

TGSF Attends ISE Coronation!

The Channel
TGSF TransGender San Francisco (formerly ETVC)



TGSF TransGender San Francisco is a group for all members of the Transgendered Community. Transgender is used as an umbrella term that includes female and male cross dressers, transvestites, drag queens or kings, female or male impersonators, intersexed individuals, pre-operative, post-operative and non-operative transsexuals, masculine females, feminine males, all persons whose perceived gender or anatomical sex may be incongruent with their gender expression, and all persons exhibiting gender characteristics and identities which are perceived to be androgynous.

The Channel

TGSF (TransGender San Francisco, a California 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 2000 - 2001 Officers

(Fiscal Year: May 1 - April 30)

President Nicole Cook
 Vice President Aiyana Eveningstar
 Secretary Debbie Cook
 Treasurer Deborah
 Education Stephanie Ann Blythe / Jennifer Antoinette
 Outreach Telzey Adams / Kalani Makanani
 Social Tianna "Diva" DeVil / Serena Anderson

Membership Report

As of September 15, 2000

Membership 201
 Total Fiscal Year 1999-2000 Membership 279
 New Memberships This Year 23

TGSF (TransGender San Francisco) is a CA 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 Ayme Michelle Kantz
 Advertising Debbie Cook / Ayme Kantz
 Contributing Photographers, this Issue: Telzey Adams and Katie Kearney

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. **Please support our advertisers, and tell them you saw their ad in The Channel!**

WWW.TGSF.ORG
NEW SITE! GET ONLINE!

Hotline & Voice Mail
415-564-3246

FROM THE EDITOR...

I'm Baaaack!...



I cannot begin to describe to you the feeling I got when I crested that rise on I-80, and caught that first glimpse of San Francisco, framed between the two bridges, far off across the shimmer of the Bay. I literally had this rush of goosebumps run up and down my body. I found myself whispering a silent thank you to the Goddess, to my family, to my friends (those that I left behind, and those that awaited my arrival), for my safe and sound return home.

Home. As I write this, I've begun my search for an apartment in the City, so can't say I've got a permanent roof over my head yet, but it doesn't affect the feeling I have that I am back where I belong. And girl, it sure feels good!

The long drive (1,900+ miles), towing close to two tons of trailer and goods, with an eight-lunger Oldsmobile sedan not designed to haul such a load, started out precariously enough. Not three hours out of Janesville, MN the car lost power and began running extremely rough. I was lucky in that this occurred just as I was entering a town called Windom, MN. I found a garage that would take a look at it later that afternoon, but Al, the mechanic, said from the sound of the engine there was a lot of blowback through the carb happenin' and it could mean a bad valve or worse. Geez, just what I needed, right?

So I ended up losing a day's drive chilling out in a Super 8, while Al made his diagnosis. Late that afternoon we hooked up and he told me I was lucky - just a broken rocker arm, and that he could have me back on the road by checkout time the next morning. Right on, Al! I tipped him a twenty when he proved true to his word. But after that little setback, the car ran great and I cruised, coaxed, limped and pushed my beast of burden half way across the country in 5 days and 4 nights. All told, about 44 hours of actual on-the-road driving time. It was long, hot, boring and exhausting, with stops that Tuesday night in Kearny, Nebraska, Wednesday night in Rock Springs, Wyoming, and Thursday night in Reno, Nevada.

Average speed? Perhaps 40mph. There were many hours lost in climbing the grade up the Rockies from Nebraska, and that drive across upper Nevada had a couple of steep summits that found me on the right shoulder, in first gear, pedal to the metal and creeping upwards at 5mph. Those were the times when I could only grip the steering wheel and pray that the car wouldn't stall or stop altogether, because I knew if she did, we would go no further. But darn if that Delta 88 didn't pull that puppy over each and every crest, slowly but surely. I love that car.

Once the cat and I got settled in Reno with only one more hill to climb, I changed into a nice dress and caught a cab to the Silver Legacy Resort. I wanted to treat myself to a nice steak dinner and drop a couple twenties at slots. The fact that the "hill" I faced in the morning was the Sierras did give me some cause for concern, but for the moment I wanted to relax a bit, maybe get lucky and generally unwind after the day's 16-hour drive.

Ended up watching those 160 quarters disappear - oh well...worth a shot. But I made myself walk away and caught a taxi back to the motel, only to discover the cat was no longer in the room! I freaked of course - after all he and I have been through together, this was absolutely a disaster in the making. I discovered that the door didn't shut properly unless you pulled it really hard,

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YOUR CHIEF SERVANT

By Nicole Cook

Well it is once again time to get the planning effort for the Cotillion in high gear. This year we are planning to have 4 days of events planned around the Cotillion effort. I am currently looking for a good hotel to use as the central meeting place and to reserve a block of rooms for

people who will be coming in from out of town. I was trying for the Hyatt Embarcadero because of the distinctively "San Francisco" views from many rooms but price may result in moving the host hotel up Market a bit. Just to give you an idea of what we had in mind, I thought I would give you an outline.

On the Thursday before the Cotillion, February 1st, we will have a reception suite at the host hotel for all the people coming into town to gather and socialize. The reception suite will open around 12:00 noon and feature light snacks and soft drinks. The main focus of the reception Suite is to socialize. Later that evening, starting around 8:00pm we will be having a show at Diva's that will feature a number of our very talented members. The show will last around 2 hours but participants can stay until the bar closes if they like.

The next day, Friday February 2nd, we will be running a tour to the wine country. At about 11am, all the people who have signed up for the wine tasting trip will board air-conditioned transportation (a small or large bus based on the number of people who want to go), and head for 3 to 5 wineries in Napa valley. We will be making advanced preparations for the group to visit up to 5 wineries and to have lunch at one of these stops. We will return to the host hotel in the early evening (6:30ish) to give people a chance to change for dinner. At around 8:30 the we will be taking the group to an area restaurant (right now the plan is to go to Asia SF) for dinner and then on to a club for dancing. The club I have in mind is one that Darcy told me about, it is at the top floor of a building and offers a view of the city.

On the day of the Cotillion, February 3rd, we will offer an early afternoon shopping trip to the San Francisco Shopping Center. The shopping excursion will last from 11am to 3pm and get people back to the hotel in plenty of time to get ready for the big event. The Cotillion will once again be held at the prestigious San Francisco Design Center Galleria.

The four days will end with a brunch in the host hotel. We would like to have all the contestants present at the brunch so the people from out of town have a chance to meet them. In fact, all contestants will be encouraged to attend any of the events that do not conflict with their rehearsal schedule.

As you can see there is a lot planned, so if you see something that you would like to do just let me know. We will need guides for most of the events. We may need some bus drivers, we could use some social coordinators for the reception suite and if someone would like to plan and execute the brunch we would certainly not object. What we would like to do is make an event which really takes advantage of the exceptional things San Francisco has to offer to the TG community.

From the Editor...

Continued from Page 2

which apparently I didn't do when I left earlier, so he got out. I frantically scoured the motel complex calling his name until I finally did hear a plaintive meow in response. So we played the "Marco Pollo" game until I located him and we were happily reunited. The odd thing about it all was that I had to use the key to get into the room, so someone must've come by and pulled the door shut. They could've just as easily gone into my room and cleaned my clock (all my luggage, etc. was out), but everything was left undisturbed. So I figured the \$40 bucks I lost at slots was a cheap enough way to escape Reno reasonably unscathed - clothing, cosmetics and cat intact.

Ultimately, we finally made it to San Francisco with no major mishaps and that's all I care about. But now I know why I haven't driven on Interstate-80 (from that far East) in over 25 years - it sucks! But in its defense, the drive from Reno into California over the Donner Pass is very picturesque and made the bleak upper deserts of Nevada, Utah and Wyoming worth enduring.

So I landed in Alameda on Friday the 15th, and by Monday the 18th I had a firm offer to return to work for my old company, Wells Fargo. <Greek Chorus offers resounding "Huzzah!" here>. And the managers I've been talking to have remarked that everyone they've spoken with about me has had nothing but wonderful things to say. And that has made me feel really, really good - to be so well remembered and thought of so fondly makes me glow all over. It validates my belief that returning to the Bay Area was the right thing to do. It's clickin' for me now just as I thought it would - I had nothing but good vibes about getting a job right away and sure enough, I've definitely hit the ground running. So far, so good.

Everyone here, of course, is blaming me for bringing this tidy little heat wave with me - just in time for Leather Pride Week and Folsom Street Fair, I see! Good thing I packed my leathers where I could get at them! But I am anxious to make contacts with the leather community soon, and can't really do so until I've got my own apartment (anyone with a lead please email me!), but I intend to take advantage of the special events being held for us kinky folk. Not only did I time my arrival with gorgeous weather (IMHO), I also get opportunities to network right away and have fun with those of my own ilk.

