

EXTRA TVIC JOURNAL EXTRA

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PRES: William M. Thordsen Full membership \$17 per year NEWSLETTER EDITORS
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PHONE: (518) 434-8806 Journal \$12 per year. Wilma Thordsen

Hi Girls:

After Fridays bad weather, I didn't think we would see too many girls here for the meeting. But Saturday the weather took a turn for the better and it was a nice day to drive here. We had twenty five here with one new member for her first visit. Jo Ann was a very pleasant person to talk with as all the girls took turns talking to her.

It was good to see Betsy Shaw here last night since her last visit here was back in 1979. Romona came with Betsy as they were visiting with Cynthia and Sonya . It gives one a good feeling when we see some of the girls after they had been away for a while. Some of the girls made the comment on last months meeting where we were able to sit down and eat and be altogether. It is easy to do when the crowd is small, but almost impossible when we go over 15.

The girls here were: Dennie and Michelle Ann from somerville, Mass., Eileen and Pricilla fro. Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Stephanie and Debbie from New York, N.Y. Chrys and Jillian from Gardiner, N.Y., Sonya and Cynthia from Ancram, N.Y., Yvonne and Vickie from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Jamie from Long Island, N.Y., Joan from Colonie, N.Y., Elanda from Rome, N.Y., Sheryl from Troy, N.Y., Winnie from Schenectady, N.Y., Alice from Colonie, N.Y., Pricilla from Scotia, N.Y., Susan from Nassau, N.Y., Jo Ann from Monroe, N.Y., Betsy from Johnston, R.I., Romona from North Kingston, R. I., Wilma and I.

The meal for the girls was: Baked Ham, creamed potatoes, butternut squash, corn, buttered beets, tossed salad, rolls and butter, for dessert we had fruited jello, assorted cookies, coffee.

This meeting was a special night for us, as we were celebrating the birth-days of two of our long standing members who haven't been able to make one of our meetings. They so much wanted to be part of us that they did the next best thing in that the party was on them. This way we celebrated their birthdays by having a drink at nine o'clock with them. This was such a beautiful thing that they did for us that I am glad to be a part of this wonderful life I have with all the girls from all over. The two girls with whom we celebrated with food and drink are, Velvet from Los Angeles, Calif., Pricilla from Tenn.,

Later in the evening Joan suggested that we call Velvet and talk with her and Pricilla . Unfortunately Pricilla had already left but we did get to talk with Velvet. Michelle Ann took pictures of all the girls here so that Wilma can send them to Velvet and Pricilla. It was just a super evening for all.

Want to thank Dennie and the other girls for all the help in the kitchen with the food and then the clean up.

Sorry that Debbie and Stephanie had to leave early as Debbie had been under the weather all week and still didn't feel up to par. Hope you are feeling a bit better.

Hi Karen where ever you are just want you to know that Velvet had asked for you when we talked with her. She would have loved to talk with you.

Any of you girls who were writing to Sally from Binghamton hold off for awhile as they sold their home and are relocating, when we have their new address we will pass it on to you.

Say Kathy wats up, we thought you would make it this time, as Sue said she talked with you and that you may be here. When are we going to see you?

How about some of you girls out there letting me in on how you picked your femme name, I may be writing a novel some day before my retirement as to all my feelings about all the girls I have met and seen here in my home.

Elaine from Utica was down one night a few weeks back and invited Wilma and I out to dinner, but wouldn't you know I came home early from work with a touch of the bug , so They went without me. When they came back I got up and talked with Elaine for awhile. Thought we would see her this month, but I guess she couldn't get away.

For all the girls who use to come regularly I sure miss not seeing you. You know we have a thing going between Pricilla and Shryl to see which one will be the last one to change back to their male self, they enjoy their femme side so much they would like to stay that way. O.K. girls I love you both.

This was an especially good week end. Just being able to celebrate with the girls here and those who are with us in thought, we think of all of you and hope it is not too long when you will be with us again.

It is near that time when I must say Good Night too all and do hope we will be seeing you all soon. Stay healthy , Happy and feminin till next time.

Love to all
Helen

BLACK MARKET BREASTS -----BY S. MESICS.....

These days, a new drug is making the black market rounds, joining cocaine, marijunana, amphetamines, and barbiturates as illegally obtained, abused medication. The drug? Estrogen.

