

Cross-Port InnerView

P.O. Box 54657, Cincinnati, OH 45254

The next meeting is January 21 at 8:00pm

A New View

By Elaine

We had a good turn out for the Cross-Port Christmas Party there were about 54 ladies and S.O.'s in attendance. Well I hope you had as good as Christmas Holiday as I did and I hope you can keep all your New Years resolutions.

I drove to my mothers house for the holidays I spent a week up there and I had a relatively good time. I also told the last remaining person about my cross dressing, my Father. He took it very well or I left before the shock wore off, I am not sure anyway it went well while I was there.

Joyce, Belinda, Cindy, Bobbi, Beverly and I were having Dinner at the Topps Restaurant, when my friend Pat who did not know that I dressed Tapped me on the shoulder and said Hi I was to say the least shocked and at a loss for words. She was very nice and complimented me on my appearance. I then had a wonderful meal and went to Joyce's for a New Years Party. Here wishing everyone a Happy and prosperous New Year

I meet a very nice lady her name is Josephine she owns a shop called Josephine's Post Mastectomy Shops on 9514 Kenwood Road her phone number is (513) 745-9501. Her shop has mastectomy bras, swimsuits and

nightgowns and she also has several full lines of prosthetics. She was very helpful and accommodating when I was there as Elaine.

Roberta's First Outing

by Roberta

I arrived at Joyce's knowing I had about two hours extra free time than I ever had before. I went upstairs and started changing, with getting dress and putting on my makeup. When that was done Joyce brought me a long black wig to try out. I put it on and went downstairs into the living room for some photos. Joyce and I both agreed the black wig was to dark a color for me. I returned upstairs and replaced the black wig with my long blond one. When I returned to the living room, Joyce took some more photos inside. Since it was not raining and not overly cold outside, we took a number of photos amid the various Christmas decorations Joyce had in the yard.

On returning inside, I had Joyce take my measurements for I had lost that information. With the measurement and a guide for sizes from a mail order catalog, we determined I should wear a size sixteen Miss. With that done we used up the rest of the film. I then realized I still

had about two hours of free time. So I asked Joyce if we could go out to lunch in dress. Joyce replied it was ok. With that I told myself, "GO FOR IT!"

As I went back upstairs to put my camera Joyce found a coat and purse for me to use, for I only had my red dress with me.

When I got into the car heading for the restaurant, I was nervous about the unknown, but it was something I had been thinking about since last May. The traffic was very heavy, so it took a little longer to reach Shoney's than expected. This aloud me to collect myself and when I stepped out of the car "Roberta" on cloud nine. I spotted a sign that said we had to be seated by waitress instead of being able to seat ourselves at an empty booth. our seats wound up at a table in the middle of occupied booths. About three feet to our left was a booth with two gentlemen in it. When I realized they were that close I started sweating bullets. The waitress came to take our order, I could barely talk above a whisper for fear of those close by hearing my voice. While they were there I kept my eyes down staring into my coffee cup even when Joyce was doing her best to relax me via the conversation. Just as the food arrived the two gentlemen got up and left and it felt like a giant weight was lifted from my body. As I ate and drank my coffee I realized I was raising my head

and eyes to make eye contact with Joyce as we talked. My volume of voice was just about the normal level. I got the money out of my purse for Joyce and she went up to the counter to pay the check. I walked rather proudly over to the Christmas Tree out of the way of the crowd at the counter.

Walking to the car I told Joyce I still had over an hour, how about making a stop at "Impressions" consignment shop. With the size chart in my purse I had an Idea of what size to look for. Joyce said that would be fine. We drove over a number of roads to get around the heavy traffic and before I realized it, we were at the "Impressions". I walked up the steeps with a surge of pride. We just got inside when another woman came in to sell some items to the clerk. So I looked over the dresses and blouses but found nothing in my size that I cared for. Joyce joined me as I was looking over the skirts and decoded the price tag for me on a grey skirt. It's size was correct and a price of \$2.50, it was too good a deal to pass up. Joyce said that I could go back and try it on in the dressing room if I wanted for she had already received permission from the owner. I told her I would rather not for really I did not know how to try it with out taking everything else off. At \$2.50 even if it did not fit I was not out a lot of money. I strolled over to the section containing party and formal dresses. There were about three dresses in my size, however all were short or no sleeve styles. This is a problem for me as I have to have long sleeved dresses at this point in "Roberta's" time in the sun. I am not sure when I will ever wear such a dress, but I do have dreams of being dressed in a royal blue formal and rhinestone necklace. I finally went over and paid for my skirt since the other woman had left the store. during this interaction I did speak in a nearly normal voice, but still did not have eye to eye contact. Walking down the stairs I had this inner feeling of pride and accomplishment in this experience.

