ETVC

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME FIFTEEN, NUMBER 2, SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER, 1996

THE CHANNEL

First Time Out Leaves Memories for a Thousand Lifetimes.

by Sara Marie Golemon

Gay Freedom Day Marchers

How can I begin to describe all of the love, joy, and pride that filled the streets of downtown San Francisco the weekend of June 29-30? Over 500,000 spectators turned out to cheer on the 251 contingents of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, and Transgenders as they marched the lanes of Market Street, making it the second largest parade event in the State. Blistering heat and a late position within the parade gave us a somewhat thinned and exhausted crowd, but that didn't stop the cheers as we walked tall proclaiming: 'Transgendered and Loving It!'

The pace was stop and go much of the time and occasionally we would come across a subway vent blasting a welcome stream of cool air from underneath, simultaneously cooling our overheated bodies and giving us a chance to show the crowd that: 'Marilyn's got nothing on us.' I was personally caught with my hands full carrying the banner and a camera as my mini-dress flew up around my elbows. Flushed with embarrassment, I finally managed to free a hand and smooth down my skirt while a crowd of guys cheered the spectacle from the sidelines. I blew them a kiss and our contingent marched on.

Despite the weather, this year's parade was quite possibly the most successful in the 26 year history of the event. The final contingent marched off of Market Street at about 4:00 PM, precisely on schedule without a single incident beyond the inevitable naysayers who speckled the crowd but remained by and large unnoticed.

The celebration at the Embarcadero was nothing short of a critical mass of humanity. Hundreds of thousands crowded the booths along the pier and within Justin Herman Plaza, or danced the day away to the music of live bands too numerous to list. For my own part I crashed in the command center (one of the perks of volunteering to be a safety monitor) after having been active (some may say over-active) in the two-day celebration with scarcely four hours of what can only be marginally called sleep.

So as I awake Monday morning with an ache running the full length of my right leg (a little too much wiggle in my walk, perhaps?), I think back on this weekend of merriment marking my first true experience being "out" and the single happiest day of my twenty years of life, and I wonder to myself, why didn't I do this before?

Don't get left out next year, this is a fabulous event that has to be experienced to be appreciated. Transgendered? You're darn right! And I'm loving every last minute of it, sister!

Miss ETVC For a Day

by Darcy Leopard

When I heard Lisa Maxwell's voice on the other end of the line asking me if I would play the part of Miss ETVC for a day in the Gay Freedom Day Parade, memories of being a contestant in the Cotillion returned. "Here I go again!" I thought. Except this time I would be putting myself on stage in front of hundreds of thousands of people instead of mere hundreds!

Valerie Genalo, our reigning Miss ETVC for every day, subsequently loaned me her tiara and sash at the "Really Big Shew" performance at Kimo's. "I feel like I'm being de-throned!" she told me. She regrettably couldn't make the parade due to a previous commitment planned months earlier.

On the morning of parade day, I found my faithful friend and partner in grime Brenda disabling my hands with glamorous, long red fingernails. Although I rarely wear long fingernails, I decided this was an appropriate time. People would be noticing my hands more than usual since I would be waving at them. I was glad Brenda was happy to serve as my hands many times during the rest of the day, since mine felt pretty helpless.

We had decided to take MUNI from my apartment in the Noe Valley area of the city, since parking would be essentially impossible. This was a

Continued on back page

THE CHANNEL

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

OFFICERS

President	Erin Souza
Vice-President	Leslie Bailey
Secretary	Veronica Smith
Treasurer	Jano Bogg
Education	Nancy Cupps, Juana Smith
Outreach	Telzey Adams, Sandra Brewer
Social	Laura Van Nuys, Evette RoqueLaurie

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership (as of 6/30/96)	219
Total 1995 Membership	430
New Memberships this year	21

TREASURER'S REPORT

The "Home For ETVC" Fund is now $637.00

Please buy many raffle tickets so this fund will grow!

ETVC is a non-profit corporation.

Donations to ETVC are TAX DEDUCTIBLE on both federal and California income tax returns.

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

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

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

HOTLINE & VOICE MAIL 415-564-3246

B.B.S. 415-564-4903

Letter from Elizabeth

By Elizabeth Walters

As the leaves begin to change color (well, at least the sumac and liquidambar) a young — or even old — girl's fancy begins to turn to other things. Things like the end of daylight savings time, cooler weather, and a chance to go out without risking sunstroke or an elaborate party makeup ruined by perspiration. The kicky summer dresses go back into the closet, and fall fashion spreads begin to have a particular appeal.

Thus it is here in the gender capital of the world. With the end of vacations and the fading of the summer heat, we all begin to think about spending more evenings out. And believe me, ladies, those evenings will be packed in the next few months.

For example, many members will find ETVC's September social a dress — if you catch my meaning — rehearsal for the organization's annual Halloween Party, as the theme of the month will be "TVs on TV:" outfits based on your television faves.

In October, the delights will be double-barreled: first, the second annual gender fair, featuring concessions specially aimed at the gender community; next, the annual Halloween Gala — a guaranteed good time for all!

I, for one, intend to start rooting through those warmer outfits and get them ready for action. And I hope that when the action begins, I'll be seeing you there!

A Statement From Our New V.P.

I am grateful to those members of ETVC who pushed me into the role of Vice President. There will, of course, be many changes in the offering. I bought a day timer for the first time; I can see voice mail not far behind; and I can see spending many evenings out.

Getting to know the ETVC membership much better and working for our common goals will, I expect, fill a very rewarding year. There has been talk of rethinking the Cotillion, which is one of the Vice President's major responsibilities.

I intend to work hard to do two things:

First, I want the Cotillion to be an elegant and entertaining evening for the audience as well as a rewarding/learning experience for the participants.

Second, I want to streamline the process of producing this event.

There are many other pressing issues that I want to get involved with. I will need volunteers and contestants.

Please call me at [redacted]. Let's work together and in the process learn from each other.

Leslie Ann Bailey

Transgendered Parent Support Group Forming

A support group for transgendered parents is forming and will start meeting in September. Transgendered parents have special needs and issues. Let's talk! All are welcome (CD, TV, TS, FTM, MTF). The group will be part of the Alternative Family Project, a San Francisco non-profit support agency for leshian, gay, bisexual and transgendered families. There will be a sliding scale fee ($5.00-$20.00) to participate. If you are interested in joining, if you think you will need child care, or if you just want more information, call [redacted] and ask for Cheryl Deaner.

Da' Prez' Box

ETVC President Erin Souza

Summer of Pride

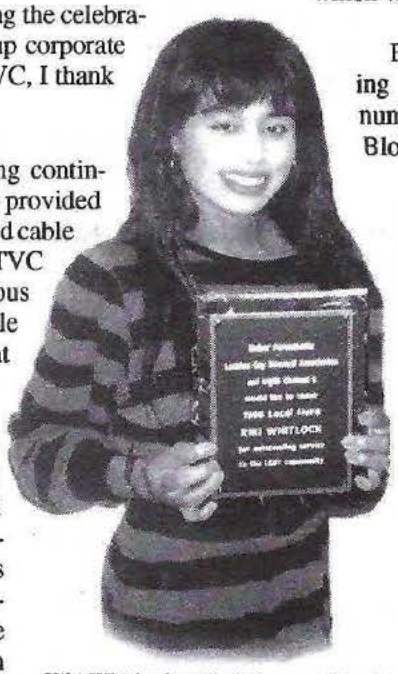
What a summer we have had. ETVC members took part in many community events culminating with our participation in the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration. Kudos to our members and friends who marched in our contingent and staffed our three booths.

