

TGSF Salutes Imperial Court

The Channel
TGSF
TransGender San Francisco
(formerly FTVC)



The Channel

TGSF (Educational TV Channel, a California non-profit corporation), is a non-sexual, membership based organization serving the educational, social, and recreational needs of gender-gifted people, their spouses, significant others, family members, friends, and professionals in the helping services. For details about TGSF programs, membership, article submission guidelines and classified ads, please write to TGSF Secretary, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486.

ExCom 1999 - 2000 Officers

(Fiscal Year: May 1 - April 30)

President Leslie Bailey
 Vice President Lulu Blau
 Secretary Roxanne
 Treasurer Janis Ryan
 Education Nancy Cupps / Tianna Marie
 Outreach Telzey Adams
 Social Nicole and Debbie Cook

Membership Report

As of March 15, 2000

Fiscal Year		Number	% of 98-99
1998-1999	Total members	291	100.0
1999-2000	Renewals	203	69.8
1999-2000	New members	48	16.5
1999-2000	Non-renewing	88	30.2
1999-2000	Total members	251	86.2

TGSF (Educational TV Channel) is a CA non-profit corporation. Donations to TGSF are TAX DEDUCTIBLE on both Federal and California income tax returns. Talk to your tax advisor for details.

The Channel, the TGSF Newsletter, is published monthly. Submissions should arrive at TGSF by the 15th day of the month preceding publication. Contents reflect the opinions of the contributors and are not necessarily those of TGSF. Other organizations may reprint or reproduce uncopyrighted portions of the newsletter for their members, provided TGSF is acknowledged as the source of the material. Copyrighted materials may be reproduced only with written permission from TGSF.

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Ad Rates

	Per Issue	Six Months	Per Year
Business Card (3-1/2 x 2)	\$ 25	\$125	\$ 250
4x5	\$ 60	\$300	\$ 600
Full Page	\$100	\$500	\$1000

Personal ads from TGSF members: \$10 for up to 40 words per issue. We will not accept ads with a sexual objective. Ad deadlines are the 15th of every month. Send ad copy and check or money order to TGSF, Advertising Dept., PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486

Hotline & Voice Mail
415-564-3246



FROM THE EDITOR...

A Fond Farewell...

I'd like to take this moment to recognize those on the current ExCom who won't be returning for another term. Some of them have been on the Board for many consecutive years and their continuity had much to do with (most particularly) the status of TGSF's Cotillion and the level of success it has had.

Organizational efforts and plain old fashioned hard work on the part of Lulu Blau and Leslie Bailey have left a legacy of stability and unsurpassed achievements unparalleled in our recent history. While I'm sure both will be continuing their efforts on behalf of our community in one fashion or another, it's sad nonetheless that they are leaving.

An *Adios Amiga* to Nancy Cupps, who for years has tirelessly worked to provide the highest quality workshops and educational seminars that are at the heart of TGSF's mission, particularly in light that the group's non-profit 501(c)3 status depends on maintaining these programs. As her personal and business travels take her far around the world, seek her out for a fabulous personal insight into our global TG community.

Current Elections...

Well now! Looks like we got ourselves a race for some key individual slots for the new ExCom. This, too, is unparalleled in recent history, as it's usually taken much begging, pleading, cajoling and threatening to even get ONE person willing to be nominated for President, let alone Secretary. Let's face facts here - for any volunteer organization, these jobs demand a lot of personal sacrifice and dedication. Anybody, past or present, who's ever served on ExCom has worked his or her hiney off with little recognition and even less appreciation. These people are Goddesses (and Gods - yes we've had men on the Board)...and hopefully they don't get swelled heads and act like them, but my point is - here we have individuals who are contesting positions usually reserved for the reluctant walk-on. These gals are fighting for your vote! Ah such passion, such fervor, such determination! Makes you want to fill out your ballot and mail it right now, doesn't it? And to help you make an informed decision do, by all means, check out the candidate statements printed later in this issue.

But what will happen to the losers? All right...there are no real losers - or at least none when ExCom seats went uncontested. But I'll point out that the VP slot is wide open, and the contested positions are sought after by current ExCom members, so their experience will undoubtedly be wanted and needed - maybe they'll get asked to fill that void. Even so, to those that finish their current term without being re-elected, I'd like to thank them for a job well done and hope they continue to provide unselfish support to TGSF.

Springtime in Oklahoma...

Ahhh the sound of lawnmowers fill the air, temps in the mid-70's, mild sunny skies, chirping birds, and the occasional thunder-shower. I hear tell ya'll been getting soaked there in the Bay Area <insert bilabial fricative here>. Soggy SF's got nothing on a day like today. With spring in the air, Oklahoma seems poised for bigger and better things. Organizations are starting preparations ear-

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WWW.TGSF.ORG
NEW SITE! GET ONLINE!



PRESIDENT'S POTPOURRI

By Leslie Bailey

The current election highlights a number of important considerations when one undertakes to serve the transgendered community by participating as a member of the Executive Committee of TGSF (or any other group for that matter). There is at any given time a rather small pool of people who are ready and available to jump into the fray. Each office takes a certain amount of emotional and physical energy and it certainly entails a significant time commitment (not to mention some financial expenditures).

A lot of people depend on the quality and consistency of effort of those who are generously volunteering their time and energies. Often times we only know these people as a name and address because they are unable to participate with us because of distance or life circumstances. The one obvious thing that draws us all together is that, based on gender issues, we are in fact a minority (and yes that includes all of us members who are/were white-male-heterosexual — let me repeat it — we are a minority).

We might be proud of who we are, but we are still a minority. We are also a most interesting minority. We can and often — either wholly or selectively — hide the fact that we are a minority. We acquiesce to being a minority because we intuitively sense that being transgendered is something that is deeply rooted within us and we in fact like being TG.

THE KEY to effectively serving our membership is to keep one salient responsibility at the top of one's action sheet. Maintain the confidence and the goodwill of the membership who are counting on us to conduct business so that the group not only survives but that each individual in the group has a chance to thrive. I like very much the idea of an aggressive agenda to advance our interest and recognition, but after four years on the ExCom I fully understand that the ultimate task of each officer is the welfare and confidence of all who look to us as a home base/community center.

As a group we can not afford a great deal of dissention and division. Honest differences of opinion are healthy and desirable. But in the end we must all pull together to make TGSF a viable and healthy force.

New Members since March Issue:

Julie Brophy-Smith

Marcia Chapdelaine

Robyn Smith

Welcome!

Barbara F. Anderson

Ph.D., L.C.S.W.

Clinical Sexologist
Certified Sex Therapist

1537 Franklin St., Suite 104
San Francisco, CA 94109

Ph (415) 776-0139
Fax (415) 441-0936

From the Editor...

Continued from Page 2

lier than usual for the local Pride celebrations, and are making plans for even bigger and better events and activities. There was even a BDSM Fetish Ball held at a downtown art gallery with a cash bar and oh...mah...god...the eye-opening outfits! Woo Hoo!

Now to get a Fetish event held in OKC proper is one thing. You wouldn't believe the permits required and the resulting backlash provided by the press and Bible-thumping populace. But to host one with liquor (and I remind you yet again that this is in Oklahoma) — well now we're talking major progress! It was too cool and I was not only very pleased to be there (in a verry revealing black outfit), but was thrilled that mainstream Okies are finally willing to cross the line and test their boundaries. There's hope for 'em yet. Now if I can just get them to hold those kinds of events once a month or more instead of once a year, I'll have made a dent in the white-bread, corn-fed, thick-headed skulls they grow out here.

I'm also pleased to say that the women's chorus I sing in joined forces with two other GLBT choruses from the state, along with the incredible Turtle Creek Chorale from Dallas, and raised over \$4,000 for the three OK choruses. It's really a blast to be part of a new and growing vocal organization and if I read the local buzz correctly, we're having a definite impact on our local GLBT communities.

It's little successes like that that make me feel incredibly fortunate to be living my life in the way that makes me the happiest. Not only do I feel wonderful about living life as a woman, I get these added perks of thunderous applause (big ego stroke, I know...), and this beautiful warm fuzzy feeling of satisfaction at having achieved such wonderful results with nothing more than one's own dedication, and the hard work of one's teammates. It's not so bad in the mid-west after all...

Final Word...

So as our fiscal year comes to a close, out goes the old and in comes the new. Most of us will be renewing our memberships (and if yours has lapsed by press time, be sure to renew so you can vote!). New challenges await us all in our next season and we all have to hit the ground running to be ready for the big upcoming summer events. Get your volunteer outfits on and oh yes...don't forget to vote!

ARE YOU A VETERAN?

Are you aware that there is a gender discussion group every Monday afternoon at the Ft. Miley Veteran's Center in San Francisco? The group is open to all TS, TV, and TG's who are qualified veterans. If you are interested and wish further information, contact Lorraine Hall at: [redacted]@aol.com or call 510-[redacted]

Significant Other Support - East Bay

Questions or concerns about your partner's crossdressing? Please call Julie at (925) [redacted] e-mail [redacted]@home.com or write to: Julie Freeman, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885.

EXCOM MEETING MINUTES

The monthly meeting of TGSF's Executive Committee was held in Los Altos, Calif., on February 4, 2000, at 3:00 p.m. In attendance were President Bailey, Vice President Blau, Secretary Camino, Treasurer Ryan, Outreach Co-Chairs Adams and Stephanie Ann and Education Co-Chair Cupps. Social Co-Chairs Cook and Cook arrived later in the meeting. Education Co-Chair Marie was absent. Also present were guests Lynnae and Deborah.

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m.