Female hormones, which were developed in the early 1960's as female contraceptives & replacement drugs for postmenopausal women, are also used to treat pre-operative transsexuals. The effect on the male body is to create female secondary sex characteristics; enlarged breasts, widened hips, softer skin, & increased nipple size. However, with continued use, these changes come at a price--there is also a decreased sex drive, as well as eventual atrophy of the male sex organs--in other words, after prolonged use of estrogen, the penis will eventually shrink, the testicles will shrink, & eventually lose their ability to produce sperm. In some cases, these effects are temporary, and will reverse themselves when the male stops taking the estrogens. However, at some point, these changes will become permanent, going off estrogen will not bring back the ability to function sexually and reproductively as a male.

Of course, for the pre-operative transsexual, these changes are welcome. A person who is en route to sex reassignment surgery will not miss erections or the ability to function sexually as a male. The danger lies in the increased number of males who are playing with estrogens, in hopes of feminizing their bodies while still retaining their abilities to function as males. With a carefully controlled dose of estrogen, it may be possible to have the "best of both worlds", but unfortunately, the people who want this combination are not usually getting controlled doses. They are experimenting on themselves, obtaining the estrogen illegally, and taking a varying number of pills, sometimes overdosing themselves.

Estrogens also carry with them a host of possible side effects, some of them minor, others life-threatening among minor effects are increased skin sensitivity to light nausea, vomiting, weight gain, and depression. Among the more serious effects are an increased chance of liver tumors, which although usually benign, have a tendency to hemorrhage, sometimes proving fatal. Then there is the increased risk of heart attack, stroke, phlebitis, and blood clots in the lungs. While the jury is still out on the relationship between estrogen and cancer, it is probable that persons taking estrogen are at a higher risk to develop some forms of cancer.

A person receiving estrogens under the care of a physician will usually be screened for any signs of trouble. The dosage can be monitored by having periodic blood tests and changed if necessary, tailored to the individual. But on the black market, there are no warnings, and the person is on their own regarding the proper amount of estrogen to take. Individuals with circulatory problems who would normally be warned not to take estrogen are taking it, and problems can get beyond the treatable stage before any adverse signs are seen. While female hormones are treated as innocuous drugs on the street, they are potentially lethal.

Who is selling estrogens, and who are they selling them to? A counsellor at Philadelphia's Eromin Center, an agency that specializes in counselling sexual minorities, said that the illegal street sellers of estrogens are usually the "street queens" or homosexual transvestites who work as prostitutes. They obtain prescriptions from more than one doctor, and then sell the extra prescriptions at a profit, to supplement their uncertain income from hustling. And who do they sell the hormones to? To persons who are either unable to go to a physician themselves; mainly young teenage male homosexuals who are too young to march into a doctors office and get treatments.

Some hustlers sell their pills to some of their "tricks" who are themselves practicing crossdressing ers and have a desire for some degree of feminization. These customers are oftentimes married or in positions of responsibility, who for their own reasons are reluctant to consult with a physician for hormone therapy, or would, in most cases, be denied hormones for some reason. Many transvestites have no problem in paying the high black market price of the hormones. One such "street queen" admitted that she had been obtaining hormones from three different physicians, and had sold off two of the prescriptions to transvestites, through her own personal contacts, and even though the mail--in their personal columns in several transvestite magazines, . She admitted that the extra income was nice, and indeed it was pure profit--at the time, she was on welfare, and she obtained the estrogens at no cost--the money was pure profit. Admittedly, this is an extreme example, and with welfare cutbacks, free estrogen treatment is a thing of the past. However, now that many street queens have to pay for their prescriptions, they are apt to sell some of their pills to pay for treatments.

Part of the problem in curbing the illegitimate estrogen trade is the easy accessibility of hormones by prescription. Almost every large metropolitan area has at least one "hormone doctor", a physician who treats preoperative transsexuals and almost anybody else who requests estrogens, without asking too many questions. These physicians usually operate independently from gender identity clinics and do not impose the same stringent requirements on their patients. For instance, most gender identity clinics will prescribe estrogen therapy for the patient only after a psychiatric workup, whereas the independents usually ask only a few questions. Sometimes the psychiatric workup

PARTIES:

Well I guess we had a very good turn Saturday night even though we had 6 1/2" of snow Friday. We had 25 members and 7 of them brought their wives. Our next 3 parties will be held on March 20th, April 17th and May 15th. Don't forget to make your reservations at least 4 days in advance. As we can only accept 30 members per gathering.

