

Vol# 38 Issue # 10
October 1999

Imagine a world where you had to be alone in your crossdressing. I would bet you can remember those days very vividly. Confusion, fear, frustration and guilt trips reigned with no one to turn to for help. Then one day, in whatever way you found out about Tri-Ess, you jumped with excitement that you now knew you were not the only man that enjoyed dressing as a woman. You eventually gained enough of courage to step into the Chi-Chapter meeting room where you...

- delighted in seeing many faces and forms of other men dressed like women.
- were welcomed warmly.
- poured out your heart at the Newcomer's meeting.
- felt at ease after being very nervous about opening that door for the first time.
- received a round of applause as you announced your name to the whole group for the first time.
- met the person you talked to anonymously on the hot-line.
- had your hair transformed to Cinderella's by Rachel or Velma.
- received compliments on how nice you looked.
- heard an interesting guest speaker, a panel discussion with wives or significant others, enjoyed entertainment, learned about makeup or fashion and so on.
- got some needed sleep during the business meeting.
- got a list of trans-friendly shops.
- learned about the wide spectrum of the engendered species.
- talked to others at length.
- volunteered to help with some activity.
- consumed enough snacks to up your size a bit.
- spent a few dollars to join this unique group.
- left with a phone number of a new friend you just made.
- departed with a hug.
- decided to come again next month.

Or perhaps you didn't experience any of this but were left alone, since no one was kind enough to talk to you. Tragic.

So where are you now? Have we seen you at a meeting lately? If not, why not? Would you care to tell us why you are a no-show? We really need to know so that we can do something that will help serve your needs. Our membership list and our meeting attendance has dropped significantly over the past year. This tells us that either we are not fulfilling your needs, you have found other outlets for your dressing or there is some other reason your beautiful femme expression has not been seen by us in a while. What does Chi-Chapter need to do to attract you to our meetings? How about a response on this question? You can write me on the net at mandy@mcs.net, or you can talk to any officer at the meeting, and in fact I'd like to discuss this openly for a few minutes at the October meeting.

How about making a resolution now to come to the October meeting? Let's pack the place! Wear a Halloween costume or just come costumed in your favorite outfit...but...BE THERE!

Here's a parody on a card you may have drawn while playing Monopoly on a meeting night instead of joining us: Go to Closet! Go directly to Closet! Do not pass Go! Do not collect the benefits of being with other men and women who make this group heaven on earth!



**Don't miss the October meeting:
October 16 th
8 p.m.**

**Costume Contest
Karaoke
Pumpkin Decorating Contest
Pot Luck Dinner
Officer Nominations**

Abby says there will be prizes



In November, Abby is planning a skit and a panel discussion on **PASSING**. She is looking for two volunteers who would play a husband and wife. The husband needs to be en-drab for the performance. (Now that will be a tall order to fill.). She would also like volunteers to appear on the panel. Members who go out regularly and who would like to share their expertise with those that haven't yet. We are also having great food, so please come out and enjoy the Holiday.



STUFF and THINGS
"You can never have enough 'STUFF'"
Denise, 1999

Events

Looks like the Great Lakes area community has a full sheet of events for October and November. Check out the calendar on page . I am also announcing a new ONLINE calendar featuring events of interest to you all. This online site was brought to you by CGS, GGG and Chi Chapter.

Snacks

Christine has taken over the food service at the meetings and I am indebted to her for her help. Speaking of food. The October meeting is featuring a pot luck dinner what can be ethnic in nature if you so desire. Cook up a favorite dish and bring it along to share. If you don't cook, I am sure the neighborhood grocery store has many pre cooked items. Please contact Rachael, at [REDACTED] to let her know what you are bringing.

Next Month

In October we have a full slate of things to do at the meeting. Amongst that is nomination for the Chapter Board. Please review the following job description. If you find something you would like to do, please let us know at the meeting . Remember, you can self nominate yourself if no one is aware of your wishes.

Chi Chapter Officer Duties

PRESIDENT

1. Supervise and manage the affairs of the chapter.
2. Serve as representative within the community and at national Tri-Ess board functions.
3. Preside and maintain order at all regular and board meetings as well as official chapter activities.
4. Supervise, direct and assist officers in the performance of their duties.
5. Serve as ex-official member of all committees.
6. Make an annual report to the membership.

