

Ooo La La! Cleavage Contest With TGSF!

The Channel
TGSF
Transgender San Francisco
(formerly ETVC)



*Read All
About It
On Page 9!*

The Channel

TGSF, Inc., a non-profit corporation, is a non-sexual, membership based organization serving the educational, social, and recreational needs of gender-gifted people, their spouses, significant others, family members, friends, and professionals in the helping services. For details about TGSF programs, membership, article submission guidelines and classified ads, please write to TGSF Secretary, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486.

ExCom 1998-99 Officers

(Fiscal Year: May 1 - April 30)

President Leslie Bailey
 Vice President Lulu Blau
 Secretary Veronica Smith
 Treasurer Lisa Ronald
 Education Nancy Cupps / Juana Smith
 Outreach Sandra Brewer
 Social Nicole Cook / Evette RoqueLaurie

Secretary's Report

Membership as of December 6, 1998 260
 Total Fiscal Year 1997-98 Membership 327
 New Memberships this year 49

Treasurer's Report

Approx. Account Balance as of November, 1998 \$10,000.00
 (Includes the "Home for TGSF" Fund)

TGSF is a non-profit corporation. Donations to TGSF are TAX DEDUCTIBLE on both Federal and California income tax returns. Talk to your tax advisor for details.

The Channel, the TGSF Newsletter, is published monthly. Submissions should arrive at TGSF by the 15th day of the month preceding publication. Contents reflect the opinions of the contributors and are not necessarily those of TGSF. Other organizations may reprint or reproduce uncopyrighted portions of the newsletter for their members, provided TGSF is acknowledged as the source of the material. Copyrighted materials may be reproduced only with written permission from TGSF.

Newsletter Staff

Editor and Advertising Ayme Michelle Kantz
 Contributing Photographers Telzey Adams, Nicole Cook
 Veronica & Juana Smith and Jamie Fey Fenton

Ad Rates

	Per Issue	Six Months	Per Year
Business Card (3-1/2 x 2)	\$ 25	\$125	\$ 250
4x5	\$ 60	\$300	\$ 600
Full Page	\$100	\$500	\$1000

Personal ads from TGSF members: \$10 for up to 40 words per issue. We will not accept ads with a sexual objective. Ad deadlines are the 15th of every month. Send ad copy and check or money order to TGSF, Advertising Dept., PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486

Hotline & Voice Mail
415-564-3246



FROM THE EDITOR...

Inside this month's issue of *The Channel* you'll find a couple of articles concerning Tyra Hunter's death and subsequent wrongful death trial. Finally after three long years, a transsexual has received justice at the hands of a jury. It's just a goddamn shame that Tyra had to give her life to get it. Along with our regular reports from ExCom members, you'll also find that Darcy Leopard has checked in with a terrific account of her "coming out at work" experience during the recent holidays; Jane Bolig wraps up her wonderful series on Page 12 and please read the HIV Report on page 13...maybe it's time we had another safe-sex discussion at one of our seminars and the types of behavior that puts T-people at risk.

The Cupboard Is Bare

But other than that kiddies, it's pretty slim pickins around here...one letter from a reader in three months? Our PO Box is getting mighty lonely! Surely there's something on your minds - the Cotillion coming up, elections around the corner, the fallout (if any?) of the name change...I try to keep up with what's happening on the web and with more of us online I would think it fairly easy for most of you to contact us with an idea or comment, criticism or praise. So what's the story morning glory? Ya'll went out of town for the holidays?

Party Like It's...

1999! Arrrrghh! Somebody break that Prince record now please! Cotillion 99 is next month folks and there's still much to be done. Please please please volunteer your time, your talent, your money, your good looks - contestants are still being sought and work crews need to be staffed. Pitch in to make this year's event surpass last year's achievements.



Amelia James
 Registered
 Electrologist

ELECTROLYSIS Permanent Hair Removal

- Complimentary Consultation
- Men & Women
- Private Office
- Days, Evenings, Saturday by appt.
- Shortwave, Galvanic, Blend and Multiple Probe Technique

707-526-4826

2700 Santa Rosa Avenue

Santa Rosa, CA 95407

Joyce's Perfect Fit
 Intimate Apparel Salon

by appointment only

10% Discount for Members

Tel (650) 574•BRAS (2727)

Joyce Patterson-Rogers

GET ONLINE!
WWW.TRANSGENDER.ORG/TG/ETVC



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Leslie Bailey

I want to address one simple subject and that is the Cotillion which is to be held on Saturday February 6, 1999 at the San Francisco Design Center Galleria. I consider this event to be much more than just a contest or a pageant. It is above all a "Pride" event. It is our "Pride" event. We can be 300 or 400 strong, looking our best and feeling our best.

It is a wonderful event to not only share with our friends in TGSF/ETVC and sister organizations but also with family, neighbors and friends. I know that not everyone is at a point of being able to do that, but for those who are this is a marvelous chance to build bridges and acceptance. I had a number of friends from this area and from out of state who attended last year's Cotillion and they were all very impressed. They are going to attend again along with several of my neighbors.

This is also a great event to come to if you have never gone out in public before. It is safe, it is grand and it is confidence building. If you're from another state and were thinking of visiting San Francisco, why not plan it around that time frame and include the Cotillion in your schedule.

I now have tickets available for sale. You can certainly buy them individually. However I would suggest that it would be more fun for you to contact a number of your friends and buy a table or part of a table. However you do it, please feel free to give me a call at 510/ or contact/drop by any number of other outlets where tickets can be purchased.

\$2.8 Million Award in Tyra Hunter Wrongful Death Suit

A VICTORY FOR TRANSGENDERED PEOPLE EVERYWHERE

by Sarah D. Fox, Ph.D.

[QUILL: Washington, DC, December 12, 1998] On August 7, 1995, Tyra Hunter, a preoperative transsexual woman and highly successful hair stylist, was critically wounded in an automobile accident when a motorist ran a stop sign and broadsided her car. Finding today that she died in part because of negligence by the DC Fire Department and malpractice by the DC General Hospital, a jury awarded \$2.8 million in damages to Margie Hunter, Tyra's mother.

When three DC Fire Department EMTs, including Adrian Williams, removed Ms. Hunter's slacks to assess her bleeding at the 1995 accident scene, they discovered her male genitalia. One of them exclaimed, "This ain't no bitch. It's a nigger. He's got a [phallus] and balls." Treatment was immediately discontinued. The EMTs ridiculed the still-conscious Ms. Hunter, allowing her to bleed profusely on the pavement while horrified onlookers begged them to render aid. Treatment was resumed only after Fire Chief Otis Latin arrived at the scene.

Still conscious upon her arrival at DC General Hospital, Ms. Hunter was given a medication to paralyze her. She died about an hour later from blood loss. According to expert testimony, Ms. Hunter would have experienced "sheer terror" from feelings of intense suffocation. That, combined with drug-induced paralysis and the probable memory of the EMTs hateful remarks, paints a macabre picture of Ms. Hunter's final moments.

Continued on Page 14

Luanna L. Rodgers, MA, MFCC

Specializing in work with the transgender community

- ◆ Individual Psychotherapy
- ◆ Relationship and Family Counseling
- ◆ Gender ◆ Sexuality

Call & let's talk!

