

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING

## Cross-Port

# Inner View

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CINCINNATI, OHIO 45220

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Vol.3 No.11 For The Crossdresser November 1987

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## Next Meeting November 19th At 7:30

# CROSS-PORT BASICS

The Harvest Moon shone big and bright as twenty girls and guest came out that night. For the Cross-Port meeting which was going on, and all were home well before dawn. Ok, so I'm not Rod McKuen, but we did have fun didn't we?

The October meeting was rather tame, after the September excitement. There was a minimum amount of business to discuss with the two big items being the GCG/LC Dinner on November 7 and the Nation Convention coming up in February of 1988.

To date I have sold no tickets for the dinner (besides my own). I must assume that most of you are not interested in dressing up and going out to a nice place for dinner or can not make week-ends. I have one interested party from out of town. (Note: The dinner was last night and it when very well. We had Barbara, out for the first time, Jennifer, myself and Kathy.)

Currently we have about 5 girls planning to attend the Convention. I do hope more of you will take advantage of this unique opportunity to meet sisters from across the country and see how much fun they all are having.

The meeting ended about 9:30 and everyone stayed around to talk, gossip, drink, dance and have a good time.

## Created Male and Female

By Heather Peerson

I had the pleasure of having lunch with Virginia Prince at the convention last March. During that momentous occasion Ms. Prince stated that being a man or woman is a social role not a biological one. I am only now beginning to grasp the fullness of that statement.

Our "Fore Fathers" (and Mothers) seemed to understand that principal when they drafted the constitution. While the writing plainly says "All men are created equal", it is clear, from their actions at the time, that their definition of "men" did not include women, blacks, Indians or even most poor people. To those "founding fathers" the term

"men" was a very social term. It meant those persons who were white, educated and of a certain social upbringing. It was really not until the revolutionary war that the word "men" was used to include persons of different races. Later, women began fighting for their rights and "men" became a more universally applied word. It is easy to see why women today are fighting for inclusive language and non-sexist terms.

All this has led me to the conclusion that the words "male and man" or "female and woman" are not as interchangeable as we use them. When a person is born, someone looks at their physical, biological gender and assigns them a social role. Thus a male baby is assigned the role of a man and a female baby is assigned the role of a woman. It has been happening this way so long that we now use the term woman for all females and man for all males. I believe however that not all males are men and not all females are woman.

I see no reason why a male can not be a woman and a female be a man. Some would say that a male can not have a baby. That is true but that is not the role of a woman that is the role of a female. In the animal world the female bears the young. In fact, many times the only way to determine the gender of an animal is whether it bears the young or not. If it does, it is considered the female. There are however, animal groups where, what could be considered their social roles are reversed. Some male birds, for example, protect the young while the female provides the food. The male may also be the "prettier" of the species in order to draw attention away from the female while she is attending the young.

All this reinforces my belief that being a man or a woman is a social role. Some males should be permitted to be cast or to cast themselves in the role of a woman as some females are beginning to take on the roles of men. This should not be confused with transsexuals who are seeking to change their physical, biological gender to match their mental, biological gender. I am talking about persons whose physical and mental biological genders match but they simply wish to change the social roles they were assigned at birth.

Oddly enough, when given the chance to choose a social role, many males and females are choosing different social roles than the ones they were assigned. However, while females who move into men's roles are often required to dress more like a man, males who move into women's roles are either forbidden or laughed at if they choose to dress more like a woman. This seems to say that it is becoming "OK" for a male to "play" a woman's role as long as he is still a man (thus he is only playing the role), but a female in a man's role should "become a man" in order to advance.

Even our names are assigned to us to designate the social role we have been assigned. In the song "A Boy Named Sue" the father's reason for naming his son with a "feminine" name was because it would be so socially unacceptable as to make the boy more of a man. Yet I find, that even as a male, I would prefer to use the name Heather because it carries with it certain feelings I have about myself and I simply like the name. I can imagine trying to find work as a male with the name Heather given the social outlook. Many significant others can not understand the need of a crossdresser to take on a new name. To me it seems natural to want a social name to match a social role.

I raise some of these issues because I hope to raise your awareness of these social situations and to get you thinking about what it is you are saying when you dress. Are you saying you like to be or would want to be a woman or a female? I feel some people want one or the other. Some want both. Still others are happy in both roles as man or woman whether they are male or female. I do not ask you to agree, I ask only that you consider these possibilities. As a wise person once told me, "While each of us knows part of the truth, no one of us knows all the truth, therefore to grow, we need to listen to each other in order to get more of the truth".

