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# TRANSgenderist

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Monthly Magazine of the Transgender Independence Club

August, 1999

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## Third House Party is a Hit at Bobbi-Jo [REDACTED]'s Apartment

Proving that transgendered people do not melt, BJ [REDACTED] had an excellent house party both inside and outside her apartment in Albany. Brying Albany's scorching heat that day, over ~~twelve~~<sup>15</sup> T\*s showed up and shared a pot-luck meal while Bobbi-Jo cooked on her grill (hot dogs and hamburgers, that is). Thank you, B o b b i - J o

## Dinner and a Movie is a Success.

About six of us went "out" and had a wonderful Chinese restaurant meal at the Four Seasons and then went over to Proctor's Theater to see a movie with a lot of transgendered content, "Shakespeare in Love." Thank you, Karen [REDACTED], for being the hostess of the evening, and a fun time was had by all.

## Fourth House Party Scheduled for Denise's House

Denise has scheduled a house party for her house in Charlton for Saturday, August 14. The party will run from 5 to 10.

The format will be the same, bring a dish to pass. Because this is in the country, Denise suggests bring a sweater and insect repellent is definitely in good taste. If you would like personalized directions, please call Denise at 882-1230.

## Volunteers Needed for September and October House Parties

We need volunteers to hold house parties during September and October. If you can hold one of these parties, please contact Leslie [REDACTED] or another officer of the club

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## A CLOSET is OPEN.

Closet #5 is now open for a new owner. It is one of the large closets, closest to the make-up mirror. Rental is \$40 a month. Please consider renting this closet if you need a place to store your stuff. Closet rental comes with a key to the club-house and includes your membership dues. Such a deal!!!! TGIC receives much of its income from closet rentals, essentially the rentals pay our rent and utilities. It is important that all closets be rented --Cheryl

## Dues Notices

Treasurer's NOTE: Dues notices will be going out with this newsletter and future newsletters. Many of you have not renewed your memberships, I assume because you forgot!?? (I mean, I forgot to send our reminders!! Ooops!!). It is important that you renew your memberships (and your closet rentals!!!). During April, May and June of 1999, TGIC's expenses were \$285 greater than our income, largely because of memberships which weren't renewed. Thanks in advance for your renewals

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## Political Action

A delegation from TGIC is scheduled to meet with Senator Tom Duane later on this week and to initially discuss issues which have been raised so far. The presence of a political component has raised some very interesting issues, and the Transgenderist will report on two very interesting thought pieces which appeared on TGIC On-Line:

[Karen [REDACTED]] Also, I hate to be more of a bitch that I have to, but it occurs to me that Arlene has been the only one of us to respond

thus far -- & although she has repeatedly shown herself to be a friend the club & its members, someone undoubtedly as knowledgeable about these issues as any of us, whose participation is welcome & encouraged & spectacularly cool -- she is not, as far as I know, an active member of TGIC. What I mean to say is: WHERE ARE THE REST OF YOU?? What does it say about TGIC's commitment to transgender rights when a nonmember -- albeit a very, informed & dedicated one (please don't misunderstand me, Arlene) -- shows more interest than its rank'n'file? All right, I guess I've said enough.

[Callan ██████████] First, it's been less than 24 hours since you sent out your message, so people haven't had time to engage.

That said, the odds are that people won't engage, for specifically the reason that Rep. Frank puts so well in the GenderTalk interview: "When you have been hurt, the response is to hide, and I understand that, but the response of the other side is to go out and demand of the government that they limit the freaky people. Unless you are there, you can't change that."

It's the legacy and fact of the closet that defines queer life. TGIC started as a closet, and in many ways remains one. Even some of the officers have been clear that they have enough to do inside the TG "community" without working to make contacts outside.

The truth that defines politics is simple: it takes work, work to get people on your side. That can be work to educate, work to fundraise, work to get votes, work to build coalitions where people come together to support mutual goals, work to gain standing in party apparatus, work to lobby, work to develop legislation, work, work work. We can't just make a wish list and pass it about and have people do what you want.

