



Diane at our May Meeting

The First Lady's Notebook

By: Diane

Plans for the 1987 version of the "Holiday En Femme" are currently being finalized. The event will be held from Wednesday, November 11, to Sunday November 15 in San Francisco. Having been to a couple of these in the past, I felt it would be fun to reflect on the feeling of adventure and excitement of experiencing being a woman at the function.

My first trip to the Holiday En Femme was in 1984 and the flight to San Francisco was filled with anxiety and anticipation. I had only met a few crossdressers at that time and I was wondering what all these people were going to look or act like. After all, they were a bunch of men dressing up like women for four days, and I, with a suitcase full of dresses and lingerie, had some butterflies.

When I got there, the city was a beehive of activity, and everyone looked normal! At the hotel I settled into my room, but found out I had forgotten my bra. So, I went shopping for a bra as a man. I wasted my first afternoon shopping and dressing and waiting, for hours. I finally drew up the courage to leave the room at about 9 p.m. In the lobby, I stepped off the elevator and there "they" were ...transvestites!...

I looked in a mirror and realized I fit in. That started it all. From that point on I had friends to talk to, party with and share my long kept secret, my desire to be feminine. We went dancing, to parties, plays, special events and the feeling was like we had all known each other for years. One of the best things about the Holiday En Femme is the chance to "spread your wings" as a woman in public. You don't have to go places alone (unless you want to), or hide behind the darkness of night. It was even fun just to go to the local deli for an afternoon snack. One great adventure for me was to go to Macey's and then to lunch with Carol Beecroft.

As we browsed through the department store at Union Square with all the "other" ladies, watching women getting makeovers etc., I knew that people saw us as typical ladies enjoying an afternoon of shopping. The experience made me giddy and excited. At lunch, the manager of the restaurant actually held the door for us and said something nice. As I tried to talk, Carol reassured me to keep calm. Just getting my order out was a chore, but the waitress just smiled and I gained confidence.

The Holiday En Femme has many planned activities, a trip to the wig shop, a charm session at a modeling school, makeup classes, tours, trips to fancy restaurants, and lots more. But it's the experience of being out in the real world with real people in a neat city that makes it important. In San Francisco, you can really try to pass and fit in with the crowds. A TV friend I met at the last Holiday En Femme told me that she had exchanged glances with a woman in the hotel elevator, and wondered if she'd been read. When the woman spoke up, she asked if my friend was with a women voter's conference that was in town! Not only did she pass, but she passed as a woman voter!

The thing about spending four days as a woman is the feeling of getting used to some new habits. Instead of jumping out of bed, taking a shower, shaving, throwing on a shirt and pair of pants, it was a little more complicated, and a lot more fun. A day started something like this, jump out of bed, take a warm bath, shave my legs (etc.), put on some nice lotion, slip into some feminine clothes, do makeup, do hair, put on a dress and stockings, check makeup, dab on a touch of perfume, slip into some tricky high heeled

shoes, check purse, check it all in the mirror, and gracefully walk out the door, trying hard to believe you were really doing this!

At the Holiday En Femme in San Francisco, I learned a lot of things about being a woman, but more important I gained the confidence to feel comfortable and free as a woman, without worrying about running into someone I knew or feeling out of place. I danced, shopped, went on a boat trip, talked to clerks and waitresses and even met people without hiding my femininity. Also, when I was read in public, it just didn't seem to be as bad as I had remembered. It was such a far cry from checking my mailbox or walking through a mall at home, scared that someone could tell I was really a man!

So, that's it, the "other side" of the Holiday En Femme, the "getting real" as someone might say. But, I think it's just getting comfortable as a woman and gaining confidence. For me it was a very fulfilling experience.

The Editor's Corner

By: Wendi Danielle

Hello girls, I hope you all got a little chuckle over last month's issue. I just couldn't resist printing that photo on the front page. It seemed so appropriate with the warm weather settling in. I didn't tell you that the photographer was our own Jackie. Judee and I had a great time at the lake with her and Chris that weekend. Plenty of private little coves where we could do a little sun bathing without being bothered by on lookers. Maybe we'll run some of her summery photos on future front pages.

This past month, Alpha Zeta had some friends visit from the mid Atlantic states. Jan and Diane, two wonderful people Diane and I met while at the I.F.G.E. convention, stopped in Phoenix for a few days during their vacation. Jackie and Chris joined Judee and I for dinner with them on their first evening in Phoenix. We dined at Taylors and we were all very well treated as the ladies we like to be. The food and service at Taylor's was excellent. On their second evening in Phoenix, Judee and I hosted a barbecue in their honor. Our Diane also dropped over for a visit and Jackie and Chris again joined us that evening. On their last evening in Phoenix, we girls were escorted by Jan's male persona to a lovely Chinese restaurant, Chez Song, for dinner and later drinks at the Registry Resort, a perfect end

to a delightful weekend. Judee and I truly enjoyed this warm, friendly couple and we hope that someday in the not too distant future we can meet again. Jan tells me that they have been to several Tiffany events and possibly we might meet in Provincetown at one of the Tiffany "Support Group" gatherings.