# CAN WE TALK!

On Saturday October 17, Alice and I drove north for the October meeting of "Paradise Club". We arrived at the motel about 2:15 pm and found Ann and Carol already sitting and talking in a basement conference room. We joined them in conversation until Chris arrived about 3:00 and gave us our room keys. After freshening up, and changing into something more "dressie" I returned to find about 15 girls had already gathered. After a short nap, Alice joined us.

I lost track of the time but after a few more girls joined us we sat down to a catered dinner. There was more than enough food for everyone and the dinner conversations was very nice.

After dinner, everyone pitched in cleaning up, and rearranging the room for the meeting. There were two major items on the agenda for the evening: election of 1988 officers and a guest speaker, Sherry Lynn Layman. While the elections proceeded, Sherry met in another room with the significant others. After the elections everyone joined in one room for Sherry's discussion. The talk was lively and most people seemed to have something to add to the discussion.

Upon completion of the talk, some of us headed for one of the local clubs. The club was small and so crowded that you could let go of your drink and it would not fall to the floor. I got a little dizzy and had to step outside. As I reached the fresh air, Rennee was just coming in so we went to her car and discussed Paradise and Cross-Port business.

Alice and I returned to the motel about 2:00 am without our coats and her purse. It seems we had missed our ride and our things were in their car. We found later that our things had been left at the front desk. After a good night's sleep, we headed back to Cincinnati. We both had a super time and I certainly plan to return in the near future. Thanks to everyone at Paradise Club for your kindness and hospitality.

There is a new place in town, or should I say in the Clifton area. It is the "Copa" and is just off Vine St. at Glendora and Charlton (861-3966). They have a talent show every Thursday night and regular shows every Friday and Saturday night. I have not been able to get there yet but I hear it is very nice and we are very welcome.

The December meeting will be our Christmas Party. Please plan to bring some food and snacks to share. Last year this went real well and everyone had a great time. It is a great way to unwind before the Christmas rush.

A reminder that your dues of \$18.00 is due by January 31, 1988. We currently have a balance of about \$530 dollars.

If there is any doubt about sending in your dues because of the current state of the organization, please feel assured first, that hopefully we will continue to meet on the third Thursday of the month even if there is no "InnerView" to remind you. Second I do intend to continue the Cross-Port phone line for those that just need to talk to someone and for new people. Third, any money not used for the phone or for special mailings will be held in the bank, for two years and made available should someone decide to take over or restart Cross-Port. Fourth, after that time, any money still remaining will be given to another group within our area to help continue our effort. There may even be a chance that within a year I will be able to resume heading things up if something has not happened by then.

I was ask to list some of the things I've been doing so that others would have some idea as to what they may be able to help with. The biggest thing is putting together the "InnerView". If one were to work steady it would take about 4 nights per month. Then there is sending out material to new inquiries. Depending on the month that can take an hour a

week. Answering the phone and talking to new and old members takes about 3 hours per week. Getting the mail and reading the newsletters from other groups, for information, takes about one hour a week. I'm sure there are a few other things which need to be done like balancing the check book, paying bills and making deposits which I can really place time on, but get done just the same. So there it is. The pay is bad but the rewards can be great.

Christopher's Lounge is having a "1988 Ms. Christopher's Pageant" on January 9, 1988. The prizes are \$200.00 1st place, \$100.00 2nd place and \$50.00 3rd place. There is a \$25.00 entry fee and an entry deadline of December 26, 1987. Judging will be in the areas of a Judges Interview, Evening Gown, Public Speaking and Talent (5 minutes Max). Come on girls, this is your big chance.

Once again, time is short so there will be no follow up on the Wives Report started last month and no Name, Names Names. Sorry!!!!!! I have included some articles from some other newsletters for your enjoyment.

I hope you all have a great Thanksgiving and I hope to see you all real soon.

*Heather*

## ***Publication Notice***

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InnerView is a monthly publication of Cross-Port for its members and friends. Subscription dues are \$18.00 per year payable in January of each year. It is our goal to support the TV, TS and Gay communities and in return we need your support.

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Cross-Port is a not-for-profit support group which meets solely for the support of crossdressers, transsexuals and their family and friends.

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## Michael Maron's INSTANT Makeover Magic

## BASIC NEEDS:

- 2 large fluffy, sable-hair brushes-1 inch
- 3 small sable-hair brushes-1/4 inch wide
- 1 square-tipped lip brush
- 1 eyebrow brush or child's toothbrush
- 1 eyelash curler
- Cotton swabs
- Latex sponges
- Cotton balls
- A hand mirror

## #1 BLEMISH COVER

WITH YOUR MIDDLE FINGER, GENTLY DOT A SMALL AMOUNT OF NEUTRALIZER CREAM ON THE AREAS YOU WISH TO CONCEAL.