ETVC landed the plums of beer and merchandise booths these past two years due to having a friend in high places, former Channel columnist and current Vice President of Administration for the parade, Roberta "Bobbi" Dunne.

Bobbi worked hard all year on planning the celebration site at the Embarcadero and lining up corporate sponsors for the event. On behalf of ETVC, I thank her for a job well done.

Special thanks too, to our neighboring contingent, Continuum HIV Day Services who provided valuable shade and water in their motorized cable car to Darcy Leopard (subbing for Miss ETVC '96, Valerie Genalo (who had a previous work related commitment) and myself while we waited in the ninety-plus degree heat before marching.

Earlier in June, rising outreach star Brenda Altman and I had the honor of attending an award reception for Kiki Whitlock, Transgender Program Coordinator for the Asian Aids Project. Kiki was one of four recipients of the Unsung Heroes awards from the Kaiser Permanente Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Association (which is changing its name to the more inclusive KP-Pride).



Kiki Whitlock with "Unsung Hero" Award presented by Kaiser Permanente Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Association, 6/12/96

Kiki accepted the award on behalf of the entire transgendered community and asked all of us in attendance to stand up for acknowledgement. She spoke of the importance of transgendered visibility and how we need to "show up, speak up and stand up for who we are."

The reception was held at KQED, which also produced and aired video segments about Kiki and her fellow heroes throughout Pride Month.

If we had not rubbed elbows with KQED and Kaiser enough, we came back for more on pledge night. ETVC joined volunteers from Kaiser and AT&T and Lucent in a fun evening of fund-raising and networking.

July featured ETVC participation in the AIDS Walk, the Transgender Summit on mental health services and the ISE Bowlathon. The bowlathon, hosted by our friends at the Alameda Imperial Court, featured high games from Brenda Altman (162) and Carolayn "Bird" Hughes (189). The nickname Bird was given for Carolayn's unique follow-through which won her top honors for best form.

Brenda meanwhile, won two free games for throwing strikes whenever a red pin dared occupy the number one spot. Everett Roque, Karyn Miller, Trina Bloom and yours truly also partook in the fun.

While we're still in the lanes, a bittersweet farewell to Gil, Jeanette and the staff of Rock N' Bowl who host(ed) their final night of bowling and dancing to music videos on August 24. Their home at Park Bowl is closing and I can only hope they find another.

From the beginning they made ETVC bowlers feel welcome there, at times rewarding our regular attendance with free passes. Such enthusiastic hospitality will be greatly missed.

Opportunities to show the public that we're proud of who we are continue this fall. Come participate in the Castro Fair on October 6, our second annual Gender Fair on October 19 and our second annual Miniature Golf Tournament on November 10. You will feel proud of yourself for doing so.

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email [redacted]

Special Events

Mid Month Socials

Wednesday, September 11th and October 9th

The ideal occasion for newcomers to make friends in the club. At these more intimate gatherings there's a chance for real conversations without so much bustle and din. Come drab or drag - you'll find others there the same. We will meet at The Line-up - a Mexican Restaurant/Bar, at 7th and Harrison, S.F. The food is excellent and appetizers are huge. 8 PM, FREE

Special Educational Seminar:

A Full Makeup Session with Bill Jones.

Saturday, September 14th

If you attended the April 17th makeup seminar with Bill Jones and left wanting more, or even if it's your first time using makeup, this event is not to be missed. Bill has generously agreed to host an in depth makeup session in the Theater Arts Department of San Francisco State University. This 2 +hour session will provide an opportunity for you to learn more about makeup in a place with proper lighting. Feel free to bring changes of clothes. Come and let the master work his magic to bring out the loveliest in you. A no-host group lunch is scheduled at Stonestown Shopping Center after the seminar. Look for the "ETVC" signs in the Theater Arts Department on the morning of the Seminar. 10 am, Theater Arts Makeup Room, San Francisco State University. FREE

Education Seminar:

How to Get By When You Can't Pass.

THURSDAY (not Wednesday), September 19th

You're out in public because you want to be or perhaps have to be if you are living full time or plan to be. Getting read frequently can be a downer if you let it, but there are ways to minimize the effects, improve your odds and feel better about yourself. Several ETVC members who've "walked in your shoes" will share their personal experiences, provide useful suggestions and answer questions. This seminar will benefit anyone who wants to pass.
8 PM, Upstairs at Kimo's. Polk & Pine Sts. SF $3.

TV's do TV

Thursday, September 26th

Come celebrate our video pop culture. Have you always wanted to play Ginger's part on Gilligan's Island? One of those hot chicks on Melrose place? Vanna White on Wheel of Fortune? One of Charlie's Angels? Lieutenant Uhuru or Counselor Troy? Archie Bunker's wife? Now is your special chance. Jelly's at Pier 50 in San Francisco., 8 PM., $3 members; $5 guests.

Education Seminar:

A Brief Introduction to S/M: Defining and Demystifying the Language.

Wednesday, October 16th

We're very pleased to welcome back Dr. Bill Henkin and Sybil Holiday to speak on this very popular topic. They will talk about the language of S/M, communication and negotiation, and provide basic information on how to approach playing. A question and answer session will follow the presentation. Additionally, copies of their new book on this subject will be available at 10% off the regular price. The authors will be happy to autograph your book. Come early to get a good seat! 8 PM, Upstairs at Kimo's. Polk & Pine Sts. SF $3.

2nd Annual ETVC Gender Fair

Saturday, October 19th, All Day Long, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Quickly becoming one of ETVC's Premiere Events, the 2nd Annual ETVC Gender Fair will be expanded this year into the large front parking lot area at Jelly's Cafe, and there will be twice as many vendors with their wares to entice and excite you. In a "trade fair-street fair" atmosphere, you can try on that new wig, choose just the right Halloween costume, be fitted for that corset or breast form, learn about skin care, make up, electrology and talk with our top notch therapists, and much more! You will be entertained by vendor fashion shows on our outdoor stage (call if you want to be a model) and if you buy our "Home for ETVC" Raffle tickets, you can win fabulous prizes at the drawing at 3:00 PM. Come in face or not, but don't miss this really fun day. Plan to dine by the Bay enjoying one of Jelly's great brunch dishes at Pier 50, San Francisco. Plenty of parking will still be available. See flyer and raffle ticket letter enclosed with this newsletter for more detailed information. A $5 registration fee for ETVC members ($7 for guests) will be requested.

Transsexual Seminar:

Sex Reassignment Surgery & Voice Surgery.

Sunday, October 20th

A poll of our TS members attending a recent seminar indicated SRS was the number one topic of interest. We are delighted to have Dr. Toby Meltzer from the Oregon Health Sciences University as our expert speaker. Dr. Meltzer will do a presentation on voice surgery and sex reassignment surgery. It will include a slide presentation, followed by a question and answer session. His experience and reputation are held in high esteem by clients. If you are contemplating one of these types of surgeries, this is great opportunity to talk with one of the top surgeons in this field without having to travel. 2 pm. Upstairs at Kimo's, Polk & Pine Sts., SF FREE

The Gala Halloween Ball

Saturday, October 26th

This is our season, this is our night. Join the biggest ETVC party of the year! Don't limit yourself to transgender - go trans-species, trans-phylum, **trans-kingdom!, TRANSGALACTIC!!** If we weren't already generally short in that department this would be an excellent opportunity to dance our fannies off. The Dunphy Hotel is a gender-friendly host with a fine ballroom adjacent to an outdoor deck for our smokers. Take a room with some of your ETVC sisters for dressing before the event and crashing after. The Dunphy Hotel in San Mateo, 8 PM, $15 advance; $17 at the door.

