

# Cross-Port Inner View

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**NEXT MEETING April 16 th At 7:30  
Wife/Girlfriend Support Meeting  
May 4th At 8:00**

## **CROSS-PORT BASICS**

March came in like a lion and went out like a lamb as 17 people met for Cross-Port's monthly meeting. The convention which kicked off the month was a real high point and the smaller group for the meeting helped to bring me back down. We had one new face, Alice, and two other new girls who stopped by for just a couple of minutes for information.

Heather, Linda and Yvonne reported on the convention. (See article later in this issue.) All agreed that this was a real success in terms of our over all community response.

Goldie, reported on the second meeting that Cross-Port attended of the 6C6/LC. There is so much happening that once again I'll refer you to another article.

Yvonne reported on the good response that that TRI-ESS has received after appearances on several television shows recently including Phil Donahue. About half the calls and letters were from the wives and they had plenty of questions. Yvonne read the top 24 questions asked. The plan is to address these questions as a starting point in helping wives and girlfriends deal with their crossdressers.

Dr. George Brown reported that he will be traveling to Amsterdam to deliver a paper he wrote about crossdressing in the military, particularly transsexuals. The exciting part about this is that he will deliver the paper while in uniform.

I forgot to mention last month that Lynn spoke to a group of Dr. Brown's psychiatric interns. Sorry Lynn and George.

I'll be speaking at the New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church on April 26.

There was also talk about trying to get together for a rapp group once a month or every other month. This group would meet in a home or other place more conducive to talking and sharing. We would like to find a professional to run this group if possible. If any of you would be interested this kind of group PLEASE let me know. We would probably need to limit the number who could attend.

The meeting ended at about 10:30.

# CONVENTION UPDATE

To some it may have seemed as if the days March 4-9, 1987 were straight out of an Orson Wells Radio Program. To others it was like like Reading "Lost in Paradise". For everyone it was History in the making. The first TV/TS "Crossdressing" Convention landed in Chicago's Ramada O'Hare during this time and I not sure the Hotel Management will ever be the same.

Linda and I left Cincinnati around 8:45 am on Thursday and arrived in Chicago around 2:00 pm with only one stop for refreshments and on one tank of gas. We did get lost around the hotel but managed to find our way to the press room where we were politely greeted by some familiar and some not familiar faces.

We had to wait about two hours to check into a room so we went to the restaurant for a bite of lunch. Walking through the lobby two things became apparent to us, one, that some of the people were looking at us rather quizzically and two, that most of the rest of the people could care less. Those two facts helped to set me more at ease and make the weekend everything it should have been.

Everyone I met was extremely friendly and polite. The hotel personnel deserve a real round of applause for their every effort to accept us as the women we were. If any of them did have a hard time with it, it never showed. Many of the other patrons had a comment or two, but many times if we were given a chance to talk to them they went away with a better understanding of what we were about.

On the Business side the first convention went relatively smooth at least from the outside looking in. I attended the staff meetings every morning and got a view from the inside out. The staff had its share of problems. Most impressive however, was the quick way that the staff managed to handle the problems. They obviously did not wish for things to end in a mess and so they were prepared for problems. This preparation helped to keep the weekend moving and shows just how much work they put into the planning.

The first session on Friday was "Forming an Organization" and almost all other session hinged around this first theme. There were sessions on Networking, Transvestism, Transsexualism, Female Impersonators and Communications. There were a couple of sessions just for Wives and Significant Others and one that I personally got a lot from were a 4 hour session on Peer Counseling by Niela Miller.

At the Friday luncheon Dr. Roger Peo spoke to us about his vision of where we are and where we still have to go. The evening entertainment was provided by several of Chicago's own girls in a "Not so Drag" show and topped off by a late night in the "Disco" lounge.

At the Saturday luncheon, Dr. Virginia Prince gave a very moving speech about the history of Crossdressing organization since 1962 and the start of a new movement to join all aspects of crossdressing into a united front with society as our battle ground and not each other. She called for a change in the term "Gender Dysphoria" to "Gender Euphoria" since most crossdressers are happy with themselves and their dressing. She further stated that the most fearsome enemy for all men, in our society, is their own femininity, since it is the one thing that makes them less a man. We can be proud to say, "I have met the enemy, and she is me."

Several standing ovations were given Dr. Prince both at the luncheon and later that evening when she was roasted and honored with the first "Lifetime Achievement Award". By the end of the night she was left completely speechless.

Sunday morning things began to wind down, but not before Merrisa spoke to us about the plans for next years convention which is already on the way.

The weekend did turn out to be one of "Coming Together - Working Together" and our community is the better for it.

## THE INDY REPORT

By Betty

I understand we had several people show up for the March 5 meeting and again thanks for your attendance as we need this following to get started. Further I understand the next meeting is set for April 2 same place and time.

If you know anybody that might be interested in our support group have them drop me a note so I can include them on the mailing.

From what I hear the Chicago convention was quite a success and several of our sisters went. It will be interesting to hear what they have to say.

"Be All You Want To Be" weekend is scheduled for June 10 through 14 in Cleveland. There is a sub program for make-up, hair, etc. on the 10th and 11th. I have more information if you are interested.

