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Prez Stuff

Elections....

First, I would like to thank everyone for their support in the November elections. I want to welcome Shelly Hartt as our new VP of Outreach. I was sorry to see Christine withdraw, but one's personnel health comes first before the fun and games of the chapter. With the exception of myself, this is a fresh board and I am sure we will be seeing brand new ideas and input.

Ritz...

I do want to encourage everyone to get their order in for the Puttin' On The Ritz. If you plan on paying at the door, we must have your reservation (by phone or E-Mail) or you will be charged the higher rate as stated. It is very hard to guess at how many people will attend, since we must give a figure to the hotel on the 17th, we need the information. If we are short, some people will not eat. If we over estimate, we pay for unused dinners. So please let us know your intentions.

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January Program

The January program will be a WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE. Everyone needs to bring an anonymously wrapped gift to contribute. This is your opportunity to get rid of those items that you are too embarrassed to return or exchange. If some of us could bring some extra gifts so that the first time visitors can participate, that would be great. If you have any questions, e-mail me at abigale_a@hotmail.com. Thanks.

Abby.

Chi Chapter TRIBUNE

Vol# XXXVII December 1998
Issue # 12

Puttin' On The Ritz

December 19th

honoring

Dr. Russell Getz



Meet Your Sister

ABBY'S ROAD

By Abigale Adams

December marks the six-month anniversary of Abby's existence. She came into being one evening back in early June through Rori's magic at Transformations. With each Tri-Ess meeting I'm getting to know more and more of you. I know some of you have been wondering who this Abby person is since she doesn't look anything like that picture they keep pasting up in the newsletter (but then, no one really looks like that). Sarah is going to fix all that at the December Christmas party, I hope.

Last month, Abby's Road accumulated some incredible mileage. Terri and I represented Tri-Ess at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations in Milwaukee. We were there with Tri-Ess sisters from Oklahoma, North Carolina and Minnesota. It was an absolutely mind boggling experience. Out of the hundreds of people attending the conference over four days, there were only four cross-dressers, and we were WELCOMED, ACCEPTED AND APPRECIATED for who we were and what we were doing. We didn't have to worry about being read. We were advertising!!

Up until then, Abby had only been two places, Tri-Ess meetings and transformations, both safe, protective and supportive. After joining Chi-Chapter in August, I received an E-mail from our President asking for volunteers to go to Milwaukee and help at the Tri-Ess booth for this conference. It just so happened that we were going to be in Milwaukee that weekend anyway for the annual model railroad show, so we wrote back indicating we would be available to help a little. Big Mistake.. Helping a little soon became major participation. Judy from Texas and Dana from North Carolina (the same ones that are in all those Peggy Rudd books) were soon calling and e-mailing with all sorts of instructions and information.

The conference was going to be in the main ballroom of the Hyatt Regency, and we were expected to be en femme the whole time, starting with the staff meeting Friday evening in the lobby. Right! I'm going to walk into the lobby of the Hyatt Regency on Friday night and sit there where everyone can look at me. This is not like going to

(Continued on page 4)



Amanda Lynn's Notes



4464-K, Nicole, IL-4579-T, Jill, IL-4604-K & Kathleen, IL-9424-C, Wallie, IL-4606-D, Julie Ann, IL-4627-J, Collette, IL-4770-C & Mikkie, IL-9504-C, Cindy, Nancy, IL-4837-S, Kathy, WI-4864-S & Patsy, IL-9569-K, Carole Elizabeth, IL-4865-L & Laurie, IL-9570-L, Amy, IL-4866-R, Abby, IL-4953-J & Terri, IL-9563-J, Kelly, IL-5012-M & Connie, IL-9599-M, Felicia, IL-5015-G, Aries, Connie, Meghan, Maureen, Bartina, **First-Timers:** Linda L, Teresa, Cindy S., Rachel R, Terri L, Monica A. Our visitor from Michigan, and organizer of Lambda Mu, Alicia

11/21/98 General Meeting

Denise called the meeting to order at about 8PM and the usual introductions were made.

The Friend of Chi-Chapter award was announced and nominations were taken from the floor. Nominees included: Dr. Russell Getz for his work with the intimacy group and counseling within the community. Velma, for her continued service as a vendor. Julie Anne, for her generosity to our group.

Candace reported on the outreach Dee Dee and Shelly had done at the American College of Psychiatry as well as her own presence at the Council of Churches.