VICE-PRESIDENT - Membership Development

1. Supervise membership recruitment, orientation, activation and retention activities.
2. Maintain the Chapter "Hot" line and direct messages and queries to appropriate channels.
3. Maintain a log of all calls into the chapter with particular emphasis on potential threats.
4. She shall be responsible to respond to interested parties with appropriate literature by mail.
5. She shall be responsible to make a report at the monthly board meeting.
6. Develop program of outreach
7. Make an annual report to the membership in the monthly newsletter

VICE-PRESIDENT - Programming

1. Shall be responsible for securing and/or developing suitable guest speakers or programs for the chapter meetings.
2. Shall be responsible for developing special activities outside the regular monthly meetings.
3. Shall be responsible to oversee committee heads for refreshments, food and special events.
4. Insure advertisement of all events and programs is made to the editor of the newsletter.
5. Make an annual report to the membership in the monthly newsletter.



December 18, 1999
Puttin' On The Ritz

The
Chi Chapter
Christmas Dinner/Dance
Ramada O'Hare
Rosemont

Featuring
The Pulsation Band
Seven member, multi ethnic, all woman band.

\$45.00 per person
Payment received after 12/11/99:
\$50.00 per person

Mail to:
Chi-Chapter
PO Box 40
Wood Dale IL 60191-0040
or call: 708-383-1677

For those of you who wish to make
early **tower room** reservations.
Call the Ramada at (847) 827-5131
Mention Tri-Ess
See Page 7 for Coupon

SECRETARY

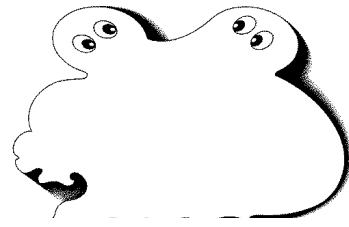
1. Record minutes of the board of directors.
2. Maintain a master draft of the Constitution and By-Laws. Incorporate into the master document all amendments so that said master draft shall be a complete text of the constitution and by-laws as amended.
3. She shall hold backup copies of all membership records, rosters, etc.
4. Keep a record of all outgoing correspondence.
5. Maintain the records of the chapter.
6. Maintain or designate a trustee to handle the chapter library.
7. Develop and maintain chapter publications.

TREASURER

1. Administering all membership, attendance, and any other fees.
2. Overseeing the collection of contributions and fees.
3. Shall be responsible for maintaining rosters, membership rolls and member information. She will coordinate with the national Tri-Ess membership director regarding national contributions and membership status. Further, she is to handle and keep confidential all mailing information of the membership.
4. Copies of all chapter correspondence, membership rolls, mailing lists and rosters are to be given to the secretary, with updates at least once a month.
5. Preparing an annual budget.
6. Maintaining a bookkeeping system.
7. Shall make and present a financial report at all scheduled board meetings.
8. Shall make and present a detailed financial report to the Board at the January meeting.
9. Approve disbursement of funds.

Couples

Group



P.A.L.S.

RELECTIONS FROM PALS AND COUPLES


Well, I am sorry I missed the September PALS meeting. But I am **really glad** I didn't miss the couples outing on the 25th. Those of you who attended know what I'm talking about.

A group of nine from our couples group went to Ann Sathers restaurant for dinner then took a walk to the Ivanhoe theatre to see "**Late Night Catechism**". Dinner was great; however, most of us were so full we **needed** to walk to the theatre. Ann Sathers has great food and actually gives you too much to eat for a very reasonable price. Some of us had Swedish combination platters while others had spinach stuffed orange roughly. Not to mention they had six different desserts to choose from which was included in the price of the meal. Can't beat that treat!

The play at the Ivanhoe theatre was fantastically funny and brought back some memories from the past for some of us Catholics. We did have some non-Catholics and some recovering Catholics in our group but we all enjoyed the show just the same. The scene on stage was a classroom setting complete with desk, chalkboard and a nun who insisted on being called Sister. We, the audience, were the adult late night catechism class. Sister often posed catechism like questions to the class waiting for some brave soul to raise their hand and answer. Of course the ground rules of addressing Sister and appropriate demeanor for responding to the questions were set down immediately.

