Educational TV Channel

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME TEN, NUMBER 2 SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER, 1991

PAUL WALKER TRIBUTE

by Jane Kamper Bently

Paul Walker, at his recent testimonial dinner.
Photo by Jessica

On June 23 gender providers and gender people alike packed the Avanti restaurant in San Francisco to pay tribute to Dr. Paul Walker, who until his retirement in 1989 was a leading therapist for the community. During his career, he worked with gender reassignment surgeon, Dr. John Money; organized the Janus Information Facility (now called J2CP); and served as chairman of the committee that wrote the standards of care.

Lin Fraser, in her introductory remarks, told how Dr. Walker's interest in gender therapy got sparked during a lecture by Dr. Money about transsexualism and the revelation by a blind woman he had been tutoring that, "four years ago my name was George."

Ms. Fraser recalled that not long ago, "Paul was in the hospital with a brain infection. I've been in this field long enough to know that when people are telling you things that don't quite make sense they are telling you a little bit about themselves. And what Paul said he wanted to do with all this money was to make sure that every transsexual's surgery in the world was taken care of and that he also wanted to leave a large bequest to ETVC."

"You realize," said Dr. Walker, "that's when I was brain damaged"

Dr. Walker's colleague, Dr. Richard Green (co-editor with Dr. John Money of Transsexualism and Sex Reassignment and a prominent researcher) said, "We're all dying. The difference is the rates we're dying. The important thing is to see where we've been, and Paul can be extremely proud of where he's been. You made this a better place, Paul, for us all to be sexual no matter what our gender."

Judy Von Maasden, executive director of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association, and a close friend of Dr. Walker, recalled how, when she started in this field, Dr. Walker, "opened your arms, personally and professionally." Regarding his work on the Standards of Care, "They're yours. You did them, we all follow them."

Millie Brown called Dr. Walker, "an enthusiast. An enthusiast focuses on the positive in life. At a time when you could justifiably be completely self-absorbed, you still give lovingly and unselfishly of yourself. Whenever I call you to see how you are, you always care enough to say, 'And how are you Millie, and how is your mother and your family?' And that always moves me."

Luanna Rogers told Dr. Walker, "You helped give me the courage to do this work."

Dr. Ann Vitale, Dr. Joe Gonzalez, Rebecca Auge and many members of ETVC read letters from Dr. Walkers friend and colleague from Galveston, Alice Webb, and Dr. John Money, as well as others from around the country and as far away as New Zealand, paying homage to him.

After being presented with a plaque, Dr. Walker in an emotional acceptance speech said; "I feel as though I've been lifted up quite a bit by you good people. Unfortunately, I've had the opportunity to go to a lot of memorial services in the last few years for friends who have died, and it's always good to celebrate while someone is still alive. I feel very lucky and honored to have experienced this. Thank you all very much."

ETVC – ON THE MOVE!

The ETVC hotline is moving to new quarters at the Pacific Center in Berkeley and will also have a new area code. The new number is:

(510) 549-2665

(Note new East Bay area code) Please make a note of it for future reference.

Also note that the ETVC address is now:

ETVC
P.O. Box 426486
San Francisco, CA 94142-6486

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Don't forget your ETVC renewal; memberships expire in June of each year; if you have not yet renewed, please send your $20.00, with your name and address, to:

ETVC
P.O. Box 426486
San Francisco, CA 94142-6486

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ETVC NEWSLETTER

ETVC is a non-sexual, membership based organization with the purpose of serving the educational, social, and recreational needs of gender-challenged people, their spouses, significant others, family members, friends, and professionals in the helping services.

For details about ETVC programs, membership, newsletter subscriptions, and classified ads, please write to: ETVC Secretary, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486.

OFFICERS

President	Martina
Vice President	Rusty
Secretary	Carol
Treasurer	Nancy Ann
Education	Evette & Paulette
Outreach	Lauren & Telzey
Social	Zia

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership (as of 7/31/91)	189
1990 Membership	226
New members this year	14

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on 6/1/91	$4,649.99
June income	2,984.00
June expenses	2,252.95
	========
Balance on 6/30/91	5,381.04
July income	2,237.00
July expenses	2,341.57
	========
Balance on 7/31/91	5,276.47

The ETVC Newsletter is published the last week of February, April, June, August, October and December. Materials for publication should be sent to ETVC by the first weekend of each of those months. Newsletter contents reflect the opinions of the contributors and the editor, and are not necessarily those of ETVC.

Other organizations may reprint or reproduce portions of the newsletter for their members, provided ETVC is acknowledged.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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AD RATES

	per issue	per year
Business Card	$20	$100
4" x 5"	$50	$250
8" x 5"	$80	$400
8" x 10"	$160	$800

PERSONAL ADS

ETVC will accept personal ads from ETVC members at the rate of $1 per 3 lines. We will not accept ads with a purely sexual objective.

Send ad copy and a check for the appropriate amount to: ETVC, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486.

Ad deadlines are the first weekend of the month of publication (June, August, October, December, February and April).

HOTLINE 510-549-2665

EDITOR'S NOTES

by Roxanne

With this issue of the newsletter we have a change of command at the helm. I have always admired Cindy's work in the newsletter and fear her shoes may be tough to fill. Thank you, Cindy, for an excellent, excellent job. Cindy will remain as a featured columnist covering news from the outside world of interest to our community (see CINDY AT LARGE, page 10). I hope not to have to write as much as Cindy has, but rather to focus on the format, aesthetics and content of the paper, a sort of police role, Beverly Heels Cop.

The biographical column will be another regular featuring a prominent (or maybe obscure) member of our club. I am open to suggestions for those who you would like to know more about.

I will entertain questions, either through my new Roxanne Responds column, or through the editors notes. If you have something to say but don't want to write a whole article, just tell me at one of the meetings.

This is your newsletter. Please submit any comments, articles or photos and we will try to give you a forum. We welcome letters too; note the fine letter from Priscila, a new member, in this issue.

I would like to run an article about what women like and dislike about TVs and TSs. Only genuine girls need apply. Write a whole article or just submit your comments and we'll assemble them.

The DIGNITY CRUISE report by Julie is a fine example of the kind of outreach which will have untold benefit to our community. I would love to see more stories like it.

Lauren leads off a discussion I would like to see continue, on various ways of living with and accommodating our unique lifestyle that.

Carolyn's GUIDE TO STEPPING OUT presents information that is always in demand. How about more of you sharing your tricks and secrets, making this topic a regular also.