Communications and Announcements:

Telzey reminded the ExCom that "California Dreaming" was coming up next month in San Francisco. Flyers were handed out for the April 27-30, 2000 event. TGSF will not have any organizational or financial role in the conference. Janis mentioned the poker party held in memorial to Nancy Ann had a very good turnout and included a moment of silence. There will be one more Friday poker party at Nancy Ann's residence. Janis said there are 20 boxes of archival material at the residence that will need to be moved soon. After some discussion, it was noted that this subject comes under new business and there were other announcements to be made. Telzey mentioned the IFGE Conference is March 27, 2000 in the Washington DC area and the Silver Dollar Court Coronation will be at the Reno Hilton on June 2, 3, and 4, 2000. Stephanie Ann mentioned that Sacramento Gender Association would have a makeup seminar on March 11, 2000. Lulu mentioned that the San Jose Coronation is March 11, 2000, at the Hyatt San Jose and asked who was going. Leslie said herself, Miss TGSF Michelle and Nancy Cupps will attend that night.

Old Business: Treasurer Ryan said we needed to vote on a follow up to the bylaws changes in regards to the membership mailing list. The California Corporation Code states that the organization has to provide the mailing list to any member, or provide for a blind mailing — meaning TGSF would do a mailing for a member making a reasonable request, related to their membership — with cost paid by the member making the request, thus keeping the mailing list confidential. The Treasurer's request also includes wording as to where advertising can appear in the newsletter and website. She moved that her proposal be adopted as a part of the standing rules. Janis read the text of the proposed motion to the ExCom present. Nancy asked for an explanation of how the motion would be used. Janis gave the example of a member requesting access to the mailing list being allowed that under state law. The alternative under law is for the organization to do a blind mailing for the member in response to the request, thus providing security of members' identities.

The motion proposed addresses this blind mailing provision. Lulu asked if the motion was restating state law. Janis said it would lay down the procedures for complying with the mailing list request. Deborah gave an example of a member requesting a flyer or announcement being mailed with the newsletter instead of providing mailing names, as how the request would be made. Janis said the request has to be related to his or her interest as a member of the organization. Leslie asked if the ExCom has discretion in determining if something could be mailed. Janis said the ExCom could refuse, but it could be challenged. Stephanie asked that the proposal be made into two motions. Janis agreed to put her proposal into two motions. Janis then read the first part for a vote:

"Written or graphical commercial advertising to members shall be limited to the Newsletter and supplements to it, programs for special events, similar publications of TGSF, and the TGSF web



site. The ExCom shall by establish the rates, eligibility, and acceptable content of such advertising." On a motion by Leslie and seconded by Lulu the proposal was passed by those ExCom members present.

Janis then read the second motion: "Any member, for a purpose reasonably related to that person's interest as a member, may provide written matter to the Secretary, and request the Secretary to mail it to all members. Such written matter shall not be for commercial purposes, and shall be subject to the approval of the ExCom. The member shall pay the reasonable costs of mailing this material to TGSF before such mailing is made. This procedure shall constitute an alternative to the inspection, copying or obtaining a complete Membership list pursuant to California Corporations Code section 6330, and the Secretary shall notify in writing any member making such a demand of this alternative within 10 business days after receiving the demand."

At the time of the second motion, Social Co-Chairs Cook and Cook arrived. Nicole Cook ask for consideration of a request she made that no new motions of bylaw or standing rules be voted on until the next ExCom is in place. Leslie mentioned that the motion on the floor was actually old business. On a motion by Leslie and seconded by Roxanne, the motion was voted on and approved with Social Co-Chairs Cook and Cook voting no.

Minutes: Secretary Camino mentioned that the January and February minutes needed approval. Corrections would be made to the spelling of Marlayna Lacie. Stephanie moved for the January and February Minutes to be approved, Nancy seconded the motion and they were unanimously approved.

President: President Bailey began a discussion relating to the current conflict in regards to the pending ExCom election. She had noted in the four years she has been on the ExCom, that the membership looks up to the group for leadership, continuity, and best interest of membership and it should act in the best interest. Leslie said there is something to say on both sides and there are some serious disagreements but we should come to some common understanding. What we do should reflect on problem solving and understanding.

Lulu said she would reinforce that we are a support group for a small community of generally disenfranchised and discriminated people and that is an awesome and inspiring responsibility and winning or losing will result in no gain or advancing the group. We should use the energy of those who come forward in a constructive manner, listen to dissent and come to an agreeable solution.

Leslie said we should somehow address issues, but it is important how the issues are addressed. Business needs be done by consensus. She has been proud of what this ExCom has accomplished and the efforts of each member, though there have been disagreements and hurt feelings.

Janis stated she has spent many hours talking to former ExCom members and seeking advice but we have an important election ahead. She said we the ExCom are not the organization, but the 246 members are the ones who have the final say and we are stewards of their trust and confidence.

Roxanne reflected on how the circumstances over the past three weeks have effected herself and Deborah and over the Year on the ExCom. Roxanne read a statement she prepared going over her experiences with TGSF and the events of the past weeks. Roxanne was led to believe there had been an ExCom meeting not including herself to discuss a selected slate of ExCom candidates for the next election, an agenda for the next term and the replacement of the Secretary.

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Meeting Minutes...

Continued from Page 4

Roxanne suggested to President Bailey and the ExCom that some resolution to the current situation could be gained by forming an emergency election committee, rescinding the current slate of candidates, that all current candidates are considered along with their statements and a new slate is presented. The idea was not discussed. Later Janis said the election should move on.

Nancy and Lulu said they were not aware of any ExCom meeting Roxanne mentioned. Leslie said she had only met with Nicole to discuss potential candidates. Lulu added that she thought Roxanne statement was very clear and well thought out and appreciated her being very candid about what she could do and not do in office. She appreciated the consistency that Roxanne had exhibited in doing Secretary duties and thanked for the job well done.

Janis she had a meeting with Nicole, Debbie, Tianna to discuss candidates at a location close to Lulu's residence. Nicole added that it was a meeting to discuss issues between herself and Janis. Nicole said it was not the intent of any meeting or e-mail messages to force Roxanne out of office but to offer options.

Leslie closed the discussion by reminding that TGSF is really about people, being tuned into them and listening to them and doing things by consensus. Noting the particular traits of Nicole, Janis, Roxanne and the rest of the ExCom, Leslie thanked them all for the job they have been doing. Lulu also added the energy and experience brought forward by this ExCom was remarkable and it would be a loss to lose anyone from it.

Vice President: Vice President Blau said the Post-Cotillion meeting would be held Sunday at 3:00 p.m. at her residence. Lulu wants a financial statement and said two bills were still outstanding. Janis and Leslie will work on it.

Lulu mentioned that Jamie Faye Fenton has stepped down as a candidate for Vice President because of time limits. Lulu suggested that this issue be discussed after the Post Cotillion meeting.

Secretary: Secretary Camino had nothing to report.

Treasurer: Secretary Ryan has been busy with various activities and the bank statement had not come in yet.

Outreach: Stephanie Ann said she is moving ahead on engagements. There is a request for a speaker at the College of San Mateo for counseling students. Telzey said any remaining boxes of "Tapestry" at Nancy Ann's house be given out. She also said Arthur Herwitz, active in the Courts, asked if there was any memorial for Nancy Ann. Janis mentioned the memorial poker parties and the funeral that had take place.

Education: Education Co-Chair Cupps is working on large seminars for late spring or early summer. Potential speakers are an SRS surgeon from Thailand and a speaker from the Transgender Medical Surgical Group in Pittsburgh, PA.

Social: Social Co-Chair Nicole Cook said she is planning the next Mid-Month Social as a shopping excursion, possibly at the San Francisco Center (Nordstrom, Victoria Secrets, etc.) Nicole asked if there was a date for the Pride Parade yet. Leslie had just received a brochure and noted it is usually the last Sunday of the month. Nicole noted a venue needs to be booked for the "Big Shew."

Comment Period of Visitors: There were no comments from visitors.

New Business: Janis requested to discuss the distribution of the Resource Guide. It was agreed to bring this up at the next ExCom meeting.

Janis mentioned the need to form an election committee and said she had talked to Cheryl, Stephanie Ann and Roxanne. Nicole suggested Leslie, Lulu and possibly Nancy. Leslie agreed to have committee members not running for election. After some discussion it was decided to make the committee Leslie, Lulu and Cheryl. On a motion by Janis and seconded by Nancy, the three agreed upon TGSF members would form the election committee and follow applicable rules and procedures for carrying out the election. The motion was unanimously passed.

On an issue brought up in Announcements, there was a need to act on the archival material at Nancy Ann's house. Leslie said this material needs to be gone through to find actual archival items. Lulu said we should do something because the materials have to be moved. Janis had suggested renting a storage locker but Nancy said they are not the best option for archival material. Lulu said she could store this material for the time being but it needs to be sorted. Leslie and Janis agreed to meet and sort the TGSF material stored at Nancy Ann's house.

Next ExCom Meeting: The next ExCom meeting will be held at the Cook's residence, in Sabastapol, on Sunday, April 9, 2000, at 3:00 p.m.

At approximately 5:35 p.m., Janis moved to adjourn the meeting; Nancy seconded and the motion was unanimously passed.



Lulu and Cheryl at the Imperial Coronation

April's Birthdays...

0401	Michelle Nelson
0403	Elaine Lerner
0404	Paula Summers
0408	Theresa Sparks
0408	Davida Frazier
0409	Veronica Smith
0409	Diana Beck
0412	Julie Freeman
0413	Tina Cansara
0414	Chelsea Grammer
0415	Sharon Moriarty
0425	Jamie Faye Fenton

Many Happy Returns of the Day!

Sunday / April 9th / 3:00pm

EXCOM MEETING

Once again it is time to hold the ExCom meeting in the quaint little town of Sebastopol at Nicole & Debbie's house in Sonoma County. We will be serving dinner after the meeting and you are welcome to attend. Feel free to attend dressed or in drab. Please call Nicole and Debbie at (707) [REDACTED] we need to know how much food to make and we will be happy to give you directions.

