

# Chi Chapter Tribune

Vol # XXXVI Issue #3  
March 1997



## Elections - Talk - Food

### President's Podium

#### In Passing.....

I would like to thank all of those of you who offered your support and condolences, cards and flowers on the passing of my Mother on February 16. It is great to have a bunch of friends like those in the Chapter.

#### Onward.....

Once again it's election time, so far the slate is running unopposed, Bridget for Treasurer, Christine K. for Secretary, Miranda for VP Programming, Candace for VP Outreach and yours truly for President. I noticed it may be warming up though, Discrimatory membership practices and diseases are allegedly spreading across the face of the chapter. It will be interesting to see how you the membership handle this.

#### By Laws.....

I have enclosed a copy of the new bylaws for each (paid up-Full) voting member. I hope you will review it and prepare any questions you may have so we can discuss them at the March meeting. Bridget has covered the origins of the bylaws so I won't go into it again here.

*(Continued on page 7)*

### FINAL ISSUE

If your mail label has a yellow highlight then your dues have not been paid and this will be your last issue of the Tribune.

### Miranda Writes....

#### March Program: The Great (?) Debates of '97

Our next meeting will feature a discussion of the new by-laws and an opportunity to get to know your officers and candidates a little better before the elections. I had hoped that we would get a lively debate going, but since at present all candidates are running unopposed, the discussion may tend to be rather one sided.

Are there really no potential leaders out there? Come on girls! Where is your spirit, where is your drive, where is your energy? Are you really that satisfied with the way things are that you are willing to just sit back and enjoy the ride? Do you really think that new ideas are not the lifeblood to our organization? Are you really ready to sacrifice your own creativity just so things can keep going on the way they have for the last 20 years?

It is not too late to get on the ballot. We are taking additional nominations before the election. Think about it, and if you would like to run, ask one of your friends to nominate you! You have nothing to lose, and the world to gain! It is a great feeling to know you are making a difference.

*(Continued on page 3)*

MEETING MARCH 22

### Tid Bits by the Treasurer

#### Bridget

Last month your elected board voted to accept the Chi Tri Ess bylaws. Since Chi Chapter has never had any bylaws, this acceptance was way overdue. The board did not want to reinvent the wheel so they started several years ago by getting the bylaws from 15 other Tri Ess chapters. Candace, Deanna, Denise, Gloria and Rori then formulated the Chi Chapter bylaws using the other chapters existing knowledge base. Thus they were able to leverage a vast collection of experience and wisdom. Your current board voted on several modifications to reflect current conditions. These were:

1) To remove the word "heterosexual" from the full member definition. Status Not Approved

Con: Tri Ess is by definition a group of heterosexual cross dressers and removal would be grounds for revoking our national affiliation. In addition, non-heterosexual cross dressers are now admitted as friend members. Chicago also has another diverse group CGS. Anyone who wants a diverse group can join CGS (as some of our members have done). Pro: Anyone who supports heterosexual crossdressing should be allowed full membership.

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## Who Is Miranda Stevens?

Having been in the position of Vice President of Programming for a year now, and having no opposition for re-election this year, I probably do not have to make a statement about my qualifications or record. However, when you elect an officer to serve in Chi Chapter, you elect the whole person. You are not hiring someone to do a job for you. Sure there are responsibilities of the office. But the person also gets a vote on the board, and that vote means that her influence will be felt in areas other than those spelled out in the by-laws. Therefore you need to be comfortable that the person you elect represents your views, and is capable of acting according to her conscience.

I think that you will all agree that the programs over the past year have been exceptional. We had panel discussions (seniors and couples), parties (spring fling, Halloween and Christmas), and outside speakers covering a variety of topics from self-defense and hate crimes to psychology. We also introduced the Chi Coffeehouse Night, which I hope will become an annual event. In case you haven't already caught on, I have attempted to bring you serious and fun programs on alternate months. I would like to continue bringing you this type of program mix. We had some successful outings last year as well, namely to Sidetracks II and to Tony n' Tony's Wedding, and we are planning to do at least two outings this year as well. One is coming up in April!

Those who have observed me in action over the past year know that I am an outspoken human rights activist. I cannot dissociate that part of myself from my activities at Tri-Ess. Over the past year, I documented hate crimes and discrimination against transgendered individuals, including crossdressers, in a report that has attracted attention all over the county. I demonstrated against the American Psychiatric Association for pathologizing us with gender identity disorder. I participated in a memorial vigil for a murdered transsexual woman. I spoke about crimes against transgendered people at the '96 Anti-Violence March. That is who I am.