Covering blemishes, red blotches, sunburned noses, and broken capillaries is easy when you use the right product. Most cosmetic companies offer an off-white cover-up cream or stick that only causes red spots to turn a lighter pink. I recommend yellowish cream neutralizer, which covers the red. Ben Nye and William Tuttle both offer products that will erase excess redness. Ben Nye's is called Mellow Yellow and William Tuttle's is called Mellow Yellow. The products are available at theatrical beauty houses, or by writing to Ben Nye (11571 Santa Monica Boul., Los Angeles, CA 90025) or to William Tuttle (Custom Color Cosmetics, PO Box 56, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272).

If you have skin discolorations such as liver spots, scars, or birthmarks, (BEARDS?), Lydia O'Leary's Covermark, an opaque cream available in various shades, works marvelously to cover them. Originally developed to aid birthmark and burn victims, the product is available in department stores and beauty supply houses. Apply it just as you would a neutralizer, before your foundation.

## #2 CONCEALER

WITH YOUR MIDDLE FINGER, APPLY A FEW DOTS OF CONCEALER TO THE DARK AREAS OF YOUR FACE. USE A FLESH-TINT EYE SHADOW CRAYON TO LIGHTEN ANY EXPRESSION LINES YOU WANT TO DIMINISH.

Select a concealer cream (or stick, if you prefer) about two shades lighter than your natural skin tone. Max Factor's Erase is one of the most popular brands, and since it comes in stick form, it is very easy to use.

If you need it, apply the concealer to the bluish gray area directly under the eyes (if you have bags, there's another technique I'll discuss later on), around the outside of the nostrils, below the corners of the mouth, and on the crease of the chin. If the inside corner of the eye and the bridge of the nose seem discolored, concealer can also be used in those spots. Make sure you have applied this light cream to the dark areas only. Blend carefully with your middle finger, patting your under-eye region very lightly.

If your "smile lines" or other expression lines bother you, one very effective trick is to draw right over them. Using a sharpened eye shadow crayon that's a few shades lighter than your skin, or a fine sable brush coated with your concealer cream, color in those lines. Be sure your new light line is as fine as your expression line. Don't blend;

applying your foundation will smooth away the lines. Lavla, an Italian cosmetics line available in many beauty supply stores, makes an excellent crayon at a very reasonable price.

If you have bags under your eyes, apply a contour shadow cream that's one shade darker than your foundation directly over the bag, and use concealer cream or your light crayon in the crease just under the puffy region.

After you apply foundation (Step #3), you may find that you need to reapply concealer to further lighten any discolorations. Remember to blend carefully so that this reapplication fades away into your foundation. Concealer should never be too thick, since it can cake after you apply face powder (Step #6).

Concealer can also be used on large freckles or discolorations on the chest and hands. Dot the concealer on the area, blend a bit of foundation over it, and set it with translucent face powder.

## #3 FOUNDATION

USING A LATEX SPONGE AND LIQUID FOUNDATION, DOT YOUR FOREHEAD, CHEEKS, NOSE, AND CHIN WITH FOUNDATION. AGAIN USING YOUR SPONGE, SMOOTH THE DOTS OF MAKEUP OUT TOWARD YOUR HAIRLINE AND DOWN TOWARD YOUR NECK, COVERING YOUR ENTIRE FACE EVER SO LIGHTLY WITH FOUNDATION. FOR EVEN SHEERER COVERAGE, DAMPEN YOUR SPONGE WITH WATER FIRST. DON'T FORGET TO APPLY FOUNDATION TO YOUR EYELIDS, NOSTRILS, AND LIPS. THE COVERAGE SHOULD END JUST BELOW THE JAWLINE. BLEND CAREFULLY TO AVOID ANY LINES OF DEMARCATION.

Most women still have a problem selecting the proper type and shade of foundation for their skin. Use an oil-base liquid foundation if your skin is normal to dry, or a water-base liquid for oily skin. Many cream foundations provide good coverage for skin discolorations.

Don't be afraid to try a number of different types of foundations when you are shopping. Apply them to different parts of your face and see how you like the consistency and coverage. Revlon's Touch & Glow is a comparatively inexpensive oil-base product that is suitable for most slightly dry to normal skin types, and offers a nice array of colors. Clinique's Balanced Makeup Base, a water-base product, is excellent for oily or sensitive skin, while Ultima II's CHR Extraordinary Face Makeup, with its special moisturizers, smoothly covers lined and wrinkled skin. For very dry or wrinkled skin, Countess Isserlyn foundation (available at fine department stores) has talc in it and offers a well-covered finish.