Wednesday / April 12th / 7:00pm

TRANSBAY SOCIAL

The TGSF mid-month will be an event that will have you out and about the general population. If you would really rather go somewhere with less exposure, don't forget that on Wednesday the TransBay group meets at Quetzal, located at 1234 Polk between Sutter and Bush (right down the street from Kimo's). Park in the large parking structure and walk around the corner to where the coffee shop is located.

Saturday / April 15th / 5:00 - 8:00pm

THE APRIL MID MONTH - SHOPPING AT THE SAN FRANCISCO SHOPPING CENTER

It is time for something a bit different. First let me admit that I got this idea from one of our soon to be Social Chairs Tianna Marie DeVil, and I liked it so much I thought we would test it for her. The April mid month will be a shopping trip to the San Francisco Shopping Center on 5th and Market in San Francisco. The anchor store here is a Nordstrom's so we are sure to have a good time. As usual with mid-month events no special arrangements are made, we just show up and interact with the other shoppers. (I will try to call Nordstrom's to see if they want to have some people from the personal shopper program on hand). If three hours of shopping en femme is not enough for you join Debbie and me on a BART ride to and from the event. Since traffic & parking is such a pain in that area Debbie and I will park at the El Cerrito Plaza BART station and take BART to the Powell Street station. There is an entrance directly from the BART station into the mall. We will arrive at the El Cerrito BART station around 3:45pm, we will hang around at the entrance until about 4:05pm so you can see us. We will move up to the platform at 4:05 and take the 4:13 Daly City train. This should have us at Powell street around 4:45. We will then find an appropriate waiting place near the BART entrance to the mall to wait for you to arrive. At 5:00pm we will start shopping, if you are late we should not be hard to find.

Thursday / April 27th / 8:00pm

END OF MONTH SOCIAL - ELECTION OF EXCOM

The End of Month Social will be held at our usual meeting place, The Blue Muse 409 Gough Street in San Francisco. Park in any of the local parking lots on either side of the restaurant. This is the meeting where **YOU** elect the next Executive Committee for TGSF. Remember if you don't vote, there is no telling what you will get. If you want to make a statement on how the organization will be run, the first step is to vote for the officers. Candidate's statements have been made available for some candidates on the TGSF web site. If you want to make a bigger statement, mount your own write in candidacy for a position and become part of the ExCom.

Coming this May!

TAKE A CHANCE ON ESPRIT 2000

For all you girls who are thinking about a trip to the great Pacific Northwest in 2000, May is time to come. Esprit is going to be a full week adventure this year, starting on Monday, May 15 and running through Sunday, May 21.

We are serious about having a fun time every day, with special events every night. One of the most fun events is going to be on Wednesday, May 17. On that night, the Red Lion ballroom will become the Esprit Fantasy Casino, with a professional staff and a real casino set up for our use.

This is going to be a great evening, and will set the tone for the rest of the week to follow (and yes, you will need yet one more evening dress for this [darn]). The event will have some great prizes, including a three-day jaunt to Vegas to try out your newly honed skills. It will also leave time for the nightly trek to the Red Lion Bar down below to mingle with the celebrity watchers (we are the celebrities).

You can reach me at [REDACTED]@AOL.COM, or at PO Box 1152, Duvall, WA 98019. Even if you can't join us, your ideas will be appreciated.

AIDS Project East Bay Presents:

HEALTHY LIVING: EARLY INTERVENTION WORKSHOP SERIES

April 3: Berry Ress RN, ANP from Fairmont Hospital Adult Immunology Clinic: A brief clinic history and Hospital overview of services; Questions and Answers.

April 10: Case Managers Jesus Vargas, APEB / Heidi Werber RN, Kaiser Hospital; The important role of case management in early health interventions; Services offered by each service provider.

April 17: Dr. Hancock PhD, Director of EIP Services for Sister Care; Their unique Women's Only AIDS service programs; Overview of services/Agency history; Program qualifications.

April 24: Brenda Thomas DDS; Why dental care is important; Oral manifestations; Everything you wanted to know about dentistry but were afraid to ask.

Refreshments will be provided. Monday nights 7-9 pm at APEB, 1800 Telegraph Ave, Oakland

HEY!

\$10 Bucks Per Issue Gets You An Ad Like This...!

Tall, feminine, graceful closet CD seeks Big Sister to help with shopping and makeup tips. I live alone so it's helpful if you can come here, but I can certainly travel. SF Area. Call (415) 000-0000.

Up to 40 words only \$10.00. Send text of ad and Check or Money Order to TGSF's PO Box, ATTN: Editor. Reach out and come out!

Calendar of Events - April 2000

OTHER GROUPS

Pacific Center for Human Growth

A counseling oriented growth center sponsors all-inclusive gender support groups on every Friday at 8:00pm, 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. 510-548-8283

Rainbow Gender Association (RGA)

Meets 1st and 3rd Friday of the month 8:00pm at the New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose. Write to RGA, PO Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170 or call 408-984-4044.

Sacramento Gender Association (SGA)

Blue Rose Chapter meets 8:00pm the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month in Sacramento. Write PO Box 215456, Sacramento, CA 95821-1456 or call 916-482-7SGA (7742) for meeting locations.

Diablo Valley Girls (DVG)

Meets 1st and 3rd Monday of every month. 8:00pm at Club 1220, 1220 Pine Street in Walnut Creek. Write to DVG, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885 or call 925-937-8432.

DVG Rap Group (RCC)

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:00pm at Rainbow Community Center, 2118 Willow Pass Road, Suite 500 in Concord. For more information call 925-937-8432.

FTM

A support group for Female-to-Male cross dressers and transsexuals; Holds open Informational Meetings and closed Support Meetings. Write FTM International, Inc., 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103 or call 415-553-5987.

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 4:00pm until early evening. Space is limited - Reservations Recommended! Call Diane or Anne at 707-███

Silicon Valley Gender Association (SVGA)

A new transgender support group meets at the Billy De Frank Community Center in San Jose on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. For more information, call 408-293-2429.

Far West Women (FWW)

A support group for TGs affiliated with the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Alliance in Humboldt County. Meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 8:00pm in the GLBTA Center at Fourth and "D" Streets in Eureka. For information call the Center at 707-445-9760.

Santa Cruz Trans (SCT)

Bi-weekly social/support group for gender-gifted persons serving Santa Cruz and Central Coast. 1st and 3rd Thursdays every month at The Diversity Center, 1328 Commerce Lane, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; (831) 425-5422; 7:00pm

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3 8:00 PM DVG	4	5	6 7:00 PM DVG (RCC) 7:00 PM SCT	7 8:00 PM PacCr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	8 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA
9 3:00 PM TGSE: ExCom Meeting	10	11	12 7:00 PM TransBay	13	14 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCr: Rap	15 5:00 PM TGSE: Mid Month Shopping Trip
16	17 8:00 PM DVG	18	19	20 7:00 PM DVG (RCC) 7:00 PM SCT	21 8:00 PM PacCr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	22 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA
23	24	25	26	27 8:00 PM TGSE: End Of Month Social	28 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCr: Rap	29
30						

TGSF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership is for twelve months following payment of annual dues.

Please Print / Check all that apply:

New Member Renewal Member # _____ with Family Member

Member Birthdate (Month/Date): _____ / _____ Family Member Birthdate (Month/Date): _____ / _____

Preferred Name: _____

Mailing Name: _____

Family Member's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

How did you hear about TGSF? _____

Your Email address: _____

I am enclosing a Check or Money order for:

\$30.00 Full Year Membership

\$40.00 Full Year Family Membership
(Note only one copy of the Channel will be sent to this address).

Send Check or Money Order to
TGSF
PO Box 426486
San Francisco, CA
94142-6486

Our Readers Respond...

DEAR TGSF,

I just learned that a friend of mine, Janis Ryan, is running for the office of president of TGSF, and I wanted to say that I think she would make a great president. Since becoming treasurer, Janis has worked very hard for the organization and has made some significant improvements and contributions to the organization, and I have no reason to believe things would be different were she to become president.

I first met Janis on-line in the TG Forum Meow chat room, and she immediately impressed me as a person who care and would go out of their way to help out another sister or brother. We chatted regularly for several weeks when she asked if I would like to attend one of the monthly socials.

At first I was reluctant because although I had been to several Rainbow socials, they were always held at the church and were "safe". But, I knew that I had to put my wings to test so we agreed to meet for the social. I would be driving up from San Jose, she would be coming on the bus from the east bay.

Naturally I felt very nervous about being so out, but soon enough Janis was there with her big, warm smile and I knew everything would be OK. We were early for the social so we walked to a coffee shop and talked for about an hour. I can't adequately express how comfortable and welcome Janis made me feel, but rest assured that it was Janis who made that night so pleasurable.

Several months passed before we got together again at last year's Pride Parade. I was VERY nervous about being there but with the help of Janis and Didi, I over came my fears and walked proudly with the TGSF float down Market Street.

One of the things that really made that day all the more special was that I was not only marching, I was doing volunteer work as well. I was there as a safety monitor and having that responsibility helped calm my fears and nervousness. It was Janis who suggested that I volunteer and hers was the best advice.

Since I live in the south bay I don't get too many chances to get to the TGSF functions, but Janis and I regularly bump into each other on line where she keeps me up to date on the latest news about the organization and what she was doing as treasurer.

I am impressed with what Janis has accomplished as treasurer and I know she will put the same level of enthusiasm and dedication into the job of being president. I urge everyone to seriously consider voting for Janis for president.

Stephanie Erin Thomas

DEAR TGSF:

Since joining TGSF last June, I have come out as a transgendered person in many small and large ways. Janis Ryan has been my most consistent and enthusiastic supporter during the process. It was Janis who met me at the BART station the morning of the Pride Parade, the first occasion of my riding mass transportation in drag.