But I find myself curious that there are very few events scheduled, planned for or sponsored by women of leather that made it into the available Folsom Street printed material. There were some online links through the Exiles' website (www.theExiles.org/main.htm) that had information on a Meet & Greet they were sponsoring at the Women's Building (great bunch of women, by the way), but other than that there's not much going on for gals during Leather Pride Week in San Francisco. And I find that somewhat disturbing, if not disappointing. Oh sure, TrannyShack is making a stage appearance at the Fair, but the whole week-long event is predominantly geared toward the gay male of our species, and seems to ignore the ever-growing lesbian, bi, trans and hetero populations that help make up the whole leather community.

Looks like I got my work cut out for me here. Another challenge perhaps? ::laughs:: Well I'm certainly one to challenge myself. And I'm sure any of you who follow this column would attest to it. But change is the name of the game my friends. And if you're not changing, you're not living. Call it crazy, call it courageous, or call it what you will, my 16-month Mid-Western Sojourn has taught me at least that much. Be well, and be happy - I sure the hell am. It's good to be back.

New Members since September Issue:

Richelle and Nancy Campbell

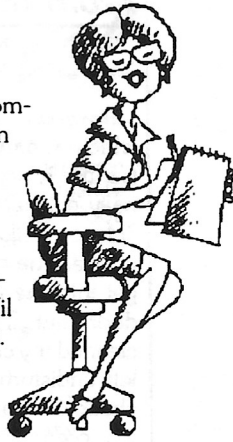
Mahrie Luuz

Katherine Kramer

Welcome!

EXCOM MEETING MINUTES

The monthly meeting of TGGSF's Executive Committee was held in Berkeley at the Pacific Center on August 27, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. In attendance were President Nicole Cook, Vice President Aiyana Eveningstar, Treasurer Deborah, Outreach Co-Chair Kalani Makalani, Outreach Co-Chair Telzey Adams, and Education Co-Chair Stephanie Ann Blythe. Secretary Debbie Cook, Social Co-Chair Tianna DeVil and Social Co-Chair Serena Anderson were absent. Education Co-Chair Jennifer Antoinette arrived at the end of the Special Topics portion of the meeting. Roxanne, and Rachael Janelle were our guests. The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m.



President Nicole indicated that she had received the application for becoming an affiliate of the Renaissance organization, and reviewed the requirements with the ExCom. The requirements were that 3 members of TGGSF also be members of Renaissance and there was a \$25 per year fee. Nicole mentioned that she was already a member and Telzey was also a member so we would like to find another member from the group. Nicole also mentioned that Renaissance provides affiliates with web hosting service or a link to your current web site.

Nicole also identified two topics that she wanted to bring up for the Special Topics portion of the meeting. They were 1) Working with other area TG groups on the Cotillion and 2) Endorsing or Supporting Joan Roughgarden for office.

Nicole also proposed that TGGSF adopt a event repayment policy similar to SGA's for reimbursing Miss TGGSF for the events she attends. The current Miss TGGSF has been attending several additional events, this gives the group additional exposure and allows us to develop ties with other parts of the community. Just attending these events is a non-trivial commitment of time and frequently money on the part of the group's representative (Nicole made reference to her role as Miss SGA in attending events). Right now Miss TGGSF only gets reimbursed for a few required events. The SGA method for handling this situation (which Nicole is proposing that we use) The "Miss" is reimbursed for up to \$500 worth of events as long as the funds are available. There was general agreement from the members present, however, No vote was taken because a quorum had not yet arrived (5 ExCom members were present). A vote is expected at the next ExCom on this issue.

Vice President: Aiyana went over the results of the first 2001 Cotillion planning meeting. We have selected the date, February 3rd 2001. Several of the initial volunteer positions have been filled but we can always use more help. As usual the Vice President Aiyana Eveningstar will be the producer for the Cotillion. Rachael Janelle will be handling advertising, Leslie and Lulu will be looking for Sponsors and Jamie Faye will be the Show Producer. Stephanie Ann has agreed to help organize the judging (we hope to have Cheryl working on this too), and with coordinating the volunteers for the day of the event and Dale has agreed to help with the music. Nicole and Debbie will be producing the four days of events surrounding the Cotillion and have also agreed to set up and maintain the 2001 Cotillion web page and produce the initial advertising material. The next Cotillion Planning meeting will be September 14th, 7:30pm at Aiyana's house. Jamie is currently trying to lock down the Director so we can identify the MC and the theme of the show, no word from her yet on this effort.

Rachael Janelle mentioned that Jo-Ann was very helpful in getting her started on the advertising effort. She plans to have advertising packets ready by the next ExCom meeting for people to hand out to potential advertisers. She is also looking for more material that will give her advertiser ideas. Nicole and Telzey agreed to get her a 2000 Pride Parade program for this purpose.

Secretary: In Debbie's absence, Nicole covered these areas. Nicole indicated that she forgot the correspondence and would mail any critical items to the appropriate person. Other items would be distributed at the next meeting.

Last month's meeting minutes were approved. (We have a Quorum now)

Editor: Due to the early meeting the newsletter had not gone out yet. No change from the budget was expected. Nicole did have the proof copy with her & indicated the newsletter would go out with 1 or 2 inserts. One insert would be for the Dr. Preecha event. Nicole could not remember what the other insert was at the meeting (it was to solicit help from members in sponsoring rooms for the Cotillion, to allow us to reserve more rooms without additional risk to the TGGSF bank account).

Publicist: No new report

Treasurer: Deborah shows a balance on TGGSF's account as \$6,784.58. So far the TGGSF computer has not been set up and Debbie has provided balance information based on the bank statements and known expenses for the newsletter. Deborah will be relocating to the Sacramento area, effective September 11th. She may not be available for events Monday through Thursday. Debbie will handle payments during these days. The ExCom did not see any problems with the relocation of the Treasurer. Nicole mentioned that due to Nicole & Debbie's frequent trips to Sacramento she did not think this would be a problem. Deborah planned to set up the TGGSF computer in the new location.

Social Chair: In Tianna's absence, Nicole covered these topics. The August End of Month will be the show at Diva's. Nicole showed the TGGSF Ad in the Sacramento Ducal Ball program that talked about the show. She pointed out the potential for more people attending since we had two court performers in the show. The September End of Month will be the joint education make-over seminar (RSVP) and Photo theme social. The Idea being to take pictures and to have people bring pictures to bridge the 1993-1998 gap in the organizations photo albums. The Halloween party is scheduled for October 21st at Diva's. We will be using all 4 floors (party open to everyone), with the costume contest happening on the 3rd floor. Diva's will be taking care of all the details including, insuring we do not lose money on the event, decorations and clean-up. We will also have a few members performing in the DIVA's show on the first floor at 11:30pm. Only snack food will be provided at the event. We will organize a dinner gathering at Quetzals (a block away, under the parking structure) at 7pm before the event. Nicole indicated that she was trying to move the event to the 28th because of the conflict with DVG's dinner, Carla's party and the Exotic Erotic ball, but this is unlikely due to venue availability.

Outreach Chair 1: Kalani discussed several speaking opportunities in September at the College of Notre Dame and one in Hayward. Roxanne and Deborah expressed an interest in some of these events. Nicole and Debbie would be doing a speaking engagement at Humboldt State in Arcata on October 19th. Kalani indicated she would be doing a new mailing to the school contacts next month. Kalani also indicated she was shooting for an October 14th or 15th date for a speaker orientation class at the Blue Muse.

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Outreach Chair 2: Telzey asked Nicole about the calls Nicole & Debbie were getting on the hotline during their shift. There were some discussion about a few calls.

Education Chair 1: Stephanie Ann indicated that we are all set for the Seminar with Dr Preecha at the Women's center. We will be paying \$70/hour for 4 hours and there was a \$125 refundable security deposit. Telzey mentioned that someone phoned in on the hotline to ask if we are going to tape the seminar. They would not be able to make it but would like to see it on tape. Stephanie Ann indicated that she could provide a camera to tape the event. Stephanie Ann indicated that the flyers for the event have been distributed to several of the locations that the TG community visits. Nicole indicated that the flyer will go out in the September Newsletter. Stephanie Ann indicated that we could use some folding chairs or large projection screens, otherwise we will rent them. We are expecting around 100 participants and the Women's center has about 70 chairs in the main room. Jamie will be providing technical support for the event.

