THE INGERSOLL MESSAGE

INGERSOLL GENDER CENTER — SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

JULY, 1995 □ VOL. ONE □ NO. 5 □ PRICE: $1.00/EA. □ $15.00/YR SUBSCRIPTION

INGERSOLL PRESENT AT PRIDE RALLY FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW!

The date: June 25, 1995; The place: Volunteer Park, Seattle; The event: The Transsexual, Gay, Transvestite, Lesbian, Transgender, Bisexual, Parade and Rally. Literally thousands of people turned out to show support and express their pride in who they are and how they live their lives.

Once again, Ingersoll had a table at the Rally. Copies of the June issue of ***The Ingersoll Message*** along with Ingersoll Brochures and Catalogs were handed out to the many people who came to the park after the Parade. Board and volunteers staffed the booth.

Attendance (including marchers and spectators) at the parade, always underestimated by the media and police, was estimated by Parade organizers to be between 20,000 and 25,000, a very healthy number.

It was wonderful to see so many Ingersoll friends there! Folks stopped by whose experience with IGC went back as far as 15 years! Just like Old Home Week, and in spite of the hot weather, we saw a lot of folks dressed to the 'nines'!

From the Founder:

By Marsha Botzer, M.A.

$$$$ FOR INGERSOLL!

The month of June was a banner month for Ingersoll Gender Center. We were notified that a grant request we had sent to The Pride Foundation had been approved. Early in May, Board member Bryant Vehrs, MA, and Pat Butler, Executive Director, collaborated and put together the application to The Pride Foundation. The Foundation is a charitable organization which provides funding to organizations which offer services to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Transvestite organizations. It is the first time an organization which serves the Gender Community has been given a grant and the first ever grant Ingersoll has received. The funds will be used for outreach to caregivers (concerned others, therapists, medical and legal agencies) with a series of trainings in Gender Issues to be given in the Fall and Winter of 1995-1996. Some funds will be used to pay for the maintenance of the Ingersoll Web Page, which will expand our outreach to the Gender Community.

Unfortunately, while the money cannot be used for day to day running expenses, it is hoped that the increased presence of Ingersoll in the Gender Community locally and nationally will have the effect of increasing both group participation and publications sales.

A huge round of applause for Pat and Bryant, and a big 'thank you' to the Pride Foundation for their belief in what Ingersoll does.

NEW SUPPORT FOR THE COMMUNITY

This month I went to a meeting sponsored by the Pride Foundation where members of more than 40 organizations which support the various groups which make up our Community. Participants included Washington Citizens for Fairness (H.O.W.), The Pride Foundation, Ingersoll Gender Center, Lesbian Resource Center, Northwest AIDS Foundation, Chicken Soup Brigade, SHANTI, and many others. The group will meet to hear what each organization is doing, both for information and in order not to duplicate efforts. More on this in the months to come.

Important Ingersoll Doings in

J U L Y

All Wednesdays in July: TS Group (Referral Only) 7:30-9:30 PM
All Thursdays in July: Drop-In Group (Open) 7:00-9:00 PM
All Fridays in July: TV/TS Support Group (Open) 8-10 PM

July 10: Meeting of the Ingersoll Board of Directors 7:30-9:00 PM, Ingersoll Center.

July 11: FTM Support Group 7:30-9:30 PM. First Timers must call Jason at 723-8805, or David at 859-1053 before attending. Topic for this meeting: Family Issues - Future In-Laws, Alternative Conception, Children

There will be No Sunday Afternoon at Ingersoll in July. See you in August

July 18: Full time, Post-Op group meeting, 7:30-9:30 PM

July 22: FTM Support Group *Saturday Meeting cancelled for Summer*

JOIN US ON AUGUST 20, FOR OUR NEXT SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT INGERSOLL
SUBJECT TO BE ANNOUNCED
2:00-5:00 PM
at Ingersoll Gender Center, 1812 E. Madison, Suite 106

☹ ☹ ☹ OOOOOOPS! ☹ ☹ ☹

In last month's *Ingersoll Message*, we inadvertently gave out the incorrect addresses for the Ingersoll Home Page, both graphics and text. The addresses should read:

Graphics WEBBrowser:
<URL:http://www.halcyon.com/ingersol/iiihome.html>
TEXTonly WEBBrowser:
<URL:http://www.halcyon.com/ingersol/iiihometext.html>
The E-Mail address was correct: <ingersol@halcyon.com>
Sorry for the inconvenience!!