Coming Up Soon:

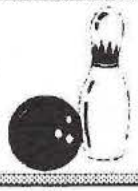
Grand Ducal Court Coronation at the Van Ness Holiday Inn. Saturday, September 21, 1996

Mr. /Miss Gay San Francisco Pageant, Holiday Inn Van Ness. Saturday, November 2, 1996

Call Ginny at [redacted] for reservations and information.

Gender Bowling Night

All levels welcome Third Saturday of each month: call **(415) 731-7032**



TV/TS/TG GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

September

2	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek	(510) 937-8432
5	DVG	Pacific Center Rap Group	Meets at 7 PM	Walnut Creek	(510) 939-7711
6	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-4044
6	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
8	**ETVC**	**Outreach Committee**	**Meets at 7 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(510) 443-9938**
8	**ETVC**	**Newsletter Committee**	**Starts at 1 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 664-1499**
8	FTM	Informational Meeting	Meets at 2 PM	San Francisco	(510) 287-2646
9	**ETVC**	**TS Committee**	**Meets at 7 PM**	**Kimo's Mtg.Room**	**(415) 750-1850**
9	**ETVC**	**Education Committee**	**Meets at 8 PM**	**Kimo's Mtg.Room**	**(408) 984-5619**
11	**ETVC**	**Mid-Month Gabfest**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**The Line-Up**	**(415) 731-7032**
12	**ETVC**	**Significant Others**	**Meets 7:30-10 PM**	**TBA**	**(415) 664-1499**
13	**ETVC**	**Poker Social**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 664-1499**
13	S.Bay	Gender Discussion Group	Meets 8-10 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-5619
13	**ETVC**	**Lending Library Open**	**Hours 7-11 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 664-1499**
13	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
14	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento	(916) 482-7742
14	**ETVC**	**Bill Jones on Makeup**	**Starts at 10 AM**	**SF State**	**(415) 731-7032**
15	**ETVC**	**Executive Committee**	**Meets at 4 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 731-7032**
16	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek	(510) 937-8432
17	**ETVC**	**Social Committee**	**Meets at 8 PM**	**The Line-Up**	**(415) 731-7032**
19	**ETVC**	**If You Can't Pass**	**Starts at 8PM**	**Kimo's, Upstairs**	**(415) 731-7032**
19	**ETVC**	**Library Committee**	**Meets at 1 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 664-1499**
20	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-4044
20	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
21	Ducal Ct	SF Grand Ducal Coronation	Starts 7 PM	San Francisco	(415) 664-1499
26	**ETVC**	**TVs Do TV**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Jelly's, SF**	**(415) 387-7838**
28	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento	(916) 482-7742
27	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224

October

3	DVG	Pacific Center Rap Group	Meets at 7 PM	Walnut Creek	(510) 939-7711
4	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-4044
4	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
7	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek	(510) 937-8432
9	**ETVC**	**Mid-Month Gabfest**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**The Line-up SF**	**(415) 387-7838**
10	**ETVC**	**Significant Others**	**Meets 7:30-10 PM**	**SF**	**(415) 664-1499**
11	**ETVC**	**Poker Social**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 664-1499**
11	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
11	**ETVC**	**Lending Library Open**	**Hours 7-11 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 664-1499**
11	S.Bay	Gender Discussion Group	Meets 8-10 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-5619
12	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento	(916) 482-7742
13	FTM	Informational Meeting	Meets 2 PM	San Francisco	(510) 287-2646
13	**ETVC**	**Executive Committee**	**Meets at 5 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 731-7032**
14	**ETVC**	**TS Committee**	**Meets at 7 PM**	**Kimo's Mtg Room**	**(415) 750-1850**
14	**ETVC**	**Education Committee**	**Meets at 8 PM**	**Kimo's Mtg Room**	**(414) 750-1850**
15	**ETVC**	**Social Committee**	**Meets at 8 PM**	**The Galleon**	**(415) 387-7838**
16	**ETVC**	**S&M Seminar**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Kimo's, Upstairs**	**(415) 750-1850**
17	**ETVC**	**Library Committee**	**Meets at 1 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 664-1499**
18	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-4044
18	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
19	**ETVC**	**Gender Fair**	**10AM-5PM**	**Jelly's SF**	**(510) 443-9938**
20	**ETVC**	**Outreach Committee**	**Meets at 1 PM**	**Kimo's, Upstairs**	**(510) 443-9938**
20	**ETVC**	**SRS Seminar**	**Starts at 2 PM**	**Kimo's, Upstairs**	**(415) 731-7032**
21	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek	(510) 937-8432
25	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
26	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento	(916) 482-7742
26	**ETVC**	**Hallowe'en Gala**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Dunfey, San Mateo**	**(415) 387-7838**

OTHER GROUPS

Pacific Center for Human Growth, a counseling oriented growth center, sponsors all-inclusive gender support groups on every Friday at 8:00 PM. 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. Call: (510) 841-6224.

Rainbow Gender Association (RGA) meets 1st and 3rd Friday of the month 8:00 PM at the New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose. Write: RGA, PO Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170. Call: (408) 984-4044

Sacramento Gender Association (SGA) Blue Rose Chapter meets 8 PM the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month in Sacramento. Write: PO Box 215456, Sacramento, CA 95821-1456. Call: (916) 482-7SGA for meeting locations.

Diablo Valley Girls (DVG) Meets first and third Monday of every month. 8 PM at Just Rewards Nightclub, 2520 Camino Diablo in Walnut Creek. Write: DVG, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885. Call: (510) 937-8432.

FTM, a support group for Female-to-Male crossdressers & transsexuals, holds both open, Informational Meetings, and closed, Support Meetings. Write: FTM, 5337 College Avenue #142, Oakland, CA 94618. Call Voice Mail: (510) 287-2646.

TGIF (TransGenderism Is Fun), a social group for transgenders, meets one Saturday each month at a private home in Santa Rosa for a potluck social from 4 PM until early evening. For dates, location and reservations, call Diane or Anne at [redacted].

San Joaquin Gender Association, meets second and fourth Friday nights at the First Wave Bar & Grill, 321 W. Weber Street in Stockton. Write to 1141 Catalina Drive, Box 163, Livermore, CA 94550 or call Winifred at [redacted].

Silicon Valley Gender Association (SVGA), a new transgender support group, meets at the Billy DeFrank Community Center in San Jose on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month from 7PM to 9PM. For more info, call (408) 293-2429.

Please Print

ETVC Membership Application

Mailing Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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

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

How did you learn about ETVC? _____

Full year membership June 1 - May 31 is $25.00 (Family - $35.00).

Part year membership from January 1 - May 31 is $13.00 (Family - $18.00) (New members only).

