

MERRY CHRISTMAS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Cross-Port Inner View

2020 B BEECHMONT AVE. BOX 150
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45230

Vol.3 No.12 For The Crossdresser December 1987

Next Meeting December 17th At 7:30

CROSS-PORT BASICS

By Jennifer

November's Cross-Port meeting was well attended by twenty rather stylish ladies with several new faces. For Kathy, a new member, it was her first time out. Crossport took some initial steps at reorganization with the vice-president, Linda, chairing the meeting for the first time while Heather put her feet up and took a much earned break.

Linda spoke of the upcoming national convention in Chicago to open the meeting. (Please refer to her report below.) Force of habit brought Heather to her feet and she shared her visit at the Paradise Club's dinner and meeting with us. She followed up with a report on the Gay Coalition. Some of you may have heard highlights from the annual dinner broadcast on WAIF several weeks ago. Most pressing with the Coalition is Cross-Port's need for an alternate representative. Interested persons should inquire with Heather about specifics.

Alice gave the Treasurer's statement and followed with a motion that Cross-Port funds be used to send Heather to the convention in Chicago. The vote carried and although Heather was taken by surprise, she blushed sweetly and graciously accepted.

After the official business ceded an informal officer's meeting was held along with several other interested members. The topic was re-assignment of duties and responsibilities in the group. Those of you that have been members of Cross-port for some time realize the amount of heart and soul that Heather has given to this organization. The cultivation and care that grew and strengthened this group is almost singularly hers. I have heard the statement, "This is the first time I've ever been out dressed, it's great!" dozens of times. It was her concern that enabled these people to extend their feminine visions. Without her I, personally, would never have met the wonderful people that I now know. She deserves more than our simple thanks and gratitude. As she enters a new direction in her life she deserves our support in return. New members yet unfound to us deserve that support also. After all, if you can't return the favor, pass it on.

Although Heather will remain President for the time being she will be adapting a lower profile in the group. She will maintain many of her duties but others of us will now share the responsibilities and hopefully provide new potentials. The Newsletter is one of the largest tasks. A small party of us will get together monthly to put it all together. Those of you wishing to make contributions of any kind should keep in mind to mail the items by the end of each month in order to make the following newsletter. Hopefully next issue we will have set some format guidelines so contributions can be handled more efficiently.

Several of our members have had the opportunity to make it up to the IXE meetings the first Thursday of the month in Indy. They've had a good time, you might want to do the same. They meet at a club called G.G. at 44th and Allisonville Rd. Although I haven't made a meeting I did have the opportunity to meet IXE's Secretary there for a nice dinner, a floorshow, and a Patsy Cline impersonator with more vibrato in her throat than a bullfrog. Try to get to Indy in the afternoon so you can stop at Shin's Boutique at 54th and Keystone. A beautiful oriental gal is extremely helpful with wigs, jewelry and clothing. Those of you on the large size might appreciate their selection of nice gowns and evening wear. I was also well received en femme while shopping at Glendale and Castleton Malls.

While on the subject of other cities, several of us got up to Columbus for Ginger's last (if not least) birthday party. What was it, dear - 39th again? Anyway, of the several clubs we hit, a place called Wall Street seem to be our top choice and we'd also recommend Bananas. All from Indy who made it to our last meeting got the scoop on Louisville. Places to be are the Downtowner at 105 W. Main, the Carriage House and Marketplace (doesn't that sound intriguing?) at 700 E. Market and My Place near 400 E. Market.

A reminder that deadline for entry into the Ms. Christopher's Pageant is Dec. 26th. I talked with Bob Parks who is coordinating the event and who has developed these functions elsewhere. It is a pageant in it's truest sense and not some drag show. Some of you might be familiar with the major pageants held annually in New York, LA, Frisco, Atlanta and D.C. There are cash prizes for the top three finishers and the reigning Ms. Christopher will perform monthly and receive \$50.00 per show. The festivities will be moderated by Tracey West, you may know her as Miss Gay Ohio.

I asked Bob if he felt they wanted only Gay or Bisexual Female Illusionists. He said no, that Christopher's Bar welcomes all people who are different regardless of lifestyle and that Ms. Christopher should represent that simple idea. This contest is not open to professionals so get your act together girl. Applications are available at Christopher's or you can get one from me by sending a self addressed stamped business envelope to Jennifer Marquette, P.O.Box 11112, Cinti., Oh. 45211. At this time I'm planning to provide some stage lighting and perhaps some draping and I could probably use a hand, so if you're interested let me know. It would be nice to see our group well represented - I have no doubt the talent is there.