San Francisco
(415) 641-8890



Transformations

Sharon Scheurer, RE., MPS

Licensed Electrologist

Certified Micro-Pigmentation Specialist



- Transgender friendly w/ special package rates
- Quiet, private and confidential
- Easy downtown location
- Complete image service for men and women
- 30 years licensed experience
- Special makeovers for CD's

582 Market Street, Ste. 1111, San Francisco, CA 94104
Mon-Sun by appointment 415-398-1722

Significant Other Support - East Bay

Questions or concerns about your partner's crossdressing?
Please call Julie at (925) e-mail
@ibm.net or write to: Julie Freeman, PO Box
272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885.

Foxy Lady Boutique



DISCRETE SHOPPING FOR TV/CROSSDRESSERS,
TRANSSEXUALS, SWINGERS AND FANTASY PEOPLE

French Maids & Adult Baby Clothes
Platform Shoes, Sizes 5-15
Thigh & Knee Boots, sizes 5-15
Dresses, 3-26 • Accessories & Makeup
Various Breast Forms, Including Silicone
Exotic Lingerie & Corsets In All Sizes
Mailing List & Various Catalogues Available

• 20% - 50% OFF SALE! •
- 50% OFF BEADED DRESSES! -
NOW OPEN SUNDAYS!

Store Hours: Mon-Thu: 10-6 • Fri & Sat: 10-7 • Sun: 11-6
2644 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94110 • (415) 285-4980

EXCOM MEETING MINUTES

The monthly meeting of TGSGF's Executive Committee was in San Francisco on December 6, 1998 at 3:00 p.m. In attendance were President Bailey, Vice President Blau, Secretary Smith, Outreach Chair Brewer, Social Co-Chairs Cook and RoqueLaurie, Education Co-Chairs Cupps and Smith, and guests Kalani and Debbie. Treasurer Ronald was absent. The Meeting was called to order at 3:20 p.m.



Communications and Announcements: Juana and Veronica attended the Alternative Family Project reception for Professor Gilbert Herdt (editor of *Third Sex, Third Gender*) on November 13. Veronica dropped off extra newsletters. *Romantasy* was to have a promotional social on December 11. Elaine Sagant has started a feminine fashion and department consulting business; she will present an education seminar in March and is presently looking for video resources and training information. April 22-25, P.P.O.C. will sponsor California Dreamin' at AirTel Plaza in Van Nuys. N.O.W. will sponsor a lesbian support convention during the same time. Evette reminded people that J.R.'s has drag shows on Sundays.

Old Business: Leslie is taking care of Kim Stuart's request.

Minutes: Nicole moved for the November's Minutes to be approved, Leslie seconded the motion and they were unanimously approved.

President: \$1,500 has been allocated for the club's insurance. Leslie has continued to follow up on the fictitious name certificate needed for the interim until TGSGF becomes completely official. Leslie expressed interest in placing an ad for TGSGF in the brochure for the Washington D.C. national conference, which is taking place in late February.

Vice President: Lulu said that the Cotillion production is "apace." She has five confirmed contestants, but would like more. Tickets will be ready by December Social. She was working on invitations. Kalani was working on getting props and decorations donated. Sandra requested closer attention to schedules and less last minute changes. But she appreciated how difficult the planning was.

Secretary: Membership had remained flat with 260 and 49 new as compared to last year's December 13 ExCom meeting when membership was 299 of which 59 were new. Veronica thanked Debbie and Nicole for again doing the newsletter mailing. Veronica distributed Secretary's duties for the Standing Rules. Again Veronica praised Ayme for her professional, artistic and masterful job on all facets of the newsletter. Veronica again pointed out that Ayme had made the club's biggest expense self-reliant. It even looked as if the newsletter would be profitable this year. AND Ayme has

doubled the number of pages. Sandra echoed Veronica's paean to Ayme.

Treasurer: Leslie again reported for the absent Lisa. TGSGF's treasury had around \$10,000. Nicole and Nancy had created a list of informational needs desired of the Treasurer's office. While it was evident that Leslie had been running a tighter ship, it was generally acknowledged that the major causes of the club's relatively secure financial position were (1) the paradigmatic shift concerning the newsletter's costs and (2) members' donations. Leslie projected ending the year with over \$5,000 in the bank. Leslie moved that the ExCom accept Lisa's verbal resignation. Lulu seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Nicole nominated Debbie for the vacant Treasurer's position. Juana seconded the motion. The ExCom unanimously elected Debbie Treasurer and Debbie enthusiastically accepted the nomination and office.

Education: Nancy reported that she had scheduled a seminar on laser hair removal on January 20, Wednesday at Kimo's. Juana would schedule Will Roscoe for February. Nancy had Elaine's compartment seminar listed for March 14 or 20; Maureen O'Connor for April, and Danae Doyle for May. Nancy and Juana distributed different versions of the Chair of the Education Committee's duties.

Outreach: Sandra turned over more honoraria. One honorarium was a collected donation from a class in which Sandra did a presentation. Sandra had written a letter to *Dateline's* producers protesting the example of the transgendered community they had chosen. She thought the person was not a true representative and damaged the community's image. But Lulu and Leslie differed in their opinion somewhat from Sandra. Lulu had heard (from an unlikely source) praise of the man's courage and Leslie believed that though the individual was quirky, he was definitely part of the community.

Social: November's mid-month and end-month socials were very successful. December's end-month at the Blue Muse would include a gift swap. January's mid-month will be at the Thirsty Bear, and the end-month will be at Blue Muse; it will include a lingerie show produced by Joyce's Perfect Fit. Nicole wanted to know if there was support for a shopping mall expedition, but was unsure of the timing. Former editor Elizabeth Walters had informed Veronica that Marlena had offered her downstairs (if the bartender would be taken care of) as a possible location for TGSGF to meet. Nicole would check it out. There was a short discussion about free or paid socials. Nicole preferred passing a hat for donations rather than maintaining a gatekeeper. But Leslie pointed out that donations only pull in about half of what a gatekeeper does. Juana said that if attending members do not pay for the socials, then non-attending members must make up shortfalls. Leslie thought that the club should retain the gatekeeper method.

New Business: Pacific Center announced that it was going to have a LGBT family holiday party. Leslie urged the officers to read the ENDA article in the newsletter and respond. Juana said that the Youth Task Force wanted volunteers. Evette mentioned a transgender film festival in Fremont's Little Theater May 15-16.

Next ExCom Meetings: January 3rd at the Smiths. At approximately 6:40 p.m., Juana moved to adjourn the meeting, Nicole seconded and motion was unanimously passed.

Bare Skin Electrolysis Permanent Hair Removal

Tracy McNamara, R.E.

- Complimentary Consultation
 - Private & Professional
 - Sterile Disposable Probes
 - State Licensed

736 Polhemus Road San Mateo, CA 94402
(650) 345-2224 Appointments

HEY!

\$10 Bucks Per Issue Gets You An Ad Like This...!

Tall, feminine, graceful closet CD seeks Big Sister to help with shopping and makeup tips. I live alone so it's helpful if you can come here, but I can certainly travel. SF Area. Call (415) 000-0000.

Up to 40 words only \$10.00. Send text of ad and Check or Money Order to TGSGF's PO Box, ATTN: Editor. Reach out and come out!

Our Readers Respond...

DEAR EDITOR,

Thank you for bringing the "She's a man" advertisement to my attention. Since I'm not into computer culture I would never have seen it otherwise, and I would have missed what I consider to be a very cute ad. Am I the only one who thinks it's funny? Remember The Kids In The Hall? I see this as the same type of humor and don't consider it to be hate-motivated. In fact the first thing that came to mind is that the groom already knows. In response to "She's a man," I seem him replying with "I'm a fag." Wouldn't that be sweet? A man sticking up for his tranny-girl while the two of them flaunt both tradition and legality by getting married. How glorious! True love conquers all. Hey, wait a minute! If it's such a big secret, how come the best man knows? Oh well, if it is true love the groom will forgive her past indiscretions. It's just like the final scene in Some Like It Hot. Osgood knew all along that Daphne was a man. Some people do prefer it that way.