While BART trips have since become commonplace for me, Janis has continued to be a good friend, offering advice and encouragement as I go public with my transgendered self one step at a time. I am also impressed by Janis' dedication to her duties as treasurer; at a host of TGSF events I have witnessed her writing and accepting checks, discussing finances with other ex-com members, and negotiating with vendors, activities that strike me as daunting, but which Janis handles in good cheer, insisting she is only repaying the organization for its support during her own coming out. I am happy to see Janis running for TGSF president. Her combination of kindness and organizational competence makes her invaluable to TGSF, and a comfort to those of us facing a long road to self-realization.

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Our Readers Respond...

DEAR TGSF,

This is the first time I have addressed the membership and newsletter readers. Many times I have considered expressing thoughts, ideas and experiences I have had as a transgender person and a member of TGSF but other commitments and some shyness have prevented a submission. In my work, I write and write and write! sometimes getting too burned out to start another sentence.

However, when an issue is so important, so critical, that it needs speaking to, sacrifices have to be made. Indeed, writing an opinion or statement on an unpopular issue or going against powerful odds can be a sacrifice to someone's ability to be an accepted person in their community and among friends. But when an issue involves basic democratic rights, respect and compassion for others in one's community, sacrifices have to be made. It is what democracy and our history as a nation is built on.

I am asking for your support for Janis Ryan as President of TGSF. Janis became a member some years' back much the same way I did, going in cold to an ETVC social, not knowing what to expect, and being greeted by someone in the organization who had concern for a fellow member of the community, no matter what their views, appearance or stage in this experience.

Compassion, caring and concern are the core of this election. Since becoming a member of this organization, I have met many people both in leadership roles and those who just need support. I have seen what a difference it makes to a transgender person to be treated with some respect and dignity. I have also, in this past year, experienced loss of concern and compassion and at some rather fragile moments in my life. I have seen Janis respond to members, both present and new, in a welcoming and caring way. Janis does not try to categorize, classify or characterize a TG person in any way. If you want leadership that truly cares about the feelings of others in this community, I encourage you to vote for Janis Ryan.

As Treasurer, Janis has been a dedicated and trusted member of the ExCom. Trust, the security and the best interest of the membership have been the driving forces behind her work to revise the bylaws and bring issues to meetings, oftentimes receiving criticism.

Although the process appeared complicated, Janis has put in place measures that will protect the security of the membership names and mailing list. If you care about trust embodied in the Executive Committee, you should vote for Janis Ryan.

Finally, a proposal is being forwarded to limit the free speech time at Executive Committee Meetings of TGSF by stated reasons of efficiency. Considering world history and the individuals that have sought to put this oppression in place, this is the most chilling and frightening element of what could become the next TGSF leadership. All a proposal like this does is to limit dissent and to solidify the views of the President and other supporting ExCom members. If you care about individual rights of the membership to be heard and counted, you must vote for Janis Ryan.

As a personal note, selecting a one candidate over another for a leadership role in a volunteer organization is not a pleasing action, knowing some feelings will be hurt. I see no real winner from this election. No matter what result, two people will no longer give valuable input and insight as members of the ExCom and we all have such a long road to travel. When problems developed in how the nomination process came about and the feelings it was causing, I asked for an election committee to review the current slate and suggest any potential new candidates. It was decided to move the election along, so in turn we, as members, must move on and vote.

Roxanne

May 4-7, 2000

4TH INT'L CONGRESS ON CDING

Wayne, PA- November 12, 1999 - The 4th Congress is being presented May 4-7 of this coming year in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania by The Renaissance Transgender Association, Inc. in cooperation with The Center For Sexuality & Religion, and The International Foundation For Gender Education. The First Congress occurred at California State University at Northridge in 1995. The Second Congress, in 1997, was hosted by Renaissance in suburban Philadelphia. In 1998 the Third Congress was presented at Exeter College of Oxford University by Press For Change, a U.K. organization that campaigns for respect and equality for all trans people. Now this prestigious event returns to Philadelphia.

Before the Third Congress had even occurred the Board of Renaissance made the decision to host the 4th International Congress in Philadelphia. The event will be at The Warwick Hotel in Center City Philadelphia, just off Rittenhouse Square.

The theme of the 4th Congress is Gender Variance-Beyond 2000. The Congress will devote special attention to Relationships Between Gender Identity and Spirituality, Sexuality, and Legal issues, as well as the Evolution of Gender. The opening plenary speaker will be Doctor Walter O. Bockting of the University of Minnesota. Dr. Bockting is the Coordinator of Transgender Services for the University's Medical School. Dr. Bockting will speak on HIV/STD prevention in the context of comprehensive sexuality education for transgendered persons and their partners. Dr. Bockting is a member of the Board of Directors of The Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association.

Phyllis Randolph Frye, Esq. is a respected attorney who was founder and Executive Director of the International Conference on Transgender law and Employment Policy. Ms. Frye will address the changing relationship between transgendered individuals and the legal system, both now and into the next century. The third plenary will be on transgender issues in relation to spirituality and religion. The Rev. Dr. William R. Stayton, past President of the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors & Therapists, and currently Program Coordinator of the graduate program in Human Sexuality Education at Widener University, will address these issues. In addition to the three plenary sessions the Congress will present three days of workshops, panels, and papers on transgender issues. For more information contact Renaissance at 610-975-9119, or email congress@ren.org. You may also visit the 4th Congress website for more information, or to sign up online at <http://www.ren.org/4thCongress.html>.

Editorial Contact: Angela Gardner, (610) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] angela@ren.org

Election Candidate Statements

CANDIDACY STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENT

by Nicole Cook

Debbie and I have decided to run for TGSF Executive Committee offices where we feel we can have more of an impact on making things happen for the organization. I have decided to run for President and Debbie has decided to run as Secretary. I have introduced our running as a team intentionally. We do work as a team and I would like to ask that if you see fit to vote for me as President that you also vote for Debbie as Secretary. Debbie and I have been working on a number of ideas and potential projects together for several months and we are already in sync on how to make them happen.

I have some strong feelings towards how I would like the Transgendered world to be. What I will try to do here is to give a short overview of my vision and goals for the Transgendered community for the future. Since I am limited to 500 words here I invite you to visit the longer version of my statement at the TGSF website (www.tgsf.org) or my personal websites at http://members.tgforum.com/nicolec/nic_can.html or http://www.geocities.com/sf_nicole/nic_can.html.

First notice that I address "The Transgendered Community" and not just the organization TGSF. I would like to see our organization take a leading role in bringing the Transgendered Community together. I would like to see our events, Social, Education and Outreach coordinated with all other TG Organizations in the area. Other communities have a "provide for your own" commitment to the less fortunate members of their community. I think ours should too. I would like to see TGSF sponsor several programs towards this goal. Then there is the socials, I would like to create an environment where so many people are going to so many functions from so many different organizations that no one can figure out who is "with" which organization.

What about our big events? I believe these events are key to making us who we are, and I would like to see each of them done bigger and better each time we produce one. To do this we will need to have committees dedicated to the production of these events. I plan to follow through on this committee production concept introduced by our present Executive Committee.

How can I expect us to reach these lofty goals? The answer is simple, we will need more money. Part of what I propose to do is to introduce a new voting position to the Executive Committee. I have called the position a Publicist but I expect the position and the title to evolve over time. Essentially I intend to have someone working on securing us sponsors and advertisers all the time.

Well that's about it, it does not tell you everything about me but you should have a good idea of where I would like to take the organization. If you agree, I would be honored to have your vote on election day.



2000 ExCOM CANDIDATES

President: Nicole Cook
Janis Ryan

Vice Pres.: Open (Aiyana Eveningstar has agreed to accept as a write-in candidate)

Treasurer: Deborah C.

Secretary: Roxanne C.
Debbie Cook

Social: Tianna Marie

Outreach: Telzey
Kalani

Education: Stephanie Ann
Meredith

FOR VICE PRESIDENT

Aiyana has spent the last ten years studying traditional Chinese medicine and herbs and is licensed to practice acupuncture in the state of California. Interested in cross-dressing since her early teens, she worked as a stagehand for the drag cabaret group "The Angels of Light" in the early 1970's. Aiyana came out with a vengeance in the fall of 1997 after having been in the closet for years. Although still dressing as a male at work she loves dressing female to go out.

Aiyana joined TGSF in the beginning of 1999. She was a strong presence on the Pride Day float this year. She helped obtain materials and execute the design concept by finding useful tools and obtaining critical technical help from friends. Participating on the Cotillion Committee this year Aiyana was food and decoration coordinator whose responsibilities included choosing the caterer, decorating the tables, finding linens and table settings. She participated in this year's "Really Big Blue Shew" as stage coordinator and also playing a bit part.

Aiyana would like to join with you to make TGSF a successful vehicle to promote transgender issues and to communicate with the community and the country at large. Let's work together to be a bridge that reaches out to those around us to change their lives as well as our own.



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Election Candidate Statements

CANDIDACY STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENCY

by Janis Ryan

Vice-president Lulu's theme for the TGSF float in the 1999 Pride Parade was *The New Transgendered Face — Making It Up As We Go*. That theme proved to be very prophetic for our entire fiscal year. We started with two new members of the ExCom, Roxanne as Secretary and myself as Treasurer, and had to develop new procedures during the term.

I discovered that certain tax and information returns were overdue, researched the requirements for them, obtained the necessary information, and filed them.

I also identified some changes to our Bylaws that I felt were needed. They were modified and adopted by the ExCom and presented to the membership. Together with Secretary Roxanne and Outreach Co-chair Stephanie Ann I coordinated the Special Election in which the membership overwhelmingly adopted these changes.

But by far the most satisfying thing that I accomplished was meeting many new members, and getting to know others in the group better. Our Cotillion was such a magnificent event due to the many people worked very hard to bring the event about. The model of breaking things down into single tasks that individuals can handle worked well, and needs to be implemented for the group as a whole.

