

# Halloween is Always a Treat!

TGSF's The Channel  
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 2001 - 2002 Officers

(Fiscal Year: May 1 - April 30)

President ..... Aiyana Eveningstar  
Vice President ..... Rachael Janelle  
Interim Secretary ..... Nicole Cook  
Treasurer ..... Stephanie Ann Blythe  
Education ..... Ally Grillo  
Outreach ..... Kalani Makanani  
Social ..... Tianna Marie DeVil

## Membership Report

Current Membership as of:

November 15, 2001 ..... 183

Due to recent events, current Membership data is being recovered, and will be updated as soon as possible.

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.

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Editor ..... Ayme Michelle Kantz  
Advertising ..... Inquiries to TGSF Excom  
Contributing Photographers, this Issue: ..... Telzey Adams

## 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

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## FROM THE EDITOR...

### I Am Woman, Hear Me Roar - Or How I've Learned To Love My Penis

I've had one of those revolutionary experiences recently - one of those small epiphanies, that glimpse of revelation, that we all encounter as we get older (and theoretically, wiser). Someone I trust shared a remark made to her (about me), and it's been the catalyst for this recent spate of introspection.

It was said that I "had the body of a woman, but the soul and energy of a man," and when I heard it, the first thing out of my mouth was "He's right."

And then I thought, "now how can that be?" All this time I've believed it was the other way around!

Ten years ago, the outdated notion that I was a woman trapped in a man's body might have been true. But today, after extensive hormone use, a boob job and a decade of day-to-day living as a woman, I still instinctively agreed with the remark. Despite the fact that I still have a penis, I look and feel like a woman and generally behave as such. The façade I've constructed is an effective one, but the gentleman's observation strikes much deeper than what I present on the surface.

But I can't reconcile myself to the notion that I have a woman's body. I mean, I look at it in the mirror and if I take my glasses off, yeah I can almost picture it. Apparently, the gentleman who made the comment didn't seem to think my having a penis made any difference. He viewed my body as a woman's (which is really cool if you think about it). But the fact that he picked up on my male energy is what's given me grist for the mill.

While there's no doubting my femininity, and granted I (like most MTF transsexuals) perhaps overcompensate for my maleness by the clothes and make-up I wear, and regardless of how well I've assimilated into society in my preferred role, there's still this ex-man thing person energy force (whatever) lurking around.

OK, so I finally acknowledged my male energy as valid some years ago. I realized that I had been expending way too much effort in suppressing it and trying to make it go away. Total waste of time. I learned that for me to be happy and content, I needed to achieve a sense of balance. I needed to find a way to express my male energy yet retain my femininity.

Is this possible? Doesn't having male energy automatically equate to being masculine? If I'm to be any example, I don't think so. Yes, I have the soul and energy of a man, but there's nothing masculine about me. Well, almost nothing. There's still that pound of flesh between my legs to consider. And it still has this habit of responding in the most ultimate expression of masculinity.

*Continued on Page 3*

## 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.



## WE ARE ALL TRANSGENDER

By Aiyanna Eveningstar

So much has happened since my last writing. Some terrible things have happened to the country. Even in our group we have had to mourn those who are no longer with us. Often it takes a tragedy to bring people together for a single purpose. I wish it was not so. I wish we could see what unites us in common rather than dwelling on our differences.

We have made the name of our group Transgender San Francisco. The term transgender is an umbrella term that covers the varying types of gender different people. I could at this point start listing what type of gender different people are included and their order of importance in the chronology of who is the most committed to the cause, but I'm not trying to divide us up into little groups. Instead I would like to say to everyone that what is needed is for transgender people to remain visible whenever it is possible. If we can't love ourselves, nobody else will. It's time to stop living our lives from closet to closet. Even when a person has transitioned completely their former selves will still have family and friends who knew them before they started expressing the gender that they prefer. For those who can pass there's always the fear that someone will discover who they once were. There is not much to life when one lives in fear.

Only through asking if those around us are capable expressing love and acceptance unconditionally can we really be ourselves. Unconditional love means not limiting the ones you are close to by your ideas of who they should be, but rather letting them express who they are without judgement.

This organization needs some people who are willing to take some time to change their lives while they help make the world around them aware that life has diversity. At this moment there are four positions on the executive committee that are vacant. I'm a person that likes a good party, but I am also willing to give some of my time to promoting transgender issues for everyone.

As a country we say we have liberty and freedom. But that doesn't mean that we don't have to work to make those ideas really ours. That doesn't mean that we need to post a sign "transgender and proud of it", but neither should we avoid letting people know that we exist. We have the same wants and desires as anyone. We must rid ourselves of negative images and let the world know that we have as much to give as anyone. Only then can we be free to pursue our happiness, step out of the shadows, and be ourselves.

## From the Editor...

Continued from Page 2

Now for most MTF's, therein lays the rub (so to speak). It's that very masculine response that they wish to rid themselves of. Many of their relationships with male lovers will fail because the Tgirl can't or won't use her penis in their lovemaking. Their sense of their own sexuality is of paramount importance, and her emotional investment is heavy. Inverting that flesh is a common and medically acceptable goal.

But I've come to realize that, for myself, even if I reconstructed my penis into a vagina, that isn't going to rid myself of my male soul. And I don't think I *can* change my soul, even if I wanted to. I can change everything else externally if I so choose, but it will have absolutely no effect on who I am inside.

Obviously, one's genitals are no longer an indication by which people define themselves (although I have run into several males of the species who would blow that theory right out of the water). I can certainly be a woman and live my life well as one, but I'll never be female. That may be a bitter pill to swallow, but it's the truth nonetheless.

I guess the trick here is to view my male soul and the fundamental essence of my energy not as a liability, but as an asset. I am no longer living under the assumption that I have to do anything further with regards to denying my male energy as a hindrance to my femininity. I welcome it with open arms, and will find ways to incorporate all the good things the boy within can bring to my life - like hauling out the trash bins on Monday mornings.

I like having a secret in my panties. I enjoy the notoriety and attention it affords me. If I had a vagina, I'd be just another woman in the big bad world, and I'd still have the soul and energy of a man. So I may as well keep the damn thing. At least this way, I can savor and relish being a "special" girl. Those who are going to like me, perhaps even come to be called friend, will do so because of my *human* energy - both male and female; a blend of both that makes up this person called Ayme.