Stephanie Ann indicated that the Post op panel event may happen in October but she needs to coordinate with Kalani since she was looking at October 14th as a potential date. She was thinking of using a smaller room at the Women's center for this event.

Education Chair 2: Jennifer had not arrived yet.

Adjournment: At 5:18 p.m., Nicole makes a motion to close the meeting, Stephanie Ann seconded the motion, the motion was passed.

Next ExCom Meeting is on Sunday, October 1st, at 3:30 p.m. at the Pacific Center in Berkeley.

Special Topics Meeting: Nicole introduced two topics for discussion in the special topics meeting.

The first topic was to open the Cotillion to production participation by several area groups. Nicole discussed the possibilities of running the Cotillion as a joint effort by several area TG Groups. She has already talked to Dion (President of FTMI) and he was quite positive about the idea. This may result in calling the Cotillion "The San Francisco Transgender Cotillion - Brought to you by.. TGSF, FTMI, DVG etc". Nicole also introduced the idea of calling the "Mr" winner, "Mr. FTMI" if FTMI were willing to play a significant part in the production and support roles for the event. There was some discussion on making sure we did not have too many contestants and that we could do the show without running long. Some ideas to control the debutante parade were discussed. Nicole also introduced the idea of having DVG, RGA, SGA and other area groups to sponsor some of the events on the Thursday, Friday and Sunday around the Cotillion.

The second topic Nicole introduced was supporting Joan Roughgarden in her campaign for public office. Nicole felt it was important that TGSF as the largest TG group in the area find some way to support Joan, a TG candidate for public office in San Francisco. It seems logical to me that we should provide some sort of support or endorsement to her candidacy. It would certainly benefit the TG community to have a successful TG candidate in office (anywhere). In the discussion some limitations were brought up concerning our 501c status and making an endorsement. The members of the ExCom and guests came up with a few innovative ideas, including sending an information pamphlet on Joan and her views on the issues out in our newsletters, arranging to get individual endorsements from TGSF members, getting an interview from Joan for the newsletter which could be run with an advertisement. Nicole agreed to try and get an interview from Joan.

EXPANDED HOTLINE HOURS!

Hotline hours have been expanded to include 10pm to 2am. While this may seem a bit late for some of you, it is a great time for those of you that wait until the kids or other family members are asleep to address your transgendered correspondence. Telzey still answers the phone live from 7pm to 10pm. And now Debbie and Nicole answer the phone live from 10pm to 2am.

Coming in November!

HOLIDAY EN-FEMME LA 2000

Hi Girls,

This year Alpha chapter of Tri-Ess will present Holiday En-Femme in Los Angeles **November 9-12**. The event will be at the Sportman's Lodge in Studio City (Los Angeles) and is open to the "T" community. Please visit our website: <http://geocities.com/Alphatriess/> and follow the links to Holiday En-Femme 2000.

We would greatly appreciate having the event mentioned in any organization news letters and on any websites. Also, we will gladly exchange links with other organizations.

Last year four of us from Alpha attended the TGSF event in San Francisco, and we had a great time. We look forward to going again, and would love to return the favor by showing you what the City of the Angels has to offer.

Kathy St. John,
Alpha Web Mistress and Member at Large

ARE YOU A VETERAN?

Are you aware that there is a gender discussion group every Monday afternoon at the Ft. Miley Veteran's Center in San Francisco? The group is open to all TS, TV, and TG's who are qualified veterans. If you are interested and wish further information, contact Lorraine Hall at: Quiche4520@aol.com or call 510-523-9952.

Significant Other Support - East Bay

Questions or concerns about your partner's crossdressing? Please call Julie at (925) 937-8432, e-mail Julie39@home.com or write to: Julie Freeman, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR TRANS FOLKS 510-527-5662 ▼ valigl@aol.com

THERAPY GROUP - STARTING SEPT. 2000

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Scant-free • Convenient East Bay location
Co-facilitators: VALERIE IGL, licensed Marriage and Family Therapist,
and REID VANDERBURGH, MA in Counseling Psychology student and female-to-male transman.

Sunday / October 1st / 4:00pm

EXCOM MEETING

The monthly meeting of the ExCom will be held at the **Pacific Center**. The Cotillion is just around the corner (can you believe it?) and volunteers will still be needed for that upcoming event. If you are interested, please contact your Secretary or come to a meeting!

The Pacific Center is located at 2712 Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley. If you need more information, please feel free to contact your Secretary Debbie Cook at (707) 824-0860 or by email at moodydeb@yahoo.com.

Wednesday / October 11th

TRANSBAY SOCIAL / 7:00PM

Don't not forget that Wednesday is the day that the TransBay group meets at **Quetzals**. Stop by before the TGSF mid-month for a bite to eat before heading out. Quetzals is located at 1234 Polk, between Sutter and Bush (right down the street from Kimo's). Park in the large parking structure and walk around the corner to where the coffee shop is located. This event starts at 7:00 pm.

TGSF MID-MONTH SOCIAL / 8:00PM

We had a great time when we were here last time, so due to request we shall return to **Jezebels Joint**. You remember the Bar for Doms' and Daddies, Strippers and Trannies! By the way, I see more and more of our adventurous sisters at these venues all the time! Way to go girls!! This venue was a good one. A wonderful haven here in San Francisco! I love the gorgeous bartenders!!! Jezebels Joint is located at 510 Larkin St. at Turk Come say hello to your 'Resident Diva' girlfriend! I'll see ya there!!

Saturday / October 14th / 2:00pm

TGSF EDUCATION SEMINAR - POST OP TS WOMEN SPEAK ABOUT SRS

A panel of post operative male-to- female transsexuals will speak on their experiences with sex reassignment surgery. The panelists have been selected to represent the range of the most prominent surgeons performing SRS today. If you are contemplating SRS or just curious, here is an opportunity to ask questions and get the answers and insights to guide your own decisions.

At the **Women's Building**, Audre Lord Room, 3543 18th Street, San Francisco (between Valencia and Guerrero) - 2 blocks from BART, MUNI 25 & 33 stops nearby. Donation: \$3 TGSF Members, \$5 Non-members. For more information call the TGSF Hotline & Voice Mail (24 hrs) 415-564-3246

Saturday / October 21st / 8:00pm

TGSF HALLOWEEN PARTY!

Again something different! Our Annual Halloween Party will be held at **Diva's** this time. While we won't have the usual bountiful banquet provided in the past by Debbie and Nicole (I know you'll miss that! Remember the meatballs? Yum!), we will have a bit of finger food. Diva's is providing the decorations and donating some money for the food! There will be dancing and of course drinks at the three bars. We will also have a costume contest and perhaps some entertainment TBA. Diva's located at 1081 Post, between Polk & Larkin. Doors Open 8:00 p.m. Admission \$6.00



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Calendar of Events – October 2000

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. 510-548-8283

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. Mail: 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 162907, Sacramento, CA 95816 or call 916-364-7212 for meeting locations. Website: www.sga-tg.org; email: www.sga.com.

Diablo Valley Girls (DVG)

Meets 1st and 3rd Monday of every month. 8:00pm at Club 1220, 1220 Pine Street 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, 2118 Willow Pass Road, Suite 500 in Concord. For more information call 925-937-8432.

FTM

A support group for Female-to-Male CDs and TSs; 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

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 707-544-1540.

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 GLBT 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.

Santa Cruz Trans (SCT)

Bi-weekly social/support group for gender-gifted persons serving Santa Cruz and Central Coast. 1st and 3rd Thursdays every month at The Diversity Center, 1328 Commerce Lane, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; (831) 425-5422; 7:00pm

The Mid-Peninsula Transgender Group (MPTG)

A support group for the LGBT community that meets at 7:30 pm on the first Wednesday of each month at the Women's Health Boutique, 1115 South B Street, San Mateo - (408) 619-2908.

Central City Hospitality House (CCHH)

288 Turk Street, SF. 415-749-2167. Facilitated TG discussion group every Monday, 5:00pm - 6:30pm.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 4:00 PM TGSF: ExCom Meeting	2 5:00 PM CCHH 8:00 PM DVG	3	4 7:30 PM MPTG	5 7:00 PM DVG (RCC) 7:00 PM SCT	6 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	7
8	9 5:00 PM CCHH	10	11 7:00 PM TransBay 8:00 PM TGSF: MidMonth Social	12	13 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap	14 2:00 PM TGSF: Education Seminar 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA
15	16 5:00 PM CCHH 8:00 PM DVG	17	18	19 7:00 PM DVG (RCC) 7:00 PM SCT	20 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	21 8:00 PM TGSF: Halloween Party!
22	23 5:00 PM CCHH	24	25	26 7:00 PM TGSF: MidMonth Social	27 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap	28 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA
29	30 5:00 PM CCHH	31				

TGSF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Year runs from May 1st – April 30th; \$30 Single Membership; \$40 Family.