For those with editorial opinion, you are welcome to meet with Carol and I when we put the paper together. Don't miss out on other opportunities to get involved and meet new people such as the ever popular envelope stuffing and stamp licking. (We don't do that, do we?)

Until next time, Just Do It.

THE wHEELS OF DESTINY TURN

by Roxanne

The way to have 100 percent accuracy in marksmanship is to fire the gun first and define the target as the place where the bullet hit. The Gender Movement is like a gun that has been fired, we are on the bullet and are going ... somewhere. Where? We are going public, whether we like it or not. Why? Because this is already happening. If we continue, eventually we will be accepted almost everywhere and have the freedom to be or do whatever we want, probably without the need to pretend to be women.

However we are not yet at that point. We are still freaks in many circles (at least curiosities). Being "men is dresses" is not universally accepted. Yet as individuals we have the responsibility to foster this inevitable goal of the group. As such we should be conscious and careful of how we present ourselves in public. Infiltrating mainstream America slowly and discretely will achieve our goal of personal freedom, mostly unnoticed and in due course. Confronting that same mainstream, forcing them to take a stand, either as individuals, or as a political body through legislation, we may very well lose all the tolerance we have gained, closing many "doors" irreversibly.

So do your best to improve your appearance, your heart, and your soul; have fun; be patient; and always move toward the eventual liberation of all.

Diahanna, Zia, and Joanne, the "Fabulous Foxes" producers of the "The Really Big Shew" at the June Social. Photo by David

LETTER FROM A NEW MEMBER

Dear ETVC Members,

I wanted all the girls that I have met in my two short months as a member, to know that I have appreciated very much their friendliness, helpfulness, support, and compliments. I have only been to about 5 functions at ETVC and RGA but all have been informative, supportive, and fun.

I have been surprised by much of what I have learned and experienced since entering gender therapy 6 months ago. I was surprised by the fact that I have a similar background to most crossdressers. I have always fantasized about female things; clothes, makeup, etc. but thought I was weird and I suppressed my feelings.

Finding there were many other crossdressers was astounding as well; I thought I was probably one of only a few. I was comforted to learn that I was not alone and there were groups to attend. I've been surprised how much I enjoy crossdressing, emotionally. I have become comfortable in my femme role and I am losing the feelings of being out of place in public and with friends. Much of that is from the support of those in the group as they have given me confidence in being Priscilla.

I was surprised how great all the crossdressed members looked. Wow! It is like being with some real beauty experts. The amount of energy and effort they spend to look like beautiful women was impressive to me. It's been an inspiration to me to look my best.

How talented and effectively the group runs is also amazing.

The newsletters are first class and very informative. The meetings and functions are also well done. You would never know this is a volunteer organization. Most of all, I am surprised that I can function in my femme role. Thank you for your support. - Priscilla

Foxy Lady Boutique

Tuesday Social CALENDAR

Foxy Lady Boutique's discount fun shopping party extravaganza. Fitting rooms available, fashion consultation, dressing optional. Everyone also welcome during regular boutique hours.

7:30 - 10:30 pm

June 4
July 2
August 1
September 3
October 1
November 5
December 3

Drinks, Entertainment, Refreshments. WOW!!! New raffle prize every month. Make this your monthly place with Janine, Owner; Gloria, Manager; & Terry, Hostess / CD.

Discreet Shopping for TV/Cross-Dressers, Transsexuals, Swingers, and Fantasy People

Shoes, 3-15 • Dresses, 3-26 • Corsets, 34-48 • Thigh & Knee Hi Boots, Sizes 9-14 • Accessories & Makeup • Mailing List Available • Breast Enhancers • Various Catlogues • Available • Chest Plates • Appointments Available • VIP Discount Cards

For serious shoppers Welcome—we care!

Halloween
And holidays coming soon
Shop early.

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Validated parking with purchase (22nd Street Bayview Fed. Parking Lot)

CLEAN OUT THE CLOSET

It has to come out sometime and if it no longer fits your form or style, donate that slinky gown, business suit, shoes or jewelry to the ETVC benefit for The Asian Womens' Shelter, La Casa de las Madres and Rosalie House. Any suitable clothing left over from the sale will be given to Rosalie House. We will be selling all clean, wearable clothing at the September 26 Ragpickers Ball social for very reasonable prices. For those who cannot attend the social, but would like to contribute to this worthy cause, please send your donation to ETVC and we will be happy to forward it to the shelters. For dropoff times and locations, prior to the social, please call Zia at (415) [redacted]

SPECIAL EVENTS

Flair with a Fashion
September 7

On Saturday, September 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Lily's, 4 Valencia Street, SF. Bill Jones, a makeup instructor at SFSU will give a lecture and demonstration on corrective and glamour makeup. Bill has thirty years experience in makeup, is the artist for big stars at the SF Opera and did all the costumes for Beach Blanket Babylon. Don't miss it! Donation $3.

Are You Dreaming?
September 21

Kathleen Richards will talk to us about dream analysis on Saturday, September 21, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Lily's, 4 Valencia Street, SF. If we're all real good, maybe she'll analyze ours. Those of you who missed Kathleen's palm readings at the May couple's social at Lyn and Vanessa's or her Tarot card interpretations at the couple's social she and Amy hostessed in June won't want to miss this one. Donation $3.

Ragpickers Ball
September 26

Will you foot fit the glass slipper? Waltz into the Chez and try to find the sequinned gown that fits like a glove at this benefit for three womens' shelters. Special dressing rooms will be set up on the patio of the Chez so you can try on clothing and find special bargains. Also, to give a special thanks to our significant others, the admission price for them will be the same as for members. Music by Bach, Beethoven and Mozart. Thursday, September 26, 8 p.m., Chez Mollet, 527 Bryant St., SF. Members and significant others $5, guests $8.

Looking Better!
October 12

On Saturday, October 12, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Lily's, 4 Valencia Street, SF. Joyce Minnig will give us the demonstration on skin care and makeover that she wanted to give in July. There will be a door prize and Mary Kay cosmetics will be available at a ten percent discount. Joyce has been a Mary Kay Beauty Consultant since 1989 and is offering a free makeover and photo session on a Sunday for anyone interested. Donation $3.

Communicate !!??
October 15

On Tuesday, October 15, from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m., at Pearl's, 207 N. Amphlett Blvd, San Mateo. Pat Armstrong will give a Communication Workshop. Pat is a Gerontologist, teaches Adaptive Physical Education for the Disabled at Skyline College and is a Health Education Instructor for seniors and the disabled. We will be running a shuttle from the 3rd Street train station to Pearl's with pickups at 6:00, 6:30 and 7:00 p.m. Detailed directions to Pearl's are in the Education column (page7). Donation $3.