Coming to the realization that I don't have to aspire to be anything but myself is suddenly liberating. I no longer feel the pressure of having to pursue reassignment surgery like it was the Holy Grail. I realize this goes against everything I've been working towards - or thought I should be working toward. I've explored the non-operative option before in this column, and now I suppose I'm doing so again. A girl has a right to change her mind, right?

But as I think about it, say for example I go ahead and have GRS. The male within is gonna have a shit fit. He's still gonna have needs to express that can no longer be met. And a strap-on is not an option. "Ain't nothing like the real thing, baby," is what he'd say. And to me, he'd be right. Meanwhile, as Shirley Faire will attest, a new vagina presents a whole new set of challenges that I don't think I really need to face. And if I'm honest about my feelings, it scares the hell out of me. I'm still not certain GRS is the right step for me to take.

For you see, as a woman, I get my needs met - and I'm not talking strictly about my physical sexuality. There's so much more about my life that I find profoundly intimate and fulfilling because of expressing my femininity. I adore being a woman. My life has blessedly changed forever because of living as a woman. The person I always knew I could become has blossomed and grown because I live as a woman. Having a vagina isn't going to make me more of one than I already am. And having a penis doesn't make me any less of one either.

**Wendell Debele** M.S. (T.C.M.) Dipl. L.Ac.  
(aka Aiyanna Eveningstar)



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Thursday, November 8, 2001

## TGSF ExCom Meeting Minutes

The monthly meeting of TGSF's Executive Committee was held in San Francisco at the home of the President Aiyana Eveningstar, on Thursday, November 8, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were President Aiyana Eveningstar, Vice President Rachael Janelle, acting Secretary Nicole Cook, Treasurer Stephanie Ann Blythe, Social Co-Chair Tianna DeVil and Outreach Chair Kalani Makanani. Education Chair Ally Grillo was absent.

The meeting was called to order at 7:25pm.

### Minutes:

There were no changes to last month's minutes.

### President's Report

Aiyana has been busy sorting through lots of paperwork for TGSF. A Secretary is desperately needed fill the vacant position. A suggestion to ask Jaime Fenton has been thought about and Aiyana will find out if she could fill in for the last few months before the ExCom change. The ExCom is slowly losing people and if no one will volunteer, we will be forced to cut back the amount of ExCom members as well as the events we hold. A vote is made to cut back the Social events to one event a month as well as education seminars cut back to one event every 3 months. The vote passed with 4 voting "yes" and 1 abstained vote. Rachael has placed something in the newsletter each month asking for help and she has received only 1 response. The group does expand and contract with time and at this time if there is less need for the group, cut backs are necessary for the time being. Nicole suggested instead of having 1 group like TGSF, the groups in the area need to come together to create a centralized group to have more uniformity, thus having a larger pool of volunteers to choose from and who want to help out.

Aiyana is currently working on the tax forms from 1997 to get the tax problem fixed. This will protect our non-profit status. As far as insurance, Aiyana has someone looking over our insurance coverage and trying to get a plan that will work with our income. Nicole mentioned that with the reduction of services, our insurance payment will decrease substantially.

### Vice President's Report

Rachael handed out the latest revision to the Cotillion budget. A couple of the budget amounts will change but everything is pretty much on budget. Projected sales are still on budget as well. A press release is in the works now, but we don't know with whom yet. The next Cotillion meeting is Tuesday, November 13.

### Acting Secretary's Report

We have a current membership of 172. We still don't have addresses for 12 members. The website has been updated with the Cotillion flyer. A couple of the online forms have been reactivated again. Several people have recently joined as a "Join Now Pay Later" plan. It has not been officially voted out, so it will stay on the membership form.

Nicole has spoken to Dana Van Gorder of the new LGBT Community Center about the TGSF education fund and wanted to get more information to him about using the Community Center to hold classes for those people in our group who are interested in taking City College classes. The Community Center isn't scheduled to be up and running until February.

A message was sent to the Car LLC program in which we donated 2 of our cars and the money is to go to TGSF. Nicole

hasn't heard back from them about it yet. Everything takes time with them.

There is another speakers bureau training class at the Pacific Center in Berkeley coming up on December 1<sup>st</sup> from 9am to 2pm. That is for those people who are interested in speaking for the Pacific Center.

The Cotillion awards have been ordered. The price was a little higher than last year, but not by much. The total is \$198.41. This is for the Joanna Caron award and the Miss Congeniality award.

The address labels purchased for the last newsletter mailing were \$4.97. Nicole requested a check from Stephanie Ann in that amount.

### Treasurer's Report

The bank account is currently at \$1300.00

### Education Committee Report

The next educational seminar will be on January 12<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at the Women's Center. It will be a seminar on plastic surgery with Dr. Brink. He has worked on a number of the members in the TG community including Madeline from TGSF. He will be presenting slides and lecturing on how his methods defer somewhat from Dr. Ousterhout. It should be a nice alternative. Madeline will be speaking at the seminar as well.

The seminar for February will probably be with Denae Doyle.

### Social Report

Tianna has made reservations at The Cliffhouse for November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. We have a preset menu for 38.95 plus tax and gratuity. Money will be asked for before the meal so that it is certain that everyone knows how much the meal will be before they sit down.

Next month will probably be a Christmas dinner party. Aiyana has offered her home as the venue. It will be Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Tianna wanted to do the gift exchange again this year, however, many of our members never helped out the last time and she is uncertain of whether or not she will try it again. Another neat thing to volunteer for is the homeless soup kitchen during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Tianna plans on doing it this year and Nicole has asked Tianna to let her and Debbie know when and where she will be volunteering and we will come down and help.

### Outreach Committee Report

Kalani has received a request from Solano Community College to do an outreach seminar. Also a request for a speaker at the TG Recovery program in the Tenderloin was requested.

### Announcements

The Cotillion planning meeting will be held at 7:00pm November 13<sup>th</sup> at Aiyana's home.

### Old Business

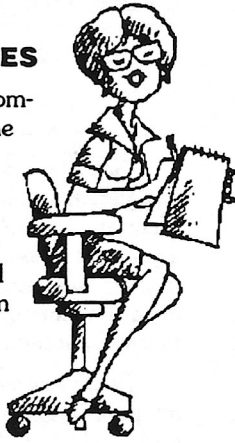
A discussion about insurance was held during the President's report.