Please remit by check or money order to:

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

Making A Smooth Transition

by Sandra Brewer

On June 23rd, Kim Stuart, author of "The Uninvited Dilemma," and Lisa Middleton, one of the top insurance authorities in the state, led about fifteen of us in a discussion at Kimo's. The purpose was to acquaint us with what to expect in the process of changing our identity as we make the transition to a new gender role.

Kim described the ordinances that give protection to transgendered people in some cities, including Seattle, Santa Cruz, and San Francisco. She pointed out that the ordinances are not worded well, and have been vulnerable to attack. One such attack argues the protection should not extend to crossdressers because a gender-identity problem as defined by the DSM IV has not been established.

Lisa made a successful transition on the job just over a year ago. She suggests it is more effective to resolve most conflicts during transition by negotiating with colleagues. She tries to concentrate on areas of common interest instead of on points of difference. When all else fails we need to know what rights are assured by existing and pending legislation.

A good first step in changing your identity in California is obtaining a new driver's license. The DMV provides a form for changing your gender identity. When this is signed by both you and your doctor affirming your new gender identity, a license will be issued with the new sex designation. It is also helpful to legally change your name in court or by getting a notarized declaration for the common-usage method. Both methods are described in the Nolo Press book "How To Change Your Name" which is highly recommended. The book also outlines the procedure that can be used after SRS surgery to change your birth certificate and passport if you were born in California or another state that allows this.

To fully establish your new identity, all your records need to be changed or new accounts opened. The list is endless. Social Security and taxes, voter registration, bank accounts, credit cards, employment records, college transcripts, property deeds and mortgages, investments and wills, insurance policies, telephone and utility bills, library cards, subscriptions, and club memberships (ETVC?) are just a few of the records that need to be changed. Marriage in the new gender is legal following surgery and changing your birth certificate. Existing marriages are not threatened by same-sex marriage legislation.

Sex reassignment expenses are generally excluded by health insurance coverage. A 1983 court case in Georgia has set a precedent for this. It allows the exclusion of coverage for medical expenses for sex reassignment based on its experimental nature. Since SRS surgeries performed to date must number in the hundreds of thousands, another court challenge is badly needed to reverse this trend. Current policies will usually cover hysterectomies and mastectomies if these are performed on female-to-male patients in their female names. Unfortunately, this does not extend to penectomies for male-to-female patients. Some more progressive (and usually more expensive) policies already offer coverage for most sex reassignment expenses. However slowly, a good deal of progress is being made during our lifetime; it's an exciting time for transgendered liberation.

Good-bye to a Good Man

Some people change the lives of others while they are on this earth ... some very special people with very special gifts including love, tolerance and kindness for their fellow man. We at ETVC all hold such a man close to our hearts as we benefit today from his understanding and acceptance of who we are and his generous spirit literally opening his doors to us for so many years.

Lenny Mollet
12/4/1919 — 6/8/1996

Yes, before there was a word coined "transgender" and certainly before there was a "community" of transgendered people Lenny Mollet, the owner of our "home" from 1982 through 1993, opened both his doors and his heart to "his girls", always welcoming us. He supported ETVC by advertising in our newsletter, donating $100 prizes and dinners, selling tickets to our events, referring new people to us, making his wonderful space in the restaurant available to us for socials, seminars, dances, meetings, fashion shows, fabulous buffet and sit-down dinners and even promoting special nights for ETVC girls with low cost drinks and dinners for members. This man was truly a "friend to our community".

ETVC flourished during those years because he gave us the space and the support and the opportunity to do so. Our ladies walked into the Chez and out into the world with the confidence needed to face it squarely. We were so lucky! Would we — would our entire community — be as advanced as it is now without Lenny Mollet? I was there and I really don't think so.

When Lenny finally sold the Chez Mollet and we had our last meeting there in December, 1993, everyone, including Lenny, joined in grieving for the loss of our dear, special home and all the camaraderie that came with it. It hasn't been the same since. We keep looking and praying we will find such a place again. We speak of a "Home for ETVC" and are raising funds to finance this dream. If it comes true, many of us would like it to be just like the Chez.

But the main ingredient to that successful venue will be missing — the soul of a good man — Lenny Mollet. This man made a difference in the lives of every person who ever came to an ETVC social or used an ETVC resource — and every person who ever will. He gave us the foundation from which to build and each one of us should take a silent moment to thank God he was here for us. Good-bye, good man ... may you rest in the peace provided by the love of your many friends.

Transgender Identity Development Discussion

by Sandra Brewer

On June 19th, two dozen of us gathered at Kimo's to listen carefully as Dr. Lin Fraser outlined the factors involved in the development of a transgender identity. Although Lin has addressed us in this manner several times in her 25 years of working with transgendered clients, she gives us something new to think about each time she comes back.

The underlying causes of the formation of a transgendered identity are still a mystery, but many of us display so many of the same symptoms during the process of coming out that a pattern not found in any textbook is frequently observed. The direction of the development of a transgendered identity is influenced by many factors such as a healthy relation to the self, the reactions of family members, and that of friends and colleagues. Finding work and social activities that are meaningful in all aspects of our lives presents an even greater challenge in addition to the development of our gender identity.

We need to receive positive feedback as we develop our transgendered identity. Since this rarely happens during childhood, we often develop introverted personalities without a healthy self concept. Overcoming this and getting in touch with our inner feelings often takes several years and considerable effort. When we have young children, to preserve object constancy we should avoid presenting more than one gender role in their presence. For the male-to-female transsexual the development of a female self-concept, and for the cross-dresser the development of a harmony between the genders is needed to grow and achieve stability in our lives.

Many of us are developing our transgender identify during mid-life. This is influenced by factors such as our history and temperament; our sexuality and relationships; growing or grown children; our age, work, and spirituality; our need to conform; and the expenses of transition. Our coming out process has been described as a second adolescence, but at a time we are (usually) in possession of a greater wisdom and maturity; this is probably unique to the transgendered experience.

In the ensuing discussion several points came to light. Sometimes our female self emerges to fill a gap left by the loss of a feminine component in our lives (e.g. by the death or divorce of a mate). In other cases couples sometimes stay together even through the sex reassignment of one (or both) partners. Sexual orientation can proceed in several different directions as we develop our identity. For any compatible relationship we need to be honest with our partner, even about the confusion we often experience with our sexuality.

We all have individual needs and we have only scratched the surface of what can be observed about the development of a transgender identity. We certainly felt a little wiser and well-nourished with food for thought after this discussion led by Lin Fraser.

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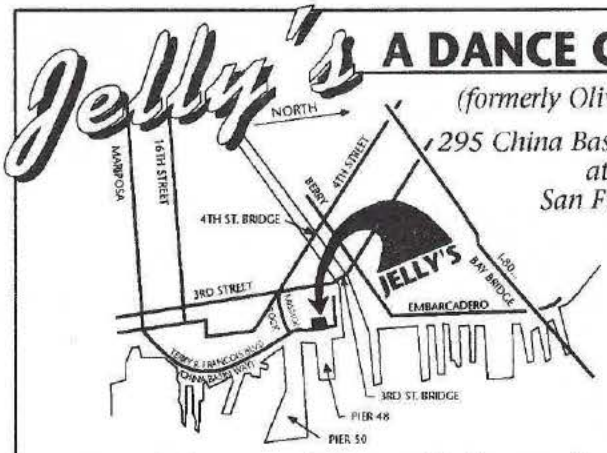

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Shelley Salieri 1937-1996

by Jane Kamper Bentley

In early June, just about one year after her first stroke, Shelley Salieri was felled by a second stroke that took her life. Later that month, in a memorial service that featured District Attorney Terence Hallinan and Supervisor Angela Alioto, Shelley was honored for over fifty years of service, which began in 1944 as a seven -year-old campaign volunteer for the re-election of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Shelley Salieri

Real heroes don't always look the way they're supposed to. Shelley Salieri was a hero in a mussed wig, with a gravely voice and a figure like a potato; the kind of transsexual who gets teased by teen-agers at the bus stop. Shelley rode buses quite often.