NEW MEMBERS:

I am pleased to announce the enrollment of 5 new members this month. They are
VIVIEN P..... WORCESTOR....MASS..... EVE A.....SOUTH HERO.....VT.....
CAREL T..... ALBANY.....N.Y..... PAULA W.....SCOTIA.....N.Y.
.....JACKIE C.....PLATSBURG.....N.Y.....

It is a real pleasure to have you among us and we hope that you will get to meet many of our members and be able to attend some of our monthly parties.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TOO

JACKMAR....1 ' ..GEORGEMAR...14.....
KEN MAR. 1 ' ..FRANCISMAR...17.....
CHARLES D..... MAR. 2 ' ..JAY DEMAR...20.....
Jim MAR. 3 ' ..ROBERTMAR...23.....
VERONICA MAR. 9 ' ..SHIRLYMAR...24.....
ELAINEMAR. 10 ' ..GERALDMAR...25.....
RAEMAR...11..... ' ..DEBBIEMAR...26.....
JOHNMAR...12..... ' ..JOANMAR...30.....
ERINMAR...13..... ' ..ELLENMAR...30.....

You will find the address of most of these members in your TV Directory.

SPECIAL THANKS

- TOO Lynda Bamber - Eve ANDROVET - C.T. Albant,N.Y. - Rosemarie Eply - Percella Welch and Renee Kessel for the extra \$ sent in for postage.
- TOO Liz Roberts for the cartoons sent in for the TVIC Journal.
- TOO Kathy Hivash - Denise Danfield and Michell Bolis for the lovely pictures sent in for the club album.
- Too Kathy Havish for the news artical sent in.
- Too Kim Kelly for sending me the envelope fronts of undeliverable mail. This helps me keep your TV Directory up to date.

Without all this little help it would be hard for TVIC to continue. THANKSSSSS

CORRESPONDENCE WANTED:

Edward Edward C.M.
.....
Robert Fred P.A.
.....

Any other member who like his name and address listed here let me know.

TS FILM BACK IN THE CAN:

Many of you have been asking about "THE WOMEN INSIDE", the new feature Movie with a TS lead character which was to have been recently released. Well, I wrote to the film company, in this case 20th Century-Fox, and got a letter back from their PR department saying that the film has "been dropped from Fox's schedule". Perhaps a letter-writing campaign could at least make the film available for special showings, if not gain full public release. This has been taken up with TV-TS clubs around North America to get all their members to write a letter TO..20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURES...P.O.Box 900.... BEVERLY HILLS...CALIF....

RAPIST WORE EVENING GOWN: Hamilton-Canada. (UPC) A man wearing a full length evening gown and a bra climbed through an open window and raped a 25yr. old woman in her bed, police said. Hamelton police believe it was the same rapist who took clothes from the closets of previous victims to try them on. As in more than a half-dozen assaults in the last six months, the mashed red-haired rapist threatened to kill his victims.

WRONG HEADING

Dear Sir:

In your request to be a salesman with our company, we will need reference as to your ability. Would you please forward to us a picture of yourself modeling our newest creation of formal wear. Please raise the skirt of your dress a little above your knee so we can see the shape of your leg. These new design stockings require a shapely leg...Vice President Of Sales..... Well girls send me the picture and i'll see about getting you the job????????

(black market breasts continued from page 2)

workup is a five minute dialogue..

However, recently because of pressure from gender identity clinics, (who want a corner of the estrogen market) many independent physicians are requiring their patients to have a psychiatric workup prior to estrogen therapy. It is likely that this will have an effect on the black market hormone business, if nothing else, driving the prices up. But there are still other ways of getting the pills into the hands of those who want them.

An ex-transvestite who runs a store frequented by many crossdressers has been selling Premarin (an estrogen) "under the counter" for the past year. He has contacts in a pharmaceutical supply house who is able to get the pills at wholesale cost. He then ~~take~~ marks them up and sells them to closet transvestites who want the pill but either have been rejected by gender identity clinics or who are reluctant to go to the independent physicians. He admits that ~~his~~ his business is brisk, and although he says that he sells only to people he screens, the demand is so high, he has ~~in~~ a hard time getting the supply. Once word gets around among the underground that hormones are available, the demand is tremendous.