This month Diane and I will again be speaking at ASU. The last time we spoke was a real confidence building experience for me and Diane tells me that this time I'm going to be the lead speaker. I know now that this can be a very rewarding experience and I am looking forward to it, so, stay tuned for a summary next month.



Cathy Ann Gets a Makeover by Angela

Chapter Update

by: Terri

The May meeting was held at Diane's house. In attendance were Ericka, Kathy Ann, Terri, Wendi and Judee, Angela and Cathy, Diane, Mae and Cherie.. We also made the acquaintance of Darrin and Lesette, Who we hope to be seeing in the future.

July begins our fiscal year, and that means dues girls. Checks should be made out to Alpha Zeta and given to Terri, of course cash will be accepted too. Please be timely with your payment of fifteen dollars.

From now until the end of the year, there are several conventions and holidays being offered across the country, and we encourage everyone that can to try to attend at least one, whether it be Cleveland, Provincetown,

San Francisco or elsewhere. These outings always turn out to be enriching and memorable experiences, and also give us the chance to spread the word about Alpha Zeta.

This month's meeting was highlighted by a presentation and demonstration of "Alouette" skin care and beauty products by Angela, using Cathy Ann as her model. We were shown the importance and benefits of skin care, and were introduced to several "Aloe" based products that condition, repair and moisturize. In addition we again had the chance to see Angela's expert talent in doing a makeover for which we are always curious and appreciative.

Treasury Report

Balance as of 4/30/87.	210.45
Paid out	0.00
Income	0.00
Interest	0.87
Balance as of 5/29/87	211.32

Reminder of Dues

As most of you girls know the annual chapter dues are due July 1st. The dues for Alpha Zeta are \$15 per year. This fee also includes this newsletter. Please make your checks or money orders out to "Alpha Zeta", or you may pay in cash. Submit your dues to Terri or Diane, or send them to, Alpha Zeta, P.O. Box 8425, Mesa, Az. 85204. **Help support your local sorority chapter Girls.** Those of you that fall more that 3 months delinquent will not receive meeting notices or the newsletter so lets get those dues in now.

Also, for those girls who have not yet joined Tri-Ess National, the start-up fee (for the first year) is \$30. See Diane or Terri for more information, or write, Carol Beecroft, P.O. Box 194, Tulare, Ca. 93275.

National Events

"Shangri-La West"

This event is scheduled for July 3rd to the 6th at Stallion Spring, California. The Shangri-La club, an open, non-sexual, social organization sponsors the event. For more information contact Nancy Watson at:

Shangri-La Club
 Po Box 18202
 Irvine, California 92713

"Fantasia Fair"

There is still time to get your reservations in for this event but don't delay too much more. The fair looks like it's going to be a sellout and it also promises to be another high point for the year. See Wendi or Diane for a copy of the brochure. The 13th annual "Fantasia Fair" will take place on October 16th through the 25th and the address is:

Fantasia Fair
 Lincolnia Station, POB 11254
 Alexandria, Va 22312
 Atten: Eve Goodwin

"Holiday En Femme"

This event will be the national convention for Tri-Ess. It is being planned in part by our own Diane and will be in San Francisco, Wednesday November 11th, to Sunday November 15th. The event is a learning and entertaining experience with several days and nights filled with activities. It's location alone is a great vacation spot and the chance to visit this wonderful city "En Femme" is a thrill we all deserve. For more information watch this newsletter or contact:

"Holiday En Femme"
 c/o Alpha Zeta
 Po Box 8425
 Mesa, Arizona 85204

"1988 I.F.G.E. Convention"

Work is now progressing on the next I.F.G.E. convention to be held in Chicago next year. In Merissa's words, this year's convention was our "Let's get our act Together" convention, next year's theme will be, "Let's Accomplish Something". The dates will be February 23rd to March 1st 1988. Look for more information in future issues of this newsletter, or write to:

I.F.G.E.
 Po Box 19
 Wayland, Mass. 01778
 (617) 358-2305

Writer's Corner

This column is included so that any authors out there who would like to be published are welcome to submit their works and see the results of their labors in print. Terri's short story continues this month.

"The Joke" (continued)

