

ETVC

## NEWSLETTER

VOLUME FOURTEEN, NUMBER 5,

MARCH - APRIL, 1996

# San Francisco, Open Your Golden Gate!

by Donna Freeman

Imagine four exciting, fun-filled days as your femme self! Savoring scrumptious meals, attending informative seminars, hearing dynamic speakers and enjoying a brand new show featuring the most spectacular talent in the gender community.

Well, imagine no more! California Dreamin' 96 is coming to a hotel near you, the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn on Van Ness between Pine and California to be exact and only a block from Kimo's. The dates are from Thursday, April 25 to Sunday, April 28 and it just won't be the same without YOU.

The fun starts on Thursday night with a cocktail social where you will meet some of the prominent members of our community. Since this is also the same night as our monthly social, we are holding them both concurrently. I can't think of a better way to show the conventioners that ETVC really knows how to party.

A full schedule of seminars is planned for Friday and Saturday. Dr. Richard Docter, famed researcher and friend of the gender community, and local ETVC makeup guru, Bill Jones, will highlight the program for CD's which also includes seminars on accessorizing, colors, deportment and wig care. The TS program topics will include law/insurance/documents, voice, hormones, facial plastic surgery, MTF SRS and issues concerning the loved ones of TS's with Geanne Ebner of LOTS. We are also working on a

