



CROSS DRESSERS INTERNATIONAL

CDI National Office P.O. Box 61, Easton, PA 18044 212-213-3352
Serving the Special Needs of Special People



CROSS DRESSERS INTERNATIONAL CDI IS FOR YOU

Cross Dressers International, hereinafter called CDI, was founded by S. Kristine James now director of the group. Kristine acted after many requests and years of planning. Finally, there are week night programs!

CDI is a non-profit, non-sexual organization open to all who cross dress with a full feminine identity regardless of sexual practices or orientation.

CDI sponsors meetings, parties, dinners, shows and serves as a membership organization serving the educational, social, recreational needs of all cross dressers.

For members and friends, CDI provides friendship and a secure, non-threatening environment. A newsletter is published and supplied free to members. Members receive substantial discounts to all special programs and activities and often free admission. Members also receive discounts on services and merchandise. Karen Cioe is our New York Director and S.

November 19, 1992 ALTER IMAGE

We had to make a change to our schedule for Alison Lang and were able to obtain Alter Image to do a makeup session for us.

This should prove to be a very interesting evening. Alter Image is a transformation studio located in Greenwich Village. It is a unique service for those seeking an alternate image. It's clientele is approximately 75% male cross dressers. The other 25% is composed of actors, dancers and musicians.

By developing a new look for the artist, Alter Image enables them to tap a new confidence for the performances and auditions. Alter Image is a working concept created by Janine and Aja who are creative expressionists. They truly enjoy the metamorphisms that occurs within their studio. Artists in their own right, Janine is a designer and Aja an artist-photographer.

Interest in Alter Image reached new highs after Janine and Aja appeared as guests on 9 Broadcast Plaza where they spoke in support of cross dressing and transformed a member of the studio audience.

Shortly thereafter, Phil Donahue sent his crew to the Alter Image studio to film the lasses in action. After the enormous response from that show they were invited back to do a transformation live.

Janine and Aja have appeared on Manhattan Cable and were recently interviewed for a film to be used for study at Iona State College.

Please make your reservation quickly with Karen at 212-213-3352. A sandwich buffet will be in the VIP lounge at Sally's II, 252 W. 43rd St at 7 p.m. Dressing room opens at 6 p.m.

December 17, 1992 FEATURING ALISON LAING

We ended up with a major conflict in Ms. Laing's schedule so we had to make a quick adjustment. Yes, Alison Laing will return to the CDI meeting on December 17, 1992 to help us in voice training. Maybe you are like me, we can pass most of the time...until we open our

mouth. Then the party is over. Alison has developed many ways to train our voice to be more feminine and match our feminine dress and expression.

Many CDI members enjoyed her presentation last year on the feminine attitude and now we will have an opportunity to meet again. Alison is well known as a leader in our national community and currently is serving as chair of the IFGE Congress of Representatives and chair for the 1993 IFGE convention in Philadelphia.

This December 17 meeting will be in the VIP lounge of Sally's II starting at 7 p.m. so don't be late. Call Karen right now for reservations.

IT IS TIME FOR YOUR INVOLVEMENT!

CDI, started by S. Kristine James and Karen Cioe has been around for over three years now.

We feel that it is about time for the over 40 members to take a more active role in the administration of this organization. Therefore we are calling for the formation of a steering committee of five members to assume certain functions required to be performed by any successful organization. The responsibilities will

include meeting planning, speaker solicitation and servicing, public relations and administration.

The steering committee may eventually decide to have officers for our group and any other direction that they may want to seek.

The first meeting on the committee will be on November 19, 1992 at Sally's II at 6:30 p.m. Come early if you want to participate on the committee. Each member will serve for a one year period and then we will consider the future of the organization structure.

IFGE NATIONAL CONVENTION March 16th to 21st, 1993

This highlight of the year for national activities will be held at the Philadelphia Hilton Hotel right in the center of downtown Philadelphia. There are five days of seminars, parties and fun planned for the beginner, experienced or just the curious. Several public programs are being offered including press briefings and educational seminars for the general public.