While we drove back to the house my mind was spinning with all the feelings and new experiences of the past hour and a half.

I nearly jumped out of the car before it came to a stop and moved faster than ever before in high heels. I wanted to try on the new skirt. I had brought along a pink blouse just in case I did have a chance to purchase a skirt. I had to turn the skirt to the front to fasten the buttons and pull up the zipper. I still do not have the skill to do such things with them on my backside. The skirt is just a tad tight so when I went to correct the alignment of the skirt it pulled the blouse out of it's proper place. I went back down to the living room. Joyce said I looked very nice in it and suggested that I have a look in the long mirror. I was very pleased by what I saw reflecting back to my eyes. I looked so much better in this skirt and blouse than I had in the grey and white plaid skirt I had on before. Once again a feeling of joy was sweeping over "Roberta" as I stood and talked with Joyce. I saw the clock and it was now time for me to change back.

Driving back home I was still feeling the emotions of pride and joy from having "Roberta" experiencing these events. At home I decided to call Joyce and thank her for all the kindness and care given so freely to me. With the call completed I sat down and started putting the events and feelings of that day down on paper as best I could.

So even if I don't get to any meetings I hope this helps other sisters that they to can tell us members of Cross-Port some of their experiences and hopes for the future.

sincerely
Roberta

A New years wish

I wish to extend best wishes and a

"Happy New Year" to one and all. This past year (1992) was an exciting and fulfilling year for me, personally, and for Cross-Port, generally. We have had many new people join our "sorority." On numerous occasions, they have ALL expressed their gratitude for the support they have received from the group. That's great! It's what Cross-Port is all about: helping others, and in doing so, helping ourselves to grow and become kinder human beings.

I hope to see Cross-Port continue to grow in number as well as a spirit in the coming year. To accomplish this will take a concerted effort by each and everyone of us to try to do our best.

We still have an average attendance of 40 members per meeting. With so many new people coming, the constant attendance figures indicate that several "older" well established members are missing our gatherings. We all miss YOU and hope to see more of you this coming year. Come and meet all of your new sisters and get reacquainted with your old friends. Have a ball! We also need your support and wisdom.

Looking forward to a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Love, Joyce

The Baron Speaks

Hi, Girls! This is the Baron speaking. Hope each of and everyone of you had the best holidays ever and have a prosperous and "best dressed" new year!

As you know, I had to leave the Christmas party early because of an infected ear. The music was making it hurt worse. Anyway it got worse and I wound up making 4 visits to the doctor, several shots, 3 different antibiotics and, finally, a lancing job. Needless to say, I did not get to

Oklahoma...or anywhere else. Not a good holiday at all. The ear is much better, so watch what you say about me--I can actually hear once more.

The Barony had a quiet time after our party at Marian's. We all enjoyed ourselves at the party: plenty of food and drink...lots of "sparkling conversation." Thanks again, Marian. Now we are really putting out the energy to get the invitations out and all the many "small" details out of the way so that our Ball will be a huge success. We had a special meeting January attempting to get most of the major work overwith.

Girls, something is bothering me. I keep hearing anti-gay talk when I am around Cross-dressers and anti-cross dressers talk when I am around gays. What the HELL is going through people's minds? Can't we see we are all in the same boat? What affects one of us affects ALL of us. To go back to WWII, "Loose lips sink ships." Maybe if we would all just accept each other as we are, things will be better for all.

I have really been hurt by some of the things said about gays at Cross-Port meetings I'm sure some were said not meaning anything, but they still hurt! I'm sure some of you have also been hurt by overhearing comments about cross dressing in gay bars. Please, Please can't we keep our mouths shut if we cannot say something good about another person or group?

Also, I'm a bit peeved by not hearing anything the Cross Dressers groups are planning to do concerning the Committee 2000 and their state-wide hate campaign to pull a "Colorado" on Ohio. The gays are raising money, having meetings to plan strategy, and preparing all sorts of demonstrations and marches to show their opposition to these far-right fundamentalists (led by an African-American man, yet!!). We must not let these people prevail. We MUST fight them "tooth and nail" (I DO love cliches) to stop their phobic platforms. Oregon stopped them and we can too if we all do our part. Really, just think about it--are we willing to be pushed

back into our "closets?" I think not; but the fight will be hard and bloody. These people really want us gone. Some of them will even be willing to kill us. In 1990, my mother and I were watching Oklahoma City's Gay Pride march (a much larger parade than Cincinnati's) on T.V.. There were "born again Christians" carrying signs that said "kill a queer for Christ." Yes... "kill a queer for Christ." Forget the 10 Commandments, just get rid of the queers! I'm sure "cross dresser" would fit right in where "queer" was written. Of course, the fundamentalists are so ignorant they just lump us all together anyway.