We still need a name for our Indy group, let's see what we can do.

Until next month...



There is so much going on in the various organizations that make up the Greater Cincinnati Gay / Lesbian Coalition that the best thing to do would be to hit the highlights and put in a calendar of events so that is what I'll do.

First, in the last issue of "InnerView", I reported that Cross-Port had voted to abstain from voting on the proposed resolutions before the GCG/LC. At the last coalition meeting the first resolution was changed by substitution to read:

Whereas gays and lesbians generally consider the legal right to make erotic choices about their own bodies precious, and Whereas many gays and lesbians consider this legal right analogous to the right of women to make choices relating to abortion, and Whereas the majority of the organizations in the GCG/LC wish to express solidarity with NOW and other pro-choice organizations, but Whereas some member organizations cannot in good conscience support this position, Be it Therefore Resolved: That dissenting organizations (such as Dignity) be specifically mentioned as dissenting whenever and wherever officers of GCG/LC discuss the pro-choice position of the coalition majority; That member organizations wishing to be listed as dissenting, so inform the officers of the coalition in writing within two months of the passage of this resolution.

After much discussion this resolution was passed. Goldie and I discussed both sides of the issue among ourselves and decided that it was in the best interest of the members to support this resolution. It was our feeling that as a crossdressing community we ask society for the same rights, namely to clothe our bodies, and in some cases to change our bodies according to our choice. No matter how each of us may feel about abortion, we must respect others rights to make that choice, even if we feel the choice is wrong. Even God gave us the right of free choice. Are we so great that we can take from someone what God

has given?

"Alternating Currents" and WAIF-FM 88.5 are having a Marathon Week tentatively April 12-19. They request tax deductible gifts be payable to : Stepchild Radio of Cincinnati and sent to : Alternating Currents c/o WAIF-FM, 2525 Victory Parkway, Cinti., OH 45208. "Alternating Currents" is on every Monday evening at 5:00 pm and has just been expanded to 2 full hours.

## **GCG/LC AROUND TOWN**

April

- 12 - Chaplettes Benifit at the Metro - 8:00 pm
- 14 - Calamus Lovers: Walt Whitman - 7:00-9:00 pm UC room 401-A
- 24-25 Conference on Gay and Lesbian Issues

May

- 3 - 1987 Gay/Lesbian Walk-a-Thon
- 16 - Pro-Choice Parade & Rally - 11:00 am - At Courthouse
- 25 - Aids Vigil and Candlelight March

June

- 5 - Pride week kickoff at The Dock
- 6 - Pride Parade and Rally at Fountain Square and Festival
- 7 - Arts and Crafts Fair/ Ruth Lyons Lane
- 9 - T.A.D.S. / at Spurs
- 10 - Ecumenical Service / at St. George
- 12 - Pride night at Pipeline
- 13 - Kings Island Day and UCG/LA Prom on BB Riverboats
- 14 - Pride Thank You Picnic

## **CAN WE TALK!**

By Heather Pearson

I plan to keep this short since I seem to have spilled my guts through out the rest of this issue. I just wanted to remind everyone of something they already know. Spring is upon us and summer is not far behind. If you are like me you probably find yourself getting a little down.

Dressing doesn't seem much fun when your wig is ringing wet and your makeup is running. The hair on your legs has returned so you can swim with the family and long sleeve dresses are definitely out. To top it all off the Daylight Savings Time means your can't even sneak away from the house before 10:00 pm. What is a girl to do?

Many of you will be giving up your girlish ways until the fall when the cover of night once again hide you from the light. Others will simply dress less. Whether you choose one of these ways or as I you continue on as always. Don't lose sight of your feminine side. Let this Kinder, gentler, and more sensitive side out even when not dressed. Learn to express this female side even in the midst of your maleness. Don't be afraid to enjoy many of the same pleasures you experience when dressed.

If you can somehow manage to do this, you may find that the summer was short and and your tempers long.

As I write this I'm waiting for a call from Dick Wolfsie. There is a chance he may want some of us to appear on his show once again in Indianapolis. I'll try to keep you informed.

I apologize to those of you who received the "InnerView" again postage due. Out of

about 120 mailings about 7 that I know of were received that way. There seems to be nothing I can do to predict which ones will be selected as the lucky winners but we are within the postage limit.

Only about 25 of you have felt that this news letter is worth receiving. It does seem that many of you not only want to do nothing in the group but you don't wish to pay to do nothing either for that I am really sad. Those that have paid have a date on the top of the mailing label. Those of you with no date, this will be your last "InnerView". We wish you the very best in your search for yourself and we hope we will once again be able to provide you with support. We will continue to love and care for you. Groups, clubs, and shops all have a special code on their labels.

I have not put in the phone we wanted because it looks as though we may not collect enough to fund it. This is your group and we are here for you. If you don't need or want us we can disappear as easily as GGA. The choice is yours. If you do wish to pay your dues, please make your check payable to Cross-Port and send it to the PO BOX.

*Heather*



Linda and Heather at the Convention.



Dr. Virginia Prince Receives her Lifetime Achievement Award from Merrisa.

## *Publication Notice*

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