You can ask Empire State Pride Agenda, the G&L lobby group, who have been working for hate crimes and employment nondiscrimination bills in NYS, and have been stifled by the Republican Senate.

There is no transgender staff to make things happen. What "we" are going to do is what

you do and what I do, and what he does and what she does. Transgender activism has proven to be as individual a path as the path to transgender expression -- leadership must be cultivated and exhibited by individuals, rather than waiting for some group consensus to act. I'm not sold on the notion that politics and government are the best place to invest our individual energy.

"A government that is big enough to give you all you want is big enough to take it all away." --Barry Goldwater

I agree with Rep. Frank -- the government is gated by social change, rather than driving social change. Change attitudes, change local laws, change state laws, change federal, down the path. For me, not having any cohesive and comprehensive story which "gender variant people" can get behind is the key challenge -- we need to deal with the political language of our everyday life before we move to political action at a state level.

The political divisions of transgendered people -- assimilation, feminism, libertarian and queer -- are often at odds to each other. One key question is this: What is TGIC? Is it a support group for newbies and closeted people, or a political, social action and educational group? What do you have to believe and agree with to become a member, what actions must you agree to before you join?

It's a lovely thought that TGIC will be political, and somehow, the people in it will want to be out enough and focus their energy on changing society, but I don't suspect it will happen. Even groups like NYAGRA (New York Association For Gender Rights Advocacy) based in NYC have challenges getting consensus and support.

For those of you who are interested in political action, I suggest investigating the NYAGRA web site along with It's Time America -- and the HRC and NGLTF and ESPA sites, too. If someone takes leadership in the political arena, there is certainly work to do and support here for a group, though it might not be TGIC.

I understand the desire to have TGIC members more responsive to things we think are important, be that supporting local events, discussing on the list, being politically active, or even fixing up the club-room, but that takes leadership, not just disappointment with the status quo.

What the "TG community" does is no more than we do as individuals. Maybe talking a leadership role, in whatever area we feel capable in, is what's important.

Callan

It's Time America: <http://gender.org/>

NYAGRA: <http://www.nyagra.org/>

ESPA: <http://www.espany.org/>

NGLTF: <http://www.nglftf.org>

HRC: <http://www.hrc.org/>

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[Karen ██████████] Club members & friends, If necessary, please refer to the gendertalk release of conversation with Rep. Barney Frank Callan so thoughtfully posted on the 27th. A copy is available through her original transmission -- which I assume most of you have already read -- or can be accessed below, following this message.

On Monday, June 7th, several TGIC members were invited to a fundraiser held by NYS Sen. Tom Duane at Lulu's on Lark St. At that time, Sen. Duane urged us to present him with an agenda -- or at least a descriptive list -- of issues concerning TGs of all & any persuasions. Thus, we've been offered an opportunity to be represented by one or more TG-friendly members of the legislature during this &/or subsequent sessions of the state's law-making body. We have a chance to at least have our grievances heard & perhaps ultimately have a few laws passed protecting/supporting the rights of transgendered people in NYS. As Sen. Frank suggests, it may be more advantageous to be represented by protective laws in a # of states before trying to achieve representation by national laws. Although this point may be debatable, the bottom line is we have few laws specifically protecting our civil rights in NYS or

anywhere. Therefore, we should become more active -- both individually & as an organization -- & respond to Sen. Duane's offer.

Most of us have issues: (1) workplace transition, (2) job protection, (3) bathroom availability & use, (4) name change & other identity factors, (5) insurance coverage for HRT, counseling, endocrinologist & other doctor visits, & similar medical issues, (6) protection from assault & hate crime, & probably the most important, (7) family issues, with spouse, children, parents, siblings, & so forth, including custody/visitation rights & similar matters pertaining to legal representation. These are just a sampling. I'm certain each of you can think of a few more pertinent to your own TG experiences; & since you probably can, isn't it time you articulated them in concert with the rest of our membership? We're doing the newsletter next meeting (7/1), but decided during the last (6/24) to open a forum attendant to these issues. Objective (you might ask): to formulate a manifesto of sorts that can be communicated to Sen. Duane, in hope that he & his allies can initiate a legal dialogue that includes some pro-TG considerations.