CALENDAR

Nov 19	Alter Image
Dec 17	Alison Laing

A complete registration program was enclosed with this last issue. This convention is being hosted by the Renaissance Education Association, our sister group in Philadelphia. Alison Lang has been working very hard for a long time to make this a very enjoyable and enriching experience. Merissa Lynn at IFGE and her staff have improved the program to encompass a wide variety of events to broaden your experience and knowledge.

It also will be at this convention that you will have the chance to meet all of the important people in our community. Dr. Sheila Kirk, Dr. Richard Doctor, Virginia Prince and more will be presenters as well as many others. Time will also be spent with the Business of our community. Special programs for spouses, Transsexuals and Female-To-Male will be offered. All work and no play is not allowed. Therefore there are parties planned, a casino night fund raiser and a formal banquet and awards events planned.

So as you can see, there is a lot to be offered. This event needs your support for one or five days.

Please register today and join your friends from CDI and all over the world for this wonderful event. Who knows, maybe we will host this one day.



MURIEL SUGGESTS...

by Muriel Olive

A terrific opaque foundation that does a great job in transforming a bearded shadow into a smooth illusionary transparent women's complexion is Covermark. This product was created by Lydia O'Leary to cover a hideous flaming "port wine stain" mark covering one side of her face from chin to forehead. With the help of a chemist, after many experiments using a variety of ingredients she discovered the wonderful formula for a creamy foundation cream which would completely cover and disguise the disfiguring birth mark so no one could possibly detect it. Little did she realize she also discovered the perfect disguise for a dark grey "beard shadow" that would disfigure a women's face it she were actually a man. Now, thanks to Lydia and her wonderful line of foundation cosmetics "his" skin can pass for "her" skin. It can be set with powder for a soft matte finish and is actually waterproof; does not rub off on clothing and will only come off entirely with makeup remover. So perfect for both fantasy and reality!

THE FOUNDATION

Pick two shades -- one that matches the all over skin color and a lighter shade, perhaps 2 or 3 times lighter depending on the darkness of the "shadow."

Apply the lighter shade around the eye area, over the beard and mustache area and down to the neck - just enough to cover the shadow area. Blend the edges at the line of the skin.

Cover the rest of the face and the lighter areas with the darker shade and blend the two shades together using just enough foundation to cover and look natural. Too heavy an application will look artificial. If one has deep or enlarged pores a little heavier application should be made in that area, working the foundation down into the pores - heavy enough to make the skin smooth looking.

That's it for now. Next issue let's do cream rouge, contouring or shading cream and highlights.



FASHION TIPS FROM TERRI by Terri White

In regards to fashion, we can always use a new outlook to passability in the making of a total female self. As we sisters start our venture out to different events and special social parties, we need to look our best and dress our best, as a model of womanhood today.

To look attractive in the world of fashion simply requires knowledge of which blends of make-up will enhance one's appearance. Lighting is one of the most important aspects in determining one's appearance, whether it be indoor or outdoor light as you apply makeup before leaving home.

The lighting should be positioned around the bathroom or vanity mirrors, similar to those found in stage dressing rooms. Makeup application should be thinner and lighter when outside because of the great visibility in the sunlight. Color makes a big difference in makeup, in regard to how it works and how we are seen in the public eye as a women. I have found blue and green makeup and other soft colors add contrast that is produced by cool lighting. Colors such as peach, bronze and others of this tone work best in candlelight rooms or in low incandescent lighting. This type of lighting has golden overtones. All makeup can be applied more heavily for night time activities to provide a more elegant look. Use a small cosmetic sponge to carefully apply the makeup, gently patting it on without wiping. Wiping on makeup will leave streaks and patches. Finish with a translucent powder lightly applied.

So go out and enjoy yourself girls. Enjoy yourself and be happy with your appearance as a total female in today's world. I will see you next time with more fashion tips. Happy dressing in the name of sisterhood.