Please Print / Check all that apply:

New Member | Renewal Member #: _____ | with Family Member | What Year did you first join TGSF? _____

Preferred Name: _____ Birthdate (Month/Day): _____ / _____

Mailing Name: _____

Family Member's Name: _____ Birthdate (Month/Day): _____ / _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Optional: Telephone: (_____) _____ What Name should we ask for if we need to call you? _____

Your Email address: _____ Website URL: _____

Would you like a link from the TGSF Website to your URL? Yes No

May we use photos of you taken at TGSF events in our newsletter or website? Yes No

Send Check or Money Order to: TGSF, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486, or hand to any Board Member at a TGSF Social.

Our Readers Respond

SPACE MAKES THE PLACE- DIVAS

by Francis Vavra

I am so ecstatic about the new space TGSF has been using for the recent Big Shoe and monthly socials I just had to write about it!

My partner Roxanna and I dropped out of circulation nearly two years ago, partly because we found socials at the Blue Muse restaurant terribly inadequate, due to its small space and the fact that after ordering dinner, those few who filled all the tables remained there, with a resulting lack of social interaction. Shrinking membership has been a real problem for the group in recent years. One great way to revitalize it, bringing back former and introducing new members is a space for socials where there is physical room to move around, meet newcomers, see old friends, and participate in a variety of activities.

"Divas" fits this to a "T!" (in all ways). This club replaced the small, rather seedy Motherlode, always a T.G. friendly place, formerly located down the street. It is still managed by Mark, who is very enthusiastic about having TGSF there. Located at 1081 Post, between Polk & Larkin, where nearby firemen will give you an appreciative smile as you walk by, Divas sports three levels, and is three clubs in one. The ground floor has a bar, small tables and chairs and tiny stage at one end for girls to dance on, similar to the former Motherlode, but much less crowded. The second level is a disco, with another bar, dance floor and D.J., and walls completely covered with mirrors! Yes, mirrors, where you can watch your beautiful self and others whirl and twirl, and if you turn at just the right angle, you will see images of yourself, progressively smaller, to infinity, like a chorus line in a Busby Berkeley musical! It's a T.G. paradise!

*Sacramento Gender Association
Presents:*

The 5th Annual Miss SGA Pageant



*When: Saturday, November 11, 2000
Where: Joseph's Bar and Showroom
1464 Del Paso Blvd.
Sacramento, CA*

Doors Open at 8:00 p.m.

Show Starts at 9:00 p.m.

Singing, Dancing, Live Music. . .

Door Prizes. . .

Price: Members: \$3.00

Non-Members: \$5.00

*Come join Miss SGA 2000, Nicole Cook as she performs
her final farewell and crowns the next Miss SGA 2001 !!*

The top floor is a lounge with couches, comfortable chairs, pool table, widescreen T.V and another small bar. TGSF has had one end of the month social there, plus the Big Shoe, and a smaller show last week. On the social night, there was a bartender on both floors, and a D.J. spinning great music in the disco.

For those who miss the old DVG atmosphere, where there used to be dancing, don't miss these socials! If you want to continue to patronize the Blue Muse, you can eat dinner there first, then drive to Divas, only a few miles away. Parking is a bit difficult, but circling the block a few times usually yields a space. If you just want to socialize, the lounge room or first floor are great for quieter conversations. Then when the mood hits, go up to the second floor, admire yourself in all those mirrors and dance! You can be assured Roxanna and I will be coming back.

It has been wonderful re-connecting with old friends, and making new ones. Seeing Erin and Jamie Faye, Joanne, Brenda, Bree, Darcy, Tianna, Miss Gay, Dale, Bardi, Jennifer, Michelle, Telzy, Lulu, the incomparable Alexis Miranda, Terry of Southern Comfort fame, visiting S.F., and many more (forgive me if I forget names, I never forget a pretty face!) It has been heartwarming these past three socials to see so many people Roxanna and I have known through the years, as well as new girls.

Several told me you missed my column (Night Man), that really means a lot to me. I enjoyed writing it, and am currently working on a book that will be a further expansion of my transgendered adventures and personal thoughts as a female to male crossdresser. This past year, I finally joined the computer age, gotten on-line, moved my e-mail from Yahoo to AOL, web page coming soon. You can write me at: NightFrancis@aol.com. I'd love to hear from you. I hope to see many more old and new friends at Divas, talking and dancing the night away!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR COTILLION

Aiyana Eveningstar is looking for a few good girls (and boys!) to help with coordinating various aspects of running the cotillion event. Especially needed are people who can help with advertising, ticket distribution, and obtaining sponsors. But help in any fashion is greatly appreciated.

Please contact Aiyana at (415) 753-6475 or email ayanastar@earthlink.net and be involved in the event that is the heart of TGSF.

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.

TGSF Donations - Our Friends Who Give as of September 15, 2000

Kalani Makanani	CD-ROM for the TGSF Computer
Dr. Linda Wetherbe	\$10
Mahrie Luuz	\$10
Katherine Kramer	\$10

Bless you and thank you for caring!

Special Events This Month!

Runs through October 7th!

ANGELS: THE ART OF DORIS FISH AND MISS KITTY LITTER-GREEN

Sept. 9th - Oct. 7th 2000 at Glama-Rama, 417 South Van Ness (@15th St.) S.F. CA. Opening Party: Saturday, Sept. 9th. 7-10pm

Glama-Rama! is proud to exhibit the art of the late Doris Fish and the late Miss Kitty Litter-Green, two of San Francisco's pre-eminent Drag pioneers.

When examining current drag and performance culture, it's important to look back to find out how we got here. In the 80's and 90's, San Francisco was a hotbed of creativity and inspiration. A new sense of alternative art and expression took hold of the LGBT community and lifted the tired old female-bashing stereotypes of drag and gave birth to a fresh highly stylized uber-femme representation. Out of this environment emerged a few who revolutionized the way that we approach drag and would forever leave their imprint on our art and history.

Doris Fish, primarily known as co-creator of "Vegas in Space", spent a great deal of her leisure time painting. Her bold use of color in her own drag persona can also be seen in her painting. Drawing from 60's Day-Glo style and classic film imagery, the visual impact of her art and drag was refreshing framed against the bearded drag queens of the time. This half of the exhibit was originally shown at GLBT Historical Society of Northern California earlier this year.

Another great visionary of our recent past is the incomparable Miss Kitty Litter-Green. Her bold art and drag still resonates in the performance art community today. Sometimes wearing nothing more than a ripped T-shirt and ballet tutu, she dared to test the boundaries of self-expression. She believed that beauty was an asymmetrical and sometimes surreal form with many facets showing different degrees of the self. Her paintings exemplify that same spirit and celebrate the colorful life that she lived while ushering in a reality that is at once arresting and seductive.

Both artists mostly used themselves as the main subject of their paintings and we get a sense that their life and art simultaneously imitated each other. Please join Glama-Rama! as we celebrate the lives of two very important drag pioneers whose legacy permeates our culture today.

Opening party on **Saturday Sept. 9th** features very special performances, drinks, and snacks. For more information, please contact: Johnny Kat (415) 861-4526.

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October 14th!

GENDER SPEAK - A PERFORMANCE BY TRANSGENDERED ARTISTS

Come witness and enjoy transgendered artists in our communities express their art in an event that celebrates another color of the rainbow we know as diversity.

Come hear voices, view visions and honor art that challenge what is normally known as gender, and much, much more.

Saturday, October 14th, 7:00pm - 10:00pm, Pro Arts Gallery, 461 Ninth Street (near Broadway), Downtown Oakland.

For more information contact: Patricia Kevena Fili at (510) 663-7976.

This event is free to the public. This event is sponsored by AIDS Project East Bay and the Butterfly Project.

TGSF Announces an Education Seminar

POST-OP TS WOMEN SPEAK ABOUT SRS

A panel of post operative male-to- female transsexuals will speak on their experiences with sex reassignment surgery. The panelists have been selected to represent the range of the most prominent surgeons performing SRS today. If you are contemplating SRS or just curious, here is an opportunity to ask questions and get the answers and insights to guide your own decisions.

Saturday, October 14, 2000 at 2:00pm, Women's Building, Audre Lord Room, 3543 18th Street, San Francisco (between Valencia and Guerrero) - 2 blocks from BART, MUNI 25 & 33 stops nearby. Donation: \$3 TGSF Members, \$5 Non-members. For more information call the TGSF Hotline & Voice Mail (24 hrs) 415-564-3246

A NIGHT OUT FOR DINNER AND A SHOW

Wouldn't it be great to have dinner at a nice restaurant before going to see a play at one of our local theatres or even attend an opera as a group ?? Well, our social chairs have been just been pondering such an outing. But before a commitment can be made to such an event for discounted group tickets, we need to find out how many of you would be interested in attending.

