested In Windsor, Canada

Dear Win: Twenty major medical centers across the country now offer this operation, plus hormone treatments and counseling. The price runs from $5,000 to $10,000 and up.

Anyone who would go through the pain of surgery, and spend that sum of money, must want the gender change desperately. These people truly feel as if they are a member of one sex trapped in the body of another.

Even though the Johns Hopkins research indicates that those who have been changed over surgically have not achieved the level of happiness they sought, I feel that those who want the surgery should have it. Moreover, it should not be classified as an alteration since it produces relief from an excruciating psychological problem.



Come out, come out
of your ebony
closet.

Its dark and lonely
in your ebony
closet.

But warm and sweet
in our world!