MAN TO MAN
By Jason Cromwell

Just in case you didn't see this last month, we reprint it for you consideration:

Join the members of FTM International in San Francisco for the first all-FTM conference in the Americas. Two and one half days of workshops, panels, seminars, exhibitions, networking and socializing for FTMs, their partners and friends. All are welcome!

Topics include: Coming Out, Relationships, Family, Sexuality, Spirituality and Male Consciousness, Partners of FTMs, Academic Perspectives on FTM, Racism and Transsexuality, MTF & FTM issue comparison, Queer and Straight issue comparison, No-Hormones and Non-Op Options, Living Long Term in Transsexual Bodies, Therapist Panel and MD panel.

Featured speakers/presenters include: Larry Brinkin, San Francisco Human Rights Commission; Michael Brownstein, MD; Photographer Loren Camero; Jason Cromwell; Steve Dain; John Garrigues; James Green; David Harrison; Donald Laub, MD; Shadow Morton; Sky Renfro; SFPD Sgt Stephan Thorne and many others.

Registration fee includes all sessions: Friday, August 18 - 6:00 pm, (registration opens at 4:00 pm) through 2:30 pm. Sunday, August 20, 1995.

Registration fee per person:
- $50.00 if postmarked on or before 6/30
- $60.00 if postmarked between 7/1 & 7/31
- $75.00 if postmarked on or after 8/31 or at the door

For more information, contact Jason Cromwell, 206-723-8805, or for applications, contact Pat at the Ingersoll Office at 206-329-6651. You may also contact FTM International directly at 5337 College Ave. #142, Oakland, CA 94618.

One final note: Saturday FTM Support Groups have been cancelled until September. With the good weather, attendance has dropped and only one group per month (Tuesday) is planned for the Summer.

Jaye's Journal
By Jaye Albright, Board President

The past two months have been a period of controversy, high-pitched group dynamics, internal turmoil, questioning and tumultuous growth for all of us who direct, enjoy, participate in and count on the many services of Ingersoll Center.

I think I can now honestly term it "growth," in spite of that fact that it occasionally felt more like pain, because it begins to look like we as an organization have emerged from this time stronger, better communicators/listeners and more cohesive than ever. At least I hope so.

If it sounds to you like the kind of personal relationship, diverse individual agendas, communication, gossip, and political issues that almost always simmer in the background of most volunteer-based, community resources you are correct.

And, as happens in so many relationships, money issues were the motivating factor. I was elected President of Ingersoll's board in January, and at that first board meeting of 1995, our treasurer, Dr. Sandra Johnson reported a budget shortage - our outgo was exceeding our income and we were draining our reserves!

The board noted the problem and resolved to monitor it, but took no action in hopes that our income would increase. Unfortunately, this situation was repeated in February, March and April.

During that period, we evolved a "Mission/Visioning Statement" for the organization (which has been posted in the Center for several months and has been greeted with very positive reactions), to be sure that if budget cuts became needed we would remain true to the Northwest transgender community's goals of the Center, which focus on service, education, outreach, counseling and training.

Then, in May, with less than $200 remaining in our reserve account, we did what so many other non-profit agencies have been forced to do of late -- make our situation public to our staff and users, urgently requesting their help to keep us afloat.

We asked the people who benefit from our existence for their financial aid. We changed our support groups from "donation" to a "fee basis."

Our founder, Marsha Botzer, noted at the time that for many of Ingersoll's almost 15 years of existence there was no charge for any of our groups. Then, seven years ago, the "donation" policy was instituted. With sadness and regret, she proposed the motion making support group fees mandatory and asking those who couldn't afford to pay to volunteer time to the organization as their payment, which passed unanimously.

Those necessary board actions caused many individual reactions throughout all areas of the Center -- some immediately understanding and positive, others quite concerned, even angry, and negative.

In the eight weeks since that all happened, I can now report that a lot of wonderful things have transpired, aside from the fact that at the June board meeting our treasurer made the announcement that we are now back in the black for the first time in many months. Not by much, but it does appear that due to better collections from our support groups and careful cost-cutting in our office we may be beginning to make up our financial shortfalls. For at least "one month in a row."

I personally polled all nine of our support group facilitators and tabulated their views on many Center activities, not just our financial crisis. This got all of us talking. We have received letters in the suggestion box from group attendees.