If you should be so fortunate as to answer the questions correctly, Sister would reward you with a token such as a glow in the dark rosary. However, if your answer left something to be desired she also had a surprise for you.

At first the experience brought back some old memories of my days in Catholic school. But as the evening went on and Sister got more into her character, a much more vivid memory came to me. I saw **SISTER MARY THEODORE**, the kindergarten terrorist waving her ruler around again. Only one thing was prevailing in my mind. **REVENGE!** After a 15-minute recess break, Sister asked if anyone in the class had any questions they would like to ask her. Maybe she was thinking she surprised when a lady seated in the row under the habit she wore! She was taken Circle of Silence that Sister had so asked some equally invasive questions and opportunity had arrived. Throwing caution question. "My brother wanted to know if reaction was a slow burn. First, the look in clenching grip around the ruler. Now she to the front of the room. Grabbed her this time it was knee high. Yes, you returned to teaching the class her point of reached for the piece of chalk on the board



we would ask questions relating to catechism. **Well**, was behind me stood up and asked if Sister actually had hair up to the blackboard and told to put her nose into the generously drew on the board. Then two other people Sister's response was about the same. Now I felt my to the wind, I raised my hand and stood to ask my nuns had hair on their chests underneath the habit?" The her eyes, then the steam from the top of the habit, then she was showing her true colors. She swiftly commanded me chalk and drew a circle of silence on the blackboard. Only guessed it, she had me on my knees again! As she view, all thoughts of consequence left my mind and I in front of me. I began drawing my impression of **SISTER MARY THEODORE** in her habit with horns. All the while thinking she looked just like the nickname the kindergarten class gave her. **BUFFALO!** Well, little did I know that she was strategically inching closer to me with, you guessed it, the ruler in her hot little hand. **WHACK!** I felt it sting my backside! Did she frighten me? **NO WAY!** As she turned her back to the blackboard again, I felt my hand reach for the chalk and begin drawing. This time it was thick curly hair in the chest region. Oh Boy! If my brother could only see me now! Then suddenly I felt the fists of the two boxing nun puppets pummeling my head as I heard her say. "This way there can be no law suits." Well, she may think she has won this one, but I'll be back!

I'm hoping our couples group can go out again sometime and enjoy a fun filled evening. Those who have weak bladders while laughing, please come prepared.

The next PALS meeting will be on October 16th at 6:30pm directly before the Tri-Ess general meeting.

The next couples meeting will be on October 23rd, see Linda or Shelley for meeting place and details.

Continued on Page 5

I-Mac or PC? (I want to be an I-mac!)

By Kiki

I have a wonderful computer. It has a 233MH Pentium II, a huge hard drive, 32 meg of ram and all the other bells and whistles than any one could ask for. It works wonderfully but lately when I get on the Internet it's been acting up. I don't get any messages that say you are out of memory or any thing like that, but I get a screen that says such-and-such error has occurred and click Auto-Fix to continue. From then on it get slow as can be and then locks up. The only way out it to reboot!

Figuring that I had a virus, I took my McAfee Virus Scan and ran that. No viruses. Next I ran the disk scan and all the diagnostic programs that Windows 98 has available and I still had problems. I finally went out and bought a Norton Diagnostic Program, installed it, ran it and that didn't do a damn thing either.

Finally in desperation I called a fellow girl friend, Denise, and told her my problems. She had heard of the problem and said she had a very special new program which might tell me what the problem was. It's called the Harry Benjamin Diagnostic Program For PC's. I told her I never heard of it and the only Harry Benjamin I ever heard of was in a different business. She insisted however, and loaned me her program.

I installed it, ran it and awaited its diagnosis. The computer moaned and groaned for several minutes, then several charts appeared where little colored lines slowly inched along a long path. Once all the lines got to where they were going, the screen went blank. "Ye gods!", I thought, "My computer has lost it's mind!" After several moments, a little screen appeared announcing that there was a problem, that the computer was about to be rebooted, and after rebooting the analysis would be made.