**Sincerely,
Vera Sepulveda**

(Ordinarily I haven't responded to letters to the Editor, but in this case I feel a few words are in order. Yes Vera my dear, I think you missed the point. It's obvious the best man knows something the groom doesn't about the bride and he's flashing the "she's a man" card to "save" the groom "from an embarrassing situation." Remember the tag line in the ad: "It's nice to know about something before it becomes a problem...because it's what you don't know that can hurt you." Obviously the best man thinks the groom is unaware of his bride's transsexuality and he's out to protect the bastion of heterosexual male pride at all costs! But I also have to agree with you: true love does conquer all and my recent marriage certainly "flaunt[s] both tradition and legality" as he and I declared our love for each other, in full knowledge, honesty and trust in the face of God and our friends. And that's as it should be.)

En Drag and Fauxgirls

**FEMALE IMPERSONATION REVUES
EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT AT KIMO'S**

1351 DOLK STREET AT PINE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109

(415) 885-4535

Gender Services

Wilhelmina Beins, MA

Gender Transition Consultant

(415) 381-9480

Now Available!

1998 RESOURCE GUIDE

Well you have been hearing about it and now it is available! The 1998 TGSF Resource Guide is available at cost to all TGSF members. You can bring \$3.00 to the next social or we can mail it to you for \$3.00 + \$1.50 postage. If you are a service listed in the guide you can get copies for \$5.00 each plus postage. The Resource Guide will be available to everyone else for \$10.00 each.

The 1998 TGSF Resource Guide is your one source for virtually all the Transgender Resources in the Greater Bay Area (From San Jose to Sacramento to Santa Rosa to San Francisco). The Guide covers where to go to have a good time on the town, where to shop, where to get services like Make-up, Electrolysis and Beauty Salons, as well as where to stay in the San Francisco area (and Russian River Resort Area). You can also locate professional services such as Doctors, Psychologists, Lawyers, Voice Therapists and others. The Guide also contains information on other Gender Information and Education Groups. If you are going to visit the San Francisco area - This is the guide to have!

If you would like a guide by mail you can send a check for \$4.50 (per copy) to: TGSF, Resource Guide, P.O. Box 426486, San Francisco, CA. 94142-6486. Please be sure to indicate on the check that it is for the Resource Guide.

NEW ONLINE SO LIST!

New online mailing list for wives and SOs of crossdressers and men who consider themselves to be transgendered; no topic off limits. Attitudes range from complete acceptance to really struggling. Open to women only—no crossdressers please! Women need a place where they can feel safe to discuss these issues. Write to Jenni at www.aluckywife@aol.com and explain a little about your situation.

Email Your Officers:

President, Leslie Bailey@slip.net
Secretary, Veronica Smith@aol.com
Social Chair, Nicole Cook@tgforum.com
Editor, Ayme Kantz@aol.com

Attention Pub Crawlers!

Looking for something exciting to do in The City? Nicole is looking for Social Coordinators. The job entails each coordinator to organize a club excursion once a month. How hard can that be? I will even help you set it up and attend them. The group will be from 4 to 10 members interested in trying new night spots or visiting old favorites. If you want to be a Coordinator or a member of the excursion group email me @tgforum.com or talk to me at the socials.

TGSF Donations - Our Girls Who Give as of December, 1998

Alexis Haines \$40

Bless you for caring and thank you!

JANUARY 3RD, 3:00PM

JANUARY EXCOM MEETING

We are in San Francisco this month for the ExCom meeting. As always everyone is encouraged to attend and let us know how you think things should be done, of course we would also like you to help do them.. Email or call me (Nicole) and I will arrange for you to get directions. [redacted]@tgforum.com or (707) [redacted] It is actually allot of fun to do some of the events.

JANUARY 13TH, 8:00PM

MID-MONTH SOCIAL

Once again it is time for the more adventurous of us to visit a more main stream establishment. this month we will be going to the Thirsty Bear. The Thirsty Bear is at 661 Howard Street in the South of Market Section of San Francisco. If you like high profile venues this is for you. The Thirsty Bear has a large happy hour crowd. Now for those of you who prefer the more low key venues, it just so happens that the Transbay group will be meeting at Quetzel's. Quetzel's is a coffee shop that serves food, at 1234 Polk, between Sutter and Bush, (right down the street from Kimo's). While you are there you might one to pick up one of their really cool Transbay pins. The Transbay event begins at 7:00pm.

JANUARY 20TH, 8:00PM

EDUCATION SEMINAR: LASER HAIR REMOVAL

Removal of beard and other body hair has been a high priority for most of us in our desire to 'pass' effectively. We dream of having smooth skin and of being able to wear minimal, if any, makeup. Until recently, electrolysis seemed to be our only viable

route to achieve permanent hair reduction. Those who have experienced it know it can be painful and tedious. Now, after years of testing, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced it has cleared the EpiLaser for "permanent hair reduction". Permanent hair reduction is defined as a long-term stable reduction in the number of hairs regrowing after a treatment regime. The EpiLaser is a patented laser system that emits a brief but intense red light over skin which, when absorbed by pigment in hair follicles, disables the follicle's ability to regrow hair. There is minimal discomfort, and the procedure is quick and more effective than some traditional methods of hair removal. This seminar will feature a presentation on laser hair removal by Epitique Laser Medical Centers. During the seminar a TGSF member who has been a client of Epitique will be able to show you (without makeup) the results she has achieved. Epitique will be happy to set up an appointment for a consultation with you at no charge. They will work with you to design a treatment plan to meet your special needs. Come find out if laser hair removal is the answer for you! Upstairs at Kimo's, Polk & Pine Sts., SF Donations Appreciated.

JANUARY 28TH, 8:00PM

END OF MONTH SOCIAL

Well I was looking through the old newsletters for an idea on the End of month and at some point the idea hit me, a lingerie fashion show! So *Joyce's Perfect Fit* will be sponsoring the first annual TGSF lingerie Fashion Show at the Blue Muse. I then began looking for models, I found one almost immediately :-), I think I have 3 more, which leaves room for two. The Blue Muse is located at 409 Gough street. Parking is easy, there is a lot right across from Marlena's (the TG friendly bar around the corner from The Blue Muse on Hayes St.).



Patricia S. Nakamura R.E. C.M.T.
Electrolysis & Skin Care
State Licensed Electrologist and Aesthetician
Professional Hair Removal & Skin Care

1645 S. Bascom Ave., Ste. C
Campbell, CA 95008

By Appointment Only
(408) 371-0488

PAULA-JO HUSACK, M.A., M.F.C.C.
LIC. #MFC27864

Counseling, Psychotherapy & Consulting
Individuals, Couples, Families, Groups

1838 El Camino Real, Suite 201
Burlingame, CA 94010
(650) 343-4554


Barbara F. Anderson

Ph.D., L.C.S.W.

Clinical Sexologist
Certified Sex Therapist

1537 Franklin St., Suite 104
San Francisco, CA 94109

Ph (415) 776-0139
Fax (415) 441-0936



Mildred L. Brown, Ph.D.
SEX THERAPY & EDUCATION
GENDER IDENTITY COUNSELING

TRUE SELVES
Understanding Transsexualism - For Families,
Friends, Coworkers, and Helping Professionals.