We want to hear from you !! If you would be interested in going, please call our current co-Social chair, Serena Anderson, at 510-526-9035 and let her know. The number of responses received will determine whether or not we will pursue this event.

Transcending Transgender Support Group

**Sponsored by
City of Refuge UCC Outreach Ministries**

Facilitators: Janetta Johnson and Portia Denard; Where: City of Refuge, United Church of Christ, 1025 Howard Street, San Francisco CA 94103, (415) 861-6130. When: Every Friday, 6 pm to 7:30 pm. Food and snacks will be provided.

More Events and Announcements!

LIBRARY EXHIBIT IN FREMONT

A display at the Fremont Central Library on transgender civil rights is reserved for January 2001. We are looking for photos of Transgenders of all types in every day and vocational situations. Only photos of modestly attired subjects will be accepted as the display will be open for view by minors. If you have such a photo you would like to contribute please send to: Lynnea c/o Wendyl Stuart, 38623 Cherry Lane #171, Fremont, CA 94536-4227, or e-mail for information at lynneastuart@hotmail.com.

**Cotillion 2001
Event Program
Advertisements Available for
Vendors, Organizations or
TGSF Members.**

For more information and pricing, contact Rachael Janelle, by email: Rachael_Janelle@hotmail.com / by voicemail: (408) 619-2908 / by fax: (408) 739-1199.

October 5-8, 2000

THE 4TH INT'L CONGRESS ON CROSSDRESSING, SEX AND GENDER

From: Angela Gardner <angela@ren.org>

Just a short note to let everyone know that the 4th International Congress on Crossdressing, Sex and Gender will definitely take place from **October 5-8, 2000**.

We'll be at The Warwick Hotel in Philadelphia, PA, USA. The 4th Congress page is still on our website and it has revised fee schedules to encourage diverse attendance. The final schedule will be on the site within a week or so. We will send another email to let you know when it is up. We're looking forward to an exciting event.

The Renaissance Transgender Association, Inc's website can be found at <http://www.ren.org>

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A Message From Dear Diva

VESTAL VIRGINS NEEDED FOR THE WIDOW NORTON'S CEMETERY VISIT

The Widow Norton's cemetery visit is coming up in February and she requests the Vestal Virgins to dance as the corps de ballet for Dear Diva in the White Swan Pas De Deux. Diva is asking for 16 volunteers. No dance ability is required! We will have rehearsals starting this fall, most likely once a week or once every other week until after the cotillion. We will break from Swan Lake rehearsals during the entire period of preparation for the cotillion, so this early period is to get to know the choreography sufficiently to keep it during the cotillion time. Then after the cotillion, in the final weeks before the cemetery visit we will step up the rehearsal schedule.

Diva will be constructing costumes for each of you, and those measurements must be taken very soon. Each of you will be asked to chip in to pay for the materials for the costumes. Since they are all identical, everything can be purchased in bulk.

Let's knock them dead in the cemetery girls! Please email Dear Diva at deardiva@pacbell.net, to participate in the Widow Norton event.

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**The Current Location of the
TGSF Library!!**

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Cosmetics

Shoes

Nails

Wigs

Fem Fashions

Lingerie

Cosmetics

ANNOUNCING THE TRANSGENDER POLITICAL CAUCUS

San Francisco, CA

The Transgender Political Caucus (TPC) is an all-volunteer organization committed to affecting change in San Francisco Bay Area politics. There are numerous groups already in existence which advocate for transgender civil rights at the State and National level, but few which focus exclusively on grassroots issues and candidates. The TPC has coordinators in each of the local regions, including the City and County of San Francisco, East Bay, North Bay and South Bay.

The TPC is an inclusive organization. Transgender, as defined by the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, includes "female and male cross-dressers, transvestites, drag queens or kings, female and male impersonators, intersexed individuals, pre-operative, post-operative and non-operative male-to-female and female-to-male transsexuals, masculine females, feminine males, all persons whose perceived gender or anatomic sex may be incongruent with their gender expression, and all persons exhibiting characteristics and identities which are perceived to be androgynous."

It is the objective of the TPC to coalesce individuals, leaders and groups from all factions of the transgender community in the region into one voice. The organization will focus the energy, creativity and resources of its members on addressing transgender-specific issues and help elect political candidates who are supportive of our basic rights as human beings. Membership in the TPC is open to all individuals who self-identify as transgender; family members, domestic partners or friends of transgenders; as well as all others who are sympathetic to transgender issues. There are no costs to be a member of the TPC, merely a commitment to the basic human right of gender self-expression.

The TPC is not affiliated or aligned with any candidate, organization, political party or PAC. The TPC is not authorized nor does it intend to express the opinions or positions of any organization, club, political party, candidate or business with whom its members may be affiliated. The TPC is an independent voice of individuals in the transgender community.

The Charter Committee of the TPC is comprised of individuals who have distinguished themselves as leaders in the fight to improve our daily lives and represents a wide range of geographic, ethnic, racial, economic, social, age, educational, sexual and gender identities. There are no celebrities on the Charter Committee, all simply share the common bond of self-identifying as transgender.

The Charter Committee of the TPC is in the process of developing specific questions on fundamental issues impacting our lives. These include (trans)gender profiling, harassment and violence by law enforcement; discrimination in employment, public accommodations, housing, medical care and education; and, the current epidemic of transphobia, hate crimes and bias against the transgender population. These questions will then be submitted to candidates for public office in district elections in San Francisco and in other local races in the Bay Area. The candidates will be asked to answer each question for the public record. These responses, or lack of responses, will then be forwarded to all members of the TPC and the media. The transgender community needs to insist that candidates to go on the public record with their positions on our issues. Now is the time for that to happen. Once candidate positions have been identified, the members of the TPC are encouraged to commit their time and resources to help elect those who are sympathetic to our issues.

An example of one such question might be: "Given that many private sector businesses in San Francisco openly discriminate against transgenders, would you support publicly funded educational, training, internship, public relations, outreach or other programs designed to educate employers on the transgender condition and actively promote legislation to integrate qualified transgenders into the mainstream workforce?"

If you want to be counted as a member of the TPC, simply send back a reply e-mail to Transgender PC@aol.com with the words "IM IN" in the subject box. Include the geographic region where you live, as in SF (San Francisco), EB (East Bay), SB (South Bay) or NB (North Bay). In San Francisco, also designate the district. For example: SUBJECT: IM IN SF8 or IM IN EB.

The Transgender Political Caucus needs your support, not your money. The larger the membership, the greater the impact. The TPC needs help. The TPC needs members. The TPC needs you. Now is the time for a unified transgender community to send a clear message to the political establishment that we are here; we vote; and we speak with one voice. We will no longer tolerate being ignored, abused or discriminated against. All citizens are guaranteed certain inalienable rights under the Constitution of the United States and we intend to continue to fight until ours are fully restored.

Members of the Charter Committee of the Transgender Political Caucus or more information please contact: Transgender PC@aol.com

Contact TGSF:

President, Nicole Cook nicole@tgforum.com
Vice President, Aiyana Eveningstar .. aiyanastar@earthlink.net
Secretary, Debbie Cook moodydeb@yahoo.com
Treasurer, Deborah *due soon*
Education, Stephanie Ann Blythe steph628@tgforum.com
Education, Jennifer Antoinette blondewig@hotmail.com
Outreach, Kalani Makaanani kalani@tgforum.com
Outreach, Telzey Adams telzey@angelfire.com
or call at: (510) 849-4112
Social, Tianna DeVil tdevil@sirius.com
Editor, Ayme Kantz MissAyme@aol.com
or tgsfeditor@yahoo.com

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TGSF BALANCE SHEET

Assets

Cash	\$5,583.34
Event Equipment	
Decorations	\$1,000.00
Food Service	\$200.00
Office Supplies	\$50.00
Computers	\$100.00
Total Assets	<u>\$6,933.34</u>

Liabilities

Accounts Payable (Cotillion Expense)	\$1,000.00
Taxes	\$356.96
Insurance	\$0.00
Utilities	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$1,356.96
Equity	\$5,576.38

Total Liabilities & Equity	<u>\$6,933.34</u>
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TGSF MONTHLY INCOME STATEMENT

Revenue

Membership	\$190.00
Advertising	\$250.00
Cotillion	\$0.00
Donations	\$130.00
Social	\$195.00
Education	\$0.00
Outreach	\$100.00
.....	<u>\$865.00</u>

Expenses

Cotillion	\$0.00
Halloween Party	\$0.00
Big Shew	\$0.00
Pride Parade	\$824.57
Social	\$0.00
Education	\$44.08
Outreach	\$0.00
Newsletter	\$507.56
Operations	\$3.50
.....	<u>\$1,379.71</u>

Net Income	<u>(\$514.71)</u>
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ON THE ROAD WITH MADAME PRESIDENT

By Nicole

It is a good thing last month was a bit lighter on activities because things picked up again this month. As I am writing this I have not been able to get 8 hours of sleep for the last 4 nights.