I suggest that most women avoid foundations that claim to be iridescent, since these tend to make you look older. If your skin is very wrinkled, avoid all thick cream bases, which can accumulate in the crevices of the wrinkles.

When selecting a foundation, never test the color on your neck or on the back of your hand. Test it where you're going to wear it-on your face. Naturally, you should not be wearing any other foundation at the time. The shade you buy should exactly match your skin tone, unless you are trying to counterbalance your natural sallowness or ruddiness. Women with extremely sallow complexions might prefer a hint

of pink, while ruddier-skinned types may opt for a foundation with a slightly yellow cast. This can be tricky, so when in doubt, go for the shade that exactly matches your skin and then simply use a blusher to counterbalance your skin tone. (More on blushers later.)

There are dozens of brands of foundations available in most drug stores and department stores, as well as many private-label products made by skin specialists who have their own companies. But are you aware that there are several brands of theatrical makeup that are often exactly the same as those made by cosmetics companies but much less expensive? I've mentioned Ben Nye's products and William Tuttle's line, Custom Color Cosmetics, but there are many others available at beauty supply stores and theatrical beauty supply centers and by mail. A brochure about various theatrical makeup products and a list of places where they may be purchased can be obtained by writing to Doris Butler at Columbia Drug Store, one of the largest sources of theatrical makeup in Hollywood (1440 North Gower, Hollywood CA 90028.)

#### #4 HIGHLIGHTER

WITH YOUR FINGERTIPS, APPLY THREE DOTS OF HIGHLIGHTER CREAM ABOVE EACH CHEEKBONE. TO BLEND, PAT-DON'T RUB-WITH YOUR MIDDLE FINGER, EXTENDING THE HIGHLIGHTER TOWARD THE TEMPLE.

Since highlighter reflects light, it will make your cheekbones appear more prominent. If your chin recedes, highlighter will help to bring it forward. Be aware, however, that highlighter used too low on the cheeks will make them look pudgy, and highlighter dabbed on a strong chin will make it appear too prominent. Sparingly applied, highlighter can do wonders for your face.

Select a highlighter that is about two shades lighter than your skin tone. It should never be pure white, since white makeup often takes on a bluish cast. A foundation two or three shades lighter than your skin works very well as a highlighter.

Although I prefer cream highlighter, there are powder versions that work well. Lancome's Dual Finish Creme/Powder Makeup is excellent. If you choose a powder highlighter, use it after you've applied your translucent face powder (Step #6), and always apply with a sable brush. For dramatic evenings, you might like the effect of an iridescent powder or gel used on your cheekbones, on the brow bone, or just above your brows.

#### #5 CONTOUR SHADOW

SUCK IN YOUR CHEEKS AND APPLY A THIN BAND OF CONTOUR SHADOW CREAM IN THE HOLLOW UNDER YOUR CHEEKBONES AND PLACE A SMALL DOT ON EACH TEMPLE. WITH YOUR MIDDLE FINGER, BLEND THE CONTOUR SHADOW CREAM DIAGONALLY OUTWARD TOWARD THE EARS. KEEP BLENDING UNTIL YOU SEE A SUBTILE SHADOW.

Now that you have created some beautiful planes in your face by adding highlighter, it's time to continue the process of sculpting by complementing these light areas with shadow. But before we proceed, I want to caution you. Contour shadow can produce wonderful, dramatic effects in photographs. It can add beautiful subtle shading at night. By day it can make your face look too angular and overly made-up, unless

you are very meticulous in the blending process. I prefer that women not use contour shadow in the daytime, because I see too few who know how to use it. If you blend carefully, keeping in mind that less is more, you can wear it by day and still effect a subtle look-but be careful.

Always remember that any light area appears to come forward, while dark areas seem to recede. A contour shadow should be a very neutral color, a cross between brown and gray, with no red or yellow undertones. Select a contour shadow color that is about two shades darker than your foundation. (Ben Nye makes a color called Subtle Brown which is perfect for most fair skin.) Any darker and you'll look as if you have a dirty face rather than one that's nicely contoured. If you prefer, you may use a liquid foundation in place of a contour shadow cream. Again, I prefer cream because it allows for better control. There are also pressed powder contour shadows, which I recommend for contouring the nose, a trick I save until later (see optional step #7A). If you choose to use a powder, be sure to use a soft sable brush to apply it.

Blending is very important when using contour shadow. If you have a question about whether you're wearing too much contour shadow, you probably are. Blend again (I like to use my free hand as a blotter to remove excess cream from my fingers as I apply). Blend the contour shadow under the cheekbone diagonally outward toward the ear. Be careful not to blend the shadow up into the highlight cream. If your cheekbones are naturally prominent or if your cheeks are already pleasantly hollow, contour shadow is usually unnecessary.