The "BOYS" in Apartment 3G



CAN WE TALK!

By Heather Pearson

At the November meeting it was decided that the current board would take over several of the tasks I currently do. The first change is that Linda will now run the meetings. Her first one was last month and she did an excellent job.

The second and biggest will be the "InnerView" which will be assembled by several persons. The total details are being worked out but I hope to continue bringing you "tidbits and gossip" by writing "Can We Talk?" in future issues. There should be a new/different look with more views and articles by more people. If you would like to write an article or column call the Cross-Port line 513-631-0732 or write us. Suggestions for articles include your first time out, hopes and dreams you currently have, places to go or things to do

I wish to thank the group for the passage of the motion to pay my registration to the Convention. It was a surprise but a welcomed one at this point in time.

I've been trying for a couple of months to report on the movie "He's My Girl" but other things seemed more important. The movie didn't seem to be around long and I understand why. It was a somewhat funny movie, for teens, with some of the poorest acting I've seen. It's one good point that it was not really derogatory of crossdressing.

There were two references to "drag queens" but at the end when everyone finds out that this girl is really a guy there is little shock or bad reactions to that fact. A real plus in the "help others to know how to act" area.

The story line is weak, revolving around a musician who wins a trip to appear on television. He is permitted to take one person along but it must be a girl. His business manager, a male, decides to fill the bill. It has been so long since I saw the movie that I've forgotten who played the role but it was convincing and was the best performance in the film. If it comes to cable you may want to watch it, but don't lose sleep if you miss it.

The better part of the story is that Alice and I went to see it and no one even noticed us. Proof that the film did nothing to raise people awareness of crossdressing in general or maybe it did.

A reminder again that dues are due by January 31st. Anyone who has not paid their \$18.00 by that time will not receive a February "InnerView".

Over the past two and one half years I have tried to keep Cross-Port open and supportive of all types of crossdressing. Some of my personal goals for the group have been, to recognize the different and varying degrees of crossdressing, to provide support for all crossdresser whether they dress only at home or go out, whether they are ready for meetings or just wish to talk on the phone to someone, and whether they are seeking gender congruity or dress once a year. My aim has been to try to help all of us feel the pressures society places on us, because of our differences, less and to provide a feeling of acceptance and personal comfort.

I believe Cross-Port has achieved many of these goals thanks to most of you. One of our former members is in the hospital right now recovering from her congruity surgery and one is scheduled for February. Each of these people has enriched my life as well as providing a lot of help in starting this group. I wish to extend to them my love, respect and appreciation for everything they have done for me and for the group. I wish them the very best in their new lives.

I also wish for each of you a truly Merry Christmas and the Happiest and Most Peacefull New Year ever. I pray each of you will see the realization of your dreams, whatever they may be and that the world will come to realize the gifts it has in each of you. May God bless and keep all of you and your families safe through the holidays and through out the new year.

Heather

CHRISTMAS PARTY TIME

Well it's December again and that means its time for our Christmas party. Last year we just told everyone to bring an hors d'oeuvre to share with everybody else. We found that it was one of our biggest and best meetings we have ever had. There were lots of really tasty goodies and all the girls had a great time. Therefore, again this year we ask if you will bring your favorite dish and some christmas cheer to share with your sisters at our next meeting. Remember, the meeting starts at 7:30 so try to get there on time.



SPECIAL GUEST AT DECEMBER MEETING

We all have something we would like to do or try as a girl. Perhaps its going shopping, dinner, or even living as a woman for a while. We all like to meet someone who has done the things we would like to try to find out just what it was like first. Well at the December meeting you are going to meet just that person. Her name is Randy.

Randy has done almost everything you have ever dreamed of. I will give you a little of her background as a sample of what you will find out if you get to talk to her at the meeting.

When she was in grade school she was not much different than most of us. But before she started high school she told her parents that she wanted to live as a girl. They said its sounds good to them since they preferred girls any way. (She is one of 12 kids in her family.) So when she started school, she did so as a girl. Her parents even took her to a gynaecologist for some hormone pills.

While in high school, she was just like all the other girls. Her breasts developed along with the rest of her body to a very feminine shape. She dated boys, shopped with her girl friends, and was even a cheerleader for the school. At home, everyone excepted her as just another girl in the family, which she was in almost all respects.