Event announcements included the CGS Holiday Party, Rori's Baton Party and Naomi's report on the BeAll '99 planning committee. The Be All committee had voted to disperse excess funds to the supporting chapters to be used at the discretion of the chapter.

Sara and Christine announced that they will provide photography services at Be All. Rachel and Naomi extended an open invitation to their hospitality suite.

The elections were of prime importance and Candace, Denise, Shelly and Christine addressed the audience. Christine regretfully withdrew her nomination as VP of Outreach due to health concerns, and was affirmed by a heartfelt standing ovation from the group. Ballots were collected and counted. Denise was announced as winner of another term as president. Candace was given verbal recognition for the service she has provided over the years as VP of Outreach.

Following the business meeting, Rori presented a delightful program of fashion and creative makeup. The evening concluded with a 7 course Thanksgiving style meal. Thanks to all who helped make this a success!

Present at the meeting were;

Dana, IN-3583-M, Christine, IL-3445-K & Cheryl, IL-9521-K, Jenee, WI-2372-M, Rachel, WI-3351-R, Dawn, IL-4362-A, Naomi, IL-1164-O & Rachel, IL-9007-G, Laura, IL-1186-B, Gloria, IL-1191-M, Barbara Diane, IL-2299-B & Barbara, IL-9118-B, Marcia, IL-2566-H, Olivia, IL-2849-C, Pamela, IL-3196-M, Lori, IL-3368-F, Candace, IL-3416-M & Dawn, IL-9342-M, Amanda, IL-3432-D, Denise, IL-3493-P & Kim, IL-9195-P, Carol, IL-3616-R, Janet, IL-3684-D, Allannah, IL-3749-S, Norma, IL-3956-T & Joyce, IL-9200-T, Vickie, IL-3686-L, Pamela, IL-4229-A, Loraine, IL-4275-K, Sherridiane, IL-4352-P, Debbie, IL-4328-B & Laurie Ann, IL-9478-B, Shelley, IL-4356-H & Linda, IL-9479-C, Kimberly, IL-4451-R, Laura, IL-

Board Meeting 11/21/98

Attendees:

- Denise - President
- Sarah - Treasurer Elect
- Candace - VP Outreach
- Amanda - Newly appointed Secretary
- Abby - VP Programming Elect
- Shelly - VP Candidate

Chapter Award Nominations:

Nominations for the award will be taken from the floor during the business portion of the meeting. The board will vote for the winner in private session afterwards.

Elections:

Amanda will conduct the elections for which the offices of President and VP of Outreach have contending candidates. Ballots will be passed out to members in good standing when the sign-in at the registration desk.

Candidates will be give opportunity to speak to the membership before the vote is taken.

Puttin' On The Ritz:

Amanda will call vendors re providing table decorations/token gifts.

Honey West's manager will be contacted by Denise per the need for monitor speakers. It is hoped that using George the DJ's would be sufficient.

Discussion was held on how to limit the length of any speeches made, however no definite solution was determined.

Telephone: A special remote access call-forwarding phone line will be installed in Oak Park so that the capability of forwarding calls can be implemented. This would allow us to have several persons available on a schedule to handle hot-line calls.

Newsletter: Sara offered to provide copying services for the newsletter. Current Kinko's services cost about \$200 per month.

Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 1st of each month.

Following the business meeting, the board met and voted for Dr. Russell Getz

A Christmas Thought

By Amanda

Slumbering deeply that cold winter night, I was suddenly awakened by a quick rhythmic beat that could only be associated with a lady in heels. This was so strange, since the noise was coming from the roof. I jumped out of bed, rushed to the patio doors on my balcony and drew back the drapes. There in the sky I beheld scores of little Barbie dolls with cherub wings donned, floating in circles and harmonizing sweet ahhs. Then there appeared the twinkling of red sequined 4-inch heels at the bottom of beautiful long Hanes-covered legs. The gorgeous site slowly descended from the edge of the roof onto the balcony. A white furry fringe at the bottom of a cute red velour short skirt came into view, and finally she herself appeared in all her glory showered in the glitter of fairy dust and a crescendo of the cherubs' a cappella chords. Woa, was she ever beautiful! Coming towards me she announced herself, "I am Santa's great, great, great hundreds-of-times-over granddaughter...just helping to keep up the family tradition. Merry Christmas, my TG friend, I have come to bring you presents...and I hope you didn't expect me to use the chimney and dirty my new outfit."