In the author's seven years experience as editor of Female Impersonator News a publication aimed at transvestites, I received an average of about one letter a week from men requesting estrogens. A lot of the letters come from people in remote, rural locations, who obviously would have a hard time making the black market connection in their area. The way some of the letters were written made me question the ability of the person to handle the treatments--I think some of them were outright psychotics. My advice to all of them was to ~~not~~ go tell their story to a doctor and hope for the best. I doubt most of them did so. Sometimes when I think about the money I could have made if I had decided to become a "pusher", it staggers my mind.

Some of the people requesting the hormones are living in a fantasy world. many are occasional crossdressers who somehow get the idea that having breast and wider hips and a large derriere would be a sexual kick. They think they can juggle the estrogen dosage so they can get their breasts without having any of the undesirable effects. What some of them don't even stop to consider is the effects on their everyday lives--what happens if they have to go shirtless or wind up in a hospital for an emergency procedure. What if they are heterosexual, and go to bed with a woman--what would a woman think of a man with breasts? If the crossdresser is married, what of the wife?

In the transvestite pornographic literature, men with breasts abound. In fact it seems to be almost a requirement for models in these magazines that they have some sort of breast development, if not from hormones, then through silicone implants. Since the magazines are selling well, there must be some sort of appeal for this type of "hermaphrodite" individual, perhaps only a "freak" appeal. Yet, the crossdresser feels a sense of pressure to go on hormones--its a kind of peer pressure, to become part of a group, one must adopt the characteristics of the group. The street queens all admit that having breasts is important in attracting customers, as well as having a functioning penis.

What is likely to happen in the black market estrogen trade? Sooner or later, someone may die from the illegal hormones, and then perhaps the lid will blow off. Already we have seen some pressure brought against the independent hormone doctors to screen their patients more carefully, but this will perhaps only have a small effect on the trade. Until then, it seems likely that the black market trade in estrogens will continue at a brisk pace, uncontrolled by law enforcement officials, unless of course, the phenomenon of men with breasts will die off. At this point, it's too early to tell.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH????

What have you to say about women who can wear male clothes and we can't use female clothes????

(This question was sent in by Marily Kelderhouse.)

Lets hear what you have to say about the above question. Send in your answers to me WILMA or JERRY [redacted]...BOX 56...MAPLE SPRINGS, N.Y... 14756.....

A Volkswagon pulled to the side of the road. The beautiful lady driving it (BETSY SHAW) lifted the hood and stood back looking puzzled. Another beautiful women (RAMONE MATOES), also driving a Volkswagon, stopped to help. When Ramona asked what was wrong, BETSY exclaimed, "The engine has disappeared!"

"Oh, that's no problem," RAMONA replied brightly. "I have an extra one in my trunk!"....(Now I see why these two girls were late getting to our party Saturday night...WILMA.....

JO ANNE SHISSER tells me that she has a talking dog???? And this is what her dog told her.

"Did I ever tell you about my ~~wild~~ weird uncle roy? He had a species change operation. He had himself changed to a female dog. It was very tragic. He circled himself to death.....

There is a very good news letter for TRANSSEXUALS, called THE TRANSSEXUAL Voice, put out by PHOEBE [redacted]

Jan 21, 1982

Dear Wilma,

I read your "disclaimer" statement with awe, admiration, and a modicum of disbelief that an organization like yours could be so up front about itself. I applaud you!

I am not a curiosity seeker. I am not a borderline crossdresser. I am a confirmed lover of the feminine mystique, especially as it applies to my own particular lifestyle/. I began crossdressing as a youth, at about the time I began high school. I have progressed simply wearing panties, to the point where I have a fairly complete wardrobe, from head to toe, and enjoy dressing completely as a woman, mimicking a woman in manner and carriage.

Yes, my particular form of expression has caused me untold hours of personal conflict, as well as my family. My parents discovered my inclinations shortly after I began, and took it very badly. They had me going to a shrink to find the root cause of the "problem", but it evidently didn't do any good. I simply became more adept at hiding my other side, so to speak.

In some ways I do regret ever having been so enmeshed in the TV world. At times the "secret" is all but unbearable. There have been times when I've renounced my desire to dress, on occasion for several years at a time. But it seems to be an ingrained, integral part of my life, one that I cannot seem to renounce permanently. For the past several years I have given up the effort to renounce it, and have instead tried my best to live with this part of my personality. I think I have succeeded in part, I am able to live with that side of me quite well now. I have been able to reconcile it with the attitudes I have met in the NORMAL world.