In the coming term we still need to catch up on the filing of the tax returns for previous years, and set in place procedures so that all future filings are made in a timely fashion. We need to find a new meeting place for our End-of-month Socials where we can have a single space to meet privately and configure both for presentations and socializing. We need to establish a welcoming committee for new members. We need to establish concise Standing Rules to address the corporate and business aspects of our organization.

Events like the Cotillion, Pride Parade, Blue Shew, and Halloween Party are important not only for our group but for the larger transgender community as well. They provide a great opportunity to educate both ourselves and the general public. We need to learn how to adequately budget our expenses and set the prices for tickets and program ads to cover their basic costs.

For the longer term I feel that we need to find a centrally located home for ourselves with shared office space. In order to accomplish this must identify the necessary ongoing funding, possibly with an increase in our dues payments.

I decided to run for President because I feel that I can better carry forward the accomplishments that we have made so far. I have spoken extensively with many long-time members of our organization, and sought their advice and support.

I support Roxanne in her bid for reelection as Secretary. I nominated and support Roxanne's spouse Deborah to succeed me as Treasurer, and will assist her in the coming term. I ask both for your support in this election, and your help in pursuing our goals.

CANDIDACY STATEMENT FOR TREASURER

Deborah C.

My name is Deborah and it is an honor to be nominated for the office of Treasurer. I currently serve and have over the past 8 years, on other boards of non-profit organizations in various offices of Secretary and Vice President. I have served twice on a convention committee in the role of Registration Manager. Thus, I bring to the group a vast knowledge of putting together a week filled with non-stop activities for both conventions held in California. It has taught me that, with a lot of hard work by various individuals, working together makes for a well run week, both working behinds the scene (last minute details) and up front (welcoming people to our activities). I scout out programs of interest for another group in which I am involved in. I have worked closely with the current ExCom by attending meetings during the past year, offering suggestions and ideas to help make the ExCom run more smoothly. By being an independent thinker, I am able to see both sides of a point of view to a problem and look at it as an outsider, to get all perspective before making/suggesting the best solution possible for a particular problem. During the last 19 years, I have worked for a financial institution in various positions. I have been very supported of Roxanne during her first year in transition, being on the ExCom and during her two years as a contestant for Miss TGSF. I will continue to support her and TGSF in my bid for Treasurer in the upcoming year, with your vote of confidence. Thank you.

CANDIDACY STATEMENT FOR SECRETARY

by Roxanne C.

I am Roxanne and am proud to have served my first year as Secretary of TGSF. I am the only current officer being challenged for office. I am going through my first year of supervised transition and know quite well the pain and wealth of emotions that many members of our community have to ordeal. Deborah, wife of 18 plus years, has undergone an equal amount of emotions in this challenging process. Deborah is an independent thinker and is free to accept, reject, disagree or participate in my involvement as TG person to the degree she wishes. I work full time in the field of adult education and since it makes a difference in people's lives, it is something I am just as proud to be involved in. It is this commitment that I am being foolishly challenged on. At the beginning of my term as Secretary, it was agreed by the ExCom, that the workload of the Secretary was too heavy and I would need to limit some duties because of work commitments. The mailing list was already not in the hands of the Secretary. In my term as Secretary, I have submitted the minutes on time, they have made it into every Newsletter and to my knowledge no individual membership has been jeopardized or not responded to during my term.

I have been a member of TGSF, formerly ETVC, since the group was meeting at Jelly's and remember fondly being with individuals in the TG community for the first time. This interest and a desire to pursue a transition led to me being a contestant for Miss TGSF in 1999 and again in 2000. In an interest to be further involved and feel a part of TGSF, I accepted the nomination as the organization's Secretary. I hope you will support my bid to return as Secretary and the participation of more not less individual members in one of the greatest and respected Executive Committees in this wonderful community.

Pre-op T. S.

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Election Candidate Statements

CANDIDACY STATEMENT FOR SECRETARY

By Debbie Cook

I have enjoyed working as Social Chair for the last year I have had many pleasant experiences and I have found that TGSF is a great group of people to be around. Nicole and I are looking to move to new positions where we have the opportunity to make more substantial improvements to the organization. I describe this using "we" because that's how Nicole and I work.

One thing that I did want to address is my experience with the duties of Secretary. I would like everyone to feel confident that I have the experience necessary to perform the function. During the past 2 years I have had the opportunity to perform many of the functions that the Secretary is responsible for. I have listed a number of those functions below as well as a few new functions which I feel should be handled by the Secretary and my experience performing them:

- I have, on several occasions, worked as the fall back and expedited information to Ayme when other sources of the information were unavailable.
- I have produced the TGSF newsletter more than 8 times including: picking them up, ordering new envelopes, printing labels, stuffing, stamping and mailing.
- One of the most enjoyable things I've been able to do is develop the TGSF website over the past 10 months.
- We developed the Resource Guide in 1998 and updated it in 1999, a "start from scratch" project. We then formatted and posted it to the website.
- We produced the color laminated membership cards.
- We have worked with the membership list on several occasions (mailing the newsletter, membership cards & Resource Guide). We are quite familiar with how it's stored, and how sensitive some of the information is to our members.
- Nicole and I have prepared election notices for SGA on two occasions and performed the vote counting in the 1999 Board election and the early 2000 Special Election.

In addition, I have listed a number of things which I have done for TGSF which indicate my ability to handle a challenging task.

- Probably the most challenging planning event that I've had the opportunity to do for TGSF was the catering for the 1999 Cotillion. This included the preparation, cooking and serving of 400 as well as renting, setting-up and breaking down a full kitchen in a driving rain storm.
- Another set of events which were quite challenging was the planning and catering of the 1998 and 1999 Halloween parties at Carla's. While the catering only required food for just over 100 people, coordination of all the other elements were as important including: decorations, entertainment, licensing and other government requirements for serving alcohol and arrangements for support from local vendors.

So I hope you'll have confidence in me that I'll make a good Secretary. I'm definitely looking forward to serving the organization in coming years, and would feel honored to receive your vote on election day.



CANDIDACY STATEMENT FOR OUTREACH CHAIR

by Kalani

Hello and aloha! My name is Kalani and I'm currently running for the office of Outreach Chair/Co-Chair. Although there are several reasons why I am seeking this position, some of the main reasons are the positive effects of my very first outreach presentation to several college classes and the opportunity to both continue educating others and to give back and support TGSF. To this day, I am still amazed by the responses that I have received from individual students and entire classes. In almost every letter, each student commented on how refreshing it was to hear a truly personalized story and how their views of transgendered persons were either enlightened or changed toward the positive. I know that it is difficult to reach out to and educate everyone. However, it is my hope that I can increase awareness and understanding through this position. Thank you for your time and support! Mahalo! (thank you).

Now Available!

1999 RESOURCE GUIDE

The 1998-99 TGSF Resource Guide is now available at cost to all TGSF members. You can bring \$3.00 to the next social or we can mail it to you for \$3.00 + \$1.50 postage. If you are a service listed in the guide you can get copies for \$5.00 each plus postage. The Resource Guide will be available to everyone else for \$10.00 each.

The 1999 TGSF Resource Guide is your one source for virtually all the Transgender Resources in the Greater Bay Area (From San Jose to Sacramento to Santa Rosa to San Francisco). The Guide covers where to go to have a good time on the town, where to shop, where to get services like Make-up, Electrolysis and Beauty Salons, as well as where to stay in the San Francisco area (and Russian River Resort Area). You can also locate professional services such as Doctors, Psychologists, Lawyers, Voice Therapists and others. The Guide also contains information on other Gender Information and Education Groups. If you are going to visit the San Francisco area - This is the guide to have!

If you would like a guide by mail you can send a check for \$4.50 (per copy) to: TGSF, Resource Guide, P.O. Box 426486, San Francisco, CA. 94142-6486. Please be sure to indicate on the check that it is for the Resource Guide.

Election Candidate Statements

CANDIDACY STATEMENT FOR EDUCATION CHAIR

by **Stephanie Ann Blythe**

My first priority as Education Co-Chair will be to continue the excellence of Education Seminars that have been presented by the current and past co-chairs. The next highest priority has to be building up the attendance at the seminars. We have a wealth of information to share among each other, but we also need the audience to make it worthwhile. I will listen to you for what, where, when, and how we can bring programs to the widest audience.

We have many transgender groups in the Bay Area along with all of the other groups in the greater GLBT community. We have the opportunity to build relationships with all of these groups which we can do through joint efforts at education. I will pursue these avenues to enhance the quality of our Education Seminars.

The range of topics is endless. Seminars on feminine appearance, style, and deportment will continue to be paramount, but anything about the feminine experience is a potential Education Seminar. Let me and my sister co-chair know about it and we will try to develop it. We are here for you.



CANDIDACY STATEMENT FOR SOCIAL CHAIR

Tianna M. DeVil, Your "Resident Diva"

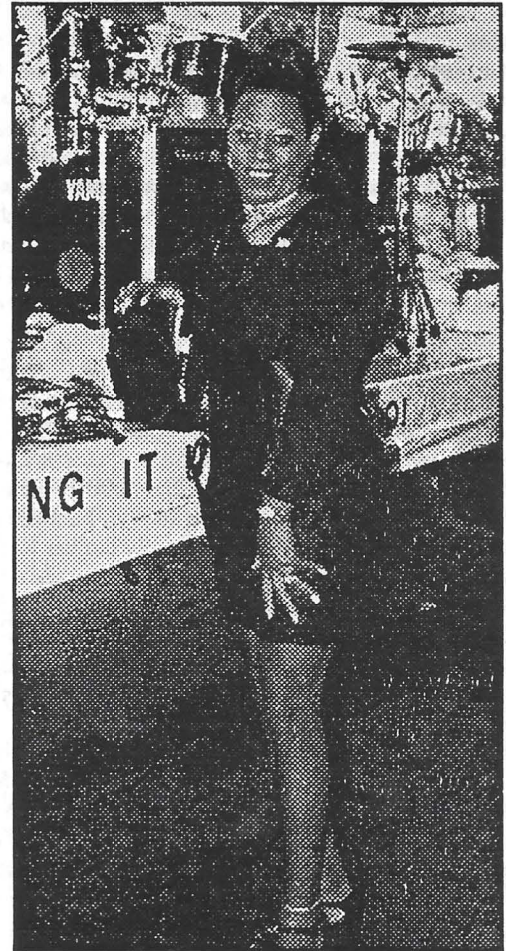
I am running for Social chair because I would like to contribute to the organization that has given me so much. I have had a lot of fun since I started attending the socials and would like to continue to make these special gatherings enjoyable and fun for all who attend.