### New Business

None

### Adjournment

The next ExCom meeting will be held on Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2001 at 7:00pm at the home of President Aiyana Eveningstar 2071 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco. Aiyana made a motion to close the meeting and seconded by Rachael the meeting was adjourned.





## IT'S NOT ALWAYS PERFECT FOR TRANSGENDERS

By Tanya Pampalone Of The Examiner Staff  
San Francisco Examiner, November 14, 2001

There is no one more qualified for her job than Susan Stryker.

The executive director of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society of Northern California holds a Ph.D. in U.S. history from Berkeley, a postdoctoral research fellowship in sexual studies from Stanford and she fits into two of the four GLBT categories: she is a transsexual lesbian.

Yet Stryker, like many transgender people, is not wholly embraced by the very community she represents.

While some find shelter in the GLBT community, many transgenders, which includes transsexuals, drag kings and queens and cross-dressers, have been attacked and protested from within the very place they seek refuge.

Transsexuals have been ridiculed by some gays and lesbians for being confused about their own sexuality, much in the same way that gays and lesbians have been criticized for their sexual preference.

But the condemnation goes further.

Transsexuals have been ostracized for mutilating their bodies, with one writer recently recommending that they skip hormone treatment and medical procedures and "live androgynously," a suggestion, transgender activists say, that is the same as trying to convince gays to live as straight.

In many ways, the GLBT acronym is a utopian quest that attempts to lump together a very diverse community.

"Just because someone is gay, lesbian or bisexual doesn't mean that they understand transgender issues," Stryker said, sitting in her Market Street office wearing baggy jeans and black Doc Martens.

Stryker is one of more than 15,000 transgender people living in The City, which includes 5,000 transsexuals, who have undergone hormonal, medical, cosmetic and legal procedures to switch their biological genders. The local number mirrors national statistics, with between 1 percent and 2 percent of the population being transgender.

The umbrella term reaches further to include female and male impersonators and intersex people - also known as hermaphrodites or people born with both sets of genitalia.

But, as genders cross into unknown regions and sexual preferences blur along with it, the most basic understanding of gender is being challenged - and nowhere is that being felt more than in the transgender community, a culture fighting for recognition from within a subculture.

### Tranny City

Of course, if you are going to be transgender, San Francisco is the place to be. But it wasn't always that way.

In the early '70s, there were witch hunts - where lesbian and gay groups openly discriminated against transsexuals, throwing them out of prominent organizations. As the gay rights movement gained momentum throughout the '70s and '80s, transgender people were left out of the gay parade.

That started to change in the '90s when a younger generation of gays and lesbians claimed "queer" as their own and transgender people began to make strides nationally as well as locally.

*Continued on Page 13*

## THE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND COMMENTS

By Rachael Janelle

Only 52 day until cotillion 2002!

Couple important items about the Cotillion 2002.

- The holiday inn deadline for the TGSF rate is January 6, 2002. I would book early because the holiday inn does book large tours and I've seen it sold out before.
- In regards to the tickets, I would not wait until the last minute to purchase tickets, if would like to be seated on the main floor.
- \* Contestants deadline is December 15, 2001. We currently have eight contestants.
- We are still working on the food issue and looking at caters proposals. If we have some more help we could maybe cut the cost in half than using a caterer.

The event is almost all together. We have 7 out of 8 judges committed to the event

We will have two MC's this year. Lenny from last year and we will have Tita Aida who is very active in the GLBT community and has MC'd many major pageants. She is working with me on the show and many other things. She is an angel, and a great help. If you like to see her she has a show every Thursday at the 'N Touch Club at 1548 Polk street SF. There are two shows 11:00pm and 12:00pm cover charge is \$3.00.

I have sent out my story (home town hero to miss congeniality) to the local media. I did get a call from KPIX (evening magazine), which is interested in doing a story. If you are interested in reading the story you can find it at [www.femimage.com](http://www.femimage.com) home page at the bottom of the page.

The most important thing of all, I did order my cotillion dress. Great dress showing off my assets and two other protruding items.

My comments: I understand very clearly what the word commitment means. I do meet the deadline for the channel each month, if not a day or two late, because I want to report on a event I did over the weekend and to get photos back to send in. The cotillion planning committee is about half the size of what we had last year. We're not planning to do half a show because we have half the number of people. We all work a little bit more effectively, and do a little more work and probably have the best damn Cotillion ever. I've seen two people do more than 20 people if they work effectively, so I'm not in to this number game. I welcome all the help I can get, if you want to do it, not because some one is making you feel guilty.

Happy holidays to you and your family.

*Barbara F. Anderson*

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

Certified Sex Therapist

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

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



**Thursday / December 6<sup>th</sup> / 7:00pm**

**TGSF ExCOM MEETING**

New time due to conflicts with personal schedules! The next TGSF ExCom meeting will be held on Thursday, December 6, 2001 at 7:00pm, at the office of President Aiyana, 2071 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue in San Francisco. All TGSF members are welcome to attend.

**Wednesday / December 12<sup>th</sup> / 8:00pm**

**CORSETED SOIREE**

A Corseted Dutch Treat Christmas Cocktail Party with Ann Grogan of Romantasy at the Top of the Mark. Pinch off some of those holiday pounds lacing up that waist cincher at one of San Francisco's most elegant venues. Dress up and enjoy high society. \$12 cover: Corsets preferred but not required. Advance reservations required! You Must RSVP! Contact Aiyana at 415-753-6475: [aiyanastar@earthlink.net](mailto:aiyanastar@earthlink.net) or Ann at 415-585-0760: [corsets@romantasy.com](mailto:corsets@romantasy.com) / fax 585-1212. Dress up and show off—we always have a ball!

**Friday / December 14<sup>th</sup> / 8:00pm**

**TGSF END OF MONTH EVENT**

**Holiday Gift Exchange!**

Enjoy the Christmas spirit and be with others as we light the yule log for the holidays at Aiyana's home. Bring a gift to exchange with others or make a potluck dish to feed the multitudes. A food dish should serve 5 to 8 people. RSVP Aiyana at 415-753-6475 if bringing food so we all don't make the same thing. Bring a toy and TGSF will donate it to a child's Christmas foundation. No host bar.