Now, as a result of this crisis, we have applied for and received a grant to help us keep those activities, which have been developing for a decade and a half, growing and improving.

We have also established a conservative budget, based on the actual expenditures of the Center for the past two years, which has been set up on a spreadsheet so that we can learn from the past actions that got us where *See Jaye's Journal, p. 11*

spotlight on:

The Emerald City

An Important Part of the Gender Community

A very important part of Seattle's Gender Community is ***The Emerald City****, a group of crossdressers, primarily male, who have created a helpful and fun non-profit organization.* They extend a warm welcome to those of good character who share their stated purposes. These purposes are to provide the means for crossdressers and those who seek genderal freedom to find and meet one another. They provide safe and comfortable social and educational activities. These include monthly meetings, monthly social events such as dinners and excursions, and sponsorship of an annual multi-day event to permit immersion in their pastime of crossdressing.

They are also an educational group. One of their goals is to promote a positive image to the business community, the media, and general public. They provide speakers and materials for the education of the public to promote greater acceptance and to dispell fear and ignorance around crossdressing.

They associate with and aid regional and national groups and events which share their purposes.

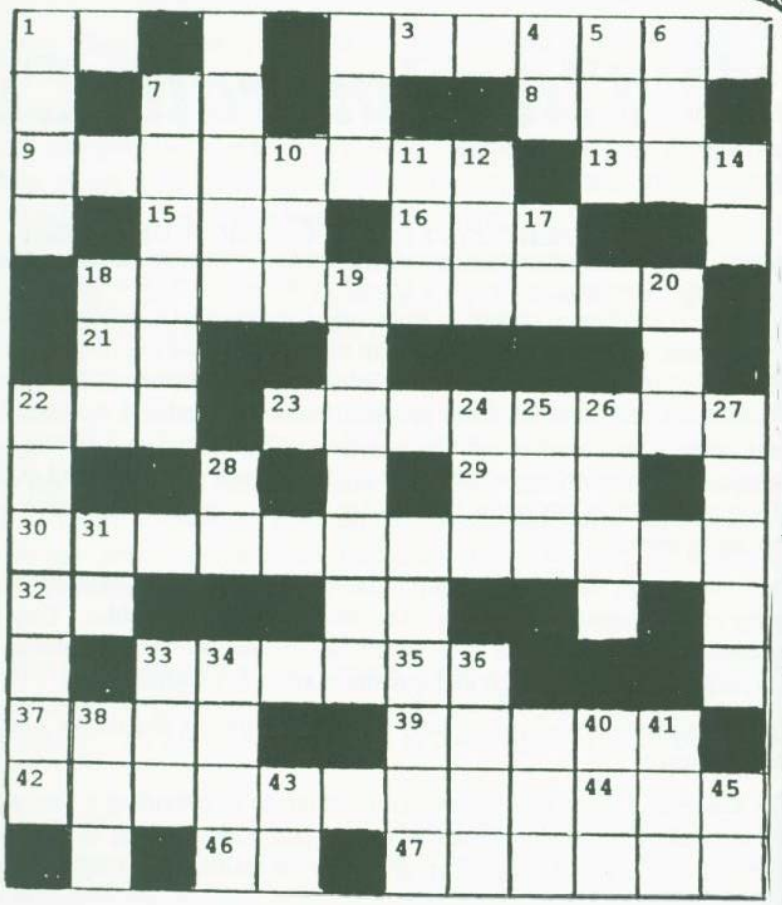
The Emerald City provides assistance for families by providing a time and place just for them to share their concerns and to gain understanding about their loved ones. There is also a support group for wives, children and significant others which meets monthly.

The Emerald City also maintains a list of vendors who enjoy doing business with CD's and TV's. Members can feel comfortable with these pople who meet their special needs for shoes and clothing, grooming, food and drink, and entertainment.

The Emerald City publishes a monthly newsletter to promote communications and provide information for and by our members. They offer friendships with kindred spirits -- they have fun!