The position of social chair has been a key role in the organization. It is at social events such as we've had in the past, where our members can meet one another and become 'Ohana' (family) with other members. It is not always easy to greet and introduce everyone new that comes, but it is necessary to work towards this goal.

Everyone who comes should feel welcome and at ease. Being one of those members "by-mail" only, I remember what it was like to take that first step and how scary it was! I have promised myself to do whatever I can to make those first steps as easy as possible for other "by-mail" only members. We only have one opportunity to live our lives, so let's reach for the golden ring and show others the way!

Being Social Chair is a challenging position, filled by some very wonderful people in our glorious past and present. Our current Social Co-Chairs Nicole and Debbie Cook have done an excellent job, giving of themselves more than could be expected by any two human beings.

I will do all in my power to try to continue in the grand tradition set by those who have come before me. With my gracious and lovely co-nominee Michelle Garcia and the support of our membership, we'll have fun and show 'The City' and the rest of the world that TGSF is in the house to stay!





FEBRUARY - MARCH SOCIALS IN REVIEW

By Nicole and Debbie

The TGSF End of Month was held on February 24th at the Blue Muse. The event of the evening was nominations for the next Executive Committee. About 30 members were present, and guess what, for the first time since I have kept track more than 1 person was nominated for and accepted a key position on the Executive Committee. As a result you have a choice for who you want as President and Secretary. This is great and I hope next year that there will be enough interest to have options for every position! So who were the nominees? For President there is me (Nicole Cook) and Janis Ryan. For Vice President Jamie Faye Fenton was nominated but has since decided to withdraw, with some additional hunting Aiyana Evening Star was asked to run as a write in candidate and she has accepted. For Secretary you can select between Debbie Cook (my S.O.) and Roxanne Camino. For Treasurer, Deborah Camino. In the Social seats we have Miss TGSF 2000 Michelle Garcia and first runner up Tianna Marie DeVil. In the Education seats we have Stephanie Ann Blythe and Meredith Memaran. And in the Outreach seats we have Telzey Adams and Kalani Makanani. Remember, if you know someone else who wants to run, you can write them in. It is your organization and the elections will be one chance for you to make a difference. The elections will be during the April End of Month.

Two days after the End of Month, 20 of us attended the San Francisco Imperial Court Coronation. This was the second time I had been to this event. This event is quite impressive and is held in the San Francisco Gift Center (a larger venue than the SF Design Center Galleria), and it was packed. The short description of this event would be "Each visiting court and non-court organization gets an opportunity to go up and congratulate the current Emperor and Empress, mixed in with these official introductions is a variety of performances and the announcement of the new Emperor and Empress". But the real key to this event is the opportunity to socialize and meet people from other organizations. Each time I go here I meet several new people and see several that I have met before. For those of you who have never been to one of these events, let me say this, there are more TG people in attendance, than we have at any event short of the Cotillion.

Things were hopping at the TGSF Mid Month / SGA Talent Show on March 4th in Sacramento. Seven of the 10 Cotillion contestants were on hand to perform at this events as well as a number of the SGA talent. Despite a driving rain storm nearly 50 people showed up to watch a wide array of talent strut their stuff on the stage. Miss TGSF 2000 Michelle Garcia and her court performed a song written by Michelle about the Transgender Experience. Tianna and her dancer Michelle performed a HOT dance number which I hope to see again at the Big Shew. Roxanne performed her Shania Twain number and it really looked good. Lynnea and Jennifer performed a very mystic dance number which included Jennifer being tied up with a scarf like material. Jennifer performed her own number. Debbie and I performed the same Cher number we did at the Cotillion, and the Outrageous Miss Didi Mau performed three times during the evening. In addition to these great performances Krystal and Liz (First Runner up for Miss SGA) performed a "Dueling Peg Bundy" skit that was fantastic. There were several other performers, four different live singer / guitar players,

and the MC of the evening was our own Erin Souza, who fills every rough edge in the show schedule with her own comedy material.

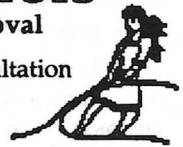
The following week on March 11th at the SGA Social, elections were held for the SGA Board of Directors. Nine people were running for the five available positions. I missed the San Jose Coronation just to act as the election committee for the event. 28 of the eligible 58 members voted (a 48% turnout). At the end of the night the winners were Michelle Roth and Debbie Cook each with 19 votes, Krystal Powers with 17 votes, Mary D. with 16 votes, and Liz D. (1st runner up to Miss SGA) 15 votes. Since I know all these new board members, I am confident that the next year for SGA will be one of significant improvements for the group and their community. I encourage everyone from TGSF to try to get out to their events every now and then. They are quite fun and the venue is the most TG friendly that I have ever seen.



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Me Posie...

How Sweet is Your Air?

Flying and Floating from Stars Finely Flowing;
Lingering and Lustrous with Starkles quite Bustrous;
Beauty of Angels that Fly from the Sea;
Waving and Winging with Infinite Certainty *****

So Sweet Are Your Words;
Such Spirit and Brea(d)th;
Spanning Across Mountains;
Echoing Off Fountains —

Your Beauty and Presence
Makes Me Wonder:
How Are You Now?
Your Life Force?
Your Essence?

Breathing and Singing
Feeling the Tingling

Sensing the ONE. . .

I have been Thinking,
of You and Your Linking
of Sounds and Words as Great Earthscapes:
the Life of the Land;
the Blood of the Sky. . .
. . . Listening for Angels and Hearing Them Singing —
Chanting and Changing; the Center Unending
Never Pretending
Houses of Magic Where Songs Are Kept Sending:
Embrace of the Heart; Never Defending
Bending and Twisting, The Tortuous Flow
Tingles and Glitters All Gleaming Aglow!
Gliding in Glory at Our Sacred Story
Glistening and Priding Our Moment of Births
Listening Our Life Song
Hearing Our Heart Sing
Joyfully

Raining

as We Flood

In the Sea-ing

And Oceans of Earths. . .

© December 7, 1999 1:00 am
revised 3/1/00
Daniella Twilling SeaWarrior

Continued from March Issue

THE CONTESTANT EXPERIENCE – PART II

By Nicole

As the big night got closer we were all preparing for the Dress Rehearsal on Friday night before the Cotillion. On Thursday I was running (so I could wear the red bathing suit in the Active wear competition) and Debbie drove out to find me in the middle of my run. Diva had arranged for us to be on TV and needed to know immediately if I could be there at 7:30 the next morning (The day of the rehearsal). Well I could not give that up so Tianna, Serena, Roxanne and I all showed up by the waterfall at the end of Market near the ferry building to be on a four minute segment of "Mornings on 2" a regular morning show on channel 2 in San Francisco. Our segment aired at about 8:40 that morning. Debbie and I drove home to watch the segment on tape. Not long after that it was off to the San Francisco Design Center Galleria for the Dress Rehearsal. When we arrived at 4:15pm not much was happening, it was a few hours before the actual walk through would begin. There was some discussion about the size of the dressing room and Lulu told us that three of us would be in another area. We noticed there were no clothes racks in the dressing room, and it had some building materials on the floor. Also the floor outside had not been finished yet. When rehearsal did start we stepped through the sequence of the show, Debbie and I were there for the Active Wear segment, all of the contestants went out on stage in their outfits. Unfortunately the MC's were not doing the voice-overs for the dress rehearsal, and it showed (at least to me) on the day of the event. Debbie and I tried to stay until our talent segment rehearsal but everything was moving slow as the technical people were getting their instructions for each segment. We ended up leaving at around 9:30pm since I had to wake up early the next day to teach a class.

On the day of the event I had to teach a class in the morning so I could not sleep in. We actually drove back home before heading to the Design Center Galleria. When we did arrive it was quite early, we were there at about 4pm. We headed for the dressing room with my outfits, makeup and other supplies. We were happy to see that the clothing racks had arrived. Lynnea was already there so we were talking while I set up my section of the make-up table. I also took this opportunity to move some of the building supplies out of the dressing room. By 6pm most of the girls had arrived. Three girls (Kalani, Meredith and Roxanne) were set up in an area in one of the halls which left 7 of us in the main dressing room. Each of us had 24 inches of space along the mirror. Jamie showed up with a closed circuit TV monitor which she hooked to a camera facing the stage, so we had a small view of what was going on outside. By 7:00pm everything was moving at full speed, each contestant was getting into their first outfit. Debbie and I went up to the 3rd floor restroom where we had a bit more room. While we were there we saw LeChara and her friend getting ready. When we returned to the dressing room it was almost show time, and at about five minutes after we were off and running. Since the dance company turned out to be a no show, we took our positions to enter the stage for the active wear segment at the start of the show. As we waited, I was a bit nervous. Then we started to go out on stage, I went out sixth. Each of us was suppose to have 32 seconds, but the MC's had never been told that, I think they were going by the script which had not been timed, so I only got about 25 seconds and could not do my last pose. The active wear segment ended OK even though the cue to move to the front of the stage was not that clear, but we eventually moved forward and found our way off stage.

