

# Cross-Port InnerView

P.O. Box 54657, Cincinnati, OH 45254

The next meeting is October 20 at 8:00pm

## A New View

By Elaine

Well how are all you ladies doing out there in TV land. I wish to thank all of you who came to the Cross-Port meeting at The Golden Lion. We hope you had a good time and that you will be back for the next meeting.

Well the plans are coming along for the **Be All Weekend**.

we hope we get more help in the registration area. We are in need of more ladies to volunteers for different aspect of the convention.

We are trying to get a group of girls together dressed like HOOTERS girls to go to the **Oregon District Halloween Party**. The more the merrier hope to see you there.

## UP THE STREET AND AROUND THE CORNER

BY HEATHER PHILLIPS

Time has just flown. Without realizing it, two newsletters have gone by and I missed both. It has been a busy end of the summer. My son came to live with me when school started (August 29th). The repairs to the foundation of his house wasn't finished and to ride the school bus he needed to live in

Fairfield. It is great having him! It looks like this weekend (September 24th) they will be able to move back to their house. I'll miss having him with me.

On August 29th I went before Butler County Probate court to legally change my name. Kristine urged me to write about my experience. I thought I would take you through the procedure from beginning to end. Well, the end is still not here. Stay tuned.

Thanks to Paula, I recently attended the New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church. I went because it was something to do, and now I am glad that I did. This was the Sunday during Laborer Day weekend. I was alone and feeling melancholy. I called Paula to see what she was up to and next thing I know I'm in church. Having been raised Roman Catholic it was strange at first. Not at all what I was accustomed.

I go every Sunday morning to mass. No one makes me feel uncomfortable, yet no one makes me feel welcome either. I have sat in church and listened to my priest talking about the sense of Christian community. How it was present in the parish. Yet, I didn't see it. Each Sunday I was there, but there was very little warmth. No one tries to include me or make me feel

like I am a part of the parish.

MCC was a pleasant surprise! From the moment I walked in the door, I felt welcome. I noticed that it was not just me, but everyone who came in was welcomed. God's love was present and I could feel it. It keeps drawing me back. I haven't missed a Sunday since.

The service was foreign to me, it is not what this catholic is use to, and took some adjustment. Yet even though it was foreign to me, I still felt that I was part of it and the community. I found that I was getting more meaning from the homily at MCC than from my priest. It was more in tuned to my feelings and me. I look forward to each Sunday night. It is a great place to start your evening, to feel close to God and share in the fellowship. To share that feeling of community with others who care.

I have never been one to push religion. I'll leave the evangelism for the likes of Billy Graham. But if you are finding that life's meaning is not there or clear to you, or something seems missing in your life maybe MCC is for you.

In the Sundays I have attended I have not heard fire and brimstone, but God's love. The love of Jesus Christ for each and everyone of us. God made us

transgendered, gay and straight. He loves us for who we are. That is the message I am receiving from MCC. That is the message I have always received from Jesus.

For those who are interested in attending, MCC meets at 65 East Hollister just off of Auburn Avenue in Clifton. Service starts at 7:00 PM. I hope to see you all there.

Well, until next time this is Heather, up the street and around the corner of Greater Cincinnati, may God bless. See you at Cross Port.

## THE VIEW INSIDE

by Bobbi L.

Ladies, hasn't this been just a perfect Autumn so far? The temps have been moderate and the skies cobalt blue! I hope all of you are making huge plans for costume parties at the end of the month! I understand a gaggle of Hooter's girls may be making an appearance at the Oregon District orgy. I'm still not certain whether I'll be dressing as a wing-slinger or go with my original plan (made last year at Halloween) to try my hand as Joan Rivers. "Can we talk?"

One Cross-Port lady who was willing to talk with Bobbi was Gina P. Gina is an amazing TV. While standing over six feet tall in stockings, and being a very athletic individual, Gina creates one of the most feminine presentations at our functions. In the past, she shared with us her "coming out" to her mother and the joy which that brought. But I thought that we should try to delve a little deeper and see if we couldn't gain a better view inside our beautiful Amazon, Gina.