Shelley didn't act as heroes are supposed to. Heroes are supposed to be modest. Occasionally, she took credit for accomplishments shared by others, and because of it, was sometimes unpopular in her own community.

Somebody once said, "It ain't braggin' if it's the truth." For years, Shelley spent 12 hour days doing volunteer work for supervisors at city hall, becoming a renowned expert in transportation. She did not volunteer because she was rich and had nothing else to do. She volunteered because she cared passionately about good government *and* she wanted to make political alliances that could someday benefit the transgender community.

If her dedication left her poor (a fate which she blithely accepted), it also earned her the love and respect of her political colleagues, from city hall watchdogs and activists to the politicians themselves. When the issue of transgender rights arose, then-Supervisor Hallinan, inclined to dismiss it as frivolous, became a supporter and sponsor after conversations with Shelley. Although many people put in tough days, weeks and months conducting hearings and putting together the report that preceded the supervisors' vote to grant civil rights to transgendered citizens, none of it would have been possible if Shelley had not laid the groundwork years before.

The years of hard work took their toll. It was probably overwork that caused her first stroke in 1995. She spent months in San Francisco General and Laguna Honda, determined to regain the use of her paralyzed legs. By fall of that year she had rehabilitated herself enough to use a walker so she could drag her reluctant body onto buses to volunteer at the Hallinan for DA campaign offices. By then, other transgender people were volunteering, as well.

Eulogizing Eleanor Roosevelt, Adlai Stevenson said, "She would rather light a candle than curse the darkness." The same could be said about Shelley Salieri. But now her candle is out. Who will light another?

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If the Shew is fit swear to it!

by Laura Van Nuys

Once again, I put my project off too long and 3:00 AM Friday morning found me too tired to continue and the set unfinished. Then Friday sunup the angels smiled on our enterprise and things started to fall into place like magic. Two angels showed up in person, Randi Garner and Brenda Altman. With their help, we pulled the stage together. (Randi was a heroine!)

After weeks of rehearsing under the gentle and creative guidance of our director, Trauma Flintstone, the Shew was ready to step out. Trauma had written extra lyrics and harmony for our opening number - a version of "Tonight" from West Side Story. Original work and live music were a hallmark of the show.

Trauma and our producer, Lulu had cleverly settled on a front-stage/back-stage presentation like the musical Kiss Me Kate. Since the audience saw several choreographed "glitch-ups", when we had a few real mistimings they looked like part of the show.

ETVC was well represented with Katherine Collins and Mr. ETVC - Bobbie Bentley, our Pres and Veep - Erin Souza and Leslie Bailey, Lulu, Mr. Magic, yours truly, Miss. ETVC, Valerie and her sig. oth. - Toni, Brenda B., Darcy Leopard, Marilyn Mansfield. Victoria Secret (our Vicki West) and Sandra Brewer. We were supplemented by talent from other parts of the gender community: Elvis herselvis, Emma Peel, Bette (Paul) Davis, Birdie Bob Watt, Tia Ra del Fuego and her accompanist, Thumper. Finally, we had our never-fail troopers, Ginny Knuth and Carolayn Hughes at the door.

The Really Big Shew! Trauma Flintstone, Leslie Bailey, Lulu as Ed Sullivan, Laura Van Nuys, Valerie Genalo Miss ETVC '96, Mr. Magic, Bobby Bentley Mr. ETVC '96

Big Shew Performers:
Mr. Magic (foreground), Toni, Leslie, Tiara, Emma, Erin

The sub-plot for our variety show involved a strip artist named Didi Mau (Brenda ??) newly hired for Diva Katherine's theatrical company. Didi is hounded by a sensual anti-sensualist, Lieutenant Darcy Leopard of the Walnut Creek Morality Police. Katherine tramples on the feelings of her long-suffering secretary (Tia Ra) and her ill-used manager (Erin Souza). All are backed up by the lovely stage manager (That's me).

Katherine sang several of her original songs with a forties swing flavor. Chanteuse Emma showed off a voice that had this poor second bass girl green with envy. Leslie sang a poignant original song about a young TV. Mr. Magic did rings around all of us, except his lovely assistant (Lulu) who wasn't too ditzy to hide the saw and avoid being cut in half. Valerie sang a died-in-the wool TV song, daydreaming about what to wear (Something in Red).

Sandy Kasten
MBA
Attorney at Law

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Trauma, Erin, Elvis Herselvis, Katherine Cullins, Vikki

Calls in the Night

by Veronica Smith

On Wednesday, June 26, fifteen ETVC members joined about 40 volunteers from the Kaiser Permanente Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Organization, AT&T Resources League and Lucent Technologies Equal to work the phones for KQED's pledge night.

Since this was the first time I was attending an outside function as ETVC Secretary, I wanted to project an earnest, business-like image. I wore a bright red suit and gold accessories, but to show my serious intent, I wore sensible flats.

As it turned out, I was overdressed: nearly everyone else was in jeans and T-shirts! A young guy from AT&T said I reminded him of his aunt from New York, who, he assured me (when he saw my stricken face), was a "knock out." I have to admit that when all the phones started ringing and everyone was talking, it was a bit intimidating. But once I warmed up, I really enjoyed it. Receiving calls from all over Northern California was like briefly visiting so many households. Because that night's programming was geared towards Gay Pride month, we received a wide variety of responses.

Everett, Toni, two unidentified participants, Erin, Randi, Sandra

One volunteer reported how she had finished an exchange with a homophobe: If you want to complain you'll have to talk to our complaints manager, Mr. Click! Then she had hung up. Though that got applause from everyone, the supervisor cautioned against provoking needless antagonism.

However, I was pretty lucky and usually had fun. Once I was talking to two young gays who had been having a relaxed evening with some lively drinks. They were confused about whose card the membership should go on; we all three bantered and jokingly bickered. They wanted to know what I looked like; I told them I was the volunteer at the second table who looked like someone's East Coast aunt at a cocktail party.

But then I got a call from a lady who was watching "Growing Up Gay." Her son had recently come out to her. She told me that she had always suspected but had denied her suspicions. That evening, she said she was feeling very low: she had missed so much; she wished she could have been more supportive. Now it was too late, she said. Then she started crying.

I didn't know what to say, but told her it wasn't too late to know her son better, that there were things to share and that the most important thing in all the world to share is love. We talked a little more, and after she hung up, I thought what a wonderful service KQED was providing by showing these programs.

Then I got my hate call: a man, speaking through clenched teeth, said he wanted me to know how much I disgusted him. I said I could hardly disgust him since he didn't know me, but if he did, he might really be disgusted.

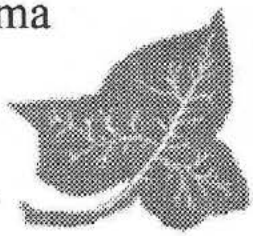
He said he didn't want any back talk and that he could never support a bunch of degenerates. When I asked if he wanted to cancel his membership, he said he wasn't a member.