I don't dress occasionally, I dress every day. Dressing has become an integral part of my life, an important part. I wear one or more items of feminine apparel every waking moment, and several items each night. I dress completely as a woman several times a week, in the privacy of my home. On certain occasions I go out dressed, especially at Halloween. On those occasions I pass quite well as a woman, on the basis of comments received from total strangers. I've even had guys try to pick me up when I've been dressed, which is the ultimate compliment as far as I'm concerned.

I don't try to rationalize it anymore, I simply accept it as a part of myself. I enjoy it, and make the best of it. At this point in time, especially now, I don't have the slightest intention of giving it up. I think I have finally reached the point where it would be much more traumatic giving it up than continuing.

In answer to your other questions, yes I am seeking correspondence. I enjoy hearing from other crossdressers. For myself, it helps me to examine my own attitudes and needs in a clearer light, when I write to someone who has the ability to understand. I also write to several women on the same topic. There are a few women who know and understand my need to dress, and who in some ways help me.

As for a summary of my likes and dislikes, that's a bit more difficult. In a nonsexual, "straight" manner of speaking, I am interested in many things. I love to read, I'm an avid reader and have a library of several thousand books, on various topics. I love most sports, I ski, golf, swim, hike, travel, dance, and love music. I love entertaining, usually small groups of friends, and on occasion large parties. I used to collect stamps, coins, and so on, but have lost interest in those areas. I am a shutter bug, love to take pictures, and am quite good. I have done a few weddings, and quite a few banquets and special events. I am not a pro at it, just an amateur.

On the TV and sexual topics I am also quite versatile. I am primarily a heterosexual, I, of course, love to dress, discuss dressing, and all of the finer points of imitating a woman. I don't consider it a threat to my masculinity, but rather a re-inforcement of it. I do not wish to be emasculated, except in an occasional fantasy, I enjoy my male role too much for that. I can be as versatile as my companion, or lover, as the case may be. I love writing and corresponding with others, including explicit letters describing my fantasies, or discussing the fantasies of someone else. I find it erotic and arousing.

I guess that covers the bases so to speak. Hope it answers most of the questions that your readers may come up with, if not they can write to me with specifics.

Again, I thank you for including me in your organization, I hope I can contribute something to someone else. I am also hoping that we can meet in the near future. The one problem that I have is your selection of meetin dates, Saturdays are totally out for me. I own and operate a motel, and cannot make it on the weekends, those are my busy times. Would it be possible sometime to stop in & say hi during the week? Monday through Thursday I can get away occasionally for a day or two.

Anyway, I think it's time to close for the time being. Love to hear from you, even only a line or two. Sincerely Yours, Roberta Anne

Dear Wilma:

I was delighted to receive your letter and copy of the TVIV JOURNAL, and most happy to find that you and Helen are still at the old store continuing to hold out a helping hand. to TV's.

I think that you are doing a great job, and your letter to new members which you enclosed makes good sense, You do not encourage people to try ~~and~~ cross-dressing out of mere curiosity, but you do help committed TV's to understand their peculiarity and give them an opportunity to read about other TV's experiences and to perhaps meet with or correspond with other TV'S.

Many TV's (myself included) have an initial sense of guilt about crossdressing, and feel they are different from everyone else. When you can come out of the closet and descuse it freely it takes a great weight off of your mind.

It is helpful to realise that there are many others with simular inclinations, -that such inclinations are not wrong or illegal, and that of indulging in such a pastime hurts no one else, but gives the participant some pleasure and emotional relief then it can only be bebefical...Sincerly...DENISE

DENISE [redacted] MISSISSAUGA...ONT...CANADA....

TO MY BELOVED SISTER...BY JANET [redacted] of LYNBROOK, N.Y.

A lonf time back I must admit
Their comes a certain glow
of when my sister dressed me up
And ti mother she did show.

I rember feeling special,
And so electrofied
An emotion that ran deep & strong
It could not be denied.

I didn't understand back then
Of what this could actually be,
But something really special
That allowed me to be me.