After graduation she got a job with a modeling agency and when to work in New York. She met a girl she really liked and got married and they had a child. (Again I remind you she still lives as a woman, so this was a lesbian type marriage.) After about a year, things weren't working out so they broke up and she moved to California to continue her life.

On the west coast, things really took off. She was one of best girls in the agency. Her photos appeared on three front covers of Vogue Magazine, and one on Redbook. She had anything a girl could want.



She meet a wonderful man who she fell in love with and they got married with a big church wedding. They bought a home and lived as your everyday husband and wife, except that she was a high fashion model and lived quite well. Also on the side she would do some drag shows and occasionally work in a all girl strip show. While she was working in the gay bars, her agent signed her up for the Miss. Gay California contest. This she won with no problem.

Unfortunately, her modeling career was over because the man she worked for said you go to bed or get a new job. (I'll let you ask her what happened.) She then developed breast cancer and had to undergo surgery. Through depression, she cut her waist long blonde hair and went back to beining a guy. Now, a few months later she again wants to live as a woman at the old age of 24.

If you ever wanted to meet someone who will keep you on the edge of your seat, hears your chance. She informed me that she'll bring all her pictures and magazine covers, and will answer everyones questions about her life.

***** STOP THE PRESS *****

Sometimes we want something so bad we will believe anything. A few of us talked to her last month as we sat at the edge of our chairs. We were all convinced she was for real. Well this reporter has done some checking and I'm afraid we were taken.

The reason I have told you all of this is to give you an example of how easily we can fool ourselves. I know I was fooled. Living two different personalities or genders can really get mind boggling sometimes, so we must look at our lives carefully so we don't get fantasy confused with reality. -Linda B.

CONVENTION NEWS

Don't forget about the I.F.G.E. convention in Chicago from February 24 - March 1, 1988. Right now it looks like we will have at least 5-6 girls from Crossport who will attend. Don't miss this chance to go while its still so close to home. Price is \$175/person for the full convention. You must get your own room at the Ramdada O'Hare Hotel. For more information contact the Crossport office as soon as possible, and be prepared for one of the best times in your life.

For the past year, I've made a hobby of collecting "how to" articles that deal with everything from makeup application to shopping strategies. One issue has been neglected, and as a former dance instructor I feel qualified to discuss success on high heels.

Why high heels? If you're a six footer like me, temptation arises to be flat and fit in. After all, a standard 2 1/2 inch plus heel will set you towering above everyone, right? Well for me, the high spike looks great and also redefines the shape of the leg. Calf and thigh muscles tighten and the knob of the kneecap dissolves. Also, as Ann Landers has said, there's nothing quite so regal as a tall, confident, beautiful woman in motion. So if you agree that whether it's blue jeans or a flowing formal, high heels are the way to go, read on for tips that will help you avoid embarrassment at best, a broken ankle at worst.

Practice. Your house or apartment makes a good testing ground and when you have a few spare moments try this exercise to gain balance (crucial in perfecting feminine grace): standing on your high heels, imagine that your ears/ lower jaw connect to a taut wire, pulled from above (like a marionette). Keeping this picture in mind whether you walk or stand straight as your alter ego will help you avoid tendencies to list forward. In addition to thwarting attractiveness, an out of balance center of gravity will open you up to tripping and toppling. In that posture, simply step backward, then forward. Here's the technique: Allow your left leg to bend at the knee while lifting your right leg behind you. Lift from the hip! Your right toe should graze the floor while you push back from your left foot. The key word is "reach" with your right foot and when you have extended to a point that feels comfortable, shift your weight to that foot, setting the heel down on the floor, bringing your left leg back parallel with your right. To step forward, follow the process in reverse. This time your right foot pushes forward, knee slightly bent, while your left foot reaches forward. Important point: avoid a tendency to lead heel-first. A spike heel, while sexy, is the least stable surface imaginable. Instead, touch down with the ball of the foot and remain raised on it until you have brought your right leg parallel with your right. Follow this simple exercise through several repetitions, perhaps try it from side-to-side (using the same principle) and soon you'll find a walk through a mall easy and natural.

As a woman you'll use the ball of the foot more than imaginable. Lead with the heel, man-like, in your feminine footwear, while ascending or descending stairs and pray, Lord, pray that your Blue Cross is paid up. Got it?