If you can't attend the meeting, write through this address with your ideas, in any form appropriate to their expression. If you can't attend the meeting, please recognize as well they'll probably be at least several others where we discuss rights issues before creating our agenda. If you can attend, do so; your ideas are valuable & necessary. Open call to all TG'd people: pre-op, post-op, TV, drag, CD, TG all over, full-time, part-time, over-time, time-out for sure, M-to-F, F-to-M, all-to-either, any-to-most-or-some, gay, straight, bi, girl-lovers, guy-lovers, etc..

These are issues that concern us all, no matter how deep in the closet any of us might be; imagine a day when all you keep in the closet is your clothes.

Karen

PS: Gratitude to Denise ██████████ for the

motivation to convince others to attend Sen. Duane's meeting, & to Christine [REDACTED], who attended on her own & met us there

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 26, 1999

www.gendertalk.com

Barney Frank on GenderTalk

US representative Barney Frank (D-MA) spoke with Nancy Nangeroni and the GenderTalk crew on June 21st in a 27 minute interview that can be heard at [www.gendertalk.com](http://www.gendertalk.com) and [www.tgforum.com](http://www.tgforum.com). In the wide-ranging conversation, congressman Frank candidly discusses the issues involved in obtaining respect and federal protection for transgender people. Though at times contentious, Frank for the first time on record indicated that he might support the addition of "gender expression" to the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA).

Here are a few of the highlights from the interview:

**ON PARTICIPATION IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS:** "If you've grown up in this country gay, lesbian, bisexual, black, transgendered, Hispanic, you may very well feel that this is not the country that it was supposed to be, that your rights were not as respected as the constitution lead you to believe. And that may make you somewhat alienated from the political process. The problem is that becomes a self-fulfilling prophesy. The more people decide that they don't like the way the system has been working and therefore they won't participate, the less likely we are to have the votes to change it. And on the other side, the people who are upset that abortion is legal and who think that homosexuals are getting too uppity and want to put us back in our place, et cetera, they tend, when they get angry, to participate more. Their view, in other words, is "By god, this is my country, and I'm not going to let those freaky types take it away."

One of the things I try to argue to people who have been the victims, and I understand the psychological barrier, is the way to deal with your victimization is not to withdraw, it's to participate because that's the only way we will beat it."

**ON THE TYRA HUNTER CASE:** "As I was walking on Connecticut Avenue I came across a petition which I'm going to join by writing a letter to the Mayor of Washington. Tyra Hunter's family brought a successful lawsuit, and to my dismay, the mayor of Washington DC is appealing that judgment. .. I plan to write a very unhappy letter to Mayor Williams who I generally admire, saying this is just dead wrong; it's just an outrageous behavior on the part of the DC people, so this is an example of why we ought to have a hate crimes statute."

**ON TRANSGENDER POLITICAL STRATEGY:** "The more serious the issue, the more political discipline is required, the more you really have to think very hard. People should read the biography of Martin Luther King, "The Parting of the Waters." You know, Martin Luther King is seen by many as a strong, emotional, forceful leader. He was also a very thoughtful politician who compromised and thought and strategized. The record, by the way, in America is very clear. Nothing has ever become law, of an anti-discrimination sort at the federal level, until it was first made law in several states. I think the transgender movement is making a mistake by focusing almost exclusively on the federal level where it's hardest, rather than trying to win some victories in some states where it would be easier."

**ON EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION PROTECTION:** "I believe we can get a federal hate crimes bill that fully protects people who are transgendered. As to employment non-discrimination, I don't see anything beyond possibly gender expression [without gender identity, as part of ENDA] being passable at the federal level over the next few years."

**HIS ADVICE TO THE TRANSGENDER**

COMMUNITY: "I think that the focus on the federal level to the exclusion of the state is based part on anger that people feel they're being left out, and more good would be done to try to go to some of these liberal states to try and change the existing law at the same time."