Continued on Page 17

**San Francisco Gala to Feature
Art Giveaway, Live Performance**

**GLBT HISTORICAL SOCIETY SETS ART
AFFAIR FUND-RAISER FOR APRIL 3**

"Sugar Lift: The Second Annual GLBTHS Art Affair," a fundraiser for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society of Northern California, is set for April 3, 7-10 p.m., at Yerba Buena Center, 701 Mission St., San Francisco. The evening gala celebrating queer culture will feature an "instant art collection" giveaway, live performance, and festive food and drink.

"History isn't just about dead and dusty things; it's the well-spring of our contemporary arts and culture," said Karl Knapper, co-chair of the GLBT Historical Society board. "Sugar Lift" will not only be an exciting evening in support of a worthy cause; it will be a chance to showcase the cultural legacy that our communities are creating today."

Entertainment at the event will be provided by performance artist Nao Bustamante, honored this year with the GLBT Historical Society Community Arts Award. Bustamante has toured extensively in the U.S. and abroad, presenting compelling and often wildly funny solo works dealing with gender, sexuality and identity. A native of the San Joaquin Valley, she has lived for 16 years in San Francisco's Mission District.

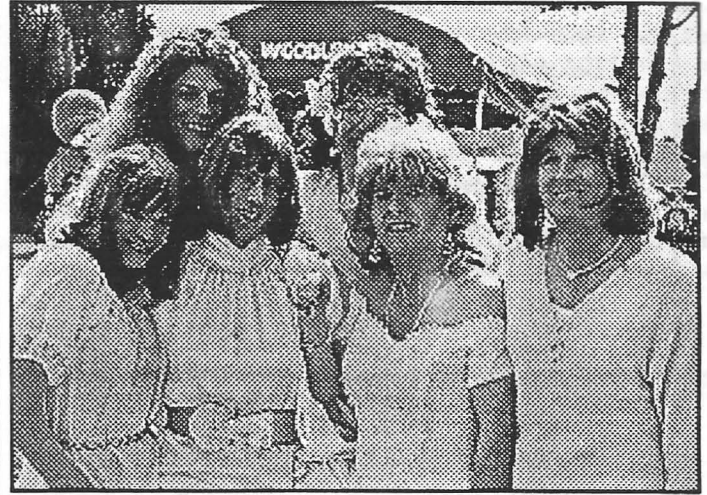
The evening will close with a giveaway of photographs, prints, drawings, sculpture and electronic media by 21 queer artists, both nationally known figures and rising stars. The works have been donated by the artists and by local dealers and collectors. "Sugar Lift" ticket-holders will be entered in the giveaway at no additional charge. One lucky ticket-holder will select an instant collection of five works; others will receive a choice of from one to four works.

San Francisco supervisors Tom Ammiano, Leslie Katz and Mark Leno are serving as honorary co-chairs for "Sugar Lift." Corporate sponsors include Chronicle Books, Frontiers Newsmagazine, W. C. Keating, PlanetOut.com and Sterling Art Services. Framing has been donated by Sterling and by two other San Francisco framers, Museum West and Under Glass Framing.

Celebrating its 15th anniversary this year, the GLBT Historical Society maintains the Center for the History of Sexual Diversity, an internationally significant archives that documents Bay Area GLBT social, cultural, political and artistic movements of the past half-century. The Historical Society also offers public programs, exhibits, oral history training and research assistance year-round.

Tickets to "Sugar Lift" are \$100 per person (includes buffet dinner, drinks and one entry in the drawing). For more information or to purchase tickets, call (415) 864-8523. Visit the online exhibit of works in the art giveaway at www.glhs.org.

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Contestant Experience...

Continued from Page 15

My next change was easy since we would do our talent segment ninth, so when we got back to the dressing room we let Didi (my neighbor in the dressing room) have our space since she was going out first. Once Didi left I changed into my black sequin dress and Debbie changed my hair style. We were done in plenty of time and ended up waiting more than 20 minutes back stage. Soon it was time and I got ready to go out on stage, I was suppose to go out in the dark but that cue was missed so I went out in a spot light. I was worried about how I would sound, but from where I was standing I did not sound that bad. Our sound people seemed to be on the ball. Then Debbie began to sing and I felt much more comfortable because she sounded great. As our number progressed it seemed like the lights were doing what we had planned for them to do (I won't know for sure until I see the tape), but I am almost sure the most important part, the ending, went right on cue - my thanks to Nancy and the technical crew!

Next was the formal wear segment. Here I was worried about having the time to get dressed, but as we saw more and more debutantes go out on the stage all fears about not having enough time vanished. Soon all of us were sitting in the dressing room ready, watching the little monitor as most of the audience (at least from my perspective) went up to the stage to be a debutante. Finally the end of the debutante parade was announced and you could hear cheers coming from the dressing room. Once again it was time to get into position back stage. By now we had done most of the hard stuff so I was a bit more comfortable, also I did not have to suck in my belly as much with the gown as I did with the swim suit. We went out without much problem, but there was a cue mix-up on our move to the front of the stage so for a while we were lost, but we winged it and it worked out OK. As we moved off stage the tension mounted, when we returned only five of us would be remaining, and since we really could not see how the other performances went, I did not know if I would be picked or not. I don't really remember much until they started to call the names of the finalist. Then the names were announced first Meredith, then Tianna, then Michelle, then Kalani. Four people had been called, only one more chance, if my fingers were any more crossed I would have broken them, then finally they said "Nicole". Ahhh what a relief as I made my way to the stage. My exhilaration in being selected as one of the finalist was dampened, however, as we left the stage. It was at that point that I thought of the five members of our troupe that were no longer in the running. And for a while I had an empathic response of how I would have felt if I was in there shoes. I forced myself to shake this feeling because now I had to do the Final Question.

I had done quite a bit of work on the possible questions and good responses. Before the SGA pageant I had typed up a summary sheet covering four likely question scenarios and what I would say to each. At the SGA event the question was right on my number one scenario. As I stood back stage listening to the questions the other contestants were getting, I heard three of my questions go by, we could not hear the answers because of the way the echo's were bouncing off the walls in the back. Then it was my turn to go out, I walk out and select a question, I open it and low and behold, a scenario I had not anticipated, at first I felt a panic, then one word, a word inspired by Tianna came to mind: "family." From this one word I was able to construct an answer in the few seconds I had while the emperor read the question to the audience. It may not have been a polished gem, but at least it was not a lemon. I felt I had survived the question. So off I went to yet

another nail biter. All of the finalist were back stage holding hands, Debbie, Serena and Miss Congeniality (Jamie) had joined us. This was a great feeling but I knew it would not last. It was hard to describe what was going through my mind at this point. Then we headed back out to the stage. This time my suspense would be ended first, "and the second runner up is Nicole", oddly enough I was not thinking as much about not winning as I was about at least being one of the three selected. Soon Tianna was standing next to me, and I had no idea who was going to join us. Then it was announced "Miss TGSF 2000 is Michelle". Michelle seemed truly surprised as Serena approached her with the tiara. From that point on things were a bit chaotic. But as the show ended and we were all posing for photos I began to notice several people in the audience that I wanted to say hi to before they left. So I left the stage and began to socialize in the audience. As the audience began to dwindle Debbie and I returned to the dressing room to pack up our stuff and leave.

The day after the event was strange for me. I was experiencing a feeling of emptiness. I had been working with a number of people who I enjoyed working with for the last month and now it was over. I really wanted to get together with the group again and do something else. All I can say is that this event was one of the most enjoyable events in my life that I can remember, and unlike the years before where I was wondering if I would work up the nerve to run next year, this year I know, if it is at all possible, I will be up there again next year. My compliments to the people in the Cotillion Planning Committee for pulling off another fabulous event.

TGSF Donations - Our Friends Who Give as of March 15, 2000

There were no donations for the period

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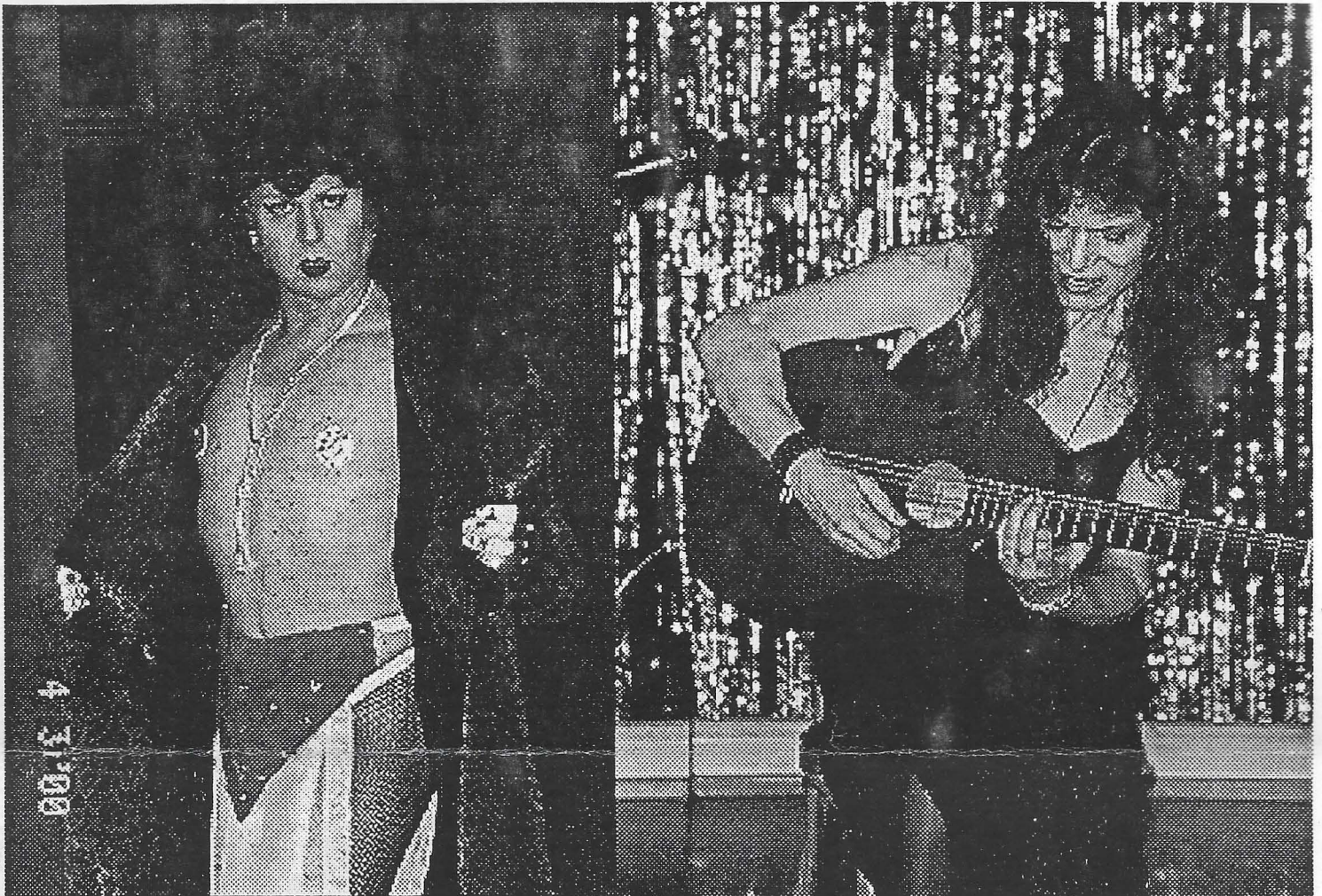
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NEW ONLINE SO LIST!