I waited for what seemed an age for the analysis, thankful that I had finally found a program that would solve my problem. Suddenly the screen came alive again with a little white box in the center that said, "This Personal Computer has a Computer Identity Problem. Click here.

I clicked as instructed and a new white box appeared.

It is called Computer Dysphoria.
It wants to be i-Mac.
It can be cured by buying a colorful computer case with lots of curves.
There is no other solution, and it could be worse.

So I went out and bought a beautiful i-Mac computer case that was shocking pink with lots of curves,
Now when I want to get on the Internet, I have to

change the case the PC is in and put it into the I-Mac case. It's gorgeous now on the Internet and a bunch of other things but there are an awful lot of things it cannot do that the PC could do.

It's a real pain to change everything back and forth but I can practically see it smiling and grinning from corner to corner when it's in its I Mac case, so I guess I'll live with it. Besides, my computer does not want to operate full time as a Mac but only be a Mac at certain times.

I understand there are situations where the problem is much more serious when the PC feels it was made with the computer chip and hard drive of a Mac but is in the case of a PC. In extreme cases like that, the PC needs CRS, Computer Replacement System which is very difficult and expensive.

I suggest for all those computers that have computer dysphoria, that only the case be changed occasionally because of the network problems with a complete change.

Bye.

9-99



Chi Chapter
Tri-Ess

P.O.Box 40
Wood Dale, IL 60191-0040

Officers

President: Denise Peters

VP/Program: Abby Adams

VP/Outreach: Shelley Hartt

Secretary: Amanda Richards

Treasurer: Sara Fenwick

Committees

Newcomers: Amanda Richards

Outreach: Dee Dee Bolden

P.A.L.S and Couples: Linda

Hospitality: Christine, Barbara & Barbara

Library: Debbie B.

Chi Chapter is a not-for-profit social and educational support group of Tri-Ess members and their spouses, partners and friends. Meetings are normally held on the third Saturday of each month.

Chi Chapter Telephone Helpline:

(708) 383-1677

E-Mail: Chitriess@aol.com

Home Page:

**[HTTP://users.aol.com/chitriess/triess/
chimain.htm](http://users.aol.com/chitriess/triess/chimain.htm)**

Articles are welcome in all formats. Via E-mail or Snail mail.. Please note that snail mail articles must be on PC disk, or scannable (Typed, not handwritten or hand printed).

OCTOBER REFLECTIONS by Linda

SONG OF ONE WHO GOES ON

What I have left behind

Has not left me
Those I have failed
Have not failed me,
And those I have not loved
Will love me
Even in my worst.

What I have not seen
Or failed to see
I leave as gift.

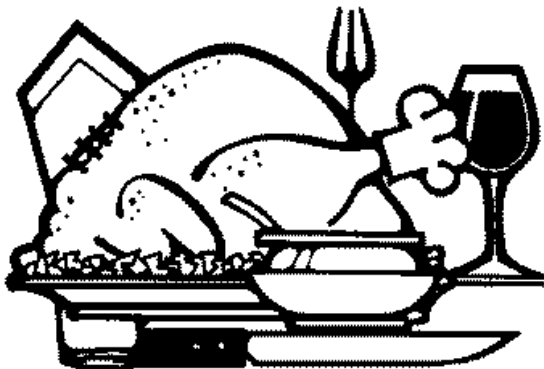
The lands I have not walked
Will offer their paths as I sleep.
This earth I have not loved
Will hold me
Even as I am laid beneath it.

To everything that is
I give everything I am not.

To the life through which
I have walked blindfold,
I give it the sight of my weakness.

To life I give thanks for this:
One strength through great failure
With marvelous opportunity for all. –David Whyte

NEXT MONTH



Absolutely Picture Perfect, Inc.

**Transgendered Photographers
for the
Transgendered Community**

Portraits, Transgendered ID Cards

Christine Adams (630) 397-6975

FALL
HARVEST '99



November 11 - 13

Fall Harvest 99

MAGGIE's 10th annual Fall Harvest comes to Milwaukee in 1999. Here you'll find support, information and friends in a welcoming atmosphere. Professionals, vendors and leaders from the whole spectrum of the transgender community will be on hand for three days of learning, networking and fun.