I believe that anti-discrimination applies to all. I have a very difficult time, as an officer of Chi Chapter, knowing that our own membership policy is discriminatory. It is clearly stated in our mission that the purpose of Chi Chapter is for the support of the heterosexual crossdresser. I strongly believe membership should be open to all who support that mission, and not be limited to heterosexual crossdressers and their spouses or partners. For that reason, I voted against approval of the Chi Chapter by-laws. You should know that if you elect me, I will work to change our policy.

Two and a half years ago, there was no Miranda Stevens. She hadn't been born yet. Of course she had been conceived, she just was having a long gestation period. I think you would agree that 40+ years are a long time waiting to be born. After that long a period, she resolved that her life would be meaningful, every bit as meaningful as that of her parent who nurtured her all those years. This past year, with my involvement in Tri-Ess and the greater transgender community, I have had one of the most meaningful years of my life.

## Membership & Outreach - 1997 Candace D. Mahne

In 1996 there were less telephone calls and less letters received by Chi Chapter. I believe this is attributed to the internet. Most prospective inquirers feel more secure exchanging type written words. It is a "sterile" environment.

Talking on the telephone requires "intimacy". Emotional feelings are expressed with every word. And the prospective, for the most part, is not ready for a close encounters of this kind.

We, in Tri Ess, promote gatherings such as our meetings. It is in this environment friendships are spawned. Fears and intrepations are diminished. For we are friendly and open to the newcomer. We must remember that Chi Chapter depends upon the growth from new people (the former closeted) for our continued existence.

If the internet prevails, the closeted will so remain. And organizations such as ours will slowly die. For those who are more comfortable in their own home typing to faceless others will be satisfied.

Let's face it, it takes courage to call the "hot line". It takes more courage to come to the hotel in which we meet. And if the prospective "newcomer" has a room at the hotel; it takes courage to open "that door", walk down the corridor and open the meeting door. Let us not lose our memories of "our beginnings".

In 1995, there were just short of 600 inquiries from cross-dressers and their families. In 1996, we received just less than 400. In January this year, we received 44 phone messages. Still, valid reasons are given for staying away. Many find Saturday night difficult with family situations.

Presently, the office of Membership and Outreach is composed of: The newcomers discussion group led by Dee Dee, Amanda and Christine. The couples group and P.A.L.S. is led Dawn; who is assisted by many. We plan to instigate a "Seniors Meeting" in the homes the seniors (those over 55 years old). To meet on different "nights, month by month. Tentatively, the first meeting will be in April, after the "seniors" return from Florida.

It is the goal of our office to meet the needs of our members. I believe my record stands for itself.

However, I believe much more "working together" and dialogue is appropriate. Especially in the area of outreach. Those who have spent time and energy cultivating contacts in institutions of higher learning have, "rightly so", a proprietary interest in those contacts so established. I suggest a "meeting of the minds of those Chi Chapter leaders of outreach. Such a meeting will foster "unity of purpose and direction" and

*(Continued on page 4)*



(Continued from page 1) *Bridget*

2) To delete the Associate Membership category. Status Approved  
Con: Current associate members would be financially affected since a full membership costs \$8.50 more per year. Pro: Since it currently costs more to mail them the newsletter than Chi Chapter charges for associate membership, we are losing money on every associate member. In effect, all full members are subsidizing associate members that is unfair to the full members. An alternative might be to offer a newsletter subscription at a rate to cover costs.

3) To add a "conflict of interest section" that does not allow officers of other local transgendered groups to hold elected office in Chi Chapter. Status Approved

Con: none

Pro: Your officers should only be working for you (Chi Chapter) and not any other group.

4) To change the officer nominations and elections from February/March to October/November. This would make the officers term on a calendar schedule with the taking office ceremony in December, first month of duties starting in January. Status Approved

Con: none

Pro: Early in the year Chi Chapter has fewer paid members eligible to vote than later in the calendar year. In addition, since Chi Chapter usually has a December party it is an appropriate time for officer transition. Most other Tri Ess chapters have their officers term concurrent with the calendar year.

We did not put the bylaws to a general vote because:

1) We had the best possible beginning by using the previously written but un-adopted bylaws;

2) Bylaws have to start someplace and you elected us to office in order to perform these types of duties;

3) By beginning with a general vote, the debate might have been long, complex and ultimately futile and frustrating if the bylaws were not accepted. The whole bylaws are much more difficult to agree on since they contain multiple provisions than specific amendments;

4) The new bylaws contain an easy, fair and simple modification process so that unwanted provisions and sections may be changed by proposing specifically worded amendment for general vote.