Halloween
October 31

Put on a mask so everyone can see who you really are. It's the night for queens and monsters to dance and show off with wild abandon in the famous ETVC Costume Contest. Special Prizes. Identify the high pitched cackle from behind the closed door and have your fortune told by the gypsy fortune teller. Thursday, October 31, 8 p.m., Chez Mollet, 527 Bryant St., SF. Members $8, guests $12.

Royal Court Events in September

9/17 Roast at Sharp's, 8 p.m., $20 for dinner and roast
9/18 In Town Show, Kimo's, 9 p.m., free - all are welcome to perform
9/12 Pat Collins Show, Hyp Hypnotist, Victoria Theatre, $10-20, time 7 or 8 p.m.
9/20 Out of Town Show, Lily's, 9 p.m., $5 cover
9/21 Court Coronation, Bimbo's, 7 p.m., $20-30
(Jessica has reserved a table for 10 in an excellent location.)
9/22 Victory Brunch, Chez Mollet, 11 a.m., $15

For more information, contact Ginny at (415) [redacted]

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TV/TS/TG GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

A Calendar of Events for September & October

SEPTEMBER					
3	....	Foxy Lady Social	7:30 - 9:30 PM	San Francisco	(415) 285-4980
4	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
6	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-4044
7	**ETVC**	**Education Committee**	**Meets at 12:30**	**Lily's**	**(408) 984-5619**
7	**ETVC**	**Flair with a Fashion**	**2 - 4 PM**	**Lily's**	**(408) 984-5619**
7	**ETVC**	**Executive Committee**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(408) 984-5619**
9	**ETVC**	**Outreach Committee**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Albany**	**(510) 524-1304**
9	RGA	Rap Group	Meets 8-10 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-5619
12	**ETVC**	**Significant Others Support**	**Meets 8-10 PM**	**Oakland**	**(415) 664-1499**
13	**ETVC**	**Poker Social**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 664-1499**
14	**ETVC/RGA**	**Daybreak**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Mountain View**	**(408) 984-5619**
16	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek	(408) 984-5619
18	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
19	**ETVC**	**Couples Social**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Antioch**	**(415) 664-1499**
20	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-4044
21	**ETVC**	**Are You Dreaming?**	**2 - 4 PM**	**Lily's**	**(408) 984-5619**
26	**ETVC**	**Ragpickers Ball**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Chez Mollet**	**(415) 641-9002**
27	RGA	Poker Social	Starts at 8 PM	Sunnyvale	(408) 248-2043
27	Pac Ctr	Open Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
28	SGA	Dinner/Social	Starts at 7 PM	Sacramento	(916) 441-8379
OCTOBER					
1	....	Foxy Lady Social	7:30 - 9:30 PM	San Francisco	(415) 285-4980
2	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
4	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-4044
5	**ETVC**	**Executive Committee**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**San Leandro**	**(408) 984-5619**
7	**ETVC**	**Outreach Committee**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**San Leandro**	**(510) 849-4112**
10	**ETVC**	**Significant Others Support**	**Meets 8-10 PM**	**Pleasant Hill**	**(415) 664-1499**
11	**ETVC**	**Poker Social**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**San Francisco**	**(415) 664-1499**
12	**ETVC**	**Education Committee**	**Meets at 12:30**	**Lily's**	**(408) 984-5619**
12	**ETVC**	**Looking Better**	**2 - 4 PM**	**Lily's**	**(408) 984-5619**
12	**ETVC/RGA**	**Daybreak**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Mountain View**	**(408) 984-5619**
14	RGA	Rap Group	Meets 8-10 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-5619
15	**ETVC**	**Communication Workshop**	**7:15 - 9:15 PM**	**Pearl's**	**(415) 347-1925**
16	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
18	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose	(408) 984-4044
21	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek	(408) 984-5619
24	**ETVC**	**Couples Social**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**TBA**	**(415) 664-1499**
25	RGA	Poker Social	Starts at 8 PM	Sunnyvale	(408) 248-2043
25	Pac Ctr	Open Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley	(510) 841-6224
26	SGA	Dinner/Social	Starts at 8 PM	Sacramento	(916) 441-8379
31	**ETVC**	**Halloween**	**Starts at 8 PM**	**Chez Mollet**	**(415) 641-9002**

OTHER GROUPS

Pacific Center for Human Growth, a counseling-oriented growth center, sponsors all-inclusive gender support groups on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, and last Friday of the month at 8:00 PM. The Center is located at 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. Call (415) 841-6224 for more information.

Rainbow Gender Association (RGA) meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at 8:00 PM at the New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose. RGA can be contacted by writing: Rainbow Gender Association, PO Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170.

Sacramento Gender Association (SGA) Blue Rose Chapter meets at 8PM on the fourth Saturday of each month at the Town & Country Inn's restaurant 2060 Auburn Blvd. Sacramento; call (916) 441-8379 for directions. Write Blue Rose Chapter, PO Box 215456, Sacramento, CA 95821-1456 for more information.

The Tenderloin Self Help Centre meets every Wednesday from 4-6 PM at 191 Golden Gate (at Leavenworth), San Francisco, CA. This is a project of the Central City Community Hospitality House funded by the Community Mental Health Services. Call (415) 554-0518 for details.

OUTREACH

by Telzey

We've moved the Hotline and changed the number to: 510-549-2665. (All East Bay phone numbers change to area code 510, beginning Sept. 2). After two years at Thalia's, who did the call forwarding to our volunteers four nights a week, the phone now resides in a closet at Pacific Center, but they have nothing to do with answering it. You can call for information, make a request, ask a question of a phone volunteer, Tuesday to Friday, 7 to 10 PM, or leave a message on the tape at other times. Marie, Thalia, and I are the only persons with access to that tape, but we can call on many people and resources to answer questions. There are surprisingly few heavy breathers and no insults so far. Maybe Thalia's long excellent message brings people to their senses. Applications for new phone volunteers are still being taken. And the old answering machine is for sale, cheap.

There is a new magazine available from the Atlanta Educational Gender Information Service (AEGIS) called Chrysalis Quarterly. The first issue seems to meet its goal of "exploring in depth issues of gender and gender expression, focusing primarily on topics of importance to the TS and TG, but with plenty of material for the crossdresser as well. Well written. Four issues are $20 to AEGIS, PO Box 33724, Decatur, GA 30033, and includes two interesting booklets: Discovering Who You Are, and Deciding What to do About Your Gender Dysphoria. You can call them at 404-939-0244 to ask about the magazine and AEGIS, which does free nationwide referrals.