## News Briefs

Quiz from Neenah: This is a two-part quiz to see if you can identify the two most famous products of Neenah, Wisconsin (other than sex-change operations). The day after my operation, my nurse said, **"Well, this first product you had no use for as a guy, but you will definitely would have a use for it right after this SRS operation."** And the second product is **in plain view almost everywhere in the United States, but you have probably never noticed it.** What are these two products? Extra credit: what does the name of the Neenah hospital have to do with the first product? Extra credit 2: where is the closest example of the second product to our clubhouse? Answers in the next TGist.

Interesting news from Neenah (I'm always looking for them): "...Council Backs New Design Concept for Square." [Gee, now that does show originality!]

**Oregon just allowed domestic partners coverage for insurance.**

In Melbourne, Australia, **transsexual golfer Mianne Bagger, 32, won the South Australian Amateur Championship on June 11th** after lowering the course record by two shots earlier in the week. While the victory is controversial, it has the endorsement of amateur officials who were aware of Bagger's background and encouraged her to play. [Note: Bagger would not be permitted to play in the US, where rules were changed after Renee Richards transitioned.]

Anne Casebeer, on the subject of T\* rights: **"If you consider yourself a supporter of rights for transpeople, learn this lesson fast. We need to build coalitions with as many interest groups as possible, work with business and clergy, show that we are honorable and reasonable people with something to offer.**

Why? Because it's common sense and it works. Besides, Coretta Scott King said so. That, my friends, is good enough for me."

The **Amazing Jessica** [redacted], who is a member of this list from Binghamton, and who you may have met at TGIC or Lambda Chi SSS, has done it again, with another great adventure in Las Vegas as an out and beautiful tranny, flying both ways en femme and staying as Jessica every afternoon and evening. You can read her saga at <http://www.geocities.com>

[/FashionAvenue/Salon/7874/adventures.html](http://www.geocities.com/FashionAvenue/Salon/7874/adventures.html)

A federal judge in Uniondale, N.Y., has found discrimination against homosexuals in an employment context to be actionable as an equal protection violation. U.S. District Judge Arthur Spatt upheld a \$380,000 verdict that a jury awarded two weeks ago to a former Nassau County police officer who claimed he had been hounded out of his job by his fellow officers and supervisors after they learned he was gay. The officer, James M. Quinn, resigned after enduring nine years of taunts that included posting cartoons labeling him a child molester, a transvestite [!] and a sadomasochist.

**Wigstock**, the outrageous drag festival is back on the 12th St. Piers for it's 13th annual wig-out, on **Sunday September 6th** (the day before Labor Day) from 2pm until 10pm. Benefits BeautyCares and Gay Men's Health Crisis. Tickets go on sale July 13th at \$15 and can be purchased with a credit card through Box Office Tix at 1-800-494-TIXS.

**August 7th has been suggested as the first International Transgender Rights and Education Day, in memory of Tyra Hunter.**

One of Ms. Riki Anne Wilchins's fondest dreams, she said, is that some day "a straight married man can decide to wear a dress into work and the worst thing anyone will say is: 'Nice outfit. Is that report done?'"

"I do love dyke marches -- in the bigger cities they're usually scheduled to happen a few days before the bigger, all-inclusive gay parade. They're a frisky and fierce occasion for a bunch of topless women to march down the street,

chanting, **'What do we want? Pussy! When do we want it? NOW!'**" --Author Susie Bright writing in Salon Magazine, May 29.

[NASW will be considering this proposed transgendered rights statement for inclusion in its statement of purpose. Please support this statement.] "The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) recognizes that a person's gender identity does not always conform to her or his gender at birth. **NASW believes that transgendered people should be afforded the same respect and rights as those whose gender identity is the same as their biological gender. NASW asserts that discrimination and prejudice directed against any group are damaging to the social, emotional, economic well-being of the affected group, as well as to society as a whole and seeks the elimination of such discrimination inside and outside of the profession.**"

As she seeks an appointment to a Montgomery County judicial position, Potomac-based attorney Alyson Meiselman thinks the local bench would benefit from her unique insight. **"I've had to think both as a man and a woman," said Meiselman, who began her legal career here as Alan Meiselman 15 years ago. Alan began becoming Alyson in 1998.** [Good luck, Alyson, and also for your upcoming surgery.]