Dear Wilma;

I enjoyed the article in the Journal on "Benefits of a Trans sexual Surgery" I must say though, things look a wee bit dim for the true transsexual. Having to take the real - life test. ~~XXXX~~ To me, a true transsexual takes that test every day!! He doesnt need these 2 extra years. I would like to know more about it because, for quite some time I've arrived at the conclusion that nothing would make my life more complete than to be a man-physically as well as imotionally and mentally. I think a healthy person is a person who is emotionally mentally and physically BALANCED! So, I don't see why those people mentioned in that article were still psychologically impaired after the operation. They must have been psychologically impaired at first! I don't think the operation made the impairment, nor could it relieve it. It's all in knowing who and what one is.--and that word KNOWING covers A LOT!! I'd like to know more about how the "surgical penis" is made to function once it's given to the female that's undergone the surgery. It's funny but most of the TV's & TS's I'VE ever talked to attach religion to their way of life - they either feel guilty (morally) or something similar. I never have felt that way. I do believe in GOD, I ~~believe~~ believe God is the supreme persona but I don't believe he ~~looks~~ looks down or frowns on people who are sincere transvestites or transsexuals. True - transsexuals do change what they were born with, but----it's more of a correction. Babies are born with only one leg, or 4 fingers, or blind, or deaf, and often times physicians do not know why, it's just that in this deteriorating system of things, there are defects in people - minor and major ones. Why cant the defects be sexual or gender wise? Thats my philosophy on it.....KHALIL J...BLACKSTONE....VA.....

Dear Wilma:

I know nothing about you and your organization but what I heard from my current boyfriend. He is a transvestite and into crossdressing.

Since this is my first contact with a person who crossdresses, I am deeply concerned about him. My feelings toward his his dressing have led me to you.

It is my understanding that TVIC deals with transvestism. To get a better understanding of him and my own feelings in this, i'd appreciate ~~any~~ any help you can give me at this time. ...JOYCE S. ...NEW YORK CITY..N.Y.....

QUESTIONS

I have a few questions that I'd like to ask. Hopefully, some of the girls will repond too.

- (1). Do any of us keep in contact with any organization that deals with transsexuals as to how their lives are going; with their success or failures and/or problems/
- (2). How many have had breasts implants or wanted to and their success or failure?
- (3). What hormone is most of us taking and in what strength? Do all of us feel that the dosage we are taking has the intended effects on our body?
- (4). What type of sex lives are most of us pursuing; straight, bi-or lesbian.

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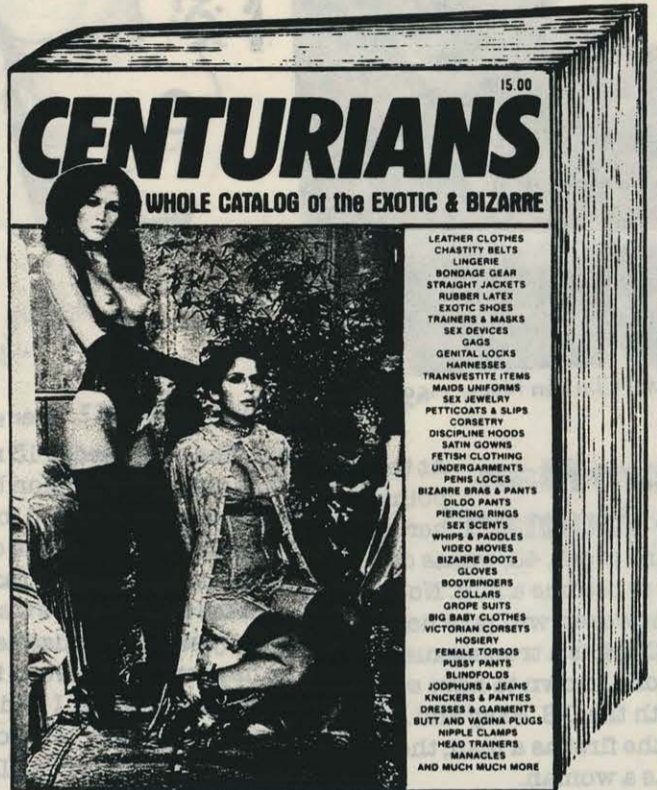
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Michael Clark in Navy, 1969; Joanna Clark in Army, 1977, after sex change

From Man To Woman

At this point in her life,

Joanna Clark, 43, wants desperately to become a nun. No order, however, will take her. Reason: Clark is a transsexual, the only one known to have served in both the U.S. Navy and Army—in the first as a man, the second as a woman.

Clark recently won a four-year legal battle when the Army Board for Correction of Military Records cleared her of several charges—immoral sexual activities, theft of classified documents, drug addiction—and awarded her an honorable discharge.