The first event in this period was the Cotillion Planning Meeting held on August 17th at Aiyana's house in San Francisco. Several items were covered including our plans to make the 2001 Cotillion a 4 day event. We were off to a good start with over half of the Volunteer positions filled on the committee, but there is still room for more.

It was a warm day in Sacramento on August 26th for the Sacramento Ducal Ball. Debbie and I attended the event that would end Grand Dutchess Krystal Powers reign. On the way to the event a reporter saw Debbie brushing my hair and said it inspired her to come ask us for an interview, which we gave her. The Ducal Ball was held in a tent behind Faces. They had some sound problems but once those were fixed everything seemed to go fine. I noticed several SGA members in attendance as well as Miss TGSF Tianna DeVIL.

It was time for another show and so on August 31st the TGSF End of Month was the site of the Diva's 2000 show at, where else, Diva's. I was happy to see quite a large turn out at the show. I was able to see a number of people who I had not seen in quite some time. Several people performed including Tianna, Nikki Star, and Alexis. Debbie and I also did a duet but I did not feel real good about the way that turned out. Between the feedback from the speakers and our levels going up and down it was hard to get a good sound going. I think next time we will need to add some sound checks for any live performances. Other than the technical problems the show turned out great. For those of you who have not been to Diva's yet, you should give it a try. Don't let the bottom floor fool you, the upper floors are quite nice.

On September 3rd it was a warm sunny day. Debbie and I once again traveled to Sacramento for the Sacramento Rainbow Festival. This event takes up several blocks around 20th and J Streets and features a number of musical performances, booths from a variety of organizations and food. As we entered, an all girl rock band was playing some great music on a large stage South of Faces. We proceeded to the SGA booth which was situated right

Continued on Page 13

October's Birthdays...

10/00	Michelle Amber	10/16	Janis Ryan
10/00	Rachael Janelle	10/16	Jean Darien
10/00	Starr	10/18	Ronald Gray
10/00	Constance	10/20	Cassi Anderson
10/3	Erin Brush	10/21	Jennifer Abrahamson
10/4	Bobbi Marotz	10/21	Maureen Michaels
10/4	Gayle Kiddy	10/21	Tricia Paskell
10/5	Anne Giles	10/22	Marilyn Thurau
10/6	Joan Thurau	10/24	Denice Yin-Yang
10/8	Shamrock P Hall	10/25	Dahlia Peters
10/9	Carolayn Hughes	10/26	Janet Bowman
10/9	Jennifer Alexander	10/28	Gwen Bajorek
10/9	Val Shoaps	10/28	Janet Smiley
		10/29	Janine Johnson

Many Happy Returns of the Day!

by Janis Ryan

There were two bills before the California Legislature in the term that just ended that directly affect the Transgender Community. In addition, the lower house of the Netherlands Legislature recently approved a landmark law authorizing same-sex marriages.

Change of Birth Certificate

Assemblyman John Longville, a Democrat from Rialto, authored the first bill, AB 1851 It changes the existing law which permits a person born in California to obtain new birth certificate reflecting the change of gender and any change of name. Existing law requires that a petition for the issuance of a new birth certificate in those cases be filed with the superior court of the county where the petitioner resides. This bill also permits these petitions to be filed in the county where the petitioner was born.

It also establishes a new procedure for the issuance of a Certificate of Sex Change from the State Registrar to California residents who have resided in California for at least six months and do not have a California birth certificate. This procedure requires a petition in Superior Court similar to that for an amended California birth certificate. The cost of this certificate is set at \$20, subject to annual increases.

This bill passed both houses of the Legislature and was sent to the Governor for his approval. As of September 15 there was no indication on the Governor's Web Site about whether he had signed or vetoed the bill.

Discrimination in Housing and Employment

The second bill was authored by Assemblyman Fred Keeley of Boulder Creek. It would have provided that the definition of "sex" in the existing law banning discrimination in employment and housing would also include "gender." The definition of "gender" would mean a person's actual sex or the perception of the person's identity, appearance, or behavior, regardless of whether different from that traditionally associated with the victim's person's sex at birth. This definition is currently part of the law which provides for increased penalties for persons convicted of committing a "hate crime."

The bill passed the Assembly but died in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Same-sex Marriage in Holland

A bill providing for same-sex marriage was approved by the lower house of the Netherlands legislature on September 12. According to an Associated Press article, "gay couples can convert their current 'registered same-sex partnerships' to full-fledged marriages, complete with wider adoption rights and guidelines for divorce." The law is restricted, however, to permanent residents of Holland, and adoptions must be within the country as well. According to the article, approval by the upper house is likely.

Continued from Page 12

in front of the Depot. We had our usual raffle drawing so Liz, Julie Ann and I took turns trying to sell tickets to the passers by in front of our booth. For most of the time that we were there we had one of the silver robot/statue guys performing across the street from us. It was quite interesting to see him suddenly move after standing still for a long time. The movement usually startled who ever was walking by. We were there all day, and left sometime after 5pm. Lucky for us we went from the event to Liz's place where she fixed our ailing car.

On September 9th we returned to Sacramento for the SGA Social at Joseph's. Debbie and I had dinner with the more than 25 other girls who showed up for the social. It was great to see several familiar faces as well as a few new ones. I had talked to one new couple that came in on the phone during the week and I was glad they could make it in. At this point Joseph's was still under Joseph's control until October (however, more recently I have heard the sale may not go through). I don't want to seem selfish, but I really like Joseph's and I would rather help Joseph make more money and keep the venue than see it change hands.

Every year TGSF has an event that ends up at the icon of TG venues, Trannyshack. And on September 12th TGSF had the Pub Crawl event that would see us to The Blue Muse, Cafe Mars and then end up at Trannyshack. I was teaching so I had to skip the first stop, I heard 7 people showed up at the Blue Muse and all of them made it to Cafe Mars. I was the first person to show up at Cafe Mars. By the time it reached 10pm there were close to 20 of us at Cafe Mars including two girls from Dublin Ireland, I had been talking to one of them for a few weeks by email and it was great to see them show up. Since I had a full day the next day I had to leave before Trannyshack, however, most of the girls went on to Trannyshack. From the reports I received in the following days, they had a good time.

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Don't Forget
HALLOWEEN
at Diva's

Diwa's 2000!



TG Candidate Running for SF Public Office!

AN INTERVIEW

WITH JOAN ROUGHGARDEN

By Nicole Cook

The following is an interview I did with Joan Roughgarden. Joan is a TG candidate running for public office in San Francisco. She is also a member of TGSF. We decided to do this interview to give Joan's candidacy some visibility in the TG community and to let our members who will have the opportunity to vote in Joan's area some background into Joan's stance on the issues. This interview was held on September 17th, 2000 at Joan's home in San Francisco's District 6.

(NC) What I did, is to try and come up with some questions to give people an idea of who you are, what's going on and if it effects them. Feel free to add in information. What are you running for?

(JR) I am running for Supervisor of District 6, this is one of 11 supervisors for San Francisco. This year is the first year since Harvey Milk was assassinated that the supervisors come from specified geographic districts. This represents an attempt to make the city more responsive to neighborhoods. District 6 includes: South of Market, the Tenderloin, part of the Mission district, Hayes Valley, South Beach and the Mission Bay Project under development. It also includes Treasure Island. On a per capita basis, it is the district with the lowest income & highest fraction of renters. Historically it has been a home for marginalized people, that's why I really love the potential of representing it. Transgendered people have been here for decades, gay and lesbian people and all kinds of minorities as well. We may have the largest Transgendered population in the city. You can definitely see a lot of Transgendered people in this district.

(NC) How many other candidates are running for the position of District 6 Supervisor?

(JR) Well there are 17 total candidates running for District 6. In some districts a single candidate is running unopposed, but there are 17 running for this position. I have a genuine chance.

(NC) Has your TG status been an issue in your campaign?

(JR) No, perhaps even surprisingly so, because I am not stealth, and I transitioned on the job, and it is known professionally that I am Transgendered.