Britain's taxpayer-funded National Health Service **must pay for sex-change operations** for three men who want to become women, an appeals court said. The court said the refusal by the government health service to pay for the operations was unlawful because the three should have been treated as disease sufferers and not people seeking cosmetic surgery.

Canadian Blood Services will add **transsexuals** to its list of groups who **may not donate blood**, says an official.

Below is a **list of transgender people who were murdered during an 8 month period**; it is estimated that there is at least one reported transgendered person that is murdered each month in the United States. Luana (Junior Da Silva Lago) - Died 8/4/98; Fitzroy "Jamaica"

Green - Died 8/22/98; Monique Thomas - Died 9/11/98; Chanel Chandler - Died 9/20/98; Rita Hester - Died 11/28/98; Lauryn Paige (Donald Scott Fuller) - Died 1/9/99; Steve Dwayne Garcia - Died 2/6/99; Leslie Re'Geanne - Died 3/24/99; Tracey Thompson - Died 3/30/99.

This year, the Fellowship of Reconciliation and The Interfaith Alliance (TIA) are organizing a national campaign for healing in the midst of hate violence -- Stop the Hate: Interfaith Vigils Against Hate Violence. These vigils are a call for people of faith to act as nonviolent agents of healing in their communities; a call for people of faith to stand up to hate violence directed at persons due to their race, religion, sexual orientation, nationality, gender or disability; and a call for people of faith to **join together on October 7, 1999, as a united voice against hate violence.**

**Are you leading a double life? Do you have 2 separate families/partners, a secret career, a passion that you must keep hidden from friends/family/community/colleagues?** If you fit this description or feel that you are having a similar experience, an award-winning producer may be interested in featuring you in a tv documentary. This is not a talk show or a sleazy news magazine- this is a quality fil that will take you and your story seriously. contact liz at [liz\\_tvdoc@hotmail.com](mailto:liz_tvdoc@hotmail.com) or (877)660-1200.

## **The Boy in the Blue Tutu**

by Lisen [REDACTED]

[Permission to reprint sought.]

My son loves dresses. You got a problem with that?

My son is a cross-dresser. Most mornings he gets up, puts on a hand-me-down dress, wraps an old pillowcase around his head with a ribbon (to create his "long blond hair"), and prances around singing, "The hills are alive with the sound of music." My son is three and a half years old.

At the toy store, he does not want a Batman doll. "I want Batgirl," he cries. When he begs to play with his friend Margo, it is because she has

such an extensive collection of Barbie dolls and outfits in which he can dress them.

He loves preschool for the teachers, but also for the wonderful selection of tutus, party shoes, and costume jewelry. His grandmother received the shock of her life when she went to pick him up one day and he was wearing a blue tutu with beaded gold slippers. His teacher tells us that he is "highly in touch with his feminine side."

Unfortunately, not everyone is so empathetic. "Boys should be playing baseball not Barbie," my mother-in-law exclaims. "He keeps taking my daughter's Cinderella slippers!" my neighbor tells my other neighbor, who tells me. Strangers ask, "So when do you think he will grow out of it?" or "How does your husband feel?"

I've tried to explain to these people that my son approaches life with a unique flair. While he loves soccer, he often plays it wearing a silk cape that flutters in the wind when he runs. My husband can't wait for Little League to start because he sees a little slugger in our son, who can already hit the ball out of our backyard. Our son can't wait for baseball either, but for a different reason: He says the cleats are "just like tap shoes."

Interestingly, no one seems to be the least bit disturbed about our friend Gillian. At the age of five, she refuses to wear dresses, plays T-ball and soccer, and is proving quite skilled at climbing trees and collecting bruises. Gillian is a tomboy. "Isn't she cute?" a friend exclaims to me when we are at Gillian's house for a Sunday BBQ. But my son, I remind myself, is not cute when he dresses up and reenacts the glass slipper scene from Cinderella.