**Fall Harvest 99
PO Box 44211
Milwaukee WI 53214
Voicemail: (414) 297-9328
Www.netwurx.net/~fallharv99**

E-mail: fallharvest99@usa.net

H

A

P

P

E

N

I

N

G

S

Great Lakes Council of Gender Groups

Activities Calendar

OCTOBER 1999 - NOVEMBER 1999

October

Sat 10/9 7:30 pm
Tue 10/12 8:30 pm
10/15-17

Sat 10/16 8:00 pm
Fri 10/22 7:30 pm
Fri 10/22 6:00 pm
Sat 10/23 7:00 pm
Tue 10/26 8:00pm

GGG Meeting, Milwaukee
CGS Business Meeting
Douglas Dunes weekend, Saugatuck, Michigan
Chi chapter, Elmhurst Halloween 8 p.m.
Skyscrapers Halloween Party—Golden Flame
2nd Annual Rainbow Cotillion, Oak Park
Chi Chapter Couples Group On The Town.
CGS Social, Temptations

November

Tue 11/9 8:30 pm
11/10-11/14
11/11-11/14

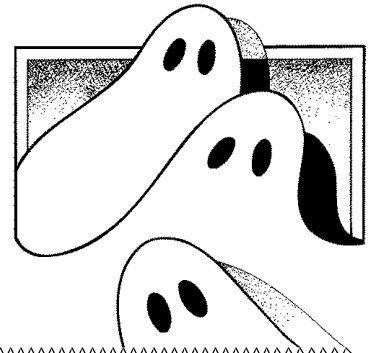
Sat 11/20 8:00 pm
Future;
Dec 18

CGS Business Meeting
Holiday En-Femme, Houston, Texas
Fall Harvest, Milwaukee, 414-297-9328
Chi Chapter Thanksgiving Dinner

Puttin on the Ritz, Ramada O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont

November 2001—

Chi Chapter is proud to host the first Holiday EnFemme of the new Millennium.
"2001, a Tri-Ess Odyssey".



Great Lakes



COGG

Council of Gender Groups

Check out the new COGG event calendar at:

[Http://users.aol.com/chitriess/triss/calendar.htm](http://users.aol.com/chitriess/triss/calendar.htm)

Sponsored by: CGS, GGG, and Chi Chapter

2nd ANNUAL RAINBOW COTILLION

Friday, October 22 from 6 P.M. to Midnight
at the 19th Century Women's Club of Oak Park
Dining - Dancing - Prizes \$75 per ticket
Sponsored by MCCI Church of Oak Park and
LesBiGay Radio, Call 1-888-WE ARE GAY
or see Rori at Transformations or Lori Fox

Skyscraper Heels Halloween Party

"Austin Powers" The 1960's
Friday, October 22nd, '99 7:30p.m. to 1:00a.m.
Golden Flame "Ruby Room"
6417 W. Higgins in Chicago

Tickets can be purchased at one of three places, Skyscraper Heels, Rachel's Wigs, and Transformation's by Rori. \$10.00 in advance, or \$20.00 at the door.

We're having a Halloween Party w/ a theme, the 1960's. You can wear whatever you like. I'm having a great Drag Show, with Gabriela Govianti, Xviara Cuffey Colby Snow, Regina Upright, and Deja. Of course there will also be, my C.G.S. sister Amy Marie.

So come dance the night away with us, with a great D.J., raffle of course and a cash bar. Hope to see you all there! Luci of Skyscraper Heels

 MARY KAY®

Sally Kupczyk
Independent Beauty Consultant

4553W. 56th Street #110C
Chicago IL 60629
(773) 735-9906

INDEX

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Amada's Notes | Page 1 |
| Denise's Stuff | Page 2 |
| PALS-Couples | Page 3 |
| I-Mac ?? By Kiki | Page 4 |
| Calendar | Page 6 |

E-Mail - Web Page Address List:

Abigale Adams Abigale_a@hotmail.com
Amanda Lynn mandy@mcs.net
www.mcs.net/mandy.htm
Amy Andrea AmyKath01@aol.com
Ann Nicole Niki383044@aol.com
Athena Athena13@usa.net
Calendar http://users.aol.com/chitriess/triess/calendar.htm
Carole L. Carol2u@geocities.com
Chi Chapter Chitriess@aol.com
Users.aol.com/chitriess/chimain.htm
Christine Adams Cheesemtn@aol.com
Collette ConColette@aol.com
Dawn A. ishamail@ruralamerica.net
Debbie B. Dbender@starnetinc.com
Denise Peters DenisePeters@aol.com
Diana L. Kydiana@aol.com
Donna Martin DJMTris@aol.com
Gloria Wright GeeWright@aol.com
Jane Ellen Fairfax JEFTris@aol.com
Jenee JeneeMe@aol.com
Jeri Hall jmax@pla-net.net
Julie Lang Julieag343@aol.com
Kiki Kikicar@aol.com
Laura S. TGLJS@aol.com
Linda N Lincd99@aol.com
Pamela A. PamelaTV@aol.com (AOL users only)
PamelaCDTV@hotmail.com(All others)
Paula K. Paulatg54@aol.com
Rachel James Racheljame@aol.com
Sara Fenwick@inw.net
TriEss Directory DenisePeters@aol.com

**PLEASE ADD YOUR ADDRESS HERE,
SEND US YOUR E-Mail.....**

Chitriess@aol.com



Dancing, Dining, Entertainment Puttin on the Ritz TICKETS

Also available at Transformations and Rachel's Wigs

TO: Chi-Chapter Tri-Ess
PO Box 40
Wood Dale IL 60191-0040

For more information: call the "helpline" at 708-383-1677
Room reservations available at the Inn 847-827-5131

Enclosed is my paid reservation for _____ person(s), for "Puttin On The Ritz", featuring the Pulsation Band, on Saturday evening, Dec 18th at the Ramada O'Hare in Rosemont. I am enclosing a check or money order payable to Chi/Tri-Ess in the amount of \$ _____

Please print your femme name and last Initial _____

Membership # (If a member) _____

**COST: Payment received by 12/11/99, \$45 per person
At the door: \$50 per person
Please DO NOT MAIL after 12/10/99**

SKYSCRAPER HEELS

Sizes 7 to 15



- Sizes 7-15
- Heels 3" to 7-1/2" high
- Platforms
- Boots
- Corsets (English import)
- Scarves
- Hosiery
- Earrings
- Leather gloves (opera & shoulder length)

2202 W. Belmont
Chicago, IL 60618
773.477.8495
Fax 773.477.8381

Tues. - Sat.
12 noon - 8 p.m.
Sundays
12 noon - 5 p.m.

To Be The Best Woman You Can Be
 Call Ahead For A Custom Fitting

Sally Ann Corset Shop

3462 S. Halsted, Chicago, IL 60608
 (773) 927-0212

Breast Forms E-Mail: HINDAZ@aol.com Bras/Girdles
 Bustiers Waist Nippers
 Hosiery New Web Address All-In-Ones
 Lingerie

<http://www13.interaccess.com/sallyann>

NEW LOCATION

HEADLINERS

A FULL SERVICE SALON

Make overs / Waxing

Nails / Tanning

Hair/Wig Styling

6422 W. Gunnison, Harwood Hts

(708) 867-0344

Just west of Elliotts at Nagle Av.



Professional Make-Overs
 by Appointment

We Carry a Full
 Selection of Wigs

*For the Transgender-
 That Femmine Look
 You've Always Wanted*



Rachel's Wigs and Beauty Salon

1833 W. Irving Park Chicago, IL 60613

(773) 528-6960

We now have Breast Forms
 Hair/Wig Designing - Jewelry - Makeup - Nails

<http://RachelsWigs.FemmeFatale.com>



Make-up * Fashions
 Skin Care * Wigs
 Jewelry
 Accessories
 Breast Forms

Transformations by Rori

For all your personality images

146 N. Oak Park Ave.,
 Oak Park, IL 60301
 708-383-8338

transformations@ameritech.net
www.transformationsbyrori.com