**Transcending Transgender**

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

A support group facilitated by 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.

**DRESS FOR DINNER ??**

Private crossdresser and wife looking to make friends with similar couple (35-45) for dinners at home in San Francisco. Bring your wit, sense of humor, and favorite dress, and lets have some enjoyable evenings. Anyone out there ??

[Michaelsfsf@hotmail.com](mailto:Michaelsfsf@hotmail.com)

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*December Birthdays*

- 12/3 Elizabeth Walters
- 12/3 Sheila Faulkner
- 12/6 Ally Grillo
- 12/7 Natasha Price
- 12/10 Nancy Kramer
- 12/12 Linda
- 12/13 Tammi
- 12/14 W. Heinle
- 12/20 Barbara Lokker
- 12/22 Cami Lynn

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# Calendar of Events - December 2001

## OTHER BAY AREA GROUPS

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

### Pacific Center for Human Growth (PacCtr)

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: sga@transgender.org

### 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.

							1
2	3 5:00 PM CCHH 8:00 PM DVG	4	5 7:30 PM MPTG	6 7:00 PM DVG (RCC) 7:00 PM SCT 7:00 PM TGFSF ExCom Meeting	7 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	8 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA	
9	10 5:00 PM CCHH	11	12 7:00 PM TransBay 8:00 PM Corset Christmas	13	14 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM TGFSF: Christmas Party	15	
16	17 5:00 PM CCHH 8:00 PM DVG	18	19	20 7:00 PM DVG (RCC) 7:00 PM SCT	21 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	22 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA	
23	24 5:00 PM CCHH	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26	27	28 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap	29	
30	31 5:00 PM CCHH						

## TGSF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Year is May 1 to April 30 / \$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

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

Member at a TGSF Social.



# Our Readers Respond

## DEAR EDITOR,

I appreciate Susan Blewitt's comments on stealth and passing in the November Channel, but find them unrealistic. I agree with her goal of not living a lie. But when she says, "If I become passable... I will want everyone who knows me, even casual acquaintances, to know that I am a transsexual woman, not a genetic woman..." I wonder how she proposes to do that. Does she intend to wear a T-shirt that says, "I AM TRANSSEXUAL"?

I can certainly understand how Susan feels. After half a life of concealing and suppressing my core identity — of living a lie — and then finally completing a gender transition, I, too, wanted my new life to be out in the open, honest and true in every respect. No more secrets! Unfortunately, reality got in the way of this noble goal.

The truth is that despite the best of intentions, you just CAN'T notify everyone that you are TS. Certainly you can tell your family, friends, and co-workers. But can you tell the friendly supermarket checker, the auto mechanic, the bank teller, the neighbor you seldom see? How about your kids' teachers, or your own yoga or piano teacher, or friends of friends you meet briefly and expect never to see again? More to the point, how about your employer's customers or suppliers?

You can't tell these people because it's simply more than they need or want to know. Interjecting a true confession about your TS nature into a casual or business conversation is bound to cause awkwardness and embarrassment all around. The issue isn't honesty, or obligation, or whether they approve or disapprove of TS people. The issue is whether it's appropriate bring up a very personal matter to people with whom you have only a casual relationship. You wouldn't tell them your family income, or your medical history, or about your black sheep uncle who's in jail. Casual acquaintances don't need to know these things. Don't tell them you used to be a guy, either. It may be cathartic for you, but it's bad manners. It's bad manners because it's inconsiderate to the person being told, who will likely be unnecessarily flustered.

There is a middle ground. What I found worked for me was to fully disclose to everyone who was close to me and whose friendship I wanted to keep. I will also tell people who knew me before my transition and who may be confused about who I am now. But most others don't need to know. Occasionally I meet someone who didn't know me before and doesn't know anyone else who knew me before. At first, there would be no need to disclose to that person. If, in the course of time, that person and I became real friends, I might feel moved to trust them with some more confidential personal information. In that context, I might disclose my TS nature.

But such instances are infrequent. (The only exception would be someone in whom I had a romantic interest. In that case, I've found the second date is the best time to disclose. The first date is too soon, because there's no point in telling someone whom you might never see again. If there's sufficient interest for a second date, then, in the interest of honesty, the person must be told, because dating is inherently not casual.)

**Janet Bowman**



*Katie curtseying...rather nicely, we might add!*

## Cotillion 2002

### TICKET SALES LOCATIONS

#### San Francisco

Marlena's - 415 864 6672

Piedmont Boutique - 415 864 8075

Wellness Center - Tita Aida - 415 292 3420 ext 348

#### San Mateo

Women's Health Boutique - 650 357 9236

#### Fremont

"I Love It" Boutique - 510 797 5066

#### San Jose

Carla's - 408 298 6900

### For information or questions contact:

Rachael - 408 619 2908, or Aiyana - 415 753 6475

Cotillion2002@email.com



# Special Events!

Coming in January, 2002

## FACE-TIME WITH DR. BRINK

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Plastic surgeon Robert Brink, M.D., of San Bruno will be meeting with us to explain his techniques and answer our questions on a subject that - let's face it - is pretty irresistible for some of us. By the way, if you've had facial surgery and would like to share your experiences, contact Allyson Grillo, (415) 682-9272, [agrillo@zeus.sjsu.edu](mailto:agrillo@zeus.sjsu.edu), or just show up at the forum.

**January 12, 2 p.m.** - The Women's Building, 3543 18th Street, San Francisco. The Women's Building is located four blocks from the 16th Street BART station.

For more information, contact Ally Grillo at (415) 682-9272, or via email at [agrillo@zeus.sjsu.edu](mailto:agrillo@zeus.sjsu.edu).

### Upcoming Seminar!

## TRANSFORMATIONS FOR THE T COMMUNITY

### Hair Styling, Makeup And Hints For A More Beautiful You

### A Beautiful Workshop With Brian Finney

On **January 23, 2002** from 7-9PM there will be a seminar at the Billy DeFrank Center in San Jose on hair and cosmetics for TGs. The instructor is Brian Finney - a San Jose "hair artist" I've known for more than four years.