SPEAKERS GROUP

The GNYGA is forming a speakers bureau to fulfill the various needs of the New York City educational community and service club groups. This could prove to be a very exciting function when making presentations to groups while dressed. Many of our sister clubs have been doing a great job in outreach, some even coming to Manhattan because we do not have a program as yet.

Talking about what we do, how we do it and when can be a great experience both for the student and for the

precentor. Here is a wonderful opportunity to spread the word about our organizations and have a good time doing it.

Please contact Lynn Walker, MGN, 718-836-6215.

BIG NEWS FOR 1993

Hold the dates of April 23 to 25, 1993. The Greater New York Gender Alliance will be hosting it's first New York extravaganza called **Moonlight in Manhattan**. The highlight of the event will be a dinner dance, **Moonlight in Manhattan** to be held on Saturday April 24, 1993.

The Days Inn on 57th Street will find over 200 crossdressers, TV/TS, wives and friends coming from all over the country for a great weekend in NYC. There will be bus night club tours, hospitality suites, networking, seminars, boutiques and a lot more.

You can sign up just for the Moonlight in Manhattan dinner/dance or come for the whole event. Jim Bridges, famous for his make-up of movie stars will have his boutique available, will do a workshop on make overs and will be available for individual sessions before the dance. Muriel Olive will have Fem Fashions there and also will be available for an analysis session. Mariette Allen will give a program on photography and will be available for pictures during the dinner/dance. There are several other things under consideration including a fund raising raffle with some great prizes including a \$250 gift certificate from Jim Bridges.

S. Kristine James of CDI and Dee Dee Summers from LIFE are CoChair.

Linda Frank from Tri-Ess is the registrar and can be reached after November 1st at 212-765-3561.

The EARLY registration for the whole event will be \$85.00 which includes seminars, hospitality/changing rooms, bus night club tour and Manhattan Lights dinner dance, if you register before March 1, 1993. Special prices are available if you just want to attend the dinner dance, bus night club tour or the workshops. Hotel rooms will cost \$79.00/single or double per night plus taxes. Make up your own party and save with more than one person in the room.

Mark this on your calendar now. We also will need a lot of volunteers so if you are available to help as a big sister, registration, publicity, hostess or any other way, please let us know. There will be a lot more information coming your way as things get underway. Stay tuned.

TO PASS OR NOT TO PASS. Some thoughts by JoAnn Roberts

Reprinted from The Opinion Page, Renaissance News Vol 2, No. 4

I so often hear from TV sisters about how they went out somewhere and "passed." They are so excited that they were able to be out in public and be themselves that I just don't have the heart to tell them the truth. The truth is that very, very few TVs are able to pass. What is happening is that the girls are confusing social tolerance or indifference with being accepted as a female. More

often than not, John Q. and Jane Q. Public are too wrapped up in their own words to notice us as we "pass" by them. If we had done a good job of makeup and our clothing is appropriate for the time and season, they will assume that we are what we appear to be: women. That, however, is not passing as a female. One slip is all it takes to jar the attention of the casual observer into the realization that something is amiss, and that you ain't a miss.

At the risk of creating unnecessary labels, one can postulate a series of stages which, with a great deal of practice, can lead to passing. The first stage is one which I just described, being casually mistaken as a female. The next stage is when your appearance can withstand close scrutiny, say from within two feet of another person. The third stage is more difficult, but obtainable for many, and that is a brief conversation. If you can reach stage three you're doing great and you probably are one of those people who really can "pass". The next obvious stage is to be able to engage in prolonged conversation and not have your listener "read" you. The last and ultimate stage occurs when you are accepted for a female regardless of your mode of dress.

Now think about this. It takes most transsexuals about two years of living full time as a woman to develop their new personas. They spend 24 hours a day working on their movements, actions, speech patterns, etc. so that they will be able to live and work within our society and be accepted as a female. Isn't it a little presumptuous to assume that a TV who gets out in public once or twice a year, or even once or twice a month, is passing? I have had sisters recount to me their exploits in shopping malls or downtown areas and I tell you they would not fool my young niece into thinking they were women.