For more information, interested people are encouraged to call on ***Tuesdays, from 7:00-10:00 pm at 206-284-1071.*** You may also write to them at ***The Emerald City, P.O. Box 31318, Seattle, WA 98103.***

JULY GENDER CROSSWORD

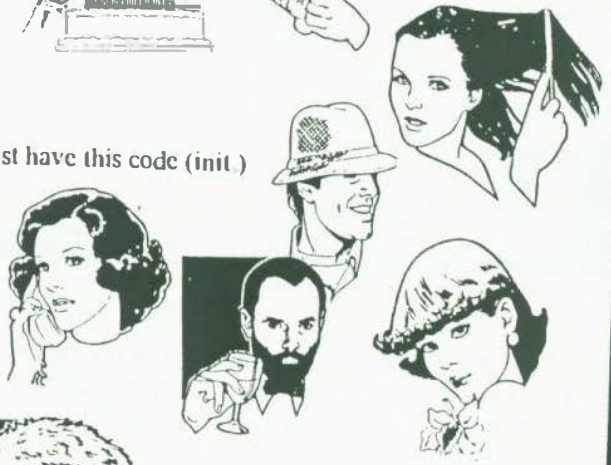


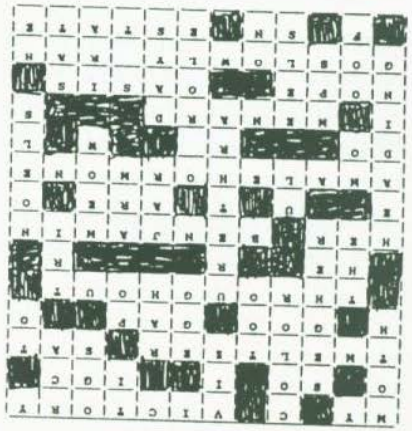
ACROSS

1. Possessive Pronoun
3. A vin. like starting hormones
7. To such a degree
8. Ingersoll's initials
9. Portland Doc
13. Pre-College test (init.)
15. Sticky mass, too much hairspray
16. Space
18. All pervading
21. Pronoun
22. Possessive of she
23. Harry and Mr. Franklin
29. Form of To Be
30. Androgen (3 words)
32. Last half of marriage answer
33. Montreal Doc
37. Slang negative
39. Place of rest
42. 15 mph speed limit (2 words)
44. Cheer
46. Opposites on compass (init.)
47. Spelled out by will

Down

1. Attracted to flame
2. Lilac
3. Namely (latin)
4. Hawaiian plant
5. Polliw__
6. Old record company
7. Brussels Doc
10. Also
11. Fertilized by sperm
12. Sounds like similar word meaning uncooked
14. Preposition
17. Italian River
18. Article
19. Part of urinary tract
20. Prefix meaning "three"
22. Title
24. Shake
25. Extremity
26. Pussy sound
27. French Christmases
28. Electrical Appliances must have this code (init.)
31. Missouri in addresses
33. Army cops
34. Electric fish
35. Actor's part
36. 48 hours makes two
38. Exclamation
40. Rebels, terrorists
41. Used to sit
43. "Off's" other half
45. An FTM.





INGERSOLL
AT THE BROADWAY MARKET

Starting in June, 1995, Ingersoll Gender Center will be at the Broadway Market!! Well, actually, ***Ingersoll*** won't be at the Market, but information about Ingersoll will. The Pride Foundation has secured a cart from the Broadway Market to display and distribute brochures from organizations that are serving the Capitol Hill Community and the Community at Large. The Broadway Market is in a high pedestrian traffic area that forms the heart of a gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender retail district with stores who welcome members of the community. Thousands of people pass through the market daily and would have easy access to any information we add to the display. Also, the kiosk will be staffed by Paula Wolfe and Mimi Singer during the first two months to provide people with more detailed information.

The Pride Foundation offered Ingersoll a spot at the kiosk to place information about our services, volunteer needs, or any other important news the community should know about. They anticipate up to 75 organizations joining, so space is limited. At this time, only our brochure will be on display, but discussions are in process to allow us to also post our catalog.

Thanks again, to the Pride Foundation for all they do for all of us!

The Cook's Corner

by Lee Hefner

A SUMMER TREAT

1 WHOLE RIPE BEEFSTEAK TOMATO, CORED & SEEDED,
4-6 FRESH BASIL LEAVES FINELY CHOPPED
1 SMALL CLOVE OF GARLIC MINCED
DASH OF OLIVE OIL
SALT TO TASTE

CHOP TOMATO AND MIX WITH OTHER INGREDIENTS. LET MIX SIT FOR 15 MINUTES TO ALLOW FLAVORS TO MULL. SERVE ON THINLY SLICED CRUSTY BREAD OR AS AN ACCOMPANIENT FOR GRILLED OR BROILED FISH, CHICKEN OR MEAT.