Trying to keep the sarcasm out of my voice, I said that in that case I would pass his comment along to the appropriate person — and turned him over to Mr. Click.

According to a KQED official, the usual pledge night averages $20,000 to $30,000. The night ETVC staffed the phones, the station received $54,328 in pledges.

I want to thank President Erin Souza for arranging our participation — and I'd love to be part of the effort when KQED has another pledge night in December.

The Uninvited Dilemma
A Question of Gender
by
Kim Elizabeth Stuart
Research Supplement available separately.



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Changing Times: If They Only Knew!

By Bonnie Ann Tieman

I moved to Alameda during the week before city's the 21st Annual Fourth of July Parade. Although I was apprehensive, with my friends' kind encouragement and generosity I agreed to give the island city's parade a try.

I was given a fine, deep blue sequined gown that matched my eyes, as well as a beautiful feathered show-girl headdress. As I tried on my costume, I realized that my outfit came with an invisible "attitude" — how fun! I began to get a feel for being an aloof showgirl, taunting but untouchable.

Three of my friends — two male to female transsexuals and one female impersonator — created professional props, a float, and showgirl costumes. We had a theme — "Viva Las Vegas," the Elvis song — a casino on wheels and a size 84 "B" red, glittering pump.

The three creators of "Viva" had a chorus line dance routine all set to dazzle the judges and keep them guessing — and guess they did!

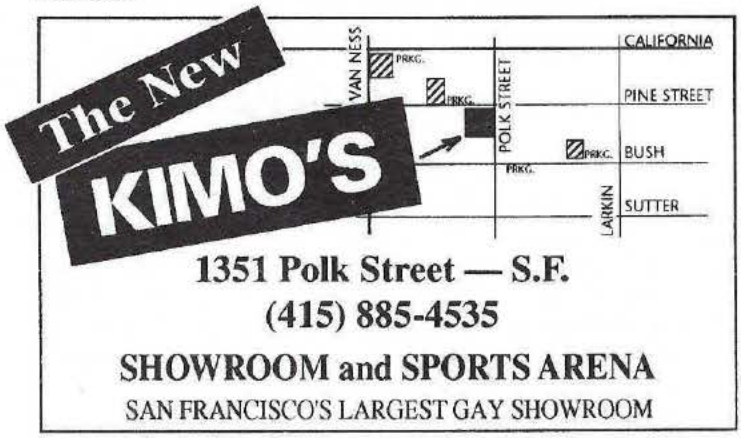
All morning we were asked what contingent we represented because our cast included eleven in all, including one straight male dealing crooked cards and one heterosexual lady in a 35-year-old wedding gown that still fits her beautifully (she was "Miss Viva," and previously had been married to one of our male-to-female transexuals). We also enjoyed a fine "Carol Doda" impersonator who graced us by driving our mobile casino, not to mention male-to-female transsexuals, gays, lesbians, female and male impersonators — oh, yes: and straight heterosexuals, too.

Our contingency: to celebrate our humaness, freedom and life. Any and all may join us next year.

Our spirit and our heart won over the judges and the town. Our joy was contagious! We "Vivas" kept them guessing. The town of Alameda was not quite sure who or what we were. It was exciting to see people gasp as some of our group were recognized as "cross-dressing." The crowd was not quite sure what was the real deal and what was "Memorex."

Of 103 entries, we ""Vivas" won the "Mayor's Cup" and Best Float. We — along with Phillip Ojeda, a lifelong resident of Alameda — made the front page of the Alameda Journal. We all met the mayor, Ralph Appezzato, and were in the Bay Area Reporter and on the news and television.

Yes, times are changing, even in the wonderful bedroom community of Alameda. I am proud to be a part of the Alameda family, and thankful to freely be myself. Alameda, you are not a dinosaur.



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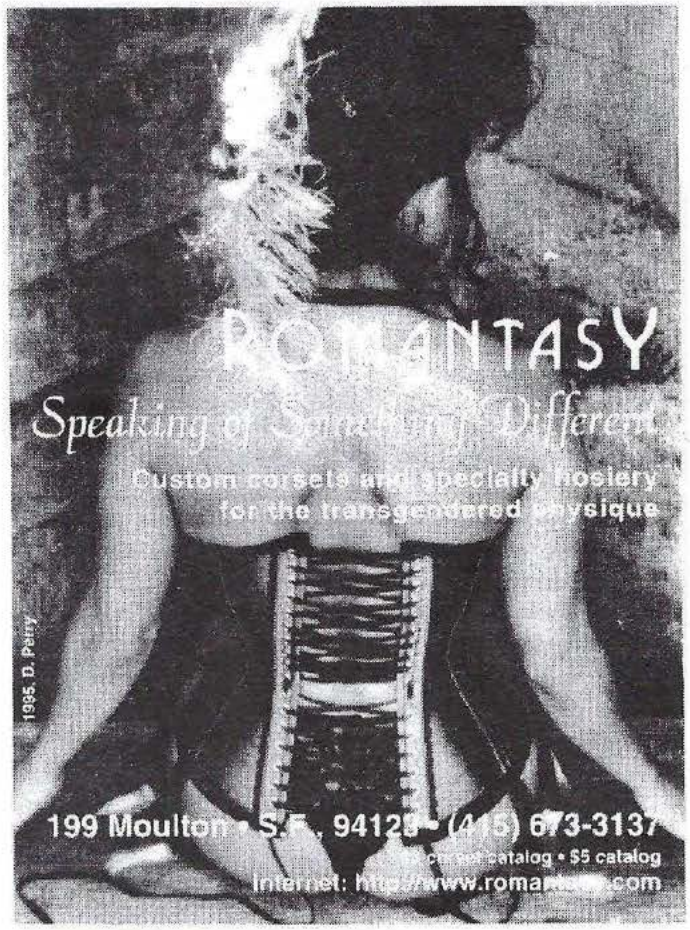


Other Voices

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

Wife and Times of a Cross-Dresser

Part IV

By Juana Smith

But Then Again, Maybe I'm No Saint

A commonly stated observation about new cross dressers is that they are self-absorbed. Even my husband, whom I think of as caring and attentive, failed to avoid this characteristic pitfall. In the early days, I was annoyed by his "look at me" attitude whenever he transformed into Veronica. I was equally irritated by the constant concern about Veronica's behavioral development and appearance. During those first few months, it seemed as if we couldn't do enough for her.

One Saturday, my husband wanted to go shopping. He complained that Veronica had nothing to wear for an upcoming event. And since Macy's was having a sale on occasional dresses, it would be very practical. Although I wouldn't have used the word "practical" (and was feeling slightly out of sorts), this sounded like fun.