So she gracefully glided past me and was followed by a procession of at least a hundred of the tiny angels. They flew a circle around me and sprinkled their magic dust upon me, and soon my dingy boy PJ's were turned into a white satin nightgown. Two of the Barbies floated gently over my head and guided a crown of blonde curls into place, while a few others provided a quick makeover.

Young Ms. Santa called me over to the mirror to see my transformation, a most beautiful woman. She positioned me next to her while all the dream-shaped little angels bent their plastic joints into sitting positions. They hummed quietly as she opened a giant red velvet purse containing several presents. I hoped Santa sent her to deliver Bloomingdales gift certificates, but she had different ideas.

"For you, my friend, I have brought some very special gifts." First she pulled out a vial of the most beautiful fragrance I ever inhaled. She dabbed a few drops over me as the angels chanted in unison "Acceptance!" Then two little helpers gently tied a symbolic ribbon over my wrists only to be quickly followed by another helper with golden scissors to cut it. The chant this time was "Freedom to be yourself." Ms. S. hugged me on my left side while an ensemble of the cute little cherubs leaned their heads against my right. "Friendship" was their song. "Wisdom to do what is right" was handed to me on a small white pillow. A trio then presented three crystal goblets which were filled with the wines of Joy, Peace and Love .

Ms. Santa smiled and took my hand. To a now silenced room, with a look in her eyes so sincere she said, "These are the world's gifts to you, but they come with a string attached. In order to enjoy them for the rest of your life, you must promise that you will first be proud of who you are as a transgendered person, for you were created that way by Love herself. You must also promise to listen to the needs of those around you

and balance their needs with your own, so there can be true peace among all who love and hold dear. You must promise to be helpful to others like yourself, giving time and talent to help promote good transgendered experiences. And too, you must promise that if you wish to ever enjoy the aroma of the perfume of acceptance on your own self, you must first accept the diversity of every other person in this world and help eliminate unjust discrimination and bias of any kind."

"I promise, I promise, I promise, I promise!!!" And a unison cheer of tiny female voices filled the room. Ms. Santa fixed her lipstick and then planted a sweet kiss of friendship on my cheek. They all quickly floated back out the doorway into the starlit sky where they regrouped, checked my name off the Tri-Ess directory and set course for the next lucky member on the list.

Will you get visited this year? Will you promise?



Debbie's Library Shelves

We have in stock a quantity of the new Peggy Rudd book "*Who's Really from Venus*"

These are available for a reduced rate of \$12.00

You may E-mail me with your inquiries at Dbender@starnetinc.com or the chapter mailbox at Chitriess@aol.com or the helpline at 708-383-1677

(Continued from page 1) Abby

Transformations. By the time Friday evening arrived, the anticipation and excitement overcame the fear, although I did chicken out a little bit and wore slacks instead of a skirt. Judy was sitting in the open air coffee shop right in the middle of the lobby, and she had no trouble picking us out. Wonder what gave us away.

At the meeting we met Sharon from Minneapolis. Dana would be flying in Saturday morning. Here we learned what was going to be expected of us. Tri-Ess sponsored an information and resource booth at the conference and our job was to build the booth, keep it stocked with Tri-Ess materials, hand out the materials and talk to as many people as we could about cross-dressing and cross-dressers. The conference was being attended by social workers, educators, government agencies, medical professionals, ministers and clergy, counselors, authors and scholars. It was a great opportunity to positively expose a large number of people to the experience of interacting with a cross-dresser and to show them that we are real people and that each of us is a part of a family experience. Terri, especially got a lot of attention as the wife of a cross-dresser. She did great!

There were a couple of things that really stood out about the weekend. First, the idea that I could spend the whole weekend walking all over the Hyatt Regency in a skirt and heels, and be welcomed and accepted was extraordinary. When Dana finally arrived on Saturday afternoon, I had to take her over to the registration desk to get her conference credentials. When we got there, the desk was closed down. I went behind the desk and found the credentials boxes, went through them and found Dana's materials. Before I could get away, I had other people coming up to check in, and I ended up waiting on all of them too. If any of them read me, it didn't matter. They were very happy to be taken care of by Abby.

The second big memory of the weekend was on Saturday evening. We all walked down to the Steakhouse at the Hilton to have dinner together. Our group was four cross dressers, one wife, and a professor and his wife. We passed out our Tri-Ess literature to the hostess, the bartender and the waiters, so they all knew who and what we were. We were welcomed and catered to just like any other customers. Later that night we attended the President's Reception back at the Hyatt. Good thing we each decided to bring an evening dress. We went through the reception line to shake hands with the conference President and his family, including his daughters. We then went through the dessert lines with all of the other attendees, carrying on conversations with everyone wherever we went. Everyone treated us with respect and dignity. One lady asked me where she could find size 14 shoes for her daughter.