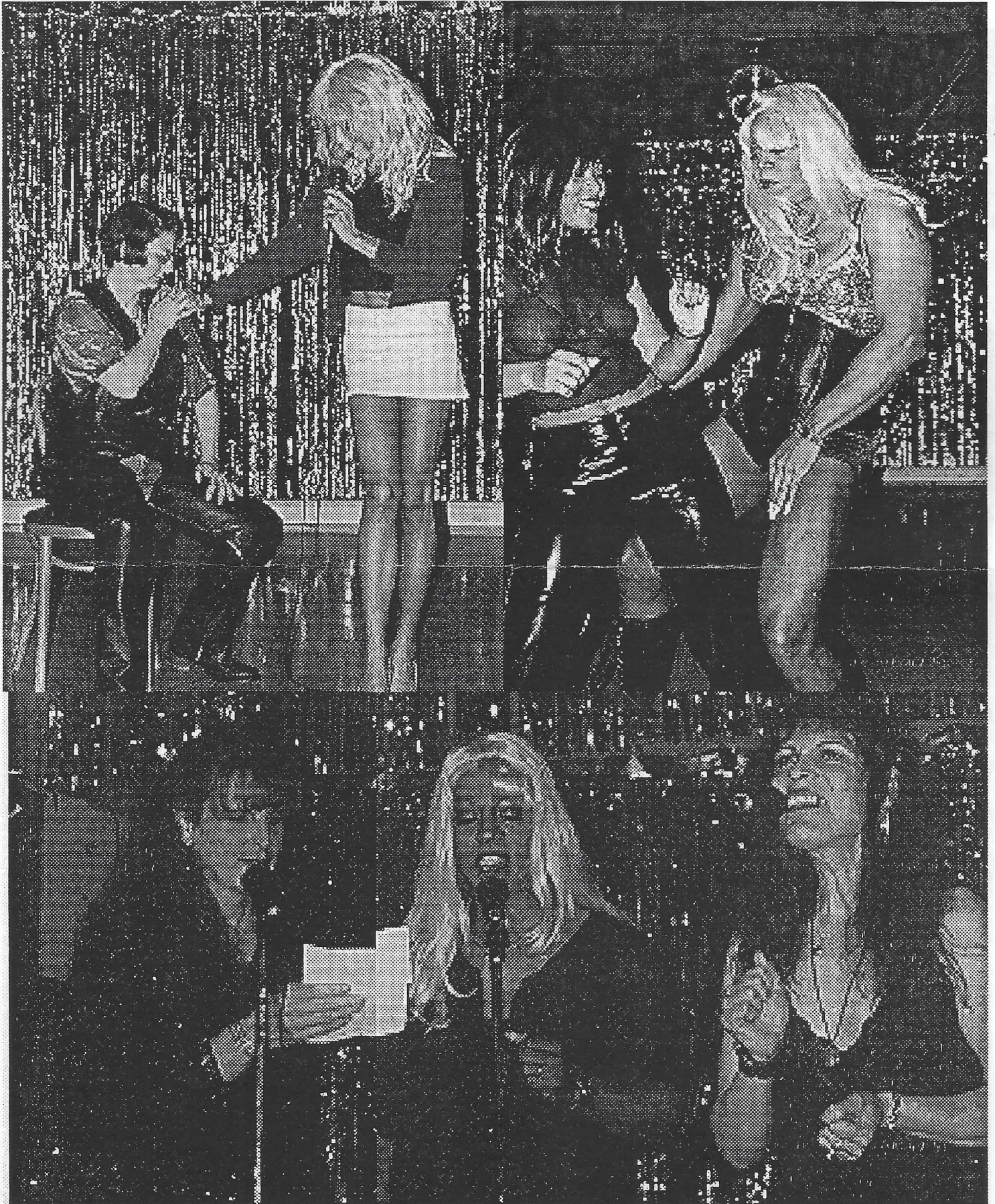
New online mailing list for wives and SOs of crossdressers and men who consider themselves to be transgendered; no topic off limits. Attitudes range from complete acceptance to really struggling. Open to women only—no crossdressers please! Women need a place where they can feel safe to discuss these issues.

Write to Jenni at
www.aluckywife@aol.com
and explain a little about your situation.

SGA Talent Show Photos



SGA Talent Show Photos



KINSEY SICKS READY TO TAKE A BITE OUT OF THE BIG APPLE

by Tom Musbach
for the Gay.com Network

Though they are four men who sing together without instruments, don't call the Kinsey Sicks a "barbershop quartet" - no barber would admit to the creations these singers wear on their heads. Billed as "America's favorite dragapella quartet," the group performs altered versions of pop standards, and they wring innuendo out of every lyric. Their second CD, titled *Boyz 2 Girlz*, features such comic morsels as "I Will Swallow Him," "Gay Sera Sera" and "Titanic: Why Does Celine Go On?"

After years of entertaining the masses in their home town of San Francisco, the girls—Winnie, Trixie, Rachel and Trampolina—are taking their show to New York City, where they'll begin an open-ended run later this year. They recently took a break from their rehearsals and beauty treatments to speak with Gay.com.

Gay.com: Do you girls ever get competitive with each other?

Winnie: We strive to engage only in egalitarian, ecofeminist, vegan and, most importantly, noncompetitive activity.

Rachel: Winnie, I'm far more noncompetitive than you are. As a matter of fact, I'm the most noncompetitive in the group by a wide margin.

Trixie: When it comes to wide margins, honey, Rachel wins hands down.

How do you divvy up the solos, and how did Trampolina, for example, land the solo part in the song "I Will Swallow Him"?

Trampolina: It just came to me. It was during my spiritual study with Deepthroat Chakra.

You have the distinction of performing for "weddings, bar mitzvahs, parole hearings and liposuctions." Have you had any celebrity clients?

Trixie: I'm shocked that you'd ask such a question! A girl never reveals her clients' identities. I did do a special lap dance for George W. Bush once, but he probably wouldn't recall—he was flying on cocaine at the time. But don't hold it against him; it was a youthful indiscretion. He was only forty.

Many of the songs on *Boyz 2 Girlz* were recorded live. Have any of you ever forgotten the words to a song during a live performance?

Winnie: Oh it was terrible! We were just getting to the second chorus of...what was that song? What was the question? Well, anyway, it's a good thing that we don't lip synch.

Trampolina: I forgot my underwear once! Which reminds me... everyone should be sure to check out the Kinsey Sicks Web site at www.kinseysicks.com.

How do you handle the dual burden of beauty and talent?

Rachel: Masturbation and lots of mirrors.

What are you going to take with you to New York City?

Rachel: Hopefully nothing, now that we've had our penicillin.

But if people want to get something from us, they should order our CD *Boyz 2 Girlz* or our CD *Dragapella*... or a Kinsey Sicks T-shirt... or a Kinsey Sicks poster from our Web site. And if people sign on to our e-mail list, we'll be able to give them info about our upcoming Off-Broadway run so that they can catch us in person!

For LGBT Parents

REFRAMING THE TODDLER YEARS

Pacific Center Family Program presents: "Reframing the Toddler Years: For LGBT parents," a child development workshop to be held Saturday, April 1st from 10:30am to 12:30 at the Pacific Center in Berkeley.

Challenge the idea of the terrible twos; let's make them terrific twos! Through discussion of toddler (age 1 to 3) child development, you can plan ways to support your kids most effectively in this challenging and exciting time. Also, this workshop will give you the chance to explore age-appropriate ways of talking to and supporting your child around having LGBTQ parents, dealing with prejudice, gender identity, etc.

Child care is provided, donations are requested but not required, and the center is wheelchair accessible. ASL interpretation is also available with advance notice.

Family Program workshops are for current and prospective Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) parents and are always the first Saturday of the month from 10:30-12:30. The Pacific Center is located at 2712 Telegraph Ave (at Derby) in Berkeley. For directions or info on the center, call 510-548-8283.

To reserve a space or for more info, please contact Anna at 415 [REDACTED] or familyprogram@yahoo.com.

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