I think that your current officers are approachable and listens to your ideas and has an open mind. After all these are the first bylaws ever adopted and published by Chi Tri Ess in over 11 years and last year was the first year Chi Tri Ess ever published its complete finances. This is everyone's group officers, members, PALS and any other significant others.

***Bridget***

(Continued from page 1) *Miranda*

## **Thank You XOXOs To Our Couples Panelists**

Last month's program topic was transgendered relationships. Dawn did an outstanding job in assembling the perfect mix of couples, with a wide variety of experiences, to make the panel informative and engrossing. Thank you to our panelists: Joyce and Norma, Linda and Shelley, Kate and Rachel, and Dawn and Candace. Thank you for sharing your lives and stories with us. It gave a lot of us hope that it is possible to include crossdressing in a loving relationship.

## **St. Patricks Day Celebration**

You may have noticed that our March meeting is being held on the 4th Saturday instead of our usual day. That is because CGS is holding their annual St. Patrick's Day dinner on the 3rd Saturday (March 15) and they have asked us to join them in the celebration. The cost of the event is \$20 at the door, which is a real bargain for a dinner/dance with live entertainment. The entertainment includes many of your friends from both Chi Chapter and CGS. So if you are looking for a real fun event for March, you can't miss this one. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter, or call CGS at (708) 863-7714.

## **Future Events**

Our April program is still up in the air. Previously I had asked DeeDee, Amanda, and Christine to repeat their "Lookin' Good Clinic." But unfortunately, one of them is unavailable, and I would rather wait until they can all be there. Why break up a good act? I am working on a couple of exciting leads for the April program, including Dr. Alan Lanning of the College of DuPage, and hopefully will have them finalized by the March meeting.

In May, as announced previously, we are going to try something completely different: The Chi Cabaret! We've already booked the downstairs meeting room for this event (it has a private entrance around back). The room will have a stage, round tables, candlelight, and atmosphere! Start planning your act now! The timing is such that you can use the Cabaret as a rehearsal for the Be All Gong Show.

## **Sidetracks III: Last Call**

We have planned a special joint outing with CGS on April 26 to the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus production of *Sidetracks III: Last Call*. The CGMC completes its award-winning "track trilogy" with more show tune she-nanigans. We have gone to the last two Sidetracks shows, and let me tell you, they are a blast. The Chorus reproduces Sidetracks, the video bar, on the stage, and performs all the Broadway and Hollywood musical

(Continued on page 5)



# Disease!

By Gloria Wright

There is an insidious disease that has the capability of infecting anyone in the transgender community that doesn't take the proper precautions. This disease doesn't really just target our community, but the strain that affects us seems to be more virulent than others and appears almost impossible to cure.

As is true with many diseases, this one has some of its base in our culture. When transgender organizations began to form, many of the founders were infected with this malady, and passed it on to those who came after them.

When I first came on the "TG" scene, almost fifteen years ago, I noticed that many around me seemed to have curious behavior patterns. I wondered if this was just true of Chicago, or if this behavior was also evident in other parts of the country, and the world. Fortunately, my job allowed me to travel. So I went forth hither, thither and yon to Seattle, Portland, Houston, Minneapolis, Japan and many other far flung locales to get a handle on this behavior.

Unfortunately, I found this stuff just about everywhere I went. Just as bad, I noticed that this disease caused all kinds of upheaval and gnashing of teeth wherever it showed itself. Many groups actually went out of existence due to this affliction.

## What was this affliction?

Well, I call it "Queen's Disease." It is an especially contagious ailment that seems to predominately target those in leadership positions, often without their notice. Those who seemingly behaved in a normal way (if you ignore their proclivity for that little crossdressing activity) began to change in predictable ways. What are some of the symptoms of this dreaded malady? There are many, but the most obvious are the following:

They begin to act as though the group belongs to them. One even publicly stated, "This is my group. If you don't like it, you can all quit." They begin to perceive and treat group members as "subject." Sometimes you will actually see them issue edicts, proclaiming such and such from on high. If any of the subjects object, they may be targeted as "trouble makers" and "rabble rousers."

They become bitter when their positions of authority are challenged. They actually come to believe that they are "owed" the positions in perpetuity. "Queens for life," if you will. If continuation as Queen is denied them, they will actually quit the group, often taking steps to hasten the demise of the organization.