\$25.00 Hardcover

(408) 249-2205
800 Pollard Road, Suite B207
Los Gatos, CA 95030
Jossey-Bass Publishers

Calendar of Events - January 1999

OTHER GROUPS

Pacific Center for Human Growth

A counseling oriented growth center sponsors all-inclusive gender support groups on every Friday at 8:00pm, 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. 510-841-6224

Rainbow Gender Association (RGA)

Meets 1st and 3rd Friday of the month 8:00pm at the New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose. Write to RGA, PO Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170 or call 408-984-4044.

Sacramento Gender Association (SGA)

Blue Rose Chapter meets 8:00pm the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month in Sacramento. Write PO Box 215456, Sacramento, CA 95821-1456 or call 916-482-7SGA (7742) for meeting locations.

Diablo Valley Girls (DVG)

Meets 1st and 3rd Monday of every month. 8:00pm at Just Rewards Nightclub, 2520 Camino Diablo in Walnut Creek. Write to DVG, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885 or call 925-937-8432.

DVG Rap Group (RCC)

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:00pm at Rainbow Community Center, 2637 Pleasant Hill Road (@ Taylor Blvd.) in Pleasant Hill. For more information call 925-937-8432.

FTM

A support group for Female-to-Male cross dressers and transsexuals; Holds open Informational Meetings and closed Support Meetings. Write FTM International, Inc., 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103 or call 415-553-5987.

TGIF (TransGenderism Is Fun)

A social group for transgenders. Meets one Saturday each month at a private home in Santa Rosa for a potluck social from 4:00pm until early evening. Space is limited - Reservations Recommended! Call Diane or Anne at 707-██████████

Silicon Valley Gender Association (SVGA)

A new transgender support group meets at the Billy De Frank Community Center in San Jose on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. For more information, call 408-293-2429.

Far West Women (FWW)

A support group for TGs affiliated with the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Alliance in Humboldt County. Meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 8:00pm in the GLBTA Center at Fourth and "D" Streets in Eureka. For information call the Center at 707-445-9760.

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	2
3 3:00 PM TGSF: ExCom	4 8:00 PM DVG	5	6	7 7:00 PM DVG (RCC)	8 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM TGSF: Library / Poker Night	9 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA
10	11	12	13 8:00 PM TGSF: Mid-Month @ Thirsty Bear	14	15 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	16
17	18 8:00 PM DVG	19	20 8:00 PM TGSF; Education Seminar	21 7:00 PM DVG (RCC)	22 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap	23 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA
24	25	26	27	28 8:30 PM ETVC EOM Social @ Blue Muse	29 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap	30
31						

TGSF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Full Year Membership May 1 - April 30

Please Print / Check all that apply:

New Member Renewal Member # _____ with Family Member

Member Birth Date ____ / ____ Family Member Birth Date ____ / ____

Preferred Name: _____

Mailing Name: _____

Family Member's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

How did you hear about TGSF? _____

I am enclosing a Check or Money order for:

\$30.00 Full Year Membership (Renewals)

\$40.00 Full Year Family Membership (Renewals; Note only one copy of the Channel will be sent to this address).

Pro Rate \$ _____ beginning Month: _____

New Members only; See Chart at right)

Send Check or Money Order to
TGSF

**PO Box 426486
San Francisco, CA
94142-6486**

IF PAID IN	THEN SINGLE PAY	THEN FAMILY PAY
MAY	30	40
JUN	27.5	37
JUL	25	33
AUG	22.5	30
SEP	20	27
OCT	17.5	23
NOV	15	20
DEC	12.5	17
JAN	10	13
FEB	7.5	10
MAR	5	7
APR	2.5	3



SANDRA REACHES OUT

by Sandra Brewer

With the fall semester ending and the holidays upon us, our outreach activity has taken a rest this month. I expect requests will be coming in for Spring semester speakers, possibly even before the Cotillion. The Cotillion is our biggest event, and it provides an invaluable outreach opportunity.

Last year three of my colleagues from completely outside the community attended the Cotillion; they were impressed by the class shown by everyone in the show. They plan to attend again this year along with a few more as the word gets around. I've also invited many of the instructors who frequently request our speakers. I hope all of you will spread the word to accepting friends outside the community. This is a great opportunity to share our best efforts with the world, and if we sell more tickets in the process, so much the better.

When doing outreach presentations we are confronted by a myriad of questions reflecting the interest and curiosity of the public about who we are and the problems we face. Since no two of us are alike, many of the questions have no simple answer. I usually answer the questions as they pertain to me, and do the best I can to explain variations that may be found in others in the community. The objective of our outreach effort is to educate people on the whole transgender community. But above all, we need to communicate that unlike we are often portrayed on the talk shows, we are responsible 'normal' people like everyone else. With the help of some of the requesters I am putting together a list of some of the most frequently asked questions. Some of these warrant special attention; in future columns I hope to address some of these specifically.

If you're confused by Barbara Anderson's reference to her "Past Passing" article, so is Barbara. This article was never published in our newsletter. My response she referred to in the August newsletter was to her "Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity" article that appeared in our July newsletter. My comments on transitioning without passing in the same issue had nothing to do with Barbara's article. I learned only later that she had published an article on that subject in the DVG newsletter; I also learned that my considered comments on the subject pale in comparison to other negative response invoked by the article. Apparently this struck a nerve, and Barbara is still looking for someone to strike back at months after most of us have moved on to other pressing issues.

A December 1st NBC Dateline segment featured a Wyoming man with an uncontrollable urge to wear dresses to work. The program also included interviews with Dr Richard Docter that may have been misinterpreted. I feel the segment reflects poorly on our community; I sent my thoughts to NBC in a letter published [below] elsewhere in this issue. Please let us know your thoughts on this and other issues of interest to us all.

Finally it's worth mentioning the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a powerful Washington DC lobbying group for gay and lesbian rights has recently passed a resolution to support efforts to counteract discrimination based on real or perceived gender identity. The HRC has previously expressed support for transgendered issues, but this is the first time it has been officially recognized by its board. This is a major step forward in the struggle for transgender rights.

A LETTER TO DATELINE/NBC

by Sandra Brewer

[December 5, 1998] As Outreach Chair for TGSF, a support group for transgendered people based in San Francisco, I find it necessary to correct some gross inaccuracies and misleading information in a story you featured on a Dateline broadcast on Tuesday, December 1st. The story in question reported events, behavior, and responses in the life of Larry Goodwin, a public transvestite living in Douglas, Wyoming.

Larry clearly exhibits behavior that I expect would still be considered a mental disorder according to the Diagnostics and Statistics Manual (DSM IV) used by most practicing therapists in the US and other countries. The manual no longer considers transvestism a disorder unless it is compulsive and out of control. This man who wears no makeup or wigs, and cannot control his need to appear publicly and obviously only as a man in a dress displays behavior that would be interpreted as irrational by almost everyone, inside and outside the transgendered community.

It is to your credit that you featured Dr Richard Docter in your story; he is a respected educator and author who has done much to further the research and understanding of transvestites and transsexuals. But it is reprehensible that you misapplied his statements in your report. The statements he made in your featured interview were quite accurate, but he was referring to the vast majority of rational transvestites, not the man you featured who does not fit this category. I doubt that you even informed Dr Docter of the subject his interview was being applied to. This is not only misleading, but it is an outright lie as you presented it.