So what happens? They delude themselves into believing that they can now go anywhere, anytime when crossdressed. And, the next time they get "read", they're crushed.

The goal that both TVs and TSs should be working toward is one of self-confidence and internal validation. I have heard stories about TVs who "look down" upon those who do not appear totally feminine and I have heard stories about TSs who have committed suicide because they could not make the grade as a woman. In both cases these people are overlooking the more important aspect of self worth. Your value as a human being is intrinsic and not in any way related to whether or not you can pass.

Being the best you can be is a laudable goal in any endeavor, but "passing" should not be the end of all your existence. The question to ask is, "Can I pass for a Human Being?" When the answer is "YES", then be proud of yourself!

CROSSDRESSING FOR THE MASSES

by Cynthia Phillips

reprinted from Cross-Talk

How many of you have experienced the joys of being a "tomboy"?

When my husband was confronted by his mother about his crossdressing, she asked "Don't you want to grow up to be a man?" He answered (since he loved his mother very much), "No, I want to be just like you." His mother was quite upset about this. When, as little girls, we expressed a desire to be like our fathers when we grew up, we were patted on the head and our fathers were extremely pleased. Think about this; We in this country, have a double standard for both female and male. The things that are available to you are not to your mate, and vice versa. Think about the restrictions put on males in our society, and not on females. We may feel like a "second-class" citizen from time to time, because we are women, but remember, we can express ourselves as a "male" if we so desires. He has no such option.

Think of it this way. You have a lot in common with your man, as you are both crossdressers. All of us ladies have, at one time or another, worn jeans and men's shirts, and now boxer shorts are in vogue. We're still the same person, no matter what we have on. Our men are no different. He's still the same man in your life.

Haven't you ever had a hard day at work, and looked forward to getting home and jumping into a comfortable

pair of jeans and a baggy (usually his) t-shirt? Our men are no different. They are often under a lot of pressure at work, and usually are the major decision-maker at home. They also need to relax, need a release, and this is the softest one I can think of.

You must also remember that while we are able to change our attitudes toward crossdressing, if we so desire, crossdressers do not have that luxury. No one makes a conscious decision to be a crossdresser. Would you choose to lead a life of guilt and fear that your "secret" would be found out?

We women also need to stop using terms such as transvestite, transgenderist, transsexual, etc. These are clinical words which make a crossdresser feel as if he were on display under glass and that his mate thinks of him as a line in a textbook. Try to think of him as a "crossdresser", an innocent term for an innocent activity. So our man likes to dress at times, as we do. Is that really so bad? Aren't we, in this society, always asking men to get in touch with their feelings? When our men want to experience what we, as women, feel about things, it should be taken as a compliment, not an affront or insult.

November 19, 1992

CDI Meeting and Social

Alison Laing Developing your Famine Voice

Sallys, 252 W. 43rd St., 7 p.m.

November 11-15, 1992

Sigma Epsilon Holiday Enfemme, '92, Atlanta, GA

Linda Peacock, P. O. Box 7241

Tallahassee, Fl 32314-7241

December 17, 1992

CDI Christmas Party

Place to be announced.

February 26 - 28, 1993

Texas T Party, Tea for Two in San Antonio, TX.

Texas T Party

P.O. Box 700042

San Antonio, TX 78270

512-545-3668

March 16-21, 1993

IFGE National Convention

Philadelphia Hilton & Towers

IFGE P.O. Box 367

Wayland, MA 01778

March 26 -28, 1993

Night of a Thousand Gowns and coronation of our friend Coco LaChine, Celestial Dragon Empress of New York.

Roosevelt Hotel. Information contact Empress V. Razor Sharp 212-794-8780 or Empress VI Saleen 212-529-4281

April 23-25, 1993

GNYGA Moonlight in Manhattan

Linda Frank

330 W. 45th St, Apt 3E

New York, NY 10036

212-765-3561

For all the information on what is happening in the community, join CDI by completing an application and sending it to CDI, P.O. Box 61, Easton, PA 18044-0061. For information call Karen or Kristine 212-213-3352.