T.V.I. Gina, how did you happen to choose your femme name?

Gina: When I was filling out my membership form I had planned on being Jayne, but the show, "Martin." was on the television and he and his girlfriend, Gina were arguing. It was so funny, I decided to use "Gina" because it reminds me of that show and makes me feel good.

T.V.I. If you don't mind my asking, how old are you, and what are your measurements?

Gina: I'm 33. My birthday is September 15. I'm 6'2" TALL and weigh 190#. My measurements are 38 - 34 - 41.

T.V.I. Gina, what is your earliest recollection of cross-dressing?

Gina: When I was 3 or 4 my mother would dress me as a girl and walk me around town. When I was 7 or 8 I would go out on my own wearing my sister's clothes and Mom's lipstick and shoes. I also spent a lot of time trying to dress my G.I. Joe in Barbie's clothes.

T.V.I. Do you have a favorite cross-dressing memory?

Gina: There are many, but I guess the best so far would be when I showed up at Mom's house, fully dressed, and she didn't know it was me. Another that rivals that incident is when I made photo copies of a friend's children. Somehow my picture ended up in his copies. Now Gina is hanging on his wall. My friends all want to know who "she" is and think that she is "fine." I am so flattered because they have no idea that it is really me!

T.V.I. Gina, how long have you been a member of Cross-Port? And how did you learn about us?

Gina: I have been a member for about a year and a half. I was referred to Cross-Port after a couple of sessions with Dr. Richard Baum who said that he had attended a few of the first

meetings.

T.V.I. How long then have you been coming to the meetings?

Gina: Since April, 1993.

T.V.I. What kinds of things does Gina like to do...besides dressing so convincingly?

Gina: Bobbi, as you know, I love coaching and playing basketball. When I have leisure time, I enjoy long drives in the country. Mostly, though, I love playing with my kids, and, now, more than ever, shopping with my wife.

T.V.I. What is your wife's attitude toward "Gina?"

Gina: We recently celebrated our 11th anniversary. She accepts Gina as one of her girlfriends.

T.V.I. For you, what is the most satisfying aspect of cross-dressing?

Gina: Just the way it makes me feel. I am more comfortable fully dressed than at any other time. That is also one of the things that still bothers me: I seem to have better times as Gina than I do as my male self.

T.V.I. What most disturbs you as a cross-dresser?

Gina: As I just said, I'm happiest as Gina and sometimes think that I would be better off being a girl. I think that goes back to my childhood and the G.I. Joe episodes. Mom saw me doing this and asked how I would feel if she put my sister's clothes on me? I said, "I dunno!" Next thing I know, she grabs me up and, in front of my sisters and and brothers, starts dressing me in a pink ruffled dress, pink hair ribbons, pony tails, and lipstick. This was early afternoon and she made me stay dressed all day. Well, at 6:00 Dad came home from work. When I saw him coming I hid behind the couch and wouldn't come out when he called for

me. Mom pulled the couch back and there I was, crying. Dad looked at me and said nothing! Since I had been dressed all day my brothers and sisters had already gone beyond the laughing stage. I kind of thought that maybe it wasn't so bad...and besides, I liked the way I looked in the mirror. I began to do it on my own and still love it! But what disturbs me to this day is why Mom did it and why Dad said or did absolutely nothing.



T.V.I. Wow, that's quite a moving vignette! I'm very sure that some of our readers can connect with your childhood experiences and are relieved to know that others share certain seminal events such as that.

Gina, looking at your dressing habits today, would you describe for us your preferred wardrobe selections?

Gina: Bobbi, I like outfits which are more casual, with soft ruffles to take away the "rough look" which someone with my physique must battle. I usually wear flats or pumps with no more than a 2" heel. My shoe size is 13 - 14 W. My choice of wigs depends on my mood and the weather, but usually a shoulder length, straight style is my first pick.

T.V.I. Can you offer any tips on a more realistic presentation?