The very irregular, in content and publication, Gender Expressions, has changed again to Human Expressions, and brought out a special all parody issue of Lame Expressions. Mostly heavy handed in-group bashing, but some of it is amusing. Articles on the "Double Standards of Care" and the "One Minute Support Group" and an ad for "Closet Queen's Limousines." Anybody can borrow this, with a $50 deposit. Otherwise, inquire of Human Expressions, four issues/$20, Electronic Media ARTS, PO Box 150, Concord, NH 03302-0150.

Three letters. Diane Wysocki, who used to run the "Boys will be Girls" boutique in Phoenix has returned to college and writes: "I am a graduate student in sociology at UCSB and am currently working on a project concerning transvestism. I am interested in having people contact me who would answer a questionnaire and be willing to write about their lives and how the desire to crossdress has affected it. All confidential." Essay questions, but might be fun. Write: Diane Wysocki, Dept. of Sociology, UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA 93106.

Renee O'Malley in Ohio is compiling a book about male crossdressing, wants upbeat, amusing stories that emphasize the positive aspect, promises a free copy to all contributors. Inquire to: Renee O'Malley, PO Box 06204, Columbus, OH 43206-0204.

A young man in prison, a crossdresser before circumstances made it impossible, is asking for pen-pals and general support. He writes: "Very attractive young man, 20, intelligent, open-minded, seeking a good friend, age and race unimportant, good looks a plus, send photo." He seems very aware, at least writes a good letter. Write exactly: Jason Gardiser #d-97672, Folsom A-4-109, PO Box 29, Represa, CA 95671.

I can pass these letters on and hope that some of you, particularly those who take little active part in ETVC, will respond.

Issue #58 of the TV/TS Tapestry is out, $10 at our socials, with the usual excellent articles, great resource list, the Personal Listings, and long photo spreads on the IFGE Convention and Fantasia Fair. The editors have promised the IFGE Board to get out three issues a year, leading to a few more than usual typos, but an excellent production overall, and they have found a distributor to put it in adult bookstores all over town. Now if they could just get it into Walden Books! The IFGE Convention, last April in Denver, is thoroughly covered; this is just part 1. I should put on record that we had six from ETVC there: Martina, Ginny, Nancy Ann, Cindy Howard, Carolyn Williams, and myself. Martina and I drove there, finding that it's possible to get to Denver in a day and a half, see fantastic scenery, save some money over airfare, and take a ton of luggage. Highlights, in no particular order: Waking up to see falling snow two mornings, meeting old and new friends, Dr. Biber speaking at a luncheon with four former patients (Biber's babies) at his table, dinner at Casa Bonita, a labyrinthine Mexican place, followed by a tour of Denver's Gender Identity Center headquarters, a leased house all their own. Also, the outrageous pool party, our own Rocky Horror midnight show (with a daughter of one of the Denver organizers in the live cast in front of the screen), the very moving presentations of the Trinity awards, and the full days of educational programs, often with two or three "must-see" things at the same time. The next "Coming Together-Working Together" convention is in Houston, April 1992.

Other events you can still go to:

1st Annual Southern Comfort, in Atlanta GA, October 3-6. Write: Sigma Epsilon, Linda Peacock, PO Box 7241, Tallahassee, FL 32314.

17th Fantasia Fair, Provincetown, MA, October 18-27. Write: Fantasia Fair, 405 Western Ave., #345, South Portland, ME 04106. (207) 775-0858.

17th "Tri-Ess Holiday En Femme", Chicago, November 20-24. Write: Chi Chapter, PO Box 342, Chicago, IL 60690.

Joanie Sheldon's Pajaro Dunes weekend near Monterey, November 22-24. Write: Joan Sheldon, PO Box 7761, San Jose, CA 95150-7761. She's usually at the ETVC Thursday social. Try this kind of get-away-from-it-all event without spending a fortune.

Finally, everyone will want to know about the Amazing Telephone Voice-Changer, advertised in the "Glad-Rag" of the London TV/TS group. It's billed as a genuine Voice Re-Processor, to raise or lower the pitch of your own voice. Now you can sound feminine on the telephone. Write: Roberts/Dept. E.M., PO Box 85, Derby DE1 9QY, England.

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EDUCATION by Paulette

Let's Continue Talking

A special thank you to Jessica for writing this column in the past – big shoes to fill, but we will try.

As you may have noticed, the location of the Education Committee meetings and seminars has changed from the Chez Mollet to the Galleon and Pearl's. However, the two meetings we scheduled at the Galleon were not recorded in the right book, so we've decided to try Lily's on Valencia Street at Market. This is a new bar and the manager, Tina, former SF Empress and long-time member of ETVC, welcomes us all. Lily's address is 4 Valencia Street in San Francisco. Both meetings in September (7 and 21) are scheduled for Lily's, as well as the meeting on October 12.

Another fine dining place is Pearl's in San Mateo. Pearl's has delicious barbequed ribs and yummy peach cobbler. And much more! To get to Pearl's going south on US101, take the Poplar Street exit and immediately turn left onto the frontage road (N. Amphlett Blvd.). Pearl's address is 207 N. Amphlett Blvd. on the right and you can pull into the driveway the wrong way. Going north on US101, take the 3rd Street exit and take the first right. Take the next right and follow it onto N. Amphlett Blvd. Pearl's is on the left. Those who don't drive can take BART to the Powell Street stop in San Francisco and come up to the street level. Walk half a block down Market Street back to 4th Street (Stockton Street on the other side of Market). Wait for the #30 MUNI bus and take it down 4th Street to the train station. Take the train south to the first San Mateo stop and call Pearl's (347-1925). An ETVC member will pick you up. ❦

IT'S NOT MY DAY by Lauren Hotchkiss

Got a run in my stocking, spilled coffee on my dress
Lost one of my earrings, and my makeup's a mess
My high-heels are killing me, got mascara in my eye
Now someone's pointing at me, and sayin' that's a guy

Chorus.
It's not my day
No no, it's not my day
No matter what you say, things ain't goin' my way
'cause it's just not my day

Well, I went to do some shopping down at the local mall
Trying outfits in the changing room, I was having a ball
'til a saleslady caught me while I was trying on a skirt
She ran outside and sounded the security alert

(CHORUS)

Lookin' for a place to hide, ran in the ladies room
A little girl read me and screamed, I knew that I was doomed
The guard pounded on the door, so I hiked up my dress
Climbed out the window as he said "Come out", you're under arrest

(CHORUS)

I heard music comin' from a bar, thought I'd give it a try
Went in an' ordered whiskey, men were giving me the eye
Suddenly this redneck put his hand right up my dress
I guess a country western bar ain't no place to transvest

(CHORUS)

I was runnin' out the door, when in comes my boss
He looks at me and says "You're fired" but it's no big loss
What's the difference anyway, hey it's just my life
Least until I get home and I have to tell my wife

(CHORUS)

(CHORUS)

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A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

by Julie Freeman

In late July, Donna and I sailed on the inaugural Dignity Cruise, organized by Peggy Rudd. Quite an experience to say the least! There were twenty-two of us; twelve crossdressers, four wives, other family members and a close friend. Most of the group was from Texas; there were only the two of us from the Bay Area. From our departure from SF, to the port at Miami, to the Bahamas, and back again, everything went very smoothly. The treatment was exceptional; we all were well taken care of. Bear in mind there were over 1700 other passengers in addition to our group.