Jaye's Journal cont. from p. 6

we are Board member Bryant Vehrs, M.A., and Executive Director Pat Butler spent several full days on this important task.

We are also establishing controls and inventory management forms to try to improve our ability to conserve our very limited resources and assure that we have the materials in stock that our facilitators and phone line volunteers require to perform our educational mission.

Now, we have a plan, a budget, a mission statement, we're on the Internet, and we are talking about many other areas for Ingersoll to work on, while remaining true to our core service - the training of therapists and facilitators, educating the professional community and offering support groups for the spectrum of our community.

THE INGERSOLL BOARD WELCOMES YOUR COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS. WE INVITE YOU TO LEAVE A NOTE IN THE SUGGESTION BOX IN THE HALL. IF YOU LEAVE YOUR NAME, WE WILL REPLY PERSONALLY.

The Butler Did it!

By Pat Butler, Executive Director

To Fee, or Not To Fee -- or --
(What to do with a short check on a long month!)

The Problem

Now that (most of) the dust has settled around the fee change at Ingersoll, the Board thought it was important to discuss some concerns expressed by those "Ingersollers" who live on a fixed, limited income (in some cases, ridiculously limited).

Let me start off by saying that the new fee schedule was an absolute necessity. We discussed it at great length. Ingersoll has fixed expenses such as rent, $600.00/month; phone, $45.00+/-month; insurance, $125.00 every three months; and variable expenses such as printing costs, publication purchases, office supplies, postage, stipends, etc. As you can see, although it is a cliche, it really is costly just to keep the doors open, not to mention keeping the lights on.

That all being said, let me get to the reason for this column. I recognize the desire of those with limited incomes to contribute at a level which they can afford, even if that is $0.00! I also recognize that most people are essentially honest about their financial situations. I have been and still am on a fixed/limited income, and know the occasional shame which goes with that. Please know that most of us have been, at one time or another short of $$$, and understand when people at meetings are doing their best!

A Possible Solution

Starting in August, a system of scholarships or credits will be available for folks who want to contribute something but don't have much discretionary income. A person who cannot financially contribute can volunteer for various "jobs" around Ingersoll. Below are some (by no means a complete list) suggestions:

1. **Phone Volunteer:** Ingersoll is always looking for people to do a 2 hour shift per week. After completing a successful training period of once a week for 2-3 months, volunteers would be asked to do a shift once a week. *PAYOFF:* for every two hour shift (including your training shifts), you receive one free group.

2. **Meeting Set-up:** The job entails setting up for a group meeting. This includes making coffee, filling the sugar and creamer, making sure there are cups, etc. Setting up extra chairs, if necessary. *PAYOFF:* For every set up, you receive one free group.

3. **Meeting Clean-up:** The job entails cleaning up after a meeting. This includes, gathering and disposing of used coffee cups, re-stacking chairs, turning off the coffee and tea pots, etc. *PAYOFF:* For every clean up, you receive one free group.

4. **Office Volunteer:** For those of you who are available during the day or on the weekends. The job includes one or more of the following: filing, stapling newsletters, packaging up publications to go out, preparing mailings. *PAYOFF:* For every two hours you work, you receive one free group. (Note, this opportunity is available to more than one person at a time).

5. **Maintainence/Special Projects:** Occasionally, there are housekeeping things which need to be done: Dusting, vaccuming between times it is done by the management, moving of furniture, etc. Also, Kristen is going to be painting the facility sometime this summer and will need helpers. *PAYOFF:* For every two hours you work you receive a free group.

6. **Sundays Afternoon at Ingersoll:** Every third Sunday of the month, we need help setting up and cleaning up. It entails making coffee, helping to set out food, distributing handouts, etc. *PAYOFF:* Since it involves one hour before, and the three hours of the function, you receive two free groups for your work.

7. **Pride Sunday:** We need folks to staff the booth at the Pride Rally at Volunteer Park. This includes preparations at the office, set up the day of the event, staffing the booth and clean up afterwards. *PAYOFF:* For every two hours you work, you receive one free group.

8. **Holiday Happening:** Once a year, Ingersoll puts on a big party. Many people are required to make it a success. Not only can you get free groups for working on it, but there are limited scholarships whereby people can work for a portion of the evening and receive a reduced-price or free ticket to the event. More on this later.