If Gillian is a tomboy because she likes to do boy-like things, what is my son; a janegirl? As far as I can tell there isn't an equivalent in the English language. More importantly, there is no acceptable behavioral equivalent either. Watching my son, I have begun to ask myself: What is normal? My son loves trucks, cars, and trains. Last fall, during those terrible twos, he was accused of being a bully because he bit a girl at the playground. How can a child go from

bully to sissy in a mere twelve months?

I am coming to realize that while our sex-role stereotypes have expanded for girls, they have contracted for boys. So much research is being done today to ensure that girls will excel in math, overcome the repression of adolescence, and get elected to the Board of Directors of major corporations. I am thrilled. Trust me. I have a one-year-old daughter. But what about my son? It is not just in my house that the days of "boys will be boys" seem to be over. Prescriptions for Ritalin are at an all-time high, and, increasingly, boys are expected to act in a less rambunctious and far more docile manner, that is, be more girl-like.

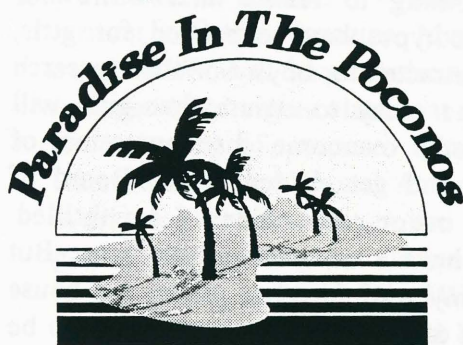
My mind reels: So society is saying that a three-and-a-half-year-old boy should be more like a man, but a 12 year old should be more like a girl?

I have to admit, sometimes even I am embarrassed by my son's behavior. His recent declaration to my father-in-law that he wants to be a ballet dancer when he grows up almost created a family feud. When the father of one of his preschool classmates unintentionally called him a girl, he was wearing that favorite blue tutu; I cringed just a little. And I am often confused about the messages I'm sending him. I don't mind if he wants to wear pink lipstick to a birthday party, "Mom, you wear lipstick when you dress up!" he reminds me, but how do I protect him from the inevitable taunting that will occur as he ages?

I come back to my original question: What is normal? My husband and I are learning all too early that the boundaries of normalcy seem to be very narrow. On the other hand, my son, who at the moment is pretending to be Belle from Beauty and the Beast, complete with pearl-drop earrings, doesn't know this yet. With luck and a little parental intervention, he won't for a long time. Until then, Beauty, at least in our household, will reign.

[Lisen [REDACTED] is the mother of a janegirl and a tomboy. She is currently writing a book entitled My Son the Janegirl: A Mother's Journey to Unconditional Love.]

# Fantasy Crossdressers' Weekend



**Nov 4 - 7, 1999**

It's time for another all new *Paradise In The Poconos* weekend. We have a fabulous facility with an indoor heated pool & jacuzzi, game room, an authentic English pub, a night club and it's all *ours* for an extended 4 day/3 night weekend of pure crossdressing fun!

This year we will again have a special vendor with clothing, wigs, breastforms, lingerie and more, plus two makeup artists, a hair stylist and a nail artist. We'll also have seminars, and we'll have our world-famous parties (including our special surprise reception), tag sale, and talent show.

Cost: \$350\* per person, double occupancy. Includes all activities, 3 parties, seminars, room, meals, tax, and gratuity. No hidden charges! Register now before we fill up. Full details at our web site <www.cdspub.com>. Couples Welcome! (\* Single rooms \$475)

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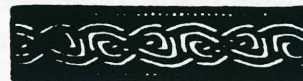
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Crescent Chiropractic and Longevity Center  
140 Lapp Road, Clifton Park 12065

**\*\*15 min. complimentary massage therapy for first visit\*\***  
1/2 hr - \$30.00 / 1 hr - \$50.00 / housecall - \$60.00  
I'm at this office on Wed. for now.....and possibly Sat.....starting **June 2**

I feel it's very important for everyone to receive massage therapy.....  
Bodywork is essential for all of us in this stressed out world. If you are going through any type of trauma or change.....I would like to help support you through that.