The four crossdressers who came with their wives appeared in **drab** during the day. This allowed us to roam freely on the islands without passport concerns, etc. Several crossdressers who came by themselves did crossdress during the day as well. Most of the passengers were positive, curious as you can imagine. There were lots of stares and whispers, but not much direct action until later in the week. By that time, the ice was broken, and several near our dinner table came by to ask questions and get information. We did hear some negative remarks, but most of the crossdressers aboard will probably tell you that by far the reaction was positive

During the day, we generally went our separate ways - either exploring, touring the islands, shopping, swimming, sunning, gambling at the casino on board, etc. Occasionally, we met in the Conference Room, which Peggy had booked for us, in the late afternoon. We always got together in the lounge before dinner for excellent conversation and cocktails. Our group was noticed, but no one said anything directly to us. Some of the more outgoing of our group perched themselves at the bar in full view of those coming and going to dinner. Donna and I were not that brave! We sat quietly with others of our group, just enjoying the camaraderie of being with each other.

It was a pleasure to meet Peggy Rudd, author of My Husband Wears My Clothes, and her husband, Mel, who brought his parents along to meet "Melanie" for the first time! His parents were wonderful! Just a couple of "Oh, my's" as they looked at all the pictures we had taken.

Peggy had met with the legal department of the cruise line and provided all the crossdressers with a letter, if any problem should arise, but we were not sure just how many cruise staff members knew about us. Most were not aware of us before we came aboard. Our cabin steward, for example, was a bit bewildered to see me with a husband in the morning and a "roommate" (his term) at night, but he adjusted quite well, only forgetting his nightly routine once when Donna appeared unexpectedly. Our wine steward and head waiter asked for literature about crossdressing. Some wanted to buy Peggy's book.

What did come as a surprise to me was a comment to one of our group by the cruise doctor, who said something along the line of "Now what is all this anyway?" I guess our phenomenon is not as widely known as I had believed. From what I understand, a four-hour educational seminar followed!

It was an interesting experience to be "out" for five days. I was pleased that I did have Don during the day and could get out of the limelight for awhile. Donna, of course, had a marvelous time. She and the other crossdressers did not mind the stares and whispers, but rather looked upon the attention as an opportunity for outreach.

Peggy is planning another cruise for next year, going to Alaska. For those of you who enjoy "outreach" or for those of you who love the idea of being pampered while aboard a luxury liner, this is a unique experience not to be missed!

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A Big Thank You

While chatting with Peggy Rudd at dinner one night on the cruise, she asked me who had distributed the copies on pink paper of the questionnaire she used to gather material for her second book. When I told her that I had, she told me that of the 800 responses she had received, over 200 were on pink paper and that they contained some of her best responses. I would like to add my thanks along with hers for showing once again why ETVC is one of the best gender groups anywhere.

– Donna Freeman

PROFILE: Donna and Julie Freeman

by Cindy R. Martin

In this first of a continuing series of profiles of the people who help make ETVC such a great club, we talked with Julie and Donna Freeman, a wonderful married couple who have put in untold hours volunteering for our organization. They usually work the door, are the first faces you see at the ETVC socials and have been the chief copy editors of this newsletter for the last three years. Julie is also heavily involved in keeping the Significant Others Support group going. Donna is a former secretary of our club and today she handles the club's membership list. Her newest project has been the establishment of the Diablo Valley Girls, a gender community support group in central Contra Costa county.

Q: Julie, crossdressing can be such a major deal for married people. When did you first learn about Donna's crossdressing and what did you think about it?

Julie: We had been married about three years (this was in the late 1960s) and I remember coming back from a class unexpectedly and I found Donna wearing an article of mine...I was very surprised, but she promised not to do it again...periodically after that I would ask if she was still doing it and she said no. She was lying, of course (laughs).

Then in 1987 she told me she was a transvestite and had been dressing all along. Now the interesting thing was that about a month before I had seen a show on crossdressing on Donahue and they said there was no cure for it. So when Donna told me about this, I was not as astounded or bewildered as some people might have been...What bothered me was that she said she had gone out late at night, that scared me, I thought she was a little out of control...But she promised then not to do anything without making me aware of it and that has really helped...Today crossdressing plays a large part in our life and we've come to an understanding about it. It's provided a lot of interest and excitement in our lives...Overall I'd say it hasn't been an undesirable thing.

Q: Donna, when did you first start dressing?

Donna: When I was four or five...Later, I got caught by my parents a few times as a teenager...It kind of went dormant in college but after I got married I dressed when I could. I hid it pretty well, too, since I only got caught that once.

Q: So why did you decide to tell Julie about it?

Donna: I think like a lot of us, when we reach our 40s, I reached a point where I decided I couldn't hold it in any longer...I got tired of keeping a secret.

Q: Obviously it worked out.

Donna: Before, we were married singles, now we communicate with each other about everything. I have no secrets anymore, it's all out on the table...the best thing is that I've gotten a lot greater appreciation of her as a woman (since coming out).

Q: You and Julie have been incredibly active in ETVC. How come?

Donna: For some reason I find it hard to say no. Volunteering is a chance to help others and I like that, always have. The one difference with ETVC is that this is the first support activity where I have personally gotten something out of it. I've been involved in other kinds of voluntary groups, but usually I had never walked in the person's shoes who I was trying to help. This is different.

Q: Julie you've done a lot of work with the Significant Others Support group. How do other women react to all this?

Julie: There is such a mix of people. A lot of women are facing TS problems in their marriage and that is a very difficult situation. Others say that their husbands are inundating them with this and don't have much interest in anything else...it really gets some women very angry that their husbands never lift a finger to do the female work, they just want to look beautiful...On the other hand so many crossdressers are sweet and gentle people who really want to be their wife's friends and helpmates...those are the ones where the relationships tend to be very good.