I am sure homosexuality and cross dressing are inborn. We can do nothing about it. So, why do we all go through periods of purging all our things...swearing to never do it again? But we all have done this even though we are fighting a losing battle. We cannot change our genetic makeup. We can change our sex, but we cannot, at this time, change our genes.

Hey! I've really been preachy here, haven't I? Well, you will just have to accept me as I am--it's in my genes (no, not my JEANS) genes! I love you all and try hard to not be paranoid about things which I cannot understand...Please, forgive me if I slip once in while. I have a terrible temper...but it fades fast.

Girls, I will close by asking you to examine your consciences about this "Colorado" thing...surely you can help in some way--money if nothing else.

Love to all,
Bob, the Baron

DECADE OF THE C.D. ?

By Bobbi

1992..."it was a very good year...." Well, maybe not for everyone: Saddaam Hussein, George Bush, Charles Keating are notable exceptions, of course. But, Bobbie L.

had a great year. I made my "debut" in March and was NOT rejected by the woman I worship; we attended our CrossPort meeting in April and were instantly made to feel like "family;" then, I began writing for the InnerView, yet had no rotten vegetables thrown in criticism (even though my writing tends to be more "fluff" than substance). Yes, 1992 WAS a very good year for this TV.

And, as I look ahead, I believe the 90's could become the decade of the C.D.. If the content of the past year's periodicals are any indication, the cross-dresser may be close to attaining, if not complete acceptance, perhaps fleeting trendiness. The first clue indicating potential progress came in December 1991 when G.Q. profiled Dr. Stanley Biber and his "operation" in Trinidad, Colorado. This article was relatively objective and balanced piece that offered hope to those who might be "adrift." Then, in April of '92 COSMOPOLITAN presented "He Strong, Straight, Handsome-So Why Does He Want to Dress Like You?." I think every trans-gendered individual in America read that one! November's VANITY FAIR contained "the drag explosion" piece which I "reviewed" in the November InnerView. Esquire's December, 1992 issued showcased "...a look...back at thirty years of Valentino" fashions. There were four pages of gowns in "Ladies Man." The double entendre of this title became evident when it was revealed that these dynamite dresses were being modeled by "the quintessential ladies' man or, if you prefer, man's lady," Lypsinka. This piece was only a bit campy. It actually seemed to be promoting her lifestyle. Also that month, Vanity Fair included a rather interesting "et cetera" segment on photographer, Helmut Newton. Now, old Helmut's images of women have ALWAYS been some of my favorites, but the photo with this piece was NOT one of his usual (or should I say UNusual) erotic, forbidden fantasies. No, my sisters, the photo was of Mr. Newton, himself, sitting quite demurely, outdoors wearing a

wide-brimmed lady's hat and a delicious pair of open-toe, sling-back, very pricey heels. His shaved and shapely legs are crossed as any proper lady might do. His hands rest daintily upon the top of his thigh. Always one to create suggestive images, Helmut Newton raises the "obvious" question with this one.

Four periodicals among hundreds. Six non-assaultive presentations of the transgendered in twelve months. If this "trend" is carried out in those many magazines I DON'T read, then the public's perception of us must be being made better.

Finally, the last evidence I offer for a "kinder, gentler" future, is my own experience on New Year's Eve. Joyce, Elaine, Belinda, Cindy, Beverly and I went out to a small restaurant near Beechmont Mall for a holiday dinner. Although I was EXTREMELY nervous in the parking lot prior to entering the establishment, I was quickly calmed when seated. We were ALL treated very well by our waitress and servers throughout the meal. I walked out confident and secure. "This could be the start of something big!"

She's Not Like

Roxxxanne Joplynn

one- See her in the morning curling her long blond hair

She faithfully takes her pills, and dreams of a boyfriend, who's no longer there, as she keeps on going though the changes.

two- She puts on her makeup, finds a pair of mangled hose

She puts on her tightest jeans... making sure that nothingshows.

She head out on that stage we call

life ready to deal with another day, another day chorus- she's, just not like all the other girls, though the lord has blessed her with a head full of curls.

She just not like all the other... girls.

There's something that she just has to hide. Cause she's just not like all the other girls.

three- See her down at the bar late at night, just drowning in a sea of booze

She tries her best to look so convincing, but still see goes home so all alone. She cries her blues to a handsome cab driver she'd like to invite him in. Aw, but she's just not like all the other... girls
(back to chorus)

Linda's Corner

I know not everyone has a computer, but maybe when you finish reading this, you'll want to run out and buy one.