Brian asks all participants to bring their accessories, extensions, hair pieces, etc to 'play.' Donations for the Billy DeFrank Center are always welcome and encouraged. Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 938 The Alameda, San Jose, 408-293-3040, x116.

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Please mention TGSF to insure hotel rate

Hotel deadline January 6, 2002

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Aiyanna and Tianna - Oh We Wanna!



# Takin' Care of Biz...

## TGSF BALANCE SHEET

(October 20, 2001 - November 20, 2001)

### Assets

Cash .....	\$1,374.75
Event Equipment	
Decorations .....	\$1,000.00
Food Service .....	\$200.00
Office Supplies .....	\$50.00
<b>Total Assets .....</b>	<b>\$2,624.75</b>

### Liabilities

Accounts Payable (Cotillion Expense) .....	\$1,351.88
Educational Fund .....	\$1,600.00
Taxes .....	\$0.00
Insurance .....	\$0.00
Utilities .....	\$0.00
Operations .....	\$0.00
Total Liabilities .....	\$2,951.88
Equity .....	(\$327.13)
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity .....</b>	<b>\$2,624.75</b>

## Monthly Income Statement

<b>Revenue</b>	
Membership .....	\$160.00
Advertising .....	\$250.00
Cotillion .....	\$629.12
Donations Received .....	\$125.00
Social .....	\$176.00
Education .....	\$0.00
Outreach .....	\$0.00
Total Revenue .....	\$1,340.12

### Expenses

Cotillion .....	\$399.12
Halloween Party .....	\$0.00
Big Shew .....	\$0.00
Pride Parade .....	\$0.00
Social .....	\$0.00
Education .....	\$0.00
Outreach .....	\$0.00
Newsletter .....	\$484.35
Operations .....	\$29.13
Donations Paid .....	\$0.00
Total Expenses .....	\$912.60

**Net Income .....** **\$427.52**

## TGSF DONATIONS

*Our Friends Who Give  
as of November 20, 2001*

*Jennifer Anderson ..... \$25.00  
Roshelle Cuning ..... \$100.00*

*Bless You and Thank You!*

## CONTACT TGSF!

### ExCom Members

#### President

Aiyana Eveningstar ..... aiyanastar@earthlink.net

#### Vice President

Rachael Janelle ..... rachael\_janelle@hotmail.com

#### Interim Secretary

Nicole Cook ..... nicole@tgforum.com

#### Treasurer

Stephanie Ann Blythe ..... steph628@tgforum.com

#### Education

Ally Grillo ..... agrillo@email.sjsu.edu

#### Outreach

Kalani Makanani ..... kalani@tgforum.com

#### Social

Tianna DeVil ..... tdevil@serius.com

### Other Email Addresses

#### Editor

Comments and submissions to the TGSF newsletter  
The Channel.

Ayme Kantz ..... MissAyme@aol.com

Or ..... tgsfeditor@yahoo.com

**Webmistress .....** moodydeb@yahoo.com

Comments and suggestions concerning the TGSF  
web site www.tgsf.org

**Information .....** nicole@tgforum.com

Requests for information concerning TGSF and up-  
coming events

**Calendar .....** nicole@tgforum.com

Submissions of descriptions of upcoming events of  
TGSF and other groups for publication in The Chan-  
nel, the calendar on the TGSF web site, the TGSF  
Telephone Hotline, the TGSF email list, and shar-  
ing with other groups.



# Shirley Faire

## OL' SHEP

The music takes me back.

*At the first notes of the horses-at-the-starting-gate trumpet flourish, I'm back in my room in Queens, New York forty-five years ago. It's nine-oh-five on a Sunday evening. School tomorrow. My schoolbooks are in the same place I dropped them Friday afternoon. Who cares about school. Life is too big, and yet my life is too small, and school is one of the reasons. I want a big life, with big, new thoughts, which you don't get in Mrs. Nusbaum's Geometry class. Adulthood looms around the bend, throwing a heavy shadow. Adults don't go around discussing theorems and sines and cosines. They smoke and drink and tell dirty stories and have sex and go anywhere they want and rely only on themselves. Adulthood is real life. I want to be able to meet and master it, whatever it is. I want, I want...I don't know what. I want somebody to help me understand it so I can feel capable and strong instead of powerless.*

*My radio is tuned to WOR, somewhere on the high middle of the dial, just below the gospel and foreign language stations; the music is an overture from a long forgotten late nineteenth century light operetta, music which I would disregard if it weren't the opening and closing theme to Jean Shepherd's program.*

Never heard of him? If you ever saw a movie called "A Christmas Story," starring Darin McGavin as a comically crabby father, you saw the truest visualization of the stories told by the greatest American radio artist, certainly one of the few, of the twentieth century.

The theme music continued. You didn't know when Shepherd, Shep, would start talking. He might wait for the whole one minute 57 seconds of his theme to reach its crescendo, and give you another five or ten seconds of silence before speaking. Even then, he might not speak. You might hear more music, from a 20's jug band, and then Shepherd reading, without introduction, "The Ballad of Sam McGee," by Robert W. Service. "There are strange things done in the midnight sun by the men who moil for gold/The Arctic trails have their secret tales that would make your blood run cold..." Or he might begin with a laugh, more of a snort, really. "I got this here news clipping. I dunno, maybe you read about it. There's this guy who says that by the year 2000, television will bring the entire world together in peace through understanding. Oh, yeah! You wanna bet?" And he'd devote the next half-hour to discussing that and other inanities. Or he might launch into long stories about life in the WWII Army Signal Corps, or his Indiana childhood. "My old man was the biggest White Sox fan you ever saw. Talk about your man of faith. The White Sox began their season thirty-six games out of first place."

Shepherd was on every Sunday for four hours, with interruptions for news (and for five minutes at 10:30, John T. Flynn, a right wing nut, who fulminated over how we had "lost" China to the Commies because of liberal betrayal. It was as incongruous as giving Jerry Falwell five minutes in the middle of Masterpiece Theater). Using only his voice and imagination, Shep wove a fabric of story-telling, recitation, observation, while banging his desk, shuffling papers, accompanying old jazz records with his nose flute or head thumping (don't ask). After the 11 o'clock news, it was all blue water, 11:15 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., with Shep sailing dependably into uncharted seas.

