



Issue 1

# FanFair Gazette

Sat.- Sun., October 19-20

## Schedule

### Sunday October 20 th 1991

<i>FanFair Breakfast</i>	<i>Cafe Heaven</i>	<i>9:00 to 12:30</i>
Couples Workshop	Six Webster Place	<i>9:00 to 11:00</i>
Church	Universalist Meeting House	11:00 to 12:30
Personal Development II, Session 1	Fairbanks (Carriage House)	12:30 to 2:00
<i>Cosmetic Workshop</i>	<i>Gifford House</i>	<i>2:00 to 5:00</i>
Fashion Show Auditions	Gifford House	2:00 to 3:00
FanFair Follies Auditions	Crown & Anchor	2:00 to 4:00
Speech I, Session 2	Fairbanks	4:00 to 6:00
PJ House Parties	Your House	8:00 to 12:00

### Monday October 21st 1991

Partners Coffee Call	Watermark Inn	9:00 to 10:00
Fashion & Beauty Program	Gifford House	10:00 to 11:30
Personal Development I, Session 2	Fairbanks (Carriage House)	Noon to 3:00
Whale Watch Party	Dolphin Fleet Dock	Noon to 5:00
Leadership Training Session 1	Gifford House	1:00 to 3:00
Fashion Show Rehearsal	Gifford House	3:00 to 4:00
FanFair Follies Rehearsal	Crown & Anchor	3:00 to 5:00
Speech I, Session 3	Fairbanks	5:00 to 6:30
Out. Inst./P'town Art Benefit	Art Assoc. Museum	7:30 to 11:00

## Notice...

There has been a schedule change for the couples workshop on Sunday. The workshop will be from 9:00 to 11:00 AM instead of in the afternoon. It Will Still Be Held In Six Webster Lounge.

The Cosmetic Workshop I originally schelduled for October 19th, at the Flagship will be held Sunday Ocober 20 th at the Gifford House from 2 to 5 pm. NOTE! -- This is a \$55.00 workshop not included in the FanFair package. If you paid \$30.00, you have two choisces: 1.) Go to the Fan Fair office and get a refund; 2.) Or, pay \$25.00 additional.

## More Inside....



## Human Outreach & Achievement Institute

### Statement of Purpose

It is the purpose of HOAI to educate and conduct research in all aspects related to the phenomenon of gender. As a social construct, gender phenomena includes a unique and variable set of attributes that communicates and identifies to all who a person is, what a person does and how a person acts. It is the basis by which societies and cultures become structured. To achieve these goals this Intitute will:

- Provide programs which broaden understanding about diversity of gender perception and expression.
- Create and implement research projects and studies designed to further understanding about gender phenomena.
- Publish relevant and useful information, reasearch results, new ideas and paradigms about gender phenomena.
- Serve as a resource for all persons wanting information about various topics related to gender phenomena.
- Develop creative graduate programs in gender studies.
- Make available information and other written materials on various aspects of gender.
- Clarify the relationship between gender and sex orientation and the lifestyles of people in society.
- Create specific programs which can allow for personal growth and explanation of a particular pathway, for any human being.
- Promote the idea that cultural gender diversity is a positive human expression both within a nation and internationally.

Respectfully submitted.

*Ari Kane, Director*  
Ari Kane, Director

### This space Available

**Contributers needed,  
apply NOW!**

**Come on down to the  
Fairbanks Inn,  
90 Bradford Street**



**IF WE ALL  
CONCEAL OUR  
EMBARRASSING  
PECULIARITIES,**

**WE'LL NEVER  
KNOW  
HOW MANY OF US  
HAVE THEM.**

## Billie Jean Blabs (and blabs and...)

Hey kids-- Are ya havin whacky cool time yet? Well, get with it! (Hmmm. I was just told to get this done in thirty minutes and that's about two hours less than I need-- buncha fascist slave drivers over here in the ol' FanFair Office.) And, by the way, if you wanna get something in this newsletter, ya better do it NOW, not later (nd don't bother me while I'm trying to comply with these slave drivers). Schedule for the newsletter is before noon the day of publication-- e.g. noon Monday for Monday evening distribution. WARNING! Billie Jean can't type or spell so try to be a day early and if you care about this sister, come on over and type yer stuff.

Alright-- did ya check me out last night in man-drag-- talk about being unique, I was the only one in a tie and flats (well, except for the genetic women). A reminder: you (yes, you-- the reader) can play (or be) any gender you want here, including any variation you want-- Be Creative! Try stuff you only do at home (like dress and don't shave; figure out something nobody has done before-- Be Immortalized! A Legend in Provincetown!