Just before Christmas this year, I decided to buy a present for the whole family. It was Prodigy. Just what is Prodigy? Well it's an on line computer service. All you need is a computer large enough to handle the program, and a modem to talk across the telephone lines. I bought a combo package for about \$33, that had Prodigy and a free modem. If you read the brochure that accompanies the program, you would be amazed at what you can do by just pressing a few typewriter keys. Now this leads me to the jest of this article, Computer Bulletin Boards.

I new there were a number of topics you can get involved with by either reading other peoples posts or adding your own. What surprised me was an area called FRANK DISCUSSIONS. You name it, it's on there. I wasn't

surprised to see the terms like transvestite, transsexual, or crossdresser. But I was shocked to see large areas with literally hundreds of people tuning in. In just a week of two, I have run into 4 other crossdressers from around the country I know. In fact I'm sure I'm met a number of these girls, I just can't place them. By reading where they are from and what events they attended I realize that our paths must have crossed in the past.

I guess I didn't realize that being on line with so many other Crossdressers across the country would be so interesting. To give you some idea of the sub-topics, there are areas like "Wives only", "TS Issues", "CD Forum", a contact section to meet each other, and lots of back and forth chit-chat. Someone is always conducting a poll, telling their life story, asking questions on fashion, or wanting to know where and what to buy. Some get very personal with problems and responses. Others will say "Hey I'll be in your town next month. Where's a good place to go?" Every time some show features Crossdressers or Transsexuals on television, you hear about it ahead of time, and people later discuss what happened.

In the TS area, the girls blab back and forth like most girls do. I "listen" in on conversations sometime, and certain names become familiar. What I find interesting is when I jump around on other subjects, these same people are in many other conversations. I see some of the TSs in conversations under "Women's Issues" with GGs about everything from birth to man hunting.

Allot of guys will have "come on" topics, trying to attract girls to answer, so they can have computer sex. I often see these TSs flirting with the guys by leading them on. That's one nice thing about this, everyone passes.

It seems like no matter what question is asked, someone who reads this knows an answer. It's the ultimate source for trans-gendered people.

I glanced through Tapestry and noticed 20 different computer bulletin boards. Many however must be

accessed through long distance phone lines. I would think that could get expensive. But those I understand can get quite revealing at times since they are not as open to the public as Prodigy. You usually need a secret password to get in those.

Some of the things I see written are worth repeating. I'm going to show you a letter I saw this morning that might make a few of you married types sit back and think.

TO: All

Since my wife and I separated, I now have the freedom to dress whenever I wish. It has given me some time to really dwell on this thing of ours.

My lifestyle before was to "hold out" till my wife would be gone for awhile, and then hit the stash of my feminine attire. The time was so limited, maybe a few hours, that all I really did was enjoy the moment. I really didn't have the time to really think about the aspects.

Now, I have the time and can do what I want and when I want. The price of that freedom was self-evaluation. "Who I am, what I am, where am I going?"

Well thanks to a lot of people I have answers to these questions. But now I think back at my departed spouse. She said she just couldn't live with it. At first she even helped me with makeup and clothes, she was excepting. What went wrong? Maybe I wanted too much too fast. Was I just so self-centered, that I never looked back at her point of view.

I asked, "What if....." Suppose one day she said she wanted to dress as a man. Suppose she went to a costume shop and got a fake beard and mustache and said she wanted to wear them all the time? Suppose she purchased a device that flattened her chest and she cut her hair real short, like a crew-cut. Perhaps got a tattoo of an eagle on her arm? Or started smoking cigars and drinking beer and being plain old obnoxious. Then she clipped her fingernails and rolled her hands in gravel to ruff them up because her fantasy is to be a construction

worker. She practices talking and walking like a man. And it gets worse.

She purchases a strap-on dildo, and insists on wearing it all the time. Including to bed! When your in bed feeling a little "frisky", you must work around that "thing", in order to get anywhere. And what if she's feeling "male" tonight.

What does that make me? Am I in bed with a man or a woman? And if I wanted to be in bed with a man, why settle with an imposter if I can get the real thing.

Well, it's because it's the person you love, and not what they look like, you probably will tell me, right? Well is it really? In fact am I anything like the person she married?

My apologies to our F>M friends if this offends you. This was purely a "point of view" analogy used for effect.

What I'm saying is, that I think I can now understand her decision a little better. (END)

Like I said, you can get some real insight on how you may want to direct your live just by listening to other people.

I mostly just wanted you all to realize that these BBS are both informative and entertaining, and you just might want to look in to it for yourself

Publication Notice

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