Shepherd was the first, absolute first person I ever heard discuss the significance of trivia in American culture. He laughed at pop icons, and reveled in their goofy exuberance. Most of life was ordinary, boring, and most of the time we poor twentieth century

American slobs were trying to reconstruct the ordinary facts of our lives into the fantasies portrayed for us in television, movies and music. They were funny, and so were we.

Four hours a week of my fifteen year old life I took a step back from the world and saw it, through the radio, with Jean Shepherd's eyes. Something to remember about most radios back then: they had tubes; they were warm; and they were big, even the portables. When I stuffed my portable in the covers beside me, with the volume lowered so my mother couldn't hear and nag me to turn it off, it was like having another person in there with me. I wasn't just a listener, but a co-conspirator. In that nestled environment, deep into the night, Shepherd was the *agent provocateur*. "Listen, let's level, OK? You want to tell them all off, don't you? You know who I'm talking about, don't you? Them. Out there. All of them. This is your chance. I am going to hurl an invective. Me. Nobody will know it's really you, so you'll be off the hook. Here's what you do..." And Shepherd would tell you to put your radio outside your window, and on the count of three, turn up the volume: "I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU GUYS! YOU GUYS ARE ALL A BUNCH OF STINKIN' PHONIES! I GOT THE GOODS ON YOU ALL! NONE OF YOU IS GETTIN' OFF!" Then silence, and you slid your window shut and pulled the radio back under the warm covers. Big stuff for a fifteen year old kid in nineteen fifty-eight.

For me, Shepherd was the mentor I wouldn't have had otherwise. He helped me navigate my teenage years by giving me a perspective on the world that made me feel unique and wiser than I really was. I learned to laugh at things that otherwise might have made me feel crushed, and I learned as well to not take myself quite so seriously; even to laugh at myself. More than that, Shepherd helped me construct a personality that allowed me to function as a male. I could be a guy without being a jock or a tough guy. I could be like Shep. I bent my New York accent into mid-West inflections. I adopted sardonic humor and intellectual distance as armor for my self-doubt, and it all worked; as long as it had to, at least.

*If I am still awake by the one a.m. close of his show, I hear that trumpet blast again, only now it interrupts, bright, shocking and unwelcome, as Shep is finishing a story about a bull alligator in the swamps near his Army base during WWII. You want Shepherd never to stop, and he doesn't...right to the very second before the music dies. And then it is over, and you are plunged back into the world you had for four hours felt so much better than.*

Here at the opening of the 21st century, radio fans are blessed to inhabit a new golden age of radio. Programs on NPR, such as "Prairie Home Companion," "Fresh Air," "This American Life," "Le Show," "Joe Frank," are revitalizing radio, creating fresh art for an old medium with limitless possibilities. And the granddaddy of it all is the man who, forty and more years ago, planted a seed much as Mark Twain had to inspire American writers. Jean Shepherd. Shep.

When I left New York, I also had to leave behind my ritual of listening to Shep. Over the years, I missed and wondered what ever became of him. He would infrequently surface in a PBS television series, "Jean Shepherd's America," or through movie projects, most notably "A Christmas Story," now an accepted classic. Otherwise, I was on my own. At some point I realized that the man I always thought of as 35 years old must be in his seventies, an old man. Was he still alive? What was he doing?

I was listening to the car radio one evening in October 1999 when I heard the news. Shepherd was dead. He had died October 16, 1999, in the closing days of the 20th century, his century. I cried as if I had lost a father.



**Action Alert:  
Falwell Attacks TG Portrayal on TV**

**JERRY FALWELL IS STILL AT IT...**

The following commentary, by JTC, was posted on another list, but I find much truth and great insight in his writing. Jerry Falwell, disguising his words in the cloak of religion, continues to fan the flames of hatred and ignorance. In a recent article, he attacks the transgender character in the CBS show, "The Education of Max Bickford," and calls on his followers to complain to the television stations.

This attack is only his latest against the GLBT Communities. Perhaps we can use his resources and contact the television stations to commend and praise them for the advances they've made in the positive portrayal of such characters. Remember that it was extremists like Jerry Falwell that recently got the Salvation Army to rescind their domestic partner benefits. With enough voice and little response, they can continue to take away our GLBT civil rights and our advances against bigotry.

I thank JTC for this very insightful and thought-provoking piece.

**Paul**

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SD-GLBT>



**National Liberty Journal Online**

**GETTING BRACED FOR  
FALWELL'S TRANSPHOBIA**

When reading this article, I realized that the new transsexual character, Erica/Steve, who part of the story discusses, could soon very well usher to the forefront of public discussion in both UK and US media and religion, the pervasive psycho-medical conflation of transgender, transsexual, and homosexual. A new telly show with a transgenital character Erica/Steve is soon coming forth on CBS.

There are several inaccuracies in the following Liberty Journal Online article. Quoting the first soulforcee shirt, Lynchburg, October 22-24, 1999: "Speech has power. Words do not fade. What starts as a sound, ends in a deed." Rabbi Abraham Heschel.

First, on a misleading and demeaning usage of the word "transgendered:" If one is not transsexualized, lesbianed, transvestited, gayed, bisexualized, homosexualized, cross-dressered, or heterosexualized, one is not transgendered, either.

Second, this article, by implicitly and overtly linking homosexual with transsexual falsely hyper-sexualises transgender. Hence, the trouble with the historical medical and psychiatric term 'transsexual' rather than the modern and enlightened 'transgenital' and 'transgender'. (For the literal-minded readers who we are contending with most often in the fundamentalist right-wing, transsexual literally means a-crossed-sexual-pervert. Literal interpreters read the word 'sexual' as sexuality, even when no sexuality is related to the context of the term. One only need consider a little transgender child to understand the error of sexualising the word. In this way of literal reading-into words, sexuality and gender are confused. Therein lies a problem with inaccurate 20thc. medically made and psychology denotated words).

Third, this article is a primary example of how misinformation and untruth begins to become circulated.

Fourth, the title of the article does more than suggest that transgender is a sexual characteristic. The writer does not offer any defining explanations that raise proper and truthful awareness that transgender is a gender identity and expression, an important aspect of human reality that is appropriately framed as a gender issue. Theories of transgender that sexualise have fallen into a heterosexual trap. Such misinformed theories are keeping transgender in a sexual perversion box, much as The Reverend Falwell has done by his own proselytizing rhetoric, in order to categorically defame transgender as if it were both homosexual and perversion. Transgender is neither. We realize that some Euro-American transgender people have also internalized a heterosexual theory of transgender. Transsexuals most likely target audiences and readership will not have the skill or will to disentangle the errant webs of heterosexual deceptions conceptually woven together.