Q: All in all would you say it's been worth it doing volunteer work for our community?

Donna: I have met a lot of wonderful people that I wouldn't have met if I hadn't gotten involved and that's reason enough. Once I was chatting with a new member from Grass Valley at an ETVC social and I told her she'd come a long way. She said that the real distance was coming out of the closet. Knowing I had a little part in getting her out, well, that's a nice feeling...Now I'm involved in this new group (Diablo Valley Girls) and I'm having a great time. People say things to me like "Thanks for starting this group, I didn't have any place to go before."

FREE WORKSHOPS

Being transgendered doesn't mean having to be alone, without friends or companions. Learn more about being transgendered and single at a special workshop conducted by therapist Joni Eveling Israel. The workshop will be on Saturday, September 21, from 1-4:30p.m. Ms Israel is also sponsoring a free workshop on Saturday, September 28th from 1-4:30 p.m. on "Coming Out." Learn how to reduce the risks of "telling" in this workshop, which will focus on exploring methods of disclosure. For information and location of the workshops, call (415) 558-8058.

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CROSSDRESSERS are a little exotic, a little strange to many people. That's why I love hearing about things like "Girls Night Out."

This informal little group makes a point of going out dressed to restaurants and theatres that aren't particularly known as gender community hangouts. No big deal maybe, but it is a great way to demystify crossdressing to that vast majority of people who have very little contact with us, particularly those who think we are all prostitutes and hustlers.

And here is the good news for those of you still in the closet: Our girls consistently report that the overwhelming majority of people are nice to them, or at the very least, do not hassle them. They also say that it helps a lot to dress appropriately, but then you knew that.

THIS TOWN really is the best. As if more proof were needed consider what was going on here during the first week in August: On Tuesday, August 6 the well-reviewed "Fabulous Lypsinka Show" opened at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint in SF. That same night our own Lauren Hotchkiss, billed as the "Singing Transvestite" performed at Freight and Salvage in Berkeley. Wednesday night was the opening at SF's Curran Theatre of "M. Butterfly," the famed play about a Chinese crossdresser and spy. Later in the week you could also have taken in "Drag Queens in Outer Space" at Theatre Rhinoceros in SF and attended the Friday opening of "Paris is Burning," a documentary on black and Hispanic drag queens in NY. And of course there was Finocchio's, which has a fabulous new show.

MADONNA, you justify my love. Last time out I mentioned how the world's most famous woman has been saying all kinds of nice things about us in the national media. Now she's put some money where her mouth is. Madonna turns out to be a major investor of the "Fabulous Lypsinka Show," a wonderful drag review, according to an article in the Sunday, August 4 Chronicle/Examiner.

The same story, which had three pictures of Lypsinka (aka John Epperson), two en femme, also carried this interesting list of the show's admirers: Carol Burnett, who often featured Harvey Korman in drag on her television shows; Bette Midler, who broke into show business in gay bathhouses; Liza Minelli, whose breakthrough film "Cabaret" featured some great drag; David Bowie and Elton John, both of whom have appeared in drag in public; director Pedro Almodovar, whose films routinely have crossdressed characters, and Lily Tomlin, who has appeared in male drag.

One other name was mentioned: David Byrne, lead singer for the Talking Heads. What was interesting about Byrne is that he also turns out to have been a major force behind getting "Paris is Burning" completed. Thank you, David. Now I know why I've always loved all of your records.

EXCELLENT DUDETTE! Alex Winter, who plays Bill in "Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey" told a reviewer recently that he shares three things with his character: "a love of falafel, the Jewish faith and a crossdressing habit." Hmmm. Unfortunately the reviewer didn't expand on that, but I am definitely now an Alex Winter fan.

TRULY BOGUS A Nintendo game company, Capcom Japan, is coming out with a video game called Final Fight that includes a scene in which a transvestite is beaten by the game's hero. American distributors told the Japanese company to take the TV out, but Capcom refused and simply made the TV more masculine looking. Just to give you an idea of the sensitivities of this company, they also originally made virtually all of the villains in the game black or Hispanic. If you own a Nintendo, you may want to think more carefully about buying or renting Capcom products.

FINALLY...When I started as the editor of the ETVC Newsletter in November 1988, I never imagined I would last in the job so long, but I've had so much fun these past few years that it was hard to step aside.

Turnover is both the weakness and strength of healthy volunteer groups. It is nice to have stability, but a group like ours also needs enthusiastic new people and ideas if we are to continue to progress and improve.

My personal reasons for leaving as editor are not very interesting so I won't bore you, but I would like to say that I am very proud of our newsletter. It has become one of the very best in the country, not because of me, but rather because of the great efforts of people like Gloria Peters, Kim Hellman, Cheryl T., Carol Clark, and my dear friends and the best copy editors I know, Donna and Julie Freeman.

I also want to thank all the columnists and writers, past and present, who made the newsletter lively and interesting. Thanks especially to Jenny C., Renee Chinquapin, Ronda Schneider, Jessica, Lauren Hotchkiss, and Jane Kamper Bentley.

I know I irritated a few people, and a few scratched my blackboard as well, but it was a great ride. Now I look forward to having time to contribute articles about ETVC events and the people in our community. It ought to be interesting to be on the other end of an editor's blue pencil!

Significant Other Support Group

The Significant Other Support Group wants to invite all Significant Others to attend our SOS group meetings. Group members define Significant Others as wives, lovers, friends, children and others close to TV/TS persons but are themselves not TV/TS. We encourage you to ask the SO in your own life to come to these meetings, particularly if the SO feels they need support from their peers in dealing with their feelings about the TV/TS in their lives. It is important to emphasize that all meetings are kept STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL. This is to help insure that a safe, supportive environment is created in which all attendees will feel secure enough too really be able to share and talk about their feelings. We are frequently assisted by a helping professional with a specialty in our area of concern.

The SOS group meets the second Thursday of each month from 8 to 10 p.m. Our next meetings are scheduled for September 12 and October 10. You are all welcome with open arms. For more information call Ginny at [redacted]

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TRANSGENDERISM – The Third Alternative

by Lauren

We've all been brought up to believe that there are only two gender presentations allowed to us in this life, and that they are inextricably tied to the genetic sex into which we are born. We come into this world as either "little boys" or "little girls" and are expected to live the rest of our lives in strict accordance to the narrowly defined gender roles that society has "assigned" to each sex. This is all very fine, in theory anyway, were it not for the reality that it just is not that simple.