Gina: I don't know because I'm still trying to learn all that I can. I'm open to any suggestions any of you have that will help me in my quest of creating the illusion. All I can suggest is, be yourself.

T.V.I. Gina, would you like to live on the edge and fire off a complaint or two?

Gina: My only complaint is that at the meetings no one really gives constructive criticism. I mean it seems like everyone is always telling each other how nice they look, instead of telling them something that could improve their overall look. I'm just as guilty. I think these things and never seem to be able to carry them out. Oh, and one more thing... I can never get discount shoes off the rack like most of you girls!

T.V.I. In closing, would you share with us what you imagine the future holds for you?

Gina: Hopefully the future will bring me the courage to do more things in the mainstream, and the courage to explain this side of me to my 2 boys.

T.V.I. Well, Gina, the mainstream world is a prettier place when you're out in it. And your boys are lucky to have such a sincere parent as you. Thanks for a candid and poignant view inside. Stay Healthy. Stay Beautiful. Avoid Runners.

## Linda's Corner

I have just returned from *SOUTHERN COMFORT*. This was the forth time for this event, and I havn't missed one yet. Each year they seem to get a little better in both quality and size.

I gave a session and led a pub crawl on Saturday night. Beside that, it was pretty much a fun conference for me. Met a lot of new faces, and renewed

friendships from past years.

One thing I really did differently, is try to observe how and who ran the conference. With *BE ALL* only nine months away I tried to encompass both good and bad techniques. Actually, *SOUTHERN COMFORT* is ran extremely well, considering they are trying to please so many individual groups.

To give you some comparisons, lets look at the numbers first. Their attendance was 300+ without a doubt. And I will bet another 50 or so just showed up in the bar and registration area just to party and seek general information. *BE ALL* this year had aproximately 200 attendees, but over 300 when in Chicago the previous year. We expect about 250.

*SOUTHERN COMFORT* held about 110 sessions, being very strong and specific in M-F, F-M, SO, & TG tracks. We currently only plan about 35 sessions, and ours will be more general and all inclusive in nature. Also, most of their sessions usually ran 60 minutes of which 15 were lost while sessions changed. Our sessions will all be 90 minutes in the afternoon, and 120 minutes in the morning.

We'll have lunch speakers, they didn't. We will probally have more outside activities and more Theme type dinners. Certianly our pool party and boat ride will be one step up on their dinner only, mid-week nights.

Anyone who is interested in working on the *BE ALL*, and keeping abreast on the progress is encouraged to come to GJ Gaslight's for dinner before our regular meetings.

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Halloween is but a few weeks away. Again this year, a group of us plan to meet for dinner and then head to Dayton's Orgeon district to party with the thousands of other wild and crazy people. As for the past years, we plan to make our home in the Trolley Stop, which is the last bar in the strip.

Last year their were about 10 of us who braved the 10 degree weather and we certainly hope you can join us this

year. I'm not sure if we are returning to Pedro's Mexican Restarunt again or not, but they did enjoy us there and I know we all loved it.

This year, I have spoke with several of you about dressing as "Hooter's Girls". I think we could have a real "Hoot!" with this. I stopped down in Newport and told the manager who was sitting in the tee shirt booth that some of us were thinking of going out. He commented that, "There's always a bunch of you guys down here every year. But if you want to do it right, you'll need, orange shorts, hose, Reeboks, etc." He showed me the half shirt and the tank top that most of the girls usually wear, but stated that you really have to be fairly small framed for it to look right. He then pulled out a regular tee shirt with the same design

and said that most of the guys would do better in that because it comes in much larger sizes, and you can cut it down or tie it off for the same effect. Besides it's three dollars cheaper, about \$13. Because I know the skimpy bright orange shorts would be very diffult to find, I called Sandy down at the Thing Shop. She said she could make them for about \$25, but don't wait till the last minute. The rest of the outfit is pretty much standard stock TV garb which we already have.

*Publication Notice*  
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Cross-Port is a not-for-profit support group which meets solely for the support of cross-dressers, trans-sexuals and their family and friends.

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### Hi & Lois