The unfortunate man featured in your story needs help, and your exposing him to the country has done him a grave disservice. But my greater concern is the disservice you have done to the great majority of transvestites who are rational, respectable, and able to control their cross dressing behavior in a fashion that does not bring ridicule to themselves and others in the community. Your presentation of this story intermingled with suggestions that Larry is a 'typical' transvestite sends the message that all transgendered people are mentally disturbed. Stories like these undermine efforts our group has worked for years to educate the public that most transgendered people are responsible upstanding citizens like everyone else. People have come to expect this kind of reporting on scandal shows like the Jerry Springer show. I hope this has not become the accepted standard on your news programming.

January's Birthdays...

0102	Charlene Baker	0115	M Odawa
0102	Ruben Lopes	0115	Roberta Price
0105	Carla Johnson	0116	Rachael Dettmer
0105	Jennifer Wilhelmi	0118	Cindy Pearlman
0109	Bob Lieberman	0119	Michelle Garcia
0110	Valerie Russell	0120	Amy Vaughn
0111	Aqua Marine	0126	Charlie Reiman
0111	Caryl Linden	0127	Ernestine Taylor
0112	Jennifer Freeman	0130	Carla Trapani
0114	Diane Giles	0130	Elizabeth Ruggiero
0115	Georgina Castleberry	0131	Kim Scott

Many Happy Returns of the Day!



NOVEMBER - DECEMBER SOCIALS IN REVIEW

By Nicole Cook

Well girls we did not hit that many socials this month so I will have to supplement this newsletter with a review of our Christmas shopping, see my article titled "Nicole and Debbie's Excellent Adventure". Here are the events we were at.

The first TGSF (well first under the new name) Cleavage contest turned out to be quite a fun event. We met for the End of Month Social on November 19th at the Blue Muse and 12 of our members competed for the three prizes. As with several of our recent events there was plenty of audience participation as the contestants displayed their goods. Dianna took the prize for best presentation, not so much for her cleavage but for her most lady-like walk down the runway. The most Tastefully Exposed prize went to Tianna, her low cut outfit together with the body glitter on the body parts being displayed did the trick. Our one other award "Most Full Figured" went to Shelly, this should be no surprise, in fact Shelly's wonderful attributes were making it difficult to get other contestants during the earlier part of the evening. All in all we had a great time.

Even though it was raining, Debbie and I took the rather short trip over to Anne and Dianne's house for the November TGIF social. There was a somewhat smaller group than normal most likely due to the wet weather. My guess would be that about 20 ladies were in attendance. We had the usual pot luck selection of more good food than we could eat. I brought one of my picture albums from several of the recent events like the fashion shows, SGA pageant and the legs contest. Several of the photos spawned some discussion. The TGIF social is a more laid back event, most of the time was spent conversing with the other ladies present.

The December Mid Month Social on December 9th was held at a now very familiar Cafe Mars. When we arrived there was a private party in progress in the back and we were treated to Karaoke renditions of a number of tunes. After a half hour or so the music was turned down to the point where we could talk. In the 2 hours that Debbie and I were there about 10-12 members showed up, but I understand that more arrived after we had left. In fact as we left at about 10:00pm Tianna was just coming in, we talked for a while outside and she mentioned her trip to Trannyshack the night before. Hummm ... Trannyshack one night and the mid month the next night, it's a dirty job, but someone has to do it. I only wish it could be me :-). I hear Serena showed up later, Serena, I have not seen you for a while, stop by earlier next time so we can say hi. Several of the mid month regulars were there along with Leslie, Lulu and Jamie.

NICOLE & DEBBIE'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE

by Nicole Cook

It is hard for me to believe how paranoid I was the first time I went into a mall as Nicole. I had Debbie check out the door and find the door closest to the room we were going to. We went in at night when only a few people were in the parking lot. Then we swiftly zipped into the store and into the make-up room.

Little did I know that we are practically celebrities in many stores. We had gone out to malls a few times in the past but the first time we went out just to shop was to do our 1998 Christmas shopping. We started out at the Santa Rosa Acapulco Restaurant, we were treated quite nicely. Twice we were addressed as "Ladies" and I felt right at home. After dinner we moved on to the Santa Rosa Mall. For years I had been wanting to shop as Nicole in one of the stores here (Charlotte Russe), in short I want one of everything in the store. I was in heaven! Some of you may have noticed that I have a new Jacket and a few new blouses. The salespeople were great, they were very courteous and always referred to us as ladies or me as miss. My only warning about this place is to leave your credit card at home. I had to tear myself out of there. We actually shopped at a number of shops in the mall, including the record store, a number of ladies clothing stores, the ear-ring store, a few department stores and more.

This trip was so fun we decided to hit another mall the next day. Off we went to the San Rafael Northridge mall. Once again we had a blast. It was raining and the mall was packed. I think we hit every female oriented store in the mall. I began to get the feeling that there was a notice to all the salespeople that says TG's have lots of money so treat them nice. At one Jewelry store we were window shopping, the sales lady asked us if she could help us and we said we were just looking. She moved on and the manager jumped up from his desk and came over to make sure we did not need any help. In a couple of the stores the sales people went out of their way to be friendly. All the while the cash registers were ringing as much as our new Christmas bells ear-rings. Later we had dinner at the Fresh Choice again a great experience.

We were now on a roll, so the next weekend despite having to go to the Excom meeting we started out in the Shane Company Jewelry store in Novato. When you are looking at diamonds I think just about everyone is friendly. They were quite nice and showed us how to evaluate a diamond. During most of these trips I was dressed in jeans (Victoria Secret) and a blouse. However, we went back to pick up the diamond ring before the mid-month when I was wearing the tight black outfit with the slit up the leg. Both times they were great. Interestingly enough, both times there was someone in the jewelry store that I worked with. I walked right by one of them, not only did she not recognize me, like most people she just passed me off as another lady shopping for jewelry. In fact this is what happened almost everywhere. Occasionally, I would get made (teenage girls seem to be the best at noticing), but of the several hundred people we walked by while we shopped, I would guess only about 10 paid us more than the usual amount of attention.

How can I end this story? It is still a week before Christmas and we have not been to Union Square yet. Guess where we are going this weekend. Want to know how it went? Ask me at the next social.

First timers treated gently!

UN·U·SU·AL·I·A
URBAN MERMAIDS

Drag for All Persuasions/Collectibles & Retro
sequins..feathers..rhinestones..beads..leather..fur..vinyl..
day and evening wear..lingerie..jewelry..accessories..wigs

1807 Divisadero Street at Bush

San Francisco, CA 94115

Appointments available 415/775-7774



Out On The Town with Darcy

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY by Darcy Leopard

"Hey Darcy, how do you like THIS dress."

I was out shopping with my friends Tianna and Serena, and Tianna was holding up a gorgeous, black, evening dress. It featured satin lapels and long, transparent sleeves, was just short of knee-length, and fastened at the side with three, sparkling buttons to pleat gracefully across the hips. We found this dress at a classy, consignment shop on upper Polk Street, which Serena had turned us on to during a guided tour of some of her favorite spots. The dress instantly captured my attention, and when I noticed it was my size, I tried it on. It fit perfect. Little did I know at the time how perfect of an event I would debut it at.