All of us, men and women, have both the feminine and the masculine within us, to varying degrees, and so it follows that there must be a vast blending ground between the diametrically opposed, stereotypical concepts of man and woman; and yet the myth persists that there is not. No wonder that the two "sexes" often have such difficulty understanding each other when society has cast them into the role of "opposites." Our language, too, is full of terminology that tends to divide the concepts of male and female and us along with them. Even in this "enlightened" age where sexual re-assignment has become a fairly commonplace occurrence, there is still the expectation that one is supposed to trade in one set of behavioral and dress standards for another.

Within our own community as well, I have noticed that there is a tendency to divide the male from the female; and whether it is the transvestite path of bouncing back and forth between genders (a sort of conscious schizophrenia) or the transsexual path of surgical transformation, still it is an either/or equation, rather than a true integration of masculine and feminine qualities.

There is, however, a third alternative, which until comparatively recently has seldom been considered - the transgendered lifestyle.

Such a lifestyle is, admittedly, not necessarily the right agenda for everyone in the gender community; many crossdressers have no desire to further expand their curious "hobby," and for members of the transsexual community there is a different path to be followed. For the individual who is drawn to this lifestyle, however, there is afforded a rare opportunity to integrate the hitherto separate halves into a cohesive oneness and reach a wholeness of being.

Perhaps, for some of us who are moving toward a transgendered or androgynous existence, there is a reason why we were born into male bodies. Possibly it is to explore the integration of female energy on both an outer and inner manifestational level - to experience, in the body of a "man," what have up until now been considered feminine feelings.

In my own life, though I was born male, I never did feel like a "man." I've always felt more comfortable around women than I have around men. Somehow, femininity always seemed more natural to me; it was masculinity that I had to "learn," and it always seemed forced. I realize now that I've always had a deep need for feminine expression, and now that I've opened myself up to expressing it, I feel I have become a more complete and open person; more at peace with myself, and more able to be of service to others.

I feel a deep commitment to my lifestyle of choice, as well as to the gender community as a whole - a sense of life purpose and spiritual path beyond anything I've ever experienced.

I have noticed a difficulty, however, now that I have swung so far in the female direction, in accepting the male component of my psyche. My goal is to be able to accept both: the male as well as the female.

Transgenderism is not always an easy path to follow. It is often fraught with challenges of self-acceptance and the perceived judgments of others, as well as difficulties in finding and maintaining relationships, but though some may regard it as a choice of loneliness, I feel that for those of us who feel guided to this lifestyle, it is a choice for freedom.

Semper Fidelis

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A CROSSDRESSER'S GUIDE TO STEPPING OUT by Carolyn Woodward Part One

INTRODUCTION

I am going to start with an assumption. I will assume that you are a crossdresser who has come to the realization that hiding in your own personal closet is stifling your personal growth as a whole human being. You need to get out into the world! But you don't go out because you are afraid of what the world will say. You are sure that you will be rejected by everyone with whom you have the most fleeting contact, that they will make fun of you. Further, you don't think you will ever look good enough to go unnoticed in the outside world.

Well, there is hope. I have just described the early feelings of almost every crossdresser with whom I have discussed this subject. On the other hand, there are a large number of ETVC members who are perfectly willing to brave the outside world and do it without incident.

SELF IMAGE

Let's start with the single most important step of your exodus from that little closet - self image. Quiz time! When you look in the mirror when crossdressed, what do you see?

a. A guy in a dress,

b. A truly ugly woman who could derail a train with a passing glance,

c. An average looking woman, or

d. A real knockout.

Answer: a. A guy in a dress. At least this is the answer unless your self image is firm. Regardless of your physical appearance, be it anywhere from "b." to "d.", the people with whom you interact are going to notice something not quite right, and will soon, if not instantly, see a guy in a dress. What do they usually notice? Well, it could be a flaw in appearance, or a display of masculine gestures, but more likely than not, it will be a manifestation of abject fear. If you are truly afraid, you might as well wear a large sign, because your fear will show. When it shows, people are going to wonder what you have to be afraid of, or nervous about, and then they will pay close attention to you and figure it out.

How does one get over that abject fear? You could do it the hard way, like I did. I just started going out, late at night and never inside anyplace. Then I went where people were, got read, got laughed at, and ran. After a while I got used to it and I was not as afraid. I also did not get noticed as much. I'm no whiz at math, but I can add two and two, and usually end up with four as an answer.

There is an easier way. Go to an ETVC meeting. Go in male clothes if you must. Just go! At the meetings, particularly the educational sessions, you will learn details of improving your appearance and deportment, and you will meet people who share your needs and will help you develop your self image. Also, it is non-threatening since you will be surrounded by other crossdressers.

All right, now you know that you have a safe place to go, and that you don't have to work on this alone. It is time to develop that self image. Shall we begin?

A healthy self image starts with the heartfelt knowledge that you are not sick, perverted, or strange. The first step, therefore, is to be at peace with yourself. If you can accept yourself, then fear will not give you away. Most people are not terribly observant, if you don't give them anything to observe, and will accept what they see at face value. If you look like you have always been female, you will be accepted at face value. Even when you are read by someone, you will likely be accepted at face value because your self image is strong. People seldom confront others who are truly self-confident and comfortable with themselves.

Work on self image, but don't expect it to bloom into full fruition overnight. Come to ETVC, RGA, or other such meetings as there may be in your area, and let others help you. This is a difficult task, and there is no reason to go it alone.

DEPORTMENT

Gestures/Body Language:

As I'm sure everyone has noticed, men and women have different ways of moving, standing, and gesturing. Your complete image requires that you learn to move your body like a woman. The best way is to be coached by an expert. Failing that, watch the way women walk, sit, rise from a seated position, eat, stand, and gesture. You may be surprised, for example, to find that walking like a woman is not just a matter of moving your hips back and forth. Women have a lower center of gravity and walking is a matter of moving from the hips and letting the rest of the body come along. It is balanced. Men walk by starting to fall over and moving their feet underneath to give support before they finish falling.

Sitting should be accomplished with good posture, knees together, and arms close in - not taking up much room. If you sit with legs apart, shoulders hunched forward, and elbows on knees, you need some work.

Learn and practice the differences between the way men and women move. A video camera can be a valuable tool. If you need some outside help, enlist a friend or bug the ETVC Education Co-Chairpersons about some sessions in movement.