by: Terri

We had just returned to the living room when the bell rang and it was Chuck. He greeted Marcia with a big hug, noticed Bill's icy stare and backed off a bit. "Chuck Farber, I'd like you to meet Bill Taylor, My boy friend, and Martha, uh, Lawrence, Your date for this evening". Lawrence? Where'd she get that one from, I wondered as I offered my hand. Chuck's grip, was strong and almost hurt, so I joked, "What is this, best two out of three?" Immediately the grip relaxed and Chuck just looked me up and down, like I was a piece of meat or a car at an auction. I knew he was steamed, first because he'd wanted to be with Marcia alone tonight and second, because Bill was already acting the jealous boy friend role to the hilt. But he must have made up his mind to have a good time anyway because he quickly took my hand again, this time very tenderly, and said, "I'm really sorry, Martha, hope I didn't hurt you", and smiled an affectionate, boyish smile. "I'm okay", I said, placing my other hand on his waist, to show him I was. This seemed to break the ice and then Marcia suggested we leave. Chuck helped me on with a white shawl over my shoulders and we headed out for dinner. Chuck walked in step with me slowly at first as I was having a slight problem pacing myself in high heels. We got to Bill's car and Chuck grabbed the door from Bill to hold it for me. "that's a great looking dress, Martha" he offered as I tried to slide lady like into the back seat without looking too awkward. Then Chuck sat down and Marcia and Bill took the front seats. The conversation drifted a bit, Chuck telling about his flight and all. Then Bill piped up, "Martha's from Chicago too, but then I guess you knew that, right, Chuck?". "I've never seen her before tonight", Chuck returned. "I know because, if I had, I'm sure I would have remembered. You don't forget a face like that". "You mean body, don't you?", I corrected, because I knew that's what he'd really meant. "Well, yeah, I guess I do", he said sheepishly, "But just the same I'd remember". "Thank you", I said and getting into the part, placed my hand on his left leg for emphasis. This triggered something and I found out too late as his hand closed over mine and he began to slide wordlessly closer to me. When we no longer had space between us, he looped his left arm around and across

my shoulders. I allowed it to rest there, fighting the urge to shrug him off for fear that he might try to land it elsewhere. He whispered, "Your perfume smells terrific", and moved his head closer, as if sniffing the hair behind my neck. Marcia began to giggle and the tittering startled Chuck so that he withdrew his head and his arm. But I figured he would be back. Sure enough with an accompanying half smile he began to move his left hand to place it on my leg. I thwarted that attempt by getting my clutch purse there first so that all he touched was a sequin bag. He's quick, I thought, I must be on my guard. Bill began to pursue the questioning about where in Chicago I came from but Marcia straightened it all out by saying that I was an old high school friend, she having met Chuck in college. That seemed to satisfy Bill but not Chuck. He wanted to know where I'd lived. I said, "What's the difference? I'm out here now." "And so am I", Chuck chimed, winking. After what seemed an eternity we arrived at the Hyatt Regency, had the valet attendant park the car and rode the elevator up to the top. Chuck stuck to me the whole time with one arm around my waist. I would have preferred walking alone, but no chance. We were seated, Bill across the table from me and Chuck alongside. A carafe of wine was ordered by Chuck, then by Bill and finally dinner was served. Conversation was light and I tried to keep a full mouth so I didn't have to talk. Marcia fielded all the Chicago high school questions while I chewed constantly. and just smiled occasionally or nodded my head in agreement. During desert, Chuck made a move which startled me. I thought his right hand was going to his lap for the napkin but it landed on my left knee and pushed upward on my thigh. It set off the knee jerk reflex and before I knew it I had tapped Bill on the right leg with the toes of my left shoe. Chuck's hand jumped back to his lap and Bill gave me a look like, "So you want to play footsie, eh?" He smiled at me, I smiled back apologetically but felt sickened. Marcia apparently had not noticed this 3-way encounter. After dinner and the slowest walk I've ever taken, because my corset was bursting from eating too much and because Chuck was walking me as though I'd swallowed nitroglycerin, we got back to the car. Chuck chimed, "Where else can we go? It'll be on me. Any quiet little cocktail lounges around here?"

(to be continued)

Local Events

This month's meeting will be at Terri's apartment at 8:00pm on June the 20th. There will be a short meeting followed by a social evening. June brings with it longer daylight hours so it was opted to start the evening a little later to give some of our more discrete members a little more security. Contact Diane or Terri for detailed directions.

We hope to see some of our less visible members at this meeting. Some of you girls have not appeared at our meetings for quite some time. What's wrong girls? Have we parted our ways or is there still a chance that we'll see you at a meeting some time. Why not make it this month!!!

Food For Thought

This month's culinary delight comes to us from the governor's mansion in Des Moines, Iowa. Actually, it was found by Judee in a book of recipes called "A Taste of Terrace Hill". The dish makes 4 to 6 servings.

"Sweet and Sour Pork"

- 1 1/2 lbs. pork shoulder, cubed
- 2 tbsp. cooking oil
- 1/4 cp. water
- 1 15 oz. can pineapple chunks
- 2 tbsp. cornstarch
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 cp. packed brown sugar
- 1/3 cp. vinegar
- 1 tbsp. soy sauce (more if desired)
- 3/4 cp. sliced green peppers
- 1/4 cp. sliced onion
- 4 cps. hot cooked rice

Brown pork in hot oil, add water, simmer until tender. Drain pineapple, saving juice, add water to make 1 cup and set aside. Combine cornstarch, salt & brown sugar. Blend in vinegar, pineapple juice & soy sauce. Cook on low heat, stirring till thickened. Drain pork, cover with sauce and let stand 10 minutes. Add green pepper, onions & pineapple mixture. Simmer covered until vegetables are tender-crisp. Serve over hot cooked rice.

Classified

Wanted - Phone answering machine (for our hot line).



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The Photo Page



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