The Gateway Gender Alliance, predecessor to CGS, died due to this very behavior. I used to look very hard upon those who took these types of actions, until I took some leadership positions myself.

I have served as Vice President, and President of Chi-Chapter Tri-Ess. I also served as Secretary and President of CGS. One thing I noticed is that NO ONE is immune to this terrible affliction.

We must all be vigilant against this thing that infects

so many of us, because at best, it weakens our organizations. Once people become afraid to voice their opinions, we lose the life blood that brings us growth and innovation. At worst, it can cause our groups to actually go out of existence. The Windy City Chapter of GGA had to form a completely new group with no treasury, no membership roster, and not much else, because of problems related to this disease.

So, as this election season comes upon us, I invite us all to be forever vigilant. This little country we live in was formed to allow all to have a voice in how things are run. And I contend we haven't done such a bad job. I suggest we hold our transgender leaders to the same standards we hold others. They are there to serve us, we who pay dues and membership fees every year, not the other way around.

??



(Continued from page 2) Candace

shared experiences of cultivation of outreach prospects for the future. Our common goal should be participation by those accustomed to public speaking.

Several weeks ago, The Great Lakes Gender Alliance sponsored a seminar and workshop on "outreach". Common goals and philosophy was agreed upon. Specifically the "spectrum" of the gender community should be presented, regardless of the group presenting the

The next "frontier" is continuing the education of the public, especially the care givers: counselor, therapists, pastors and their institutions of education, and the general public.

An outreach seminar will be presented at Be All 1997. JoAnn from Detroit and Brittany from Cleveland have already agreed to partpartate with me. We are awaiting responses from Pittsburgh and Cincinnati.

Commonality of purpose and method of outreach should be the "Commitment of us all. The life of our chapter depends upon unity of purpose and providing our members and guests (newcomers, spouses partners) with tranquil meetings, good programs, and lively sharing of conversation. I thank you all who have helped our chapter in our continued growth and outreach in a tranquil atmoshere.

I ask your continued support and vote for Vice President of membership and Outreach at the March election of officers.

Candace D. Mahne



(Continued from page 3) *Miranda*

hits from the videos. They sing and dance the women's parts too, en femme of course, and do these guys know how to do drag!

The show is at the Athenaeum Theater at Wellington and Southport. Tickets are cheap, only about \$15. (I'll have the exact price at the meeting.) We'll need you to sign up at the March meeting so we get the right number of tickets. And there are plenty of friendly, TG- accepting restaurants in the area for a quick bite before or after the show.

## Be All Convention Needs You!

Don't forget to plan for the Be All You Want To Be Weekend, June 4-8. We still need people to help out at events, registration, and workshops. Call me at (847) 394-9293, and we can discuss how you can help out.

We also need acts for the Friday night Gong Show. This will be a "fun and outrageous" event, with as much silliness (or seriousness) as you can stand. And Chi Chapter members will get a chance to preview the acts at the May meeting. See Amanda Lynn about performing in the show.

*Miranda*



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## Great Lakes Gender Leadership Council Outreach Program

On January 25th the Outreach Training session was held at Transformations. The class led by DeeDee, Eve, Candace, Stephanie Young and Janice Galeckas was designed to help anyone who wished to learn the skills necessary for outreach. This not only includes presentations to Colleges etc, but just face to face exchanges with people we meet everyday.

Outreach is about communicating what it is to be transgendered. Whether it is to a stranger, to your wife and children or a class of students. It is also about reaching those members of the community who are still suffering alone., and the need to tell them they are not crazy or "different", that there are groups like ours willing to help.

There will be an additional session on Saturday, May 17th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. A review session will be held from 1:00 to 2:00pm for those who missed the January session. Afterward, come on over to the Chapter meeting.

The Great Lakes Gender Council consists of CGS, ITI, Chi-Chapter, Toni, GGG and IME.