APPEARANCE

Makeup:

No, this is not a makeup class. There are hundreds of sources for that information. I only have a couple of things to say on that subject. Make sure your beard does not show through your makeup. A beard is a uniquely male characteristic and a five-o'clock shadow will completely ruin an otherwise perfect presentation. The other is to make sure your makeup fits your age and the occasion. No amount of makeup which is acceptable for street wear will make a forty year old face look twenty. It only attracts attention, as does formal makeup in the mall. I would also recommend a stage makeup class at your local junior college. There you will learn about the variety of marvelous things you can do with makeup and about the effects of highlight and shadow. Since you learn the theory, and not simply a mechanical application of one person's method for applying makeup, you can effectively design a makeup plan to soften and compliment your individual face.

Body Hair:

Shave it, pluck it, bleach it, get electrolysis, or cover it. Those are the options. Ignoring it is not an option. Don't let hairy arms or legs ruin your appearance. No matter what method you use, however, hair on the back of your hands, and particularly your fingers, is not acceptable. The lack of hair on a man's hand is not really noticeable, but a pair of hairy hands is very noticeable on a woman. Ditto on feet and ankles unless you wear opaque tights or boots.

GAY FREEDOM DAY

by Jane Kamper Bently

I was going crazy trying to think of a subject for this issue's column when I learned that we didn't have an article about the Gay Freedom Day Parade. "Great," I thought, "I was there, I could write about it."

One problem though. I sort of wasn't there. I was, but I wasn't. I missed the parade, just like last year. I guess it's because I don't like watching parades. What I would like is to be in a parade. I used to be in them all the time when I was nine years old in military school. Actually, there was one thing I liked, which was to be home for the holidays when I could wear my uniform around my old school. In military school, I was one of hundreds of miserable look-alikes. Back home, I was a standout, a one person parade.

Next year I definitely plan to be in the parade, but not wearing what I wore in military school, and not marching. What I would love to do is to be in the ETVC car, holding up Miss ETVC's hand as though she had just knocked out Mike Tyson in the third round. Just a thought. Don't worry Martina, I probably won't do it.

Anyway, about this year. I wasn't there for the parade, but I was for the event; I mean, the booth party at the Civic Center. ETVC's booth was sandwiched between one that was bestowing real-looking phoney U.C. diplomas for doctorates in gay studies–fun–and another that was some kind of massage cult. You signed up and got free neck massage. Only problem was that their booth had no front entrance, so their customers had to pass through our booth and climb over our coats and sandwiches to get to the back of their booth. We wound up eating and wearing footprints. No, we didn't get any free backrubs.

You should know about the weather. Glorious. One of the few really warm, sunny days in an otherwise foggy summer. Tell me the Goddess doesn't love us like her own true children; which of course, we are.

You should know about stalwarts. Those who womaned our booth all afternoon: Telzey, Donna and Melissa. Others came and went, but they were there always. Unless one of them wasn't. It was two months ago. If there were other stalwarts, forgive my lapsed memory, please.

A Pleasing sight: the rapid and complete disappearance of the 25 pamphlets sent to us by Jamie Green of FTM.

And now, my personal highlight, when I got to appear on stage (even if it was a side stage) with Thalia and Lauren. I got to tell a few jokes about us "T" people (thanks, Lori Spencer), the biggest laugh-getter being, "If George Bush can be a pretend president, why can't I be a pretend woman?" (thanks, Thalia). Forget that we were precede by a great lesbian band, which had the crowd calling out, "More! More!" Or that when we were introduced, the crowd reacted as though somebody had said, "And now a word from our sponsor." Or that the mikes didn't function properly the first few minutes. Or that the producer, Stephanie Wong, almost had a coronary when she realized that Thalia had reported to the wrong stage and quickly retrieved her. It was our time to show ourselves to a slightly wider world. And Lauren did bring the crowd back with her imitation of Bob Dylan singing a song about transgenderism.

Gay Freedom Day 1991. We were there. And Janet was there with her video camera. I still don't have the guts to look at the tape.

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By now we have achieved a complete new executive committee. Did you get your name in the hat? NO! Well! IF YOU VOTED you were among the 24% who did.

Item	Participation		
	We Are Here	Some Think We Are Here	We Want To Be Here
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES	30%	50%	80%
EDUCATION EVENTS	10%	20%	70%
COMMITTEE	10%	15%	30%

These figures are estimates only but I'm certain they are close. The differences in the first two columns reflect those who always seem to be there. NOTE THAT the first two figures in the third column represent the total local membership; thus we would need participation by every local member!

ONLY YOU can best advance the purpose of ETVC - Educate the members and the public, have fun doing it, and keep this group functional. So VOLUNTEER YOUR SERVICES to help whenever and wherever you can. Remember this club (and most similar groups) has a tendency to depend upon the services of a very few. And eventually those few burn out leaving the group with no leaders. Your help will prevent this and strengthen the backbone of our group. Even your attendance at the various events moves us forward.

Here's one committee you may not know about - I am heading the Bylaws committee. If you would like to be a part of it, if you believe you may want to comment on any proposed amendment, or if you need a copy of the Bylaws, please see me at any event. The Bylaws committee will be reviewing, changing, and writing about (analysis, pro, and con) suggested amendments to the Bylaws. Time is getting short!

If you notice a severe, unfavorable change in the quality of this newsletter, know that Cindy has received "the straw that broke the camel's back." All too often we have told her of our nitpick'n dissatisfactions about the newsletter without thinking about how we appreciate her wonderful editing. Forgive us, Cindy! It is all too easy to call a point and much too difficult to view the overall result. We need about five people with computers to fill her shoes. HOW ABOUT YOU!

If anyone is wondering what happened to the Education seminars, Lenny Mollet, owner of the Chez Mollet, told us on June 15, in no uncertain terms, that he would no longer be open on Saturday before dinner time. His expenses and the loss of one person prompted his decision. I have asked the executive committee to not consider this a negative, but a positive need to get out there and find us alternative meeting places. We have already found several places for 30 to 35 people, but need more, especially for 60, 150, and 300 people. The last will be for major events such as Halloween and the Cotillion and must be able to supply power for sound, lights, spotlights, and ... With lesser groups it would be nice to get the room for a food and drink minimum (zero net charge, we hope). And whenever in any restaurant or bar where we hold events, remember to patronize them and indicate that you are a member of ETVC whenever you make a purchase.

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To access AIDSnet on-line databases ONLY, type "AIDS INFO" (No quotes) at the "Enter FULL NAME" prompt.

GENDERnet — GENDERnet is a gateway to four gender-related forums–i.e. TS, CD/TV, SO (Significant Other), and FPO (For Physicians Only). An on-line database provides acsess to a wide-variety of full-text gender related articles, legal citations and information, medical, political, psychological, religious and social-issue journals and research material. GENDERnet also offers electronic mail service to registered users.

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