Fifth, since gay and homosexual are conceptually gaining both UK and US territory in popular culture and are infinitely more well understood and publicly tolerated than they were 50 years ago, transsexual campaign-fundings against transgender could escalate.

Sixth, hate speech and hate crimes escalate unless we act in concert to actively resist the conceptual violence that is already being circulated in this article. The Liberty Journal ends by urging readers to consider sexually offensive this new show with a transgenital protagonist, Erica/Steve, and protest the network: CBS.

Seventh, as underlined below, transgenital and transgender people are more than "politically-correct" characters, in reality. The language which follows in that statement is pejorative: "Transsexual characters . . . scattered across America." My concern is that transgenital and transgender people are already being splattered across the UK and the US.

Eighth, protesting transgender and transgenital characters in a show is one way to publicly assault them in whole cultures and get away with it, without being identified as anti-social, anti-democratic, anti-British, anti-American, anti-cultural, anti-civilized, and most especially, anti-Christian. In short, bigotry passes as none of the above using a thick mask of right-wing fundamentalist rhetoric. In this way, it can continue onward generating hate speech and hate crimes that lead to untold suffering and murder.

Ninth, in the US one problem that makes the US national politic so susceptible to abuses of the religious-right are special legal privileges for religious bigotry. The trumping of the 14th Amendment by the guarantees of the 1st Amendment.

Very complex international issues are raised by one violence-generating article. This is a US right wing fundamentalist article passing itself off as morally concerned for decency on television. History proves that when the GLBTA allows the right-wing to get an upper hand in the rhetorical force-field of bigotry, they use that upper hand as a club of intolerance to smash and mischaracterize, spreading vicious untruths and theocratic disinformation. This article is bound to begin generating a heightened level of anti-transgender propaganda. A shrewd and gentle strategy could be to circulate it widely, opening up a discussion like I have tried to do here, only perhaps more suited for a less well read and informed audience than this list.

Should you find my concerns valuable and wish to repost them, please feel invited to do so.

**Joining hearts and hands across the sky, JTC**  
<http://www.nljonline.com/oct01/brickford.htm>

*The Article in Question Continues on Page 14*



Earlier this year, The City approved a plan to provide sex-change benefits for qualified city workers. There is a Transgender Civil Rights Implementation Task Force, and the Police Department is planning to implement officer sensitivity training for transsexuals, drawing up specific guidelines for the use of appropriate pronouns when talking with transgender people.

When Theresa Sparks was appointed to The City's Human Rights Commission in February this year, she was the first transsexual to join the powerful city agency. Still, Sparks said, there is a long way to go.

"The transgender struggle is now where the gay rights movement was 20 years ago," she said.

### **Growing Up Boy**

Stryker is a 40-year-old blonde with wavy shoulder-length hair and bright blue eyes. She grew up as a boy in Oklahoma and came out as a woman in the spring of 1991, changing her name, taking hormones and undergoing electrolysis. In 1998, she completed the transformation by undergoing surgery.

The body she left behind had been married to a woman who identified as a lesbian. They had a child together, who is now 18, and Stryker continues to parent. Until recently, she was in a relationship with another lesbian that began after she first transitioned. They also have a child.

The complexities of gender and sexual preference criss-cross and blur in the transgender community, confusing straights and gays to equally incomprehensible degrees. For Stryker, it is lesbians over 40 who vehemently oppose the choices she has made.

"Their understanding of me is that I am a really f— up person who can't accept my own homosexuality, so I mutilated my body to maintain relationships with men," she said. "But my self perception is as a woman, and I have always been attracted to women."

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### **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](mailto:www.aluckywife@aol.com) and explain a little about your situation.

Stryker says while there is discrimination within the GLBT community, it doesn't mean that transgender people are completely shunned. The fact that she is the executive director of the group assigned to collect and preserve the community's artifacts speaks for itself.

"Many recognize transgender issues as a civil rights issue," she said. "But would you want your sister to marry one? Would you date a transsexual lesbian? If your partner transitioned, would you stay with them?"

Ironically, Stryker said, it is in the straight community where she feels the most accepted.

### **Gender Wars**

Riki Wilchins, executive director of Gender PAC, a national gender rights advocacy group, says gender rights is the next civil rights battlefield.

Gender PAC has supported people like Brandon Teena, the female-to-male teenage transgender whose life was portrayed in the movie "Boys Don't Cry," and Dawn Dawson, a lesbian who recently was fired by the hair salon where she worked because she was seen as being too butch.

"There is a generalized discomfort about gender issues that extends past transgender people into all those that transcend gender norms," Wilchins said.

The GLBT community is facing an era where people don't want to identify as merely male or female, inciting a struggle from within, said queer activist Sini Anderson.

Stryker welcomes the change.

"I am an immigrant," she said of her emergence as a transsexual lesbian in the GLBT community. "Maybe I'll always speak with an accent, but this is where I work and this is where I pay my taxes."

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## BREAKING NEW SEXUAL GROUND AT THE NETWORKS' EXPOSURE

CBS is aggressively pushing "The Education of Max Bickford," a drama featuring network television's first-ever transsexual lead character.

In the last several years, network television has taken the low road regarding sexuality and offensive language. This year will be no different, with new ground being broken in terms of nudity, sexuality and foul language.

The New York Times reported, in an article titled "As Cable Applies Pressure, Network TV Spouts Expletives," that network television executives are preparing a fall season that will push the boundaries of vulgarity, profanity and lewdness further than ever, after claiming that the cable channels are filching their audiences because those channels face no censoring.

The networks' insistence on exploring sexual themes comes following a Family Circle magazine survey that found 77 percent of adults agreeing that "today's TV programming is overloaded with sex, sex and more sex."

In August, the Parents Television Council reported that there has been a "huge increase in coarse language" during the 8 to 9 p.m. hour on broadcast TV and that, while sexual content during that hour has fallen, "much of today's Family Hour sexual content deals with topics, such as oral sex and pornography, which just a few years ago were rarely touched on even in 10 p.m. shows, let alone 8 p.m. fare."