Sometime later, I was at home trying on the dress with a new, brunette wig, and I found myself fantasizing of attending my company's upcoming Christmas party en femme. My fantasy eventually became a firm commitment, as I realized that the party could be the perfect opportunity I had been waiting for to come out in the open at work regarding my transgendered status. I really enjoy the people I work with at the public relations company I work for, and what better way to celebrate the holidays with them than to celebrate in the femme persona I have developed and had such happy times in since moving to San Francisco.

I decided to approach our office manager Cindy, who was helping organize the event, in the context of having a question about the Christmas Party. I then showed her a particularly good picture of my clubbing buddy Bree and I out on the town, and told her I was thinking of attending the party like this. She liked the picture, and thought the idea could be a lot of fun. She ran the idea by one of our senior account executives, named Matt, and showed him the picture too. She returned shortly thereafter and informed me I had been given the go-ahead. I was elated!

The party was called the Black and Silver Ball, and it was held on the Santa Rosa Ferry in dock at Pier 3. I was a bit nervous, but feeling good as I carefully stepped down the steep, metallic plank in my stiletto heels to the entrance of the party on the lower level of the boat. I was wondering if people would recognize me, as hardly anyone had seen the picture.

"Hi, Darcy!"

It was my boss, Margie. I said hello to her, and she introduced me to her date John. Then Matt appeared.

"Hi, Darcy!"

I sure was relieved that people were using my femme name!

It turned out that I was quite early, and the place was practically empty. I secured a drink from the bar, and began visiting with people. I noticed to my dismay that my legs were shaking a bit. Granted I was a bit nervous, but not enough to be shaking! Then I remembered that we were on a boat, which of course was subtly yet definitely rocking!

More people started to arrive, all beautifully dressed, and each person I talked to greeted me as Darcy. Evidently the word had spread well! I noticed nobody brought up the subject of my altered appearance directly. They each just treated me like I was who I presented myself to be. This was great, but eventually curiosity got the best of me. I was talking to someone named Bernetha, and I asked her what she thought when she heard I was going to show up en femme. She told me that she wasn't shocked at all, and went on to bring up how so many of us in San Francisco express ourselves in our own, special way. She related this to her own passion, gospel singing, which she shares with another employee of the company named Pam.

I moved about and connected with more people as the cocktail hour cruised on, and ended up having a particularly special conversation with one of our account executives, named Dave. He shared with me how immediately accepting the president of the company was when he came out as being gay. Then he told me something that was probably the most special thing that anyone had said to me that night.


"I just wanted to tell you, Darcy, how happy everyone here has told me they feel about the fact that you felt comfortable enough with us to share this part of you," he said. This statement just by itself made my entire evening.

After cocktails we seated ourselves for dinner in gatherings of about eight at conversation-friendly, round tables. I was happily surprised when the president of the company chose to sit next to me, full of smiles and perfectly in theme in her dazzling black dress with silver sparkles. We ended up talking about makeup, with her quizzing me on my step-by-step method for eye-make-up. As dinner came to a close, we were all treated to hearing Bernetha and Pam sing "Silent Night" gospel-style. The beauty and inspiration in their voices was stunning!

After dinner Margie and John invited me out on the dance floor, so I happily joined them. My dancing felt wonderfully fluid, probably because the euphoria of this special evening was really sinking in. After I left the dance floor, I made good on my earlier promise to let Matt try out my pumps. It turned out he had the same shoe size as me, and so he happily took them for a spin around the room!

Later on I made a point of finding Cindy, because I wanted to get a picture taken with the person who had helped me arrange my special appearance from the beginning. This led to all kinds of photo taking, as people got out their cameras and started getting into various groups for pictures. Then lots of hugs were exchanged, and people gathered their coats to leave.

As I walked out the door into the calm, crisp air of the evening, I felt really good about opening myself up to the people I work with, and seeing all the smiles on their faces. I guess sharing Darcy with them was "Good PR"!



CARLA'S
Serving the Cross Gender
Community's needs with sensitive
help and understanding.

Fem Fashions Nails
Wigs & Falls Lingerie
Shoes Cosmetics
Private Consulting Available

Salon & Boutique
(408) 298-6900
195 Stockton Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126
www@carlas.com

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD BABES

by Nicole Tiffany Cook

Cotillion time is once again upon us and you know what that means. Yes, you guessed it, we need volunteers to help get the food cooked and served to the people before the show. If you would like to volunteer please give me (Nicole) or Debbie a call at (707) [REDACTED] and let us know.

Here is some of the information on the event. We will arrive and start setting up the kitchen area at 12:00 noon on the day of the event (Saturday, Feb. 6th). We expect to have everything back in the truck and ready to drive away at 12:00 midnight. We already have some volunteers who plan to go the distance, and we could always use more. We would like to have enough volunteers to run shifts. This would allow all the people to get some time in the Cotillion. There are 4 phases of the food service operation. 1) Setup of kitchen and food service area 12:00 noon to 3:00pm, 2) Cooking 3:00pm to 7:00pm, 3) Serving Food 6:00pm to 8:00pm, and 4) Clean-up 8:00pm to 10:00pm. If you would like to volunteer for all or part of the effort please let us know.

ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

TGSF will be wrapping up its fiscal year at the end of April 1999, so now is the time to begin considering volunteering your time and talents as an Officer of ExCom. Candidacy announcements should begin with our February issue, with elections being held at the April End of Month Social. Now is the time to come forward! For more information, call Leslie Bailey at 510 [REDACTED]

REBECCA AUGE, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychologist
License PSY 6644

Individual and
Relationship Therapy

Gender Issues

Life Transitions

Psychological/Skills
Assessment

3637 Grand Avenue, Suite C
Oakland, California 94610

510-835-9820

E-mail: [REDACTED]@aol.com



You Want It? We'll Find It!

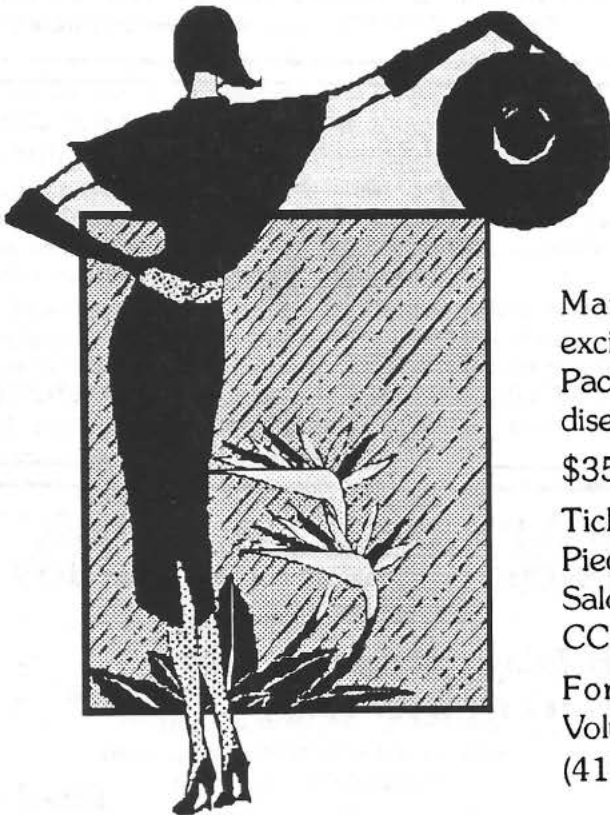
510-623-1337

47952 Warm Springs Blvd.
Fremont, CA 94539

- Turquoise and Silver Jewelry
- Vintage Clothing
- Costumes and Retro
- Leather, Spandex and Vinyl
- Personalized Service
- Evening Appointments Available
- Wardrobe Coordination

Let us help you be all
the things you dream!