(By Denise borrowed heavily from Carol Rodgers)

### GENDER SEARCH

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BEALL

BLOUSE

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# ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

## GREAT LAKES GENDER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

### MARCH - APRIL 1997

**Week of March 9-15**

Tues 3/11 8:00 p.m. CGS Meeting, Stardust, 5688 N. Milwaukee (708-863-7714)  
 Sat 3/15 CGS St. Patrick's Day Dinner Party, Stardust, 5688 N. Milwaukee

**Week of March 16-22**

Thurs 3/20 C.A.T.S, 4751 W. Touhy, Suite 203, Lincolnwood (708-266-8626)  
 Sat 3/22 8:00 p.m. Chi Chapter, Program: Election of officers

**Week if March 23-29**

Tues 3/25 8:30 p.m. CGS Social, Temptations, 10235 W Grand, Franklin Park  
 Thurs 3/27 7:00 p.m. TONI meeting, Merrillville, Southlake Center (219-650-2142)  
 Sat 3/29 7:00 p.m. CGS TS Group, 146 N. Oak Park Ave, (call 708-383-8338)  
 Sat 3/29 2pm-Civic Opera House "Sunset Blvd", Reserve seats 773-973-3999 (Les/Bi/Gay Radio) 9am-5pm  
 Ask for CGS group tickets. 1st Bal=\$65, 2nd Bal =\$45

**Week of March 29-April 5**

Tues 4/1 7:00pm Great Lakes Gender Leadership Council (by invitation only)  
 Thurs 4/3 ITI Meeting, Transformations

**Week of April 6-12**

Tues 4/8 8:30pm CGS Meeting, Stardust  
 Sat 4/12 GGG Meeting,

**Week of April 13-19**

Sat 4/19 8:30pm Chi Chapter

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## June 4-8

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(Continued from page 1) *Presidents Podium*

The board met Feb 15 and voted 3-2 to pass the bylaws without ratification. The Bylaws themselves were passed 4-1. I have had several members mention that the membership should have the final vote. This seems to be a sticky point for some. I believe that it took some three years for nine people to assemble a workable draft. Trying to then handle the input of 180+ members would result in the actual voting on each paragraph by the entire membership, a task which would be almost impossible. **Hey, I sent out 190 member questionnaires in December and only got 12 back. does that tell you anything?.**

Anyway, there is a procedure in the bylaws which allows for change and it really is simple, (Art VII Sect 1).

Yikes, I am starting to sound like a lawyer.

## Once and for all

Speaking of publishing, I just want to make one point very clear. A member has charged that it is possible for me as Editor to keep articles, which I don't like or which go against my personal ideas, out of the Tribune and they then would have to resort to other means of publish. First, I have never and will never do this. The only articles which will never appear here are those of questionable taste or which attack someone, or have appeared in a recent issue of the Femme Mirror, or has absolutely nothing to do with Tri-Ess or crossdressing and there is no room to run it. (Unfortunately, Kiki's article on AirBags and Bridget's on corsets met that fate.)

Second, for someone to charge that I might do this is simply ridiculous and what I consider a low blow. This same person has seen fit to imply that the board of directors has railroaded the bylaws through. I take it to heart when someone thinks that way, I can't speak for the other board members but I think they would agree. The work that Miranda does arraigining the programs, the work Bridget does on the books, the work that Candace does on the Hotline and my work on the newsletter are straight out of the heart. We do this not for \$\$ but for the satisfaction we get on having the membership enjoy the group, the meetings and newsletter. We thrive on the newcomer who says "thanks for helping me out", the reader who comments, "I enjoyed your article". There is nothing for any of us to gain by doing what we do, we work for the membership, we were elected by the membership to do the 'job' of managing this organization, not to wander around on our own agendas or quit our 'job' when we don't get our way and leave someone else 'clean' it up. If we are not doing this 'job', right now is the time to change it or give us the support we thrive on. I think we have a great organization, and I think there are many people out there capable of doing this 'job' but frankly I don't blame them if they don't want to put up with the 'politics'.

## Lighter Side.....

New York Mayor, Rudolph Guilini showed up at a fund raiser with Julie Andrews who is currently starring in Victor/Victoria. Seems Your Honor was dressed as Marilyn Monroe, complete with cigar, and took the opportunity to try out his falsetto voice. I suggest he attend Be-All '97 and have Faye, Rori and Velma work him over with some makeover magic.

## ATTENTION ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

As I mentioned last month and Bridget has mentioned in her column, the Associate membership classification has been dropped.

I wanted to make it very clear that we are not taking aim at you specifically and have no desire to lose you as members. We are glad that you care enough for the Chapter to be interested in keeping abreast of the current events.

The reason this change was made is the cost of the newsletter was exceeding the amount of your dues. In other word the Chapter was losing money. We promised the membership that we would control our cost of doing business so to speak.

Your current membership status will remain till 1/1/98 then you may renew as a full member as a Full member or participate in the newsletter subscription program as a subscriber. The actual rates will be formulated and available by summer.

Again, we don't want to lose you, our associate base goes all the way around the world and to us that is very important. If you have any ideas or comments please let me know.