A few words about a feminine walk. It's slower, for one thing. Ever notice how many times you have to pause to allow your wife or girlfriend to catch up with you when you're out somewhere? For another, women tend to step forward with one foot almost aligned with the other (as if they are trying to stay within the boundaries of a path slightly less narrow than their shoulders). This action of stepping along an imaginary line affects the hypnotically alluring hip sway that so many of us admire. No reason that you, in creating your most effective feminine persona, can't develop and perfect it. Good luck!

By April

The term "transvestite" is rapidly giving way to the much warmer, much less clinical term "crossdresser". This is no great coincidence since the term "transvestite" comes from the Latin phrase which translates literally into cross (trans) - dress (vest). The term "transvestite" was coined early in this century. Prior to that the phenomena of cross dressing was referred to as "Eonism", after history's most important cross dresser French diplomat and agent the Chevalier D'Eon.

Born in Tonnerre, France in 1728, he was dressed as a girl until he was seven years old. At 13 he left home for college and eventually became an agent to King Louis XV.

Soon afterwards European politics made it necessary for France to repair diplomatic fences with Russia and Empress Elizabeth. However the powerful Russian Chancellor had arrested and imprisoned the last French envoy sent to the court of the Empress. To outwit the Chancellor, the young, girlishly slender D'Eon was sent to the court disguised as a woman with instructions to mingle with the Empress and maids of honor and to secure a position of confidence near the Russian throne. So disguised, he was presented to the Empress with a letter from Louis XV, expressing the king's desire for an alliance between France and Russia.

In the archives of the French Foreign Ministry a document concerning the situation cites...

"D'Eon was young, small in stature, full breasted and with the sort of legs that were favorable to his disguise. As a maid of Empress Elizabeth, D'Eon slept with a young lady, since to become the Princess d'Askoff".

The document notes D'Eon behaved as chaste as an innocent virgin toward his bedmate since his main interest lay in keeping his secret.

A year later D'Eon then returned to France where, as a man he was sent back to Russia, filling the position of assistant to the ambassador. He was introduced to the Russian court as the uncle of the girl he posed as the previous year. He stayed in Russia five years and history credits him with convincing Empress Elizabeth to sign the Treaty of Versailles.

For the next few years D'Eon took up arms and became one of France's master swordsmen. He was cited for bravery during this period while fighting in Germany.

At the end of the Seven Year' War, D'Eon ran the French embassy in England until a new ambassador could be sent. During this time he spent vast sums of money on hospitality and rich attire for himself. When the French Foreign minister refused to pay the bills D'Eon began using his position to gather powerful documents on France, including some of the country's most dangerous secrets. He accumulated these as ammunition, putting them aside in a private cache allowing him the luxury of being very impudent to the new ambassador.

The new ambassador then tried several ploys to get rid of D'Eon, still a favorite of the King. One of which involved the rumor that D'Eon was actually a woman. This stirred such commotion that the rumor became the source of a large amount of betting in England and an offer of 6000 pounds was made to anyone that could uncover D'Eon's true sex.

To be continued

Thoughts On Myself

By Heather Peerson

A Strange realization came over me today,
That I am what I am, and not what I say,
I've spent so much time wondering about
These feelings inside, that try to get out.

Yet each time I try to say what I feel
The words that come out are thoughts that aren't real,
For in speaking the truth, it means I would see
Inside of my self and what I should be.

Even now, I've revealed what is hidden inside,
Still disguised with untruths, misfacts and lies
For the me that I am is filled with dismay
At living a life not meant for today.

Frightened I am, to know I may need,
To cross over the line if I'm to be freed,
Yet deep from within, I know without doubt,
The me that I am, must someday come out.

So in speaking the truth, this first step I take,
At seeing ahead, decisions I must make,
One hope I hold on to, that keeps me alive,
That there must be a life in which I can survive.

Publication Notice

© Copyright 1987 Cross-port S/C

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.

Articles and information contained in InnerView may be reprinted by other Non-Profit organizations without advance permission, provided a copy of the issue containing the reprinted material is sent to Cross-Port within two months after the material is published.

The opinions or statements contained in InnerView are those of its authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Cross-Port.

Contributions of articles are welcomed but may be altered, with the author's intent retained, or may be rejected, whether solicited or not. Absolutely no sexually explicit material will be accepted or printed.

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