"It was a widely publicized case," she explains, "involving false, trumped-up charges by a vindictive woman. And it's not over yet. I only won a partial victory. I'm still suing for my back pay, pension benefits and reinstatement. But I'm getting lots of publicity. And I guess that's why the church orders I've applied to have turned me down. Through no fault of my own, I've been daubed with the brush

of notoriety. I've become a cause célèbre—and, frankly, I don't like it. I just like to do my thing, which is helping people."

As Michael Clark, Joanna served in the U.S. Navy for 17 years (12 on active duty) and was honorably discharged in 1969 with the rank of chief petty officer.

After a sex-change operation in 1975, she biologically and legally became Joanna M. Clark and joined the Army Reserve, serving as a sergeant first class. On Aug. 10, 1977, after serving 19 months at the Fort MacArthur Army Reserve Center in San Pedro, Cal., Clark was notified that her enlistment was being voided on the grounds that the sex-change surgery had disqualified

her. She only needed 13 months to qualify for a pension based on 20 years in the armed forces.

"It was simply a case of the Army not wanting a transsexual in the service," says Clark. "They simply said my enlistment never happened. The truth is that before I signed up, I told the recruiting officer all about my surgery. Not only that, I was

examined by an Army doctor—examined very thoroughly; I might add. And he said, 'You're a woman in every way. You're in.'

"The Army is simply guilty of breach of contract," Clark asserts. "I signed up for a four-year hitch so that I would be eligible for a pension. When a catty civil service employee filed all sorts of phony charges, the Army investigated me. All they could come up with was my transsexualism. They tried to get me out on that charge. They've lost that one, and I think they'll lose on my rights to back pay and pension benefits. I'm inclined to believe they'll probably offer me something in a lump settlement." The Army declines to comment, since the case is still in litigation.

Clark—6-foot-1, blue-eyed and auburn-haired—runs a secretarial and business service in San Juan Capistrano, Cal., where she lives with her parents. Her father is a retired machinist, her mother a retired court clerk. An only child, Clark was born in Pontiac, Mich., and christened Michael, a name she retained for 37 years.

"I knew very early as a child," she confesses, "that something was wrong with me. I was a boy, but I didn't feel like one, and as I grew older, I tried to compensate for the constant doubt of my sexuality. I joined the Navy and worked so industriously that, in

seven years, I rose to chief petty officer. I instructed in aviation, anti-submarine warfare, scuba-diving, in all phases of sea survival. I was a real 'jock.' I also got married and divorced twice. I had a son by my first wife. All the time she was pregnant, I felt that I should have been pregnant. My feminine instincts were becoming more and more dominant. Our son is now 20. He doesn't know about me.

"My second wife was a beautiful and wonderful woman. We got married after going together only three days. Married to

her, traveling under false colors, living a lie, I gradually became more and more depressed. I contemplated suicide, and she thought my depression was her fault. I finally told her I was a female-trapped in a male body. And it was she who suggested that I read an article in the 'Honolulu Advertiser' about gender change."

Clark did and concluded that sex-reassignment surgery was "the only chance I had for any real happiness in life. So I left the Navy, then went to Stanford University Medical Center for psychiatric screening, and from there to the Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City, where Drs. Charles Reynolds and David Foerster operated on me and made me the woman I am today."

Joanna, who describes herself as "basically a very religious person," has become of necessity an expert in transsexual legal affairs and says that if she can't become a nun, "I hope to become a lawyer and help other transsexuals, because it's not easy for people like us out there in the cold, cold world."



Pilot sues airline for loss of job after sex change

CHICAGO (AP) — A pilot with Eastern Airlines who says she lost her job after she underwent a sex-change operation has filed suit against the airline in U.S. District Court.

The suit, filed Tuesday on behalf of Karen F. Ulane, 39, of suburban Darien, asks reinstatement to her \$60,000-a-year job, \$4 million in compensation for lost wages and benefits and an unspecified amount of punitive damages.

The suit accuses the airline of sex discrimination, denial of her rights to equal protection of laws and defamation.

Ulane, a 12-year veteran with Eastern, was hired as Kenneth F. Ulane. She was dismissed April 24 — about a year after she underwent the operation at a University of Chicago hospital, the suit said.

She notified her superiors about her plans to undergo the "gender reassignment operation," the suit said. But when she wrote Eastern in February asking to return to her job, she was told the operation "has changed you from the person Eastern hired into a different person," according to the suit.