The Payoff

When you have completed a job, you will receive a *Credit Slip* like the one below. It will have your name on it and will be signed and dated by the facilitator or supervisor with whom you have worked. At the time of the "Passing of the Envelope" at a meeting, simply place your *Credit Slip* in the envelope and you have paid for the group! The best thing about this arrangement is that it is a WIN-WIN situation. You are able to go afford groups and we get the help we need.

INGERSOLL
CREDIT
GOOD FOR ONE GROUP

*******SAMPLE ONLY*******

customer **facilitator**

date

FURNITURE DONATED TO INGERSOLL

On June 17, 1995, the Ingersoll office received a donation of a 'previously owned' desk, desk chair, book case and two side chairs, all in great condition. The furniture was the tax-deductible gift of Lee Hefner of InfoCentre, Inc., and is a welcome addition to the office. What made the gift incredibly wonderful is that no Ingersoll money was spent in acquiring it. Many thanks to Lee and InfioCentre for adding a special touch to the Ingersoll office!

London Goes to the Aid of T.S. Passengers

by Pat Butler *(Courtesy of Howard Leonard)*

(London Times: 5/25/95) London Transport has come to the rescue of [MTF] transsexuals who wish to travel to work during the day but change gender appearance for trips out -- in the evening, for example. Problems have arisen at ticket barriers. there had been "confusion" amont ticket staff where photocards had shown a picture of someone of a different gender. Now, however, LT says it plans to issue duplicate cards -- one carrying a photograph as a male and another dressed as a female.

The duplicates will carry the same identity number but will be available only for those people genuinely undergoing therapy for a sex change operation. A London Underground ticket insepector said: "This is not an excuse for a free for all for any blokes who feel like dressing up in high heels and a tight skirt."

It came about after LT was approached by a professional organisation dealing with trans-sexuals [sic].

Tube spokesman Roger Shire said: "This is a serious approach to help a section of society that needs assistance.

"Those wishing to have duplicate Travelcards, and I emphasise we are talking about a very small number, will have to provide a letter from their doctor or psychiatrist.

"This is not something for transvestites, however. This is only for people undergoing sex change operations."

SUMMER PHONE HOURS ANNOUNCED

Because of vacation times, Ingersoll is forced to cut back on phone availability. During the Summer months, Ingersoll phone lines will be open for business:

MONDAY, TUESDAY, AND FRIDAY: 6:00-8:00 pm
SATURDAY MORNINGS FROM 10:00-12:00 noon
Check our phone message for any changes in phone times.

TRAINING FOR PHONE VOLUNTEERS

While we're on the subject of phones, in Mid-August, training will begin for anyone interested in volunteering on the Ingersoll phone lines. Training will be once a week for two hours. The length of the training will be approximately two months. Days of each training session have not been selected and will be determined based on the trainees' available time.

Learn how to answer the many questions about Ingersoll Center, gender issues; requests for referral; and how to be a willing listener. Those who are interested, leave your name, phone number and a good time to reach you in the suggestion box in the hallway and Pat Butler will be contacting you in early August. This is a good way to give something back!!

SPOTLIGHT ON TWO FAVORITE PUBLICATIONS

At Ingersoll Center

The Trinidad Experience
and
The Brussels Experience

By Ingersoll Staff

All about traveling for your surgery, whether you are going to Trinidad Colorado or Brussels, Belgium. ***The Brussels Experience*** talks about your hospital stay, accommodations, transportation and what to bring with you for the M to F surgery. ***The Trinidad Experience*** also talks about what to bring, and what to expect. Each book is an excellent guide and/or planners for that important time.

Each book is available at Ingersoll after meetings or by mail.

At meetings: $14.00 tax included ***By Mail: $13.50 plus 1.11 tax (if appl.) and $2.50 p/h total $16.61 check/M.O. (includes tax and p/h)***

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Kristen Langley Jason Cromwell, PhD c
Bryant Vehrs, MA

----------DETACH HERE----------

PLEASE ENTER MY SUBSCRIPTION FOR *THE INGERSOLL MESSAGE*. I HAVE ENCLOSED $15.00 (check or money order) FOR A ONE YEAR SUBSCRIPTION.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO KEEP UP WITH INGERSOLL EVENTS, PLEASE ADD ME TO YOUR MAILING LIST.

☐ PLEASE SEND ME AN INFORMATION PACKET.
(ENCLOSE $1.00 p/h AND S.A.S.E. [#10 BUSINESS SIZE])