I repeat, unless you are very skilled at applying it, contour shadow should be reserved for evening. The only way to become skilled at contouring is to practice. Start with as little contour shadow as possible-you can always add more. Once you master its application, you can experiment with shading other areas.

- ‡ To define the jawline, apply contour shadow cream along the underside of the jawbone and blend.
- ‡ To diminish a double chin, use a dark contour shadow directly under the center of the chin and blend down toward the throat.
- ‡ To slim a very round face, shade the sides of the face, blending from under the cheekbone downward toward the jawline.
- ‡ To soften a square face or a face with a very prominent jawbone, simply shade the sides of the face along the jawbone area, blending downward.

#### #6 FACE POWDER

USING JUST THE TIPS OF THE SABLE BRISTLES OF YOUR WIDE BRUSH, DUST TRANSLUCENT FACE POWDER ALL OVER YOUR FACE. STROKE ACROSS YOUR FOREHEAD, AROUND THE EYES, NOSE, MOUTH, AND CHIN. DON'T FORGET THE EYE SOCKETS AND NECK.

Powder helps set the makeup and adds a nice matte finish. The powder should be translucent so that it doesn't interfere with the color of your foundation. Although baby powder is an excellent choice, my favorite is a loose powder, Clubman, by Pinaud. This finely milled talc is

# Nearly 10 percent of all males have an urge for cross-dressing

DEAR ANN LANDERS: May I reply to Mel's wife, who wrote about cross-dressing? Since nearly 10 percent of all males have this urge, it is important that people understand it.

I am a heterosexual (as about 75 percent of us are) male transvestite. I began to wear my mother's clothes when I was about 5. As I grew older I read everything I could get my hands on about transvestism to determine what I was. A potential candidate for transsexual surgery? A homosexual? I came to realize that I had two personalities, male that corresponded to my gender, and female that needed to be expressed.

Current research considers this an inborn compulsive behavior that can be triggered at any age by any number of incidents. I have found that cross-dressers who have come in contact with the feminine side of their personality are above average in intelligence and more sensitive to the feelings of others, especially their wives or girlfriends. They are often more secure in their masculinity than many of the "macho" types. Sexual release in most cases is secondary to the sense of physical **O** emotional pleasure that comes from dressing up. It is not a hobby, it is a necessity. This may explain Mel's irritability when he is unable to dress up.

I would urge Mel's wife to disregard most all of what she has heard about transvestism. There is too much misinformation around. She must remember that this is a factor in Mel's personality that made him the person he is and that she loved him enough to marry him. She should not feel threatened by his feminine side.

Fear of the unknown and apprehension about public discovery are two legitimate concerns. If she sits down with him, talks about it, respects his feelings and keeps the

From The Cincinnati Enquirer



lines of communication open, she will find that her love will be much deeper for this multifaceted person she chose to go through life with. The quality of the relationship will be greatly enhanced by her acceptance and support. — T.J., Houston

DEAR T.J.: Thanks for a postgraduate course in cross-dressing. You've helped a lot of people today.

## Boys air their differences

HIGHLAND, Mich. — It was a heated protest.

About 20 Highland Junior High School boys donned skirts one day last week to demonstrate against a dress code that forbids shorts in school during a week when temperatures topped 90 degrees.

And in an apparent victory for male equality, school administrators allowed the boys to air their differences — and their legs — for the entire day.

"Technically, they were within their rights," said Highland Principal James Lancaster, adding that the dress code prohibits shorts, but allows skirts and pants to the ankles. "We don't discriminate here."

From Alpha Omega's Outreach

## IT'S THE LAW!

-- Janice Van Cleve

We have won another victory for the rights of transvestites and transsexuals! The Seattle City Council passed the Public Accommodations amendment to the Open Housing Ordinance. This important amendment protects our TV community from discrimination in stores, motels, restaurants, restrooms, and any other establishment operated for public use. We are specifically named in the definition of "sexual orientation" and our right to use any public facility within the Seattle city limits is now guaranteed by law.

Seattle holds the place of honor as the first city in the nation to guarantee in law the rights of transvestites and transsexuals. We have worked hard to gain these rights; and while not all of us are prepared to fight openly before the city council, we can all do our part by giving a good example whenever we go out in public. After all, laws do not make acceptance; attitudes make acceptance. We can influence those attitudes by our exemplary behavior.

Copies of the ordinances may be obtained from Janice for \$1 to cover xeroxing costs.

From IXE