(NC) You said you transitioned on the job, where were you working?

(JR) I am a Stanford University Professor. I have been interviewed by the New York Times for a profile in the Science Times, I am a Biologist. I am probably one of the most well known academics to have transitioned on the job. This would be profiled in the science times, and so my being Transgendered will be discussed in about 50% of that article.

(NC) Will that come out before the election?

(JR) Yes, that will come out in a few weeks. It is possible once that article comes out that my being Transgendered will become a factor. But up until now it has not been a factor at all, and that is partially because at least 50% of the candidates are gay or lesbian and one other is Transgendered.

(NC) What do you think are the key issues for your district?

(JR) Displacement in housing is the single biggest issue. A number of us who are progressive are focusing on displacement and housing. My particular contribution is to try to plan for and stop the displacement that is in the pipeline. I feel that a lot of the candidates are fighting battles that have already been lost. If we see the causes of displacement that is going to

occur we can actually prevent it and do something about it. But the people who are complaining about dot coms for example and the displacement that they are causing are arguing about something that has already occurred. The real issue is to get ahead of displacement that we can see coming. I have been focusing on Mission Bay, pointing out that displacement is in the pipeline coming from that and arguing that we need to increase housing in that area and then down into the Bay View - Hunters Point area to pick up 20,000 more people.

The other major priority we have is to develop community facilities for District 6. We don't have playgrounds, we don't have much in the way of parks. So my idea has been to take piers 48 and 50 and to develop it as a plaza that I would call diversity plaza, and to put in a statue that would be the statue of diversity, which would be to the west coast what the statue of liberty is to the east coast. It's a great symbol and we would be able to attract national funding for it. We could then use the whole complex as a way to get community facilities. The idea of a statue of diversity really resonates in District 6, actually it might resonate in the whole country too.

(NC) This sort of leads into my next question, What would you do different from the incumbent to address the key issues?

(JR) Well there is no incumbent. This is one of the interesting things about District 6, it has never really been represented. It will be new to have these neighborhoods have a voice in City Hall. And what I would do differently than the other candidates, is to foresee what's happening a bit better. I bring a different skill set to the table, I am an ecologist. I am use to working with systems. I would bring a systems perspective into city government.

(NC) Do you have any planned campaign events?

(JR) No, I probably should. I have mostly been going to neighborhood events that exist. I haven't planned rallies. There have already been three debates and there are also the candidate forums which are essentially debates which various groups organize. That's what I feel that the Transgendered community could do, is to have a candidate forum. It would probably be the most effective to put on a forum, and to circulate the questions that you want the candidates to address in advance. Have a moderator, and they would all sit there and answer the questions.



Joan Roughgarden

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This is the second of a series of articles by Janis Ryan in which she shares her observations and experiences as a crossdresser who frequently goes out in public en femme. Your comments are welcome. Janis can be contacted by email at janisr@tgforum.com

BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!

by Janis Ryan

When we go out in public as women, we lose many privileges that we have as men. We face the same threats that women have had to deal with all of their lives. As transgendered individuals we face potential threats of hate crimes as well. In addition, when we are wearing dresses and heels we do not have the option of fleeing potential threats as easily.

I have learned many of these lessons personally. While I was in a bar with friends in Reno, a man groped me in the rear. More recently a man groped me in front while I was leaving *Divva's*, where TGSF now meets. Even in supposedly "safe" venues men have approached and asked me to perform sexual acts with them.

One night when I was walking home from the bus stop a man pulled his car over in front of me and tried to pick me up. This has happened to me often since. In a neighborhood that I considered "safe" a man once tried to snatch my purse.

Also, one of a group of men attacked a friend of mine in a convenience store of men simply for being a transsexual.

Julie Freeman, the spouse of Donna Freeman, the leader of *Diablo Valley Girls*, expressed her concern in an article posted on the TG Forum web site (www.tgforum.com).

I found myself admiring those wives and significant others who had no problem venturing out at night with their crossdressed spouses. I could not help wondering what would happen if they ran across someone not so understanding about alternative lifestyles, someone like those individuals that Matthew Shepard encountered. Fear then and now has always been a factor in my behavior.

What can be done to protect our safety while out in public? Many answers are the same common sense that we employ in our daily lives.

First, do *not* go to places that you consider unsafe or uncomfortable! This is especially true at night. Second, do not do anything to escalate verbal confrontations. The best thing to do when they arise is to ignore the taunts and to leave. Third, make it clear to any man who is trying to pick you up that you are *not* interested.

There are many viewpoints on how to defend yourself if you are attacked or are threatened physically. Some people advocate carrying guns, knives, or other deadly weapons. I do not.

Once, while dressed as a man, I warded off an attack by a young man brandishing a two-by-four at me by displaying a small knife that I was carrying. I ended up handcuffed in the back of a police car for a while. Fortunately, that incident was captured on a security video, and the police accepted my account. Remember that police, and ultimately prosecutors, judges, and juries, may be called on to judge your actions.

Police recommend that one carry pepper spray in places where that is legal. Formerly in California one had to attend a special class and obtain a permit to carry mace. The store where you purchased it was also required to register each purchase with your local police department. Currently in California pepper spray is available over the counter at many stores. Bear in mind, however, that it is still illegal to bring pepper spray into the secure area of airports, onto aircraft, or into many government buildings. Likewise it is still illegal in certain states, and cannot be carried across international borders.

Just having pepper spray in one's purse is of no benefit. If you are walking alone, especially at night, it has to be in your hand ready to use. Another useful item to have readily accessible is a police whistle to attract attention.

There is no guarantee of safety in public, no matter how we are dressed. We have to be continually on our guard, and be prepared to take the necessary steps to protect ourselves.

Lesbians' plans to wed look legal

BEXAR COUNTY RULING COULD PAVE WAY FOR TRIP DOWN AISLE

By Polly Ross Hughes

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A lesbian couple from Houston plans to legally marry in Texas next month, a prospect that has stymied the Texas Christian Coalition and its social conservative allies. Next Wednesday, Robin Wicks and Jessica Wicks plan to travel to San Antonio, said their attorney, where the county clerk promises to grant the two women a marriage license. It would be the state's first legal recognition of a lesbian marriage, and it is made legal because one of the women used to be a man.

Robin Wicks was born a female, Robin Manhart. Jessica Wicks was born a male, Grady Roland Wicks, and had a sex-change operation. Robin legally changed her name to Wicks because of their love for each other and their desire to wed. The two women declined to be interviewed but agreed to be photographed and have referred all questions to their attorney, Phyllis Randolph Frye. Bexar County Clerk Gerard C. Rickoff confirmed he will grant the women a license. He cited a San Antonio appeals court ruling that determined, as he put it, "you are what you are by your creator."

The two women were turned down in Harris County three weeks ago, when the Houston clerk cited the Texas Family Code's prohibition against same-sex marriages. The appeals court decision in San Antonio, however, gave Frye the idea to go there to seek the license. Now, the couple are happily planning a Sept. 16 wedding.

In a different gender case last year, the 4th Court of Appeals in San Antonio ruled in a wrongful death medical malpractice suit filed by a widow. That court ruling blocked the suit by negating the widow's seven-year marriage to the deceased man. The court ruled that the widow, Christie Lee Cavazos Littleton, who had undergone a sex-change operation, had been born a man and therefore the marriage wasn't legal. The court said sex is determined by chromosomes, not by medically induced genital alterations.

Even the Texas Legislature's staunchest opponent of same-sex marriage says he sees no legal impediments to the marriage of Robin and Jessica Wicks. "What a twisted world we live in," said state Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa. "I agree that gender is based on chromosomes, so I think that would set precedent, and I can't disagree with that. I don't know anything legislatively you can do about that. You strike up the most bizarre situation in the world, and the law's not always able to contend with it."

Attorney Frye, a transsexual herself, said that if chromosomes matter but genitals don't, the court has cleared the way for same-sex marriages involving partnerships in which one person was born a male and the other a female. "We are trying to point out how stupid the Littleton ruling was," said Frye, who represented the appeal of Christie Littleton, who lives in San Antonio. Frye said the Texas Supreme Court has twice refused to consider the arguments in that case, but the U.S. Supreme Court will decide in September whether or not to hear it.

"We're making it an issue with this (Wicks) marriage because the conservatives thought, with the Littleton decision, the prevention of same-sex marriage was secure," Frye said. "We're going to start encouraging all the transgendered people in the state who are in gay and lesbian relationships to take advantage of the Littleton decision and start seeking marriage licenses."