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# Chi Chapter TRIESS

(630) 262-8707

**President:** Denise Peters  
**Vice President, Membership & Outreach:**  
Candace Mahne  
**Vice President Programming:** Miranda Stevens  
**Secretary:** Colleen Conner  
**Asst Secretary:** Samantha Walls  
**Treasurer:** Bridgit Morgan

## MEMBERSHIP:

As Chi Chapter is a closed Tri-Ess chapter, membership in National is not an option. All memberships expire Jan 1 with a 60 day grace period. After which all mailings cease until dues are paid up.

## MEETINGS:

General monthly meetings are open only to contributors, invited first timers and invited guests. The meeting fee of \$10 WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE DOOR.

First timers will be allowed their first meeting free. They are expected to join by their third meeting. Spouses/Partners of members are welcome at no charge.

## MEETING LOCATION:

Same Place as last month

## MEETING DATES:

The March Meeting is March 22  
The April Meeting is April 19  
The May Meeting is May 17  
The Be-All is June 4-8  
The June Meeting is June 21

## TIMES:

4:00pm Room opens for changing  
6:30pm Changing rooms close  
6:30pm Newcomers & P.A.L.S.  
meetings start  
8:30pm Business meeting

## IMPORTANT NOTE:

In an effort to cut costs, the changing rooms are available only from 4pm to 6:30 pm, they will they be used by the Newcomers and PALS groups. Please plan accordingly if you want to change at the meeting location. Between 6:30 and 8pm the ONLY washroom available is in room 120 (newcomers room), please remember this and do not tie it up for more than a few minutes. (No changing)

## February Meeting

### Who Was There?

Present at the February meeting were; Alicia, Miranda, Paula, Kim, Deanna, Naomi & Rachel, Laura, Gloria, Olivia, Kiki, Tammy, Sheila D, Barbara Diane & Barbara, Lenore, Jamie, Michelle, Athena, Lori, Candace & Dawn, Amanda, Christine, Lee, Sandy, Janet, Dee Dee, Norma & Joyce, Karen, Colleen & Verna, Toni C, Vickie, Pamela, Toni M, Vanessa, Rori, Kelly, Debbie, Shelley & Linda, Beth, Rachel & Kate, Kimberly, Laura, Janie, Andrea, Janet, Criss, Jeri, Nichole, Olivia, Bridget & Debbie, Denise, Rori, Velma.

The focus of the meeting was a panel discussion by eight members of the couples group. Linda & Shelly, Dawn & Candace, Kate & Rachel, Joyce & Norma. This was followed by an in-depth discussion of the events at the January meeting.

Once again Joyce, Norma and Karen had a great spread and we all ate heartily.

### Chi Chapter Web Sites

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

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

E-Mail  
[chitriess@aol.com](mailto:chitriess@aol.com)

### MEETING FEES

Meeting Fees of \$10 are expected to be paid by ALL, that includes Members and Vendors.

The only exception are the spouse/partners of members, visitors presenting a program, and the Treasurer who can't leave her table.

## Couples Group

Do to the bad weather in February, the meeting was canceled. The next Couples Group meeting will be April 26th. Full details will be available at the meeting. Information regarding the couples group is NOT given out over the phone. The couples group meetings are NON-CROSSDRESSED and children are not allowed.

## P.A.L.S.

P.A.L.S. (short for Positive Attitudes Living Side by side) is a women's group set up for wives, girlfriends and significant others whose partners are cross-dressers.

P.A.L.S. will meet the evening of the month coinciding with the Tri-Ess meetings. Our meetings will run from 6:30 to 8pm in an adjacent hotel room. When you check in make sure you receive a name tag and an index card. In keeping with confidentiality you will have an opportunity to reveal a concern without disclosing your true identity by writing it on the index cards. The particular needs of each individual will be addressed in a positive manner.

### RAFFLES JACK POTS-ETC

Lately there has been an influx of 'raffles' at our meetings. Please be advised that ALL raffles must be approved by the board. The only raffle currently approved is the P.A.L.S. raffle for SPICE.

### DUES NOTICE

When paying combined (National & Local) dues PLEASE send directly to the chapter.  
It is not practical for National to process a combined check.





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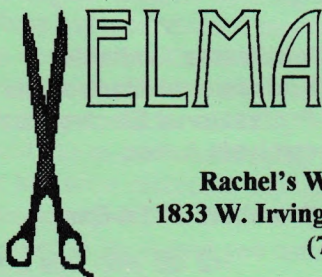
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