In addition, in February, the Kaiser Family Foundation reported that "more TV shows include sexual content" and that "sexual content is even more common in primetime network programs than on TV in general."

Nevertheless, new levels of prime-time indecency are on the way this fall. In fact, the networks typically utilize sexual remarks lifted from shows in their advertising campaigns. In an ad for the Fox series "Undeclared," a female character frankly tells a male character, "Let's have sex." The network is obviously hoping to muster the interest of young male viewers.

Federal Communications Commission chief Gloria Tristani, who recently resigned, was an outspoken critic of the organization's failure to vigorously enforce the Broadcast Indecency Law. At one point last year, Ms. Tristani stated, "The Commission appears so averse to indecency cases, and has erected so many barriers to

Continued on Page 15



Tianna checks out Dale's new bod!

### Cotillion 2002!

January 26, 2002 — 7:30pm  
Design Center Galleria

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*Tianna (again! Boy she sure gets around!),  
with past President, Erin Souza*

## **Breaking New Sexual Ground...**

*Continued from Page 14*

complaints from members of the public, that indecency enforcement has become almost nonexistent .... It's time for the Commission to begin taking indecency cases seriously ... It's our duty to the law, and ... to our children."

Robert W. Peters, president of Morality in Media, said that, for more than a decade, the FCC has been "dismissing virtually all indecency complaints that do not include a tape of the program. Since most TV viewers aren't taping programs when they or their children are assaulted by indecent content, this practice has virtually ensured that there will be few if any indecency actions instituted against TV licensees."

Mr. Peters said it was clear that the FCC "has all too often turned a deaf ear and a blind eye toward the problem of indecent programming on radio and TV." He said that if Congress is serious about protecting children from indecent television content, lawmakers need to enact much needed legislation restricting indecency on at least basic cable TV channels.

### **TV's Homosexual Haven**

The broadcast and cable networks will once again feature a host of homosexual characters this year. The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation has listed its annual network report card, identifying homosexual characters on the network and cable television outlets.

GLAAD reported that the 2001-2002 season will feature lead homosexual characters on the following series: "100 Centre Street," "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "The Ellen Show" (featuring the return of Ellen DeGeneres to network television), "Leap Years," "Oz," "Queer as Folk," "Six Feet Under," "Will and Grace" and "ER," where the character of Dr. Kerry Weaver abruptly determined that she was a lesbian last season. (In recent seasons, "ER" has featured almost as many intra-hospital sexual affairs as medical emergencies.)

This year, series featuring homosexual supporting characters include: "Dark Angel," "Dawson's Creek," "Felicity," "NYPD Blue," "South Park" and "Spin City." And this year's series featuring recurring homosexual characters include: "Friends," "Providence," "Sex and the City," "The Simpsons" and "Son of the Beach."

*Continued on Page 16*

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## Breaking New Sexual Ground...

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### Breaking Sexual Ground

New CBS series "The Education of Max Bickford," featuring Academy Award winner Richard Dreyfuss as a weary college professor at an all-female institution, will feature the first-ever lead character who has undergone a sex-change operation. CBS describes Max's best friend as a guy named Steve who has just returned from sabbatical as the newly "transgendered" Erica.

The networks aided the homosexual-rights movement gain wide acceptance by peppering homosexual characters in series over the last several years. Transsexual characters may be the next politically-correct group of characters to be scattered across America's television screens.

It should be noted that characterizations of evangelical Christians and conservative Catholics - groups that oppose the normalization of homosexuality and heterosexual promiscuity on biblical grounds - continue to be routinely negative on network and cable broadcasts.

There will be other firsts on the network this year.

CBS' "Wolf Lake," a drama about "shape-shifters" who can transform themselves into wolves, will carry the warning that the series contains "partial nudity." ABC's "Philly" will follow in the tradition of "NYPD Blue" in terms of nudity and coarse language.

### Language Barriers Fall

Aaron Sorkin, executive producer of NBC's "The West Wing," told The New York Times he hopes to break a longstanding network taboo this season by having a character use the Lord's name in vain.

There is precedent for such a move: In an episode of the series last season, the show's central character, President Josiah Bartlett (Martin Sheen) rendered a bitter attack on Christ after a staff member was killed by a drunk driver. "You're a son of a <expletive>; you know that?" he charges of God. He later calls God a "feckless thing" and growls, "To hell with your punishments. To hell with you."

Since the networks operate on a copycat level, more blasphemy will surely be approved if NBC successfully allows Sorkin to get his way. Already at ABC, "Philly" producers have proposed adopting language that takes the profanity currently in use on the network's "NYPD Blue" to new levels of indecency. The Times also reported that CBS executives have reported that writers are submitting scripts for programs that include every obscene word imaginable.

The newspaper said that while script proposals must clear network censors, given the moral collapse of the last few years, even more leeway will likely be granted. Ed Vitagliano, director of research for the American Family Association, accuses network television of being in a "moral freefall."

### Taking Action

National Liberty Journal encourages readers to be diligent in protesting to the networks when offensive broadcasts are aired. Visit the NLJ Web site (<http://www.nljonline.com/network.htm>) to discover addresses, phone and fax numbers and E-mail addresses to the networks. The rapid moral decline on television will never stop until concerned viewers make their voices known to the networks and advertisers.



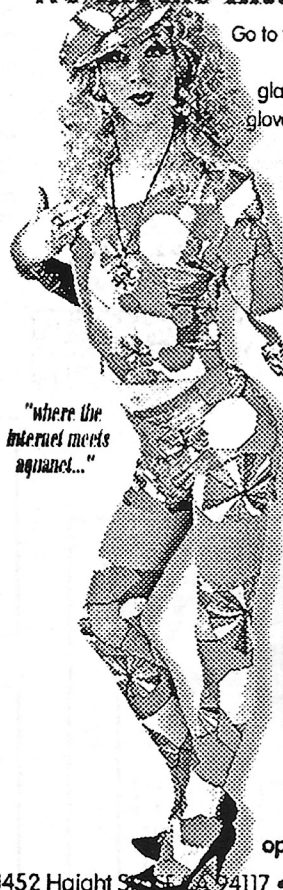
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