Talk to you or see you soon. (518) 753-0342  
Also available at the Steuben Athletic Club, Albany - Mon. or Tues., Thurs. and Fri..

## COMPLETE THE LOOK YOU WANT

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**TGIC**

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

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

**TGIC Officers**

- President Tina [redacted]
- Vice President Raechel [redacted]
- Secretary Karen F [redacted]
- Treasurer Cheryl [redacted]
- Den Mother Denise [redacted]
- Newsletter Vicky [redacted]
- House Parties Leslie [redacted]

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

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

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

- Q: She had three children, right?
- A: Yes.
- Q: How many were boys?
- A: None.
- Q: Were there any girls?

**BECOME AN IFGE MEMBER**

The International Foundation for Gender Education is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Basic membership is \$25 per year. Subscriptions to Transgender Tapestry are \$40. Brochures and forms are available in the TGIC Club Room. Call or write to:

IFGE (617) 899-2212  
PO Box 229  
Waltham, MA 02154-0229

**ANONYMOUS HIV ANTIBODY TESTING**

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

(NYS Health Department)

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

**TGIC On-Line**

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

JOIN TGIC  
STOP

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

Comments? Vicky [redacted], [redacted], or  
c/o TGIC, PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212  
All the news that fits.

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## Y2K and KY Too

On December 31, 1999, if your lights go out and your heat goes off and your water dries up and your computer self-destructs, you can still celebrate the new millennium in a time-honored fashion.

First credited to a biblical character named Onan, this time-honored rite undoubtedly dates to prehistoric times and perhaps to a year when evolution was an unknown concept. To participate, merely squeeze a dab of lubricant into the palm of your dominant hand, or your middle finger, depending if you are pre-op or post-op, and join with myriad ancestors who have engaged in this pleasurable solitary ritual. Non-gender specific, male, female and-duh- can achieve a magical moment during this ritual to mark their entry into the next century. If it's not really the millennium, as some believe, you can celebrate again on December 31, 2000.

--Melodie [REDACTED]

[Thank you, dear. I'm still laughing!]

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## Tracy Oppelt

Master Barber and Cosmetologist  
Located at:

Maria's Hair Care  
1573 A Central Ave.  
Colonie, New York  
518-869-5604



## Calendar and Events

TGIC meetings are held every Thursday from 7:30 to 10:00 in the clubhouse. \*See explanation in this issue.

- August 5 COMPASS F2M Support  
Waltham, MA (7/99 TGist)
- August 7 International Transgendered  
Rights and Education Day
- August 14, 2-5 Twenty Club, TS Support  
Hartford, CT
- August 14, 5-10 Fourth TGIC House Party,  
Denise's House\*
- August 21, 7:30 on All-Girl Revue, Free,  
Schenectady Central Park
- August 21, 9:00 on Tri-Ess at Yours,  
Barrett St. Schenectady
- August 28, 2-5 Twenty Club, TS Support  
Hartford, CT
- September 2 COMPASS F2M Support  
Waltham, MA
- September 6, 2-10 WIGSTOCK Drag Show  
New York City\*
- September 11, 2-5 Twenty Club, TS Support  
Hartford, CT
- September 18, 9 on Tri-Ess at Yours, Barrett  
Street, Schenectady
- September 21-26 Southern Comfort Conf.,  
Atlanta, GA (7/99 TGist)
- September 25, 2-5 Twenty Club, TS Support  
Hartford, CT
- October 23 evening Capital Pride Benefit Concert  
Provincetown, MA
- November 4-7 Paradise in the Poconos  
King of Prussia, PA\*
- November 10-14 Creating Change Conf.,  
Oakland, CA
- November 13 evening Capital Pride Fall  
Concert, Page Hall, Albany
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