COTILLION '99



FEB. 6, 1999

San Francisco Design Center Galleria

Mark the date on your calendar and build the excitement with your friends as TGSF sails to the South Pacific and the Galleria is transformed into a tropical paradise! Tickets priced at:

\$35 Premium, \$30 Regular and \$40 at the Door.

Tickets available in SF: Marlina's, Kimo's, Romantasy, Piedmont Boutique & Foxy Lady Boutique; in SJ: Carla's Salon & Boutique; North: Continental Wig, D. Giles; in CC: JR's, D. Freeman.

For Ticket Outlet information, Contestants and Volunteers, please contact Leslie (510/[REDACTED]) or Lulu (415/[REDACTED])



Choices...

by Jane Bolig

(Part VII - The last in the continuing series)

SIX MONTH COUNTDOWN

Let's assume that you've been saving money for several years now, getting electrolysis, seeing a therapist, researching surgeons and doing good things for your body and soul. You're crossdressing regularly, though lately, you don't just feel sad when you have to take off the makeup, you're angry. Even as you're getting ready for an entire weekend living as a woman, all you can think about is Sunday evening, and having to go back to being "him" again. You don't hate your penis. You hate your life. It isn't a life; it's two half-lives that don't add up, more like 1/2 X 1/2, which equals 1/4.

Suddenly, you know you must start the clock on living full time. You inform your therapist, and she agrees; in fact, she's seen this coming for months. You've saved money; you're well along in electrolysis; you've researched plastic surgeons; your family and at least a few of your friends know you've been thinking about this. Now you need not just a plan, but a timetable.

Preparing a timetable is pretty simple:

- Set a target date for your change, with a range of 2 weeks to a month leeway.
- List the things you need to take care of in that time, such as starting hormones; finishing electrolysis; plastic facial surgery; informing family and friends; informing your company and fellow workers; changing ID.
- Give each task a target date in order of time importance.

View each task as a step into a new world. After you take it, stop for awhile, see how it feels. If it's right, go ahead. If not, stop, or go backwards. This is your life, and it's all right not to carry through with something just because you said you would do it. On the other hand, try not to quit out of fear or temporary convenience, only when proceeding further would not be right for you.

The most challenging part of this process, to me, was coming out to my family and at work. Working with my therapist, I felt that it was best to tell my former wife first, then my children (all of whom were grown), starting with the ones who probably would be the most receptive. I tried to arrange meetings with each child, giving him or her a letter to read afterward. Two of my children took the news rather well; one was so off-handedly accepting that I doubted he really was; and one was very upset, and in fact is as, or more upset one year later.

As for transitioning on the job, Anne Vitale, a Bay Area therapist, has an article on her web site (<http://www.avitale.com>) that lays out a very thoughtful, insightful approach.

She says that we start by making the choice whether to stay where we are, or look for a new job, unencumbered by our past. "If the transitioning individual tries to move to a new position in a new sex, they will be faced with having to provide a significant work history and several important personal references. There are other concerns as well..." They are significant, and should give pause to anybody thinking about just cutting out and starting a completely new life.

Transitioning where you are, though it has drawbacks, at least gives you the opportunity to hone your skills as a woman until such time as you can more comfortably change jobs.

She says that "Civil Service jobs are among the easiest to retain, but they do require comprehensive documentation from the

therapist and all physicians involved." Even jobs requiring a security clearance are easier to retain than formerly. She proposes four rules:

1. Do your homework. Prepare a report with the particulars of your transition as it will apply to work, "stating the date you will present as a member of the opposite sex..." Request a meeting with co-workers to address their concerns. A cover letter, marked "Personal and Confidential," should accompany your report, recounting the steps that led you to your decision. "Reassure your employer that you are handling all the legal matters..." Finally, "include a conservative photograph of yourself dressed in a manner appropriate for your business setting."

2. Make your disclosure to your Human Relations Manager first! "It is important that those who have the most say over your continued employment are the ones responsible for telling others."

3. Don't be dogmatic. "If you are asked to use a neutral bathroom on the next floor...do so...The point here is to be low key. Correct people politely when they use your old name and the wrong pronouns." Try to work out problems with civility, face-to-face with the other person before asking management for resolution.

4. Follow through. If you say you're going to start your Real Life Test on a specific date, do it on that day.

Thank you.

WAVE ELECTROLOGY Permanent Hair Removal



Local Anesthetic
Available in a
Clinical Environment

Guy, Thu-Minh & Marilyn
1570 The Alameda, Suite 215
San Jose, CA 95126

(408) 292-1558
Email: wave1@flash.net
www.flash.net/~wave1

Seahorse Medical Clinic Joy Diane Shaffer, MD



1570 THE ALAMEDA, SUITE 215 • SAN JOSE, CA 95126
(408) 292-1078

KIM HRACA, M.A. MFCC PSYCHOTHERAPY • CONSULTATION

*Helping you find the path
that's right for you.*

MFC #27252

Berkeley
(510) 601-1859

HIV REPORT

(From Transgender Community Forum on AOL.)

In a report titled "HIV Prevention and Health Service Needs of the Transgender Community in San Francisco," by Kristen Clements, MPH, Kerrily Kitano, PhkD, Willy Wilkinson, and Rani Marx, PhD MPH, Transgender individuals are at high risk for acquiring HIV, according to the report from a study conducted from June 24 to August 8, 1996, in San Francisco.

According to the report, a small study of transgender sex workers in Atlanta found that 68% tested positive for HIV, 81% had contracted syphilis, and 80% had contracted hepatitis B. The prevalence of HIV infection was much higher than among non-transgender sex workers in the same neighborhoods. Another study found that 15% of all transgender individuals seeking hormone therapy at a San Francisco public health clinic tested HIV positive. According to the report, earlier qualitative studies cited in the report "identify psychosocial factors, such as low socioeconomic status, social isolation, and low self esteem, that are probably associated with risk taking behaviors."

The 1996 study found that "economic necessity, as a result of severe employment and housing discrimination, results in a reliance on sex work to secure food, shelter, and money for many MTF individuals." The study findings also supported previous research that identified a cyclic pattern to sex work and drug use, and that this pattern is difficult to break. Once in this pattern, the high rates of drug use and unsafe sexual practices with multiple sexual partners puts this population at increased risk for HIV infection.

In addition, the report found that transmen and transwomen who do not engage in sex work also are at increased risk for acquiring HIV. According to the report, injection and non-injection drug use is "very common," and many transpeople "engage in unprotected sex because it makes them feel sexually validated [sic] and increases their self-esteem."

Correspondence and requests for materials relative to the study and the report should be sent to:

Kristen Clements, MPH, Department of Public Health, AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite #500, San Francisco CA 94102; email: kristen_clements@dph.sf.ca.us

Ms. Clements notes that the paper described here will be published in a special issue on HIV in an electronic journal called The International Journal on Transgenderism (<http://www.symposium.com/ijt>) in the next few months, or people can contact her at the email address given above.

In addition, the researchers of the above study recently have completed a "quantitative study of HIV infection and risk behaviors with 523 transgendered persons in San Francisco (both MTF and FTM)." While a paper has not yet been published, TCF News readers may obtain copies of the results that have been released by contacting Ms. Clements at the address above.