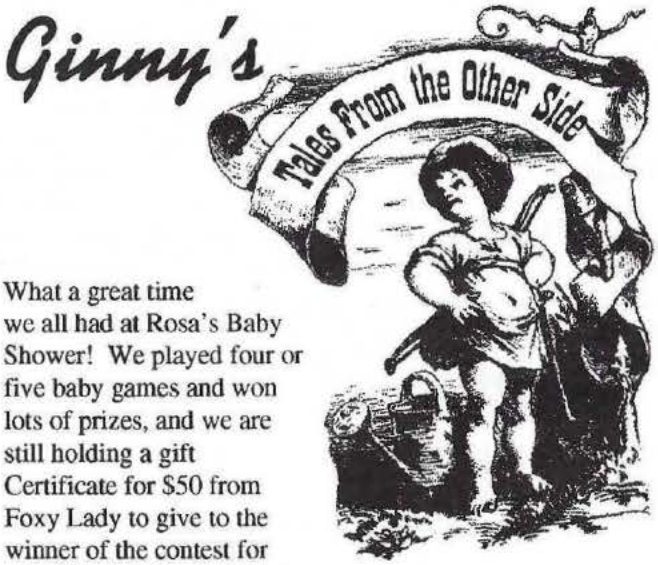
Since Veronica's "birth," my husband and I had developed a shopping routine. We would go downtown, select various dresses in Hubby's size, then I'd try them on and model. We'd then "cull" a select few which we'd take home so Hubby could try them on. We would then return the ones that didn't work out (sometimes biceps just won't fit into those tight-fitting sleeves!)

On this particular morning, we had great luck and came up with a variety of possibilities. As it was too early for lunch, we had some free time. Ronnie suggested we look for accessories or maybe some other clothes for her. I agreed because I always like to shop, but as we were checking out accessories and I was trying on more dresses, I began to think how we weren't looking for anything for me, and that it had been a long time since I'd had a new evening gown!

The more dresses I tried on, the more my resentment grew. I thought, "All this for Veronica, a part-time woman?" Finally, as an obviously happy Ronnie brought over six more sequined and beaded dresses, I told Hubby abruptly that I was too tired to try on any more and I wanted to go to lunch.

Needless to say, lunch was not great for me. I only half listened to my husband as he described how cute the oversized gold earrings would be with the backless purple velvet gown. As Hubby went on about his various purchases, I ordered a slice of chocolate cake thinking that a little dessert might make me feel better.

Lunch ended and I was no happier. It was only as we walked out of the restaurant that my "caring and attentive" husband noticed my mood. As he asked me if anything was wrong, my lower lip began quivering, my eyes fired up and I started my tirade.



What a great time we all had at Rosa's Baby Shower! We played four or five baby games and won lots of prizes, and we are still holding a gift Certificate for $50 from Foxy Lady to give to the winner of the contest for guessing the closest date to the birth of Rosa and Perry's baby. The Blue Muse Restaurant was bright and cheerful during a sunny Saturday afternoon, and gifts were piled high on the table to be opened. None of the cross dressers had ever attended a baby shower before, and I think they all had fun. It was amazing how many of them knew the answers to the nursery rhyme contests. Note: A little cross dresser type humor at a baby shower:

Rosa: Oh, thank you so much for this lovely musical zebra. He's darling!

Significant Other Support Group invites all Significant Others to attend our meetings. Group members define Significant Others as wives, lovers, friends, children and others close to TV/TS persons who are themselves not TV/TS. We encourage you to ask the SO in your own life to attend, particularly if she or he needs support from peers in dealing with feelings about the TV/TS in her or his life. All meetings are kept STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL to help insure that a safe, supportive environment is created in which all attendees feel secure enough to freely share and talk about their feelings. We are frequently assisted by a helping professional with a specialty in our area of concern. Our next meetings will be Thursday, September 12, and Thursday, October 10. You are welcome with open arms. Call (415) 664-1499 for more information.

"We only shopped for Veronica!" I said. "You didn't even ask me if I wanted anything." I went on until I finally needed to breathe. My husband felt very guilty and apologetic. This appeased me a little but not enough! He asked me if I wanted to go back to Macy's to shop for myself. I could hardly wait.

Right away I found several dresses in my own size and began trying them on. As I tried one dress on after another, I began to get irritated all over again. Styles that normally look pretty good on me looked horrible. Nothing looked good because my stomach had gotten so big lately. I looked fat. My face even looked puffy. How could I have gained so much weight?

With each dress I tried on, I began to realize that Hubby wasn't some cruel monster who ignored my needs! His only concern wasn't Veronica. I wasn't suddenly fat.

I simply had PMS!

Nancy Ann: Hey, Perry, do you know what a zebra is?

Perry (hesitatingly): No, what's a zebra?

Nancy Ann: That's 24 inches longer than an A Bra.

So, aren't you sorry you didn't come? The food was good, the dessert light and delectable and the company divine.

And Rosa got lots of good stuff!

The Couple Who Make It Work Group met at the end of July; too late for a write up for this newsletter. Check your SOS or Couples mailings for future meeting dates for this rap group. If you are not on the mailing list, please send me your name and address and I'll put you on it — or call me at [redacted] Let me know you are out there and want to know what's going on. I promise I'll keep you posted.

Come to the Gender Fair on Saturday, October 19th at Jelly's. This grand all-day party is going to be a fabulous event you really won't want to miss with over forty vendors displaying everything from jewelry to web site info.

And please buy lots of raffle tickets. First prize can get you airfare to Hawaii or Cancun — you name it. A nice new 19" TV would be good to have around the house, or a portable CD player for your own personal music. Best of all you are supporting ETVC and helping us raise funds for our "Home for ETVC" account. Hope everyone will be there to join in the camaraderie and good spirit of the day.

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Fight or Flee: Ninjutsu and Self-Defense

By Sandra Brewer

On July 17th, eighteen of us were treated to a demonstration that could save our lives. Our friend Perry — who has been trained in the art of Ninjutsu for over 30 years — shared some of his valuable defensive tactics with us.

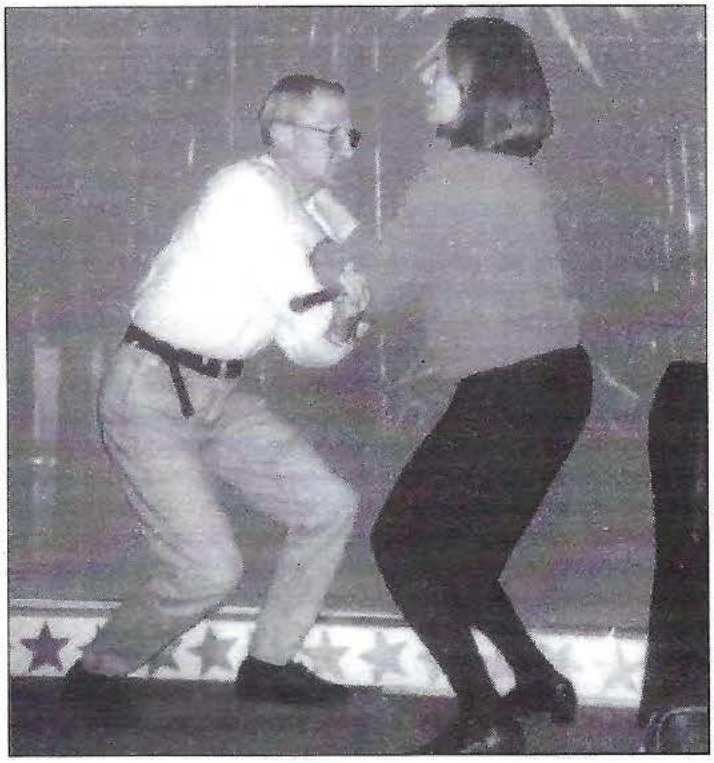
He wants to help us and others like us avoid becoming innocent victims, and he tries not to share this advice with any would-be attackers.