The last big memory of the weekend came Sunday evening, when we gathered in the sports bar of the Hyatt. Although Sharon came down in leggings and a Packers sweatshirt (there are pictures to prove this) I had one more dress with me that I hadn't worn yet, so it was a dress and heels in the sports bar. Talk about a tough crowd! Actually, they were all very nice to us, and we were much more interesting than the football game on the TV.

For Abby, the conference was a huge confidence boost. Next year, the conference is in Irvine, CA. All travel, lodging and meal expenses are deductible because you are working as a volunteer for Tri-Ess, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. Whether you're new in Tri-Ess like us, or a seasoned veteran like Judy and Dana (sorry about that girls) it's a great experience that I highly recommend. Hey Terri. Want to go to California next fall?

Renewal Dues are now being accepted for the year 1999.

Chapter Dues are \$24.00 for all members.

**National Dues are \$36.00 for individual and \$48.00 for couples
(Two years available at \$60 or \$80)**

Please remit direct to Chi Chapter at:

**Chi-Chapter
PO Box 40
Wood Dale IL 60191-0040**

Check your mailing label. The label will give you the amount of your Chapter and National dues. All dues amounts are calculated for an expiration date of Jan 1, 2000. You may also take advantage of a substantial discount on your national dues by paying just \$60 for a two year membership.(Couples extra)
Adjustments for prorated amounts will show a reduced amount.

Local National



24 35

Jane Doe
PO Box 3622
Weston IL 60177

The Correct Fragrance

With so many perfumes on the market, it can be challenging to pick the right one for you. To bring some order to this plethora of choices, I will describe how the fragrance industry classifies them.

The main categories of perfume are floral, oriental, chypre, fougere, citrus and green. These are best described by:

- **Floral:** These fragrances consist of natural blossoms usually rose and jasmine.
- **Oriental:** These fragrances consist of sweet balms and resins from Arabia and India.
- **Chypre:** These fragrances are characterized by the contrast of fresh citrus accord and oakmoss. The name Chypre comes from the island of Cyprus.
- **Fougere:** These fragrances are based on the interplay between lavender, oakmoss and coumarin. This category has only men's fragrances and therefore is of little interest to cross dressers.
- **Citrus:** These fragrances consist of fruity scentsations.
- **Green:** These fragrances are characterized scents of the outdoors such as grass and leaves.

Three of these categories are further divided in sub categories which I will map out below.

Most categories or sub categories are further divided into fresh, crisp, classic and rich segments. These are defined as follows:

- **Fresh:** The lightest and brightest fragrances.
- **Crisp:** Light but more sharp interpretations of the fragrances.
- **Classic:** The more beautiful and traditional fragrances in the family.
- **Rich:** The deepest and richest fragrances.

So putting all of this together the fragrance map looks like this (with examples):

FLORAL – By far the largest category

Floral – #1 sub category in all of fragrance land

Fresh – Escape, Eternity, Lauren, Liz Claiborne

Crisp – Armani., Charlie, Gio, Perry Ellis

Classic – Chanel #22, Joy, L'air Du Temps, White Shoulders

Rich – Bill Blass, Cassini, Chloe, Estee, Paris, Wings, Aldehyde

Fresh – Anne Klein, Calvin Klein, Chanel #19, Safari, Wrappings

Crisp – Gucci #1, Nina, White Diamonds, White Linen

Classic – Chanel #5

Rich – Cher, First, Lutece

Oriental - # 2 category

Fresh – Colors of Benton, Joop! Berlin

Crisp – Chloe Narcisse, Moments, Phantom

Classic – Delicious, Red Door, Vanderbilt, Victoria Secret

Rich - Poison

ORIENTAL – The second largest category

Oriental

Fresh – Angel, Anne Klein II, Obsession

Crisp - Roma

Classic – Chantilly, Shalimar

Rich - Ciara

Chypre

Fresh – Beverly Hills, Dune, Tiffany, Ysatis

Crisp - Guess

Classic – Donna Karan, Passion

Rich – Joop!