WILLIAM A. HENKIN, PH.D. P S Y C H O T H E R A P Y

PHONE: (415) 923-1150

alternate sex & gender concerns
SM/BD/DS coming out TV/TG/TS/SO
anxiety depression self-esteem
inner child & other alternate personas
intimacy relationships

MFCC LICENSE No. MFC 22960 • BOARD CERTIFIED SEX THERAPIST
FELLOW, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF CLINICAL SEXOLOGISTS • HBGIDA

ANALYSIS: TYRA HUNTER WRONGFUL DEATH TRIAL

by Clare Howell (clare@gpac.org)

[Washington, D.C.: 13 Dec 98] Transgender woman Tyra Hunter died on 7 Aug 95 at D.C. General Hospital after having been in an auto accident. On Friday 11 Dec 98, a D.C. jury awarded \$2.8 million in damages to Tyra's mother who had brought a wrongful death & survival action against the District of Columbia, the supervising Emergency Room physician, and an Emergency Medical Technician. Local transgender attorney Dana Priesing attended each session of the trial. This is her summary and analysis of the evidence underlying the verdict.

Tyra was knocked out by the crash, but by the time the firemen arrived, she was conscious but dazed, and developing airway trouble from teeth knocked into her mouth. Tyra looked female at first glance, but in their initial injury assessment, a fireman discovered Tyra's male genitals, uttered the epithets ("This ain't no bitch. It's a nigger. He's got a dick and balls."), and ceased treating her. They failed to clear her airway for some period of time while they laughed at her as the crowd yelled at them to get to work. Other emergency personnel on scene approached some time later, after treating the other injured passenger. They found Tyra still lying on the grass, gagging and combative, apparently trying to escape the taunting firemen. Supervisor Roulhac then arrived and ordered Tyra's airway cleared.

Tyra reached the ER at 4:10 p.m. She was received as a combative transgendered "John Doe" with breasts and male genitalia, makeup and female clothes. Mysteriously, she was given

Continued on Page 14

GOOD VIBRATIONS SEEKS T-INPUT!

by Rica Ashby Fredrickson

(Editor's Note: I pulled this off the web and since they're local, thought to publish it here.)

We at **Good Vibrations** are seeking to update and embellish on our existing Trans video and book selection. While we are most interested in videos, films on video, books, and toys that specifically deal with trans people and sex (porns are great) we're also interested in the sexual politics of being trans, fiction, and sex education. We are looking for both FTM and MTF imagery and writing. You can email me directly at: [redacted]@netaxs.com.

Need I say no flames please. Please forward this post to other lists as you see fit. I want trans imagery and writing to be available to those who may need it and still not know it's there.

Registered Intern No.
IMF2594

Phone: (408) 448-9809



Cynthia Young, M.A.

Counseling for Individuals, Couples and Families

1939 The Alameda
San Jose, CA 95126

Supervised by Adrian Medina, M.A.
L.M.F.C.C. License No. MFC 30726

A deposition by attending physician Joseph Bastian states that while Ms. Hunter lay dying in the ER, the EMTs continued ridiculing her in a nearby visiting area. They became so disruptive that the hospital staff reported them to the police.

The jury attributed Ms. Hunter's death in part to the EMTs' refusal to administer critical first-response aid and in part to the malpractice of Dr. Bastian. According to expert testimony, Ms. Hunter would have had a 71-88% chance of survival with prompt, competent attention.

The trial was riddled with unlikely testimony and missing evidence: EMT Adrian Williams testified he assumed Ms. Hunter was a man as he approached her and rendered aid, failing to notice that she had breasts, makeup, women's clothing, a woman's hairstyle, and white nail polish. One subpoenaed DC General employee disappeared to Africa until late December. Important patient records were physically altered. Blood gas results and X-ray films were all lost.

Ms. Hunter's treatment has so incensed the American transgender population that activists have discussed it prominently when lobbying the US Congress for hate crimes protection. Tyra's story is surprisingly commonplace and speaks to the fears of most transsexuals, who sometimes feel pressured to undergo expensive sexual reassignment surgery and to alter their legal documents specifically to avoid such nightmares.

It is disappointing that criminal action was not taken and that the offending EMTs were neither disciplined nor reprimanded, despite widespread complaint from Washington citizens. Still, the victory today is a milestone. Today a jury ruled that a transgendered person's life is worth protecting. Today the transgendered population became a bit more human in the eyes of the public.

In the words of transgender activist Jessica Xavier, "I think they came to see Tyra as an ordinary human being, just trying to make her life work, when it was taken from her by the proven negligence of city health care professionals whose duty it was to treat her. This is a victory for transpeople everywhere."

Dr. Fox is a transsexual woman, neurobiologist, and Communications Director for the transgender/bisexual/lesbian/gay education and advocacy organization, It's Time, Ohio!

CONTACT: Sarah D. Fox, Ph.D. / Communications Director, It's Time, Ohio! / P.O. Box 21310 / Columbus, OH 43221 / 614-470-4245 / quill@gender.org

Narcan, which plaintiff's expert witness Dr. Baker termed a counter-narcotic. With an elevated pulse and below normal blood pressure, it was obvious that she was in hypovolemic shock (HVS). The blood was not coming from her head or limbs. ER personnel X-rayed her chest 20 minutes after she arrived. Those X-rays have disappeared. The contemporaneous notes said 'patchy haziness left lung field,' 'heart pushed right.' A peritoneal lavage suggested no blood in the abdomen. In view of the HVS and lack of blood elsewhere, Tyra's chest obviously needed further investigation. Yet from 4:45, for the next half hour, the ER personnel did substantially nothing. Blood had been ordered. It wasn't given. Lactated Ringers continued to drip, but they didn't open the tap to speed it up as her fluid volume fell. Somebody drew a little blood at 5:10 for a blood gas test, but these results also disappeared.

Tyra's pulse and blood pressure slowly fell, and she suffocated from lack of oxygen in her blood. Dr. Baker testified that the sensation would have been "sheer terror." A muscle relaxant paralyzed her, and an amnesia drug would have prevented her remembering (had she survived), but it wouldn't have prevented her from experiencing that terror, as she lay there for over half an hour without treatment. She died at 5:20 p.m. Only then did the ER staff insert a chest tube, releasing at least 1500 ccs of blood, as well as air, that had built up in her chest. They administered CPR (badly enough to mash her spleen), then opened her chest and performed heart massage.

The administration of the Narcan supports the inference that a stereotype (namely that Tyra was an anonymous, drug using, TG street person) affected the treatment she received. The ER staff, as evidenced by their actions, did not consider her life worth saving; the post-death CPR and heart massage were merely perfunctory, CYA measures, or a practice opportunity. To the jury's credit, they looked beyond the stereotype, discovered the human being, and recognized the injustice done to her.

For prior releases, check the GenderPAC website at: <http://www.gpac.org>

(c) 1998 InYourFace. GenderPAC's news-only service for gender activism.

1998 Catalog
The Mystery of Corsets

Lush Photography
Luscious Models
11 Corset Houses
48 glossy pages
\$20. US applicable to corset purchase

Submit this ad for a 10% Discount on any corset!

Custom Corsets & Specialty Hosiery for the transgendered physique

Over 400 gentlemen & gentleladies fitted

Private Fitting Appointments

Telephone Consultation

ROMANTASY BOUTIQUE
2191 Market St.
SAN FRANCISCO
CA 94114 USA
415 487.9909
fx 415 487.9929
e-mail: corsets@romantasy.com
website: www.romantasy.com

Photo: Jeanette Vontier / elegant images model: darcy corset: BR creations

ROMANTASY
EXQUISITE CORSETRY