Perry was assisted in his demonstration by several volunteers from among us, most notably Juana and Milton. The first consideration when we sense an attack is to evaluate all avenues of escape; if one is at hand, sometimes we can avert the attack altogether. As we make our way, we should always try to maintain a defensive perimeter and avoid situations that place us in close, unguarded proximity to danger.

Several techniques were demonstrated to turn the tables on an aggressor. One factor to be aware of is that if we are successful in escaping — and the attacker backs off so we are no longer under attack — we must desist from further offensive action. Otherwise, we become the aggressor in the eyes of the law.

If an attacker is angry and uses up much of his energy with verbal abuse, it may be necessary only to exercise Ninja mind control, and just wait for him to calm down.

When an attacker has a gun, extra caution is needed. But at close range we may be able to knock it free and if possible we may escape danger by getting out of sight. If a confrontation occurs, the most vulnerable spots to strike for are the eyeballs or the larynx; avoid the groin, as he will instinctively defend this area.



Ninja Bishop Perry and Juana Smith demonstrating offense

It's not possible to describe all the valuable techniques presented in the space available. Much of the demonstration simply pointed out weaknesses in positions often presented by attackers, and suggestions of how we can take advantage of them.

Many ordinary objects we may have with us can be used in our defense, including our belts or the straps on our purses. A small rigidly constructed flashlight can be used to inflict pain. Pepper spray is legal in this state, but it is used up very quickly.

We can use other items that fit easily into the purse to defend ourselves; some of these come on keychains and can be found in a hardware or surplus store. A large stick or cane can be carried where potential trouble is anticipated.

Our first impulse when attacked may be to freeze up out of fear. If we are able to convert this fear into anger, it may help us spring into action in our defense.

This was our last event at Kimo's before the departure of our good friend Vera, who has coordinated our events at this venue for the last two years. Vera has returned to his Boston homeland. Kimo's will not be the same without him.

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BOOK REVIEWS:

The Bliss of Becoming One

By Rachel Miller
Rainbow Books, Inc.
115 pages, $12.95

Review By Elizabeth Walters

In recent years, self-help books have become a pestilence. Remainder tables in bookstores all over the country are groaning under their weight. Nevertheless, publishing houses continue to crank them out.

Having said that, it is still easy to recommend " The Bliss of Becoming One," by Rachel Miller. This book — more of an essay than anything else — takes about two hours to get through and actually promotes an approach toward living in the transgender community that crossdressers may find helpful without the need to join a 12-step program or completely alter their lifestyle.

The book's topic is integrating the male and female sides of the crossdresser's personality — and integrating both into the general society. In essence, her advice to the reader is to figure out who and what you really are and simply live your life in a way that affirms your personality.

Her concrete recommendations are relatively simple, although some of them may require considerable nerve. For example, she recommends being upfront about your gender orientation with wives, family, friends and significant others — always good advice, although not always easy to act on in real life.

As for building bridges to the outside world — a world whose residents often see members of the gender community as freaks or perverts — she recommends that crossdressers simply reach out to someone they trust and respect and, under careful, controlled conditions, share the secret of their gender orientation.

"By disclosing yourself, you create the potential for trust, caring, committment and personal growth," she says.

Rachel's approach is not a panacea, and the relentless optimism she reflects in her book may grate on some readers' nerves. More importantly, many will find her recommendation of openness to others so risky as to be unthinkable. But there is something to be said for her approach, and this little volume could serve as a manifesto to many in the transgendered community.

She points out that geese stay in formation in order to fly long distances more easily and efficiently, and that members of a flock will support and assist a member when it becomes tired and cannot go on.

"If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other like that," she writes. When you think about it, that does make sense.

Lingerie in Vogue Since 1910

by Christina Probert

Review by Sharon LaRose

This is a very interesting book for all women — female women as well as male women. It covers the march of fashion in lingerie as shown in Vogue Magazine, beginning in 1910 (pre-bra days), through the 1970's,

There is a running explanation of fashion throughout the book, however, the real joy is that the entire story of lingerie is shown in photographs. The pictures, though graphic, are tasteful as well as artistic.

This is must reading for anyone interested in lingerie (and who isn't?). It shows how the foundation garments we know and love came into being, as well as how they have been used to shape women's figures to each era's fashions. If you are fascinated by women's unmentionables, you will enjoy reading this book.

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...Miss ETVC For a Day

Continued from page 1

new experience for me en femme. Standing in full daylight at my neighborhood transit stop in a leopard lady leotard, 5 1/2" stiletto heels, and a big, blonde "foo-foo" wig was in sharp contrast to my male self standing at the same spot in days past wearing a business suit!

After our train dropped us off at the Van Ness Station, we walked about four blocks to where the rest of the ETVC group was setting up in line. People from various groups and floats were milling about enthusiastically, displaying wonderfully outrageous costumes and generally whooping it up. We found ETVC's car almost immediately thanks to Evette flagging us down, and met our driver Leslie. Brenda scampered off to vogue people in her own outrageous way, and Erin and I perched ourselves on the top of the car's back seats to test the waters.

It became readily apparent that our contingent of the parade wasn't going to start for at least another hour. In the meantime, the heat was approaching the 90-degree mark, and Erin and I began to wonder whether our makeup was going to hold up.

Brenda eventually returned to the rescue, telling us that the contingent behind us said it was OK if Erin and I sat out the wait inside of their float, which happened to be a trolley car. She also scored us one of the fans that a radio station was handing out. So we entered the welcomed shelter thanking our hosts, Continuum HIV Support Services, and proceeded to take turns fanning each other. We eventually struck up a conversation with some of the other occupants, and started fanning them too!

About two hours later, ETVC scouts reported that there was indeed movement ahead, so Erin and I returned to the car, immediately joined by Mr. ETVC Bobbi Bentley who crouched between us. Bobbi's SO Katherine Collins rode shotgun. Then the rest of our group got into position around our car and we were off!

As we rode down Market Street waving to hundreds of thousands of people, I couldn't help but wonder whether the person I was three years ago would have believed all of this. I had relocated to San Francisco about that time, and exploring my transgendered nature was a large part of the motivation. Yet I don't think that I would have ever thought that I would be exploring it to this degree!

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Many enthusiastic groups of parade spectators cheered our arrival on the scene, but there was a group of young women that particularly stands out in my memory. They were exuberantly trying to get our attention from about the eighth floor of a building we were passing. When they succeeded, they shouted, "You're beautiful! We love you!" Of course we gave them some extra special smiles and waves in return!

When the parade was finished, I did a fast and furious shift at the ETVC Beer Booth. Beer was very popular on a 90+ degree day, as you can well imagine! After this I sauntered over to reconnect with Brenda at the ETVC Information Booth, only to discover she was doing her very best to convert it to the ETVC Leg Worship Booth. There she was, prominently displayed in a folding metal chair with bare gams crossed a la Betty Grable wearing red patent, platform spike heels. Oh, Brenda!

The day was topped off when we decided to visit my neighborhood grocery store still en femme.

"You girls look outrageous in those outfits, honey!" said one of the employees I knew. "Are you from the neighborhood?"

I teased him, saying "Well don't you recognize me, sweetie?! I'm a regular customer!"

"Not dressed like that, you're not!" he replied.

I'm promised him that I would reveal my "true" identity next time he saw me in drab.

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