Soft

Fresh - KL

Classic - Cinnabar, Coco, Opium

Rich – Lou Lou

CHYPRE – The third largest category

Chypre – Largest chypre sub category

Fresh Givenchy III, Halston, Miss Dior, Nude

Crisp – Gucci #3, Red

Classic – Femme, Knowing

Rich – Animale, Diva, Versace

Dry – Small sub category

Fresh – Aromatics Elixir

Crisp - Rumba

Classic – Trussardi Donna

FOUGERE – Only men's fragrances

CITRUS – This is a small category

Classic – 4711 Original

Rich – Eau De Rochas

GREEN – This is another small category

Classic - Aliage

Rich – Private Collection

So go out armed with rough guide to your nearest perfume store and explore the wide world of fragrances.

Submitted by: Bridget Morgan

(Continued from page 1) Prez

P.A.L.S.

Linda has announced that Kate resigned as leader of the PALS group, Linda will be taking over as the new leader effective in January.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Denise

G.L.G.L.C .

Activities Calendar

DEC 1998 - JAN 1999

December 1998

- Sat 12/5 CGS Christmas Dinner - Ann Sathers Call 708-863-7714 for Details
- Tue 12/8:00 p.m. CGS Business Meeting, Stardust
- Sat 12/12 Gemini Gender Group meeting 414-297-9328
- Sat 12/19 **'Puttin On The Ritz' Ramada Hotel, Rosemont**
- Sat 12/26 T.O.N.I. meeting, call 219-650-2142 for details

January 1999

- Tue 1/128:00 p.m. CGS Business Meeting, Stardust
- Sat 1/9 Gemini Gender Group meeting 414-297-9328
- Sat 1/16 **Chi Chapter Meeting, Elmhurst 708-383-1677**
- Mon 1/18 FEMME EXTRAVAGANZA, at the Baton. Hosted by Transformations and CGS 708-383-8338
- Sat 1/23 **Chi Chapter Couples Group**



FEMME EXTRAVAGANZA
 at The Baton, 436 N. Clark St, Chicago
 Monday January 18th
 The long awaited debut of Mother Rori with "Daughter" Lisa
 \$10 in advance- \$15 at the door
 Call Rori for info 708-383-8338
 Co-Hosted by Transformations and CGS

CHRISTINE'S CASH COUNT FOR NOVEMBER 1998:

INCOME FROM DUES, MEETING FEES, AND RITZ TICKETS:	\$1656.00
EXPENSES:	
FOOD BILLS FROM AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, AND NOVEMBER	\$472.06
POSTAGE BILLS FROM AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER	\$140.40
PRINTING COSTS FROM AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER	\$230.15
HOTEL BILL FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER	\$769.60
NATIONAL TRI-ESS DUES	\$140.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$1752.21
CURRENT BALANCES:	
CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$3152.50
PALS SAVING ACCOUNT	\$453.84
PETTY CASH	\$360.00

You Are Cordially Invited to attend

PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ

PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ

The Chi Chapter / Tri-Ess
Annual Awards Banquet
and Christmas Party
Honoring
Dr. Russell Getz

featuring

**Miss Honey West
and
George the D.J.**

**Saturday Evening December 19, 1998
at the Ramada Hotel O'Hare
Rosemont IL**

Cocktails: 6:30 pm Dinner: 7:30 pm

For dinner reservations: please call the Chi Chapter Help line at (708) 383-1677

Or Mail to: Chi Chapter, PO Box 40, Wood Dale IL 60191-0040

Or E-Mail: Chitriess@aol.com

For hotel reservations: call the Ramada at (847) 827-5131

Mention Chi Chapter Tri-Ess Be sure to request a 'tower' room at \$79 rate.

PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ TICKETS

Also available at Transformations and Rachels Wigs

TO: Chi-Chapter Tri-Ess
PO Box 40
Wood Dale IL 60191-0040

For more information: call the "helpline" at 708-383-1677
Room reservations available at the Ramada 847-827-5131
Mention Tri-Ess Chi Chapter Ritz, Request 'tower room'

Enclosed is my paid reservation for _____ person(s), for 'PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ on Saturday evening, December 19, 1998 at the Ramada Hotel, O'Hare. I am enclosing a check or money order payable to Chi/Tri-Ess in the amount of \$_____

Please print your femme name and last Initial _____

Membership # (If a member) _____

COST: Payment received by 12/9/98: \$38 per person, \$70 per couple
Payment received after 12/9/98: \$43 per person, \$75 per couple
Please DO NOT MAIL after Dec 11th.