OK-- A little special note: Alison Laing got a BIG surprise this morning (Sat.), her daughter showed up at the Flagship to see dad, er, mom, er-- Alison For The First Time! Too cool, hey? All turned out well (after Alison stopped trembling and sobbing-- the poor dear). Daughter knew but hadn't seen, in fact, none of the kids had seen. Lemmee tell ya something-- both my kids know and see, we even party together-- way cool, much closer family, see? Well, maybe ya don't now, but try it.

Bud Heuer says: People who have signed up for session 2 of speech better see him BEFORE Monday in order to schedule the 5 hours of personal sessions. Bud suggests that you figure out your schedule so you can give him SPECIFIC hours. So there!

Niela Miller says: If ya wanna have a personal appointment contact her at Fairbanks.

Muriel Olive says: Contact her at Gifford House, room #19.

Vernon Porter says: Store hours at Gifford #10 are Sunday from 12 to 1:30 and Monday from 2 to 4-- so drop in.

Jim Bridges says: Hey Billie Jean, nice to meet you. Oh gee, thanks Jim. He's also at Gifford #25-- and, everyone apologizes for the mass confusion over the Cosmetic Workshop(s). The Fashion & Beauty Program (Mon. Wed. Fri.) is included in the basic package; the Cosmetic Workshop(s) are extra. The price confusion may have evolved as it did because of Ariadne's desire to have a \$30 deal-- the problem being that Jim wants \$55 (Capitalist!). Anyway, blame Ariadne, after all, that's really why she's here (or blame her evil twin brother, Ari. (We all need somebody to blame every now and then, right? Left?) Oh! Speaking of lefts, I almost forgot to tell ya that Vernon and Muriel will hang around a little bit and advise ya while Jim works you over (or so they said-- don't blame me if it doesn't happen: this is a work of fiction and any resemblance to actual persons, places, planets is entirely coincidental).

LATE FLASH!: Cafe Heaven may not know about the breakfast Sunday-- FanFair will pick up \$5. worth of feedbag for paid participants-- so eat light or pay extra (snort snort).

ANOTHER LATE FLASH!: (Sheesh, I'm trying to get some work done and people keep bothering me with all these little details-- ah, it's not so bad, at least the fascist slave drivers left for a while.) Okay, The Red Nails Run, a morning activity for those who want to start their day by running/jogging (yuck) meets at the Trade Winds at 7:15am every day.

HEY!!! I'm outta here.....

**The Fascists are back!!!  
(More later, maybe)**



# Can Anybody Really Be Real... A Review of *Paris is Burning*

by Alison Laing

After the first five minutes I thought this review was going to be entitled "Paris is BORING;" but very quickly the depth of this unique documentary began to materialize beyond the apparent superficial glitter and brashness of the first scenes of black drag queens "strutting their stuff." This film attempts to show both the flamboyant performances of the ethnic (black and Hispanic) gay community at their "balls" and the behind-the-scenes culture, or community.

The balls that we see take place are in social lodges or Y.M.C.A. halls in Harlem. The participants belong to various "houses" developed around a "legend" (a mother or father figure) who has established his/her position in the hierarchy by his/her commitment and skills to "walk the Ball." As one of the legends put it, "It do take nerve."

Before you get the idea that this film is one long drag show, be aware that the performers do many other impersonations than simply appearing as women. It seems that the balls have contests with prizes for almost every conceivable category you can think of; as long as it is not how one would think a stereotypical minority, gay male would appear.

Some would dress as elegant gentlemen out to ride the hounds or lounge at the yacht club after a regatta. Others would dress as preppie college students or military personnel, both male and female, or as impeccably dressed Madison Avenue business tycoons, or Vogue models, or \$1000 call girls. Their goal is to appear "real." What ever it was, it was any thing but what they were.

"Everyone is a minority in white America," said one walker. In interviews, it was apparent they wanted to experience the images the media has perpetrated as the ultimate successful white world. Even though "walking the ball" is an obviously vain attempt to escape the inevitable trap of their racial, sexual, cultural, economic minority status, for one grand, glorious, ecstatic moment as they walk on to the ballroom floor, their fantasy was real in their minds.

Behind the scenes, the more mature espoused a very pragmatic attitude; one said, "I've been a man and I've been a man who's impersonated a woman. I've never been a woman." Yet some of the younger walkers have had breast implants, taken hormones and long for sexual reassignment surgery; several have already completed it. And yes, some looked terrific. The film does a short take on one person who has had reassignment surgery and another who was saving for it. The "new woman" was in a state of elation over her apparent big step towards "realness."

As the film moves back and forth from the ball room festivities to the cramped, shabby rooms of the participants, you get a sense of why they want to escape. You also get to know some of the "walkers" and develop a sensitivity to their longings. The film, besides being intensely dramatic, is very sensitive and in the very end you get a dose of the tragedy that can come to this community.

*Paris Is Burning* was produced and directed by Jennie Livingston and edited by Jonathan Oppenheim. It is a *must* for all who would be "Ball Walkers."