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COURT GRANTS ASYLUM TO MAN PERSECUTED IN MEXICO

by Janis Ryan

After a five-year legal battle, the U. S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco overturned a ruling of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and granted political asylum to Geovanni Hernandez-Montiel. The three-judge court panel unanimously decided as a matter of law that gay men with female sexual identities in Mexico constitute a particular social group, and that Geovanni is a member of that group. The court, however did not rule on whether Geovanni is a transsexual, or whether transsexuals would also constitute a particular social group.

In deciding whether Geovanni qualified for asylum from his native Mexico, the examiner from the INS had initially found that Geovanni had failed to demonstrate persecution on account of a particular social group, classifying his social group as homosexual males who wish to dress as a woman [sic.] and that his decision to dress as a woman [sic] is volitional, not immutable, and the fact that he sometimes dresses like a typical man reflects that respondent himself may not view his dress as being so fundamental to his identity that he should not have to change it. The court, however, rejected this, and held that Sexual orientation and sexual identity are immutable; they are so fundamental to one's identity that a person should not be required to abandon them.

According to the court's written opinion, an alien establishes refugee status if he is unable or unwilling to return to his country of nationality either because: (1) he was persecuted in the past; or (2) he has a well-founded fear of future persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

Professor Davies specifically noted that Geovanni is a homosexual who has taken on a primarily female sexual role. Based on his expert knowledge, review of Geovanni's case, and interaction with Geovanni, Professor Davies opined that Geovanni would face persecution if he were forced to return to Mexico.

This case has received international attention from the media. Geovanni's attorney is Robert S. Gerber, a partner in the firm Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton, LLP, which has offices in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Orange County, as well as San Diego, where Mr. Gerber is based. In a radio interview on the BBC World Service program *Outlook* Mr. Gerber said that he was pleased with the decision, but reserved since the case could be appealed further. However, he felt that since the panel included two conservative Reagan-appointed judges that the INS was unlikely to receive a warmer reception in any petition for rehearing to the Ninth Circuit or petition for writ of certiorari to the United States Supreme Court.

His attorney told of how Geovanni had realized that he was attracted to the same sex at age eight, and how at age 12 he began dressing as a woman. He was expelled from his elementary school, and pushed away by his parents. His sister committed him to a special home to be "cured," where his long hair was cut, his nails were trimmed, and he was forced to wear men's clothing.

In Mexico he had been arrested and detained by police four or five times, without being charged with a crime, and stated that twice he had been raped by the police. He also stated that was also attacked with a knife by a mob of gay-bashers. According to his attorney, he is not really a transvestite but more of a transsexual, and is undergoing hormone treatments.

A representative of the INS stated that this case is now a precedent for other asylum applications.

Interview with Joan Roughgarden...

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(NC) How do you see the position that you are running for as being able to effect the welfare of the TG community?

(JR) There are several things. The board of supervisors is sort of like a legislative body. As compared to the mayor which is an Executive body. We initiate legislation, and we are responsible for passing the budget, and we also pass resolutions. The supervisors can actually direct the department heads. Because of passing resolutions, you can make public statements that get picked up in the newspaper. So we could as a matter of legislation, make sure that the schools and the police did not act in discriminatory ways to Transgendered people. We could pass resolutions to the effect that Transgendered people need to be correctly represented in the media, we can also pass resolutions that point out the good things that Transgendered people bring to the table. We bring a lot of different experience, and one of the things I like to say is "we have a heightened sense of what's possible". Anyone that has been through what we have been through thinks that solving the city's problems is a piece of cake.

(NC) Are you planning on being on TV or Radio? Is there somewhere if someone reads this article where they could listen to you?

(JR) Well I am turning up at all these community forums. A person whose stage name is Kitty Castro is going to interviewing both Denise and me on local television. I would love to make more television appearances but more to the point I will simply go and meet with people. Whenever 2 or 3 are gathered together, I will turn up, if they want me.

(NC) Are there any other topics you would like to cover?

(JR) I would like to say that I want to work to get Transgendered surgeries like SRS included in the medical coverage for both city employees and for the employees of companies that contract with the city. I think we are at a point where this should be done.

(NC) If you met an influential constituent in an elevator and had less than a minute to tell her why she should vote for you, what would you say?

(JR) The reason you should vote for me is that I am committed to neighborhood, and I am committed to diversity, and I bring new skills to city hall. I'm centrist, I'm pragmatic and I can really deliver on neighborhood and on diversity.

For more information about Joan, you can visit her website at www.JoanDistrict6.com.

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Lesbian Wedding...

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Dianne Hardy-Garcia, executive director of the Lesbian-Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, said the Wicks marriage breaks new ground not only in Texas but also, apparently, nationally. "This is really new, and I don't know of any other case," she said. "Certainly Phyllis Frye out of Houston has been at the cutting edge of transgender activism for many years. Texas has one of the most outspoken transgender communities in the nation."

Rep. Glen Maxey, D-Austin, the only openly gay member of the Texas Legislature, said the unusual case in Houston shows exactly why government should not be getting involved in the private lives of its citizens. "Because government got involved in something they should have never gotten involved with," he said, "you have these absurdities and seeming irrationalities."

On this point, the Texas Christian Coalition appears to agree.

Although the group believes in the sanctity of the male-female marriage, the Wicks situation boggles the mind, said Chuck Anderson, the coalition's executive director. "Leave it to lawyers to come up with all these situations," he said. "It's creepy. I don't think anyone could even speculate in their wildest dreams that this could come about."

Phyllabuster

TWO MORE WOMEN OBTAIN SAN ANTONIO MARRIAGE LICENSE

By Phyllis Randolph Frye

Great news. Two more women sought a legal same-sex marriage license in San Antonio. I was not even aware of it and was called yesterday by the reporter. The story and my comments are below.

So again, I invite all transwomen with lesbian girlfriends, and all transmen with gay boyfriends to come on down to San Antonio, and get a legally-opposite-sex (but for purposes of the "duck" test it will be a same-sex) marriage. I'm thinking that the San Antonio Visitor and Convention Center may want to do something nice for all of the tourism that I am generating their way <G>!

Also, I have alluded to a legal same-sex marriage in Vermont — not a civil union, but a same-sex marriage. This is Karen Kerin, a MTF transgender, who discovered that Vermont would not amend her birth certificate to read female. So she legally married her woman friend almost four years ago. Karen Kerin is also the Republican Candidate for US Congress. Go to kerin2000.org. What I do not understand — maybe some of you will — is why the HRC did not endorse this transgendered woman's election race. I endorse Karen Kerin. She has been my good friend since 1992. She and I were together in D.C. in July 1994 when the fight for TG and gender-variant-LGB inclusion in the ENDA Bill began. She deserves our support!

2 More Women Obtain County Marriage License

By John Gutierrez-Mier
(jgmier@express-news.net)
San Antonio Express-News

For the second time in two weeks, the Bexar County clerk's office Wednesday issued a marriage license to two women. The couple, who reside in Corrales, N.M., presented County Clerk Gerry Rickhoff with two Ohio drivers' licenses that identified both as female.

But one of the two, Lori D. Killough, 63, had changed her sex through a surgical procedure and was able to present a birth certificate showing she was born a man. And that makes her legally a man in the 32 Texas counties covered by the state's 4th Court of Appeals, whose year-old ruling that one's sex at birth determines one's sex for life continues to reverberate nationwide.

Rickhoff said he was stunned when Killough and her partner, Cynthia J. Young, 51, walked into his office and requested the license, but he readily granted it. "I had only seen my first case a few weeks ago, and I didn't expect another couple wanting a license this soon," Rickhoff said. Just 14 days earlier he had issued a license to Jessica Wicks and Robin Manhart Wicks of Houston.

Each couple based their request on an appeals court decision that rejected a wrongful death lawsuit filed by a San Antonio transsexual, Christy Lee Littleton, against Dr. Mark Prang, whom she accused of malpractice in the death of her husband. The 4th Court of Appeals, by a 2-1 vote, ruled that Littleton had never been legally married because she was born male and thus had no standing to sue. The case has been appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Attempts to reach Killough and Young for comment were unsuccessful.

The law requires a 72-hour waiting period after a license is issued before couples can actually marry. After the period is up, couples have 30 days to get married by a justice of the peace or judge or a clergy member.

Phyllis Frye, a Houston lawyer who represented Littleton and the Wicks, said she knew nothing about the New Mexico couple. "I was unaware that this had happened, but I'm glad they did it," said Frye, who is e-mailing transsexuals across the country, encouraging them to come to San Antonio to get married. "I think this is great."

Rickhoff said he couldn't predict how many more same-sex couples would seek marriage licenses, but if they are legally male and female, he said, they will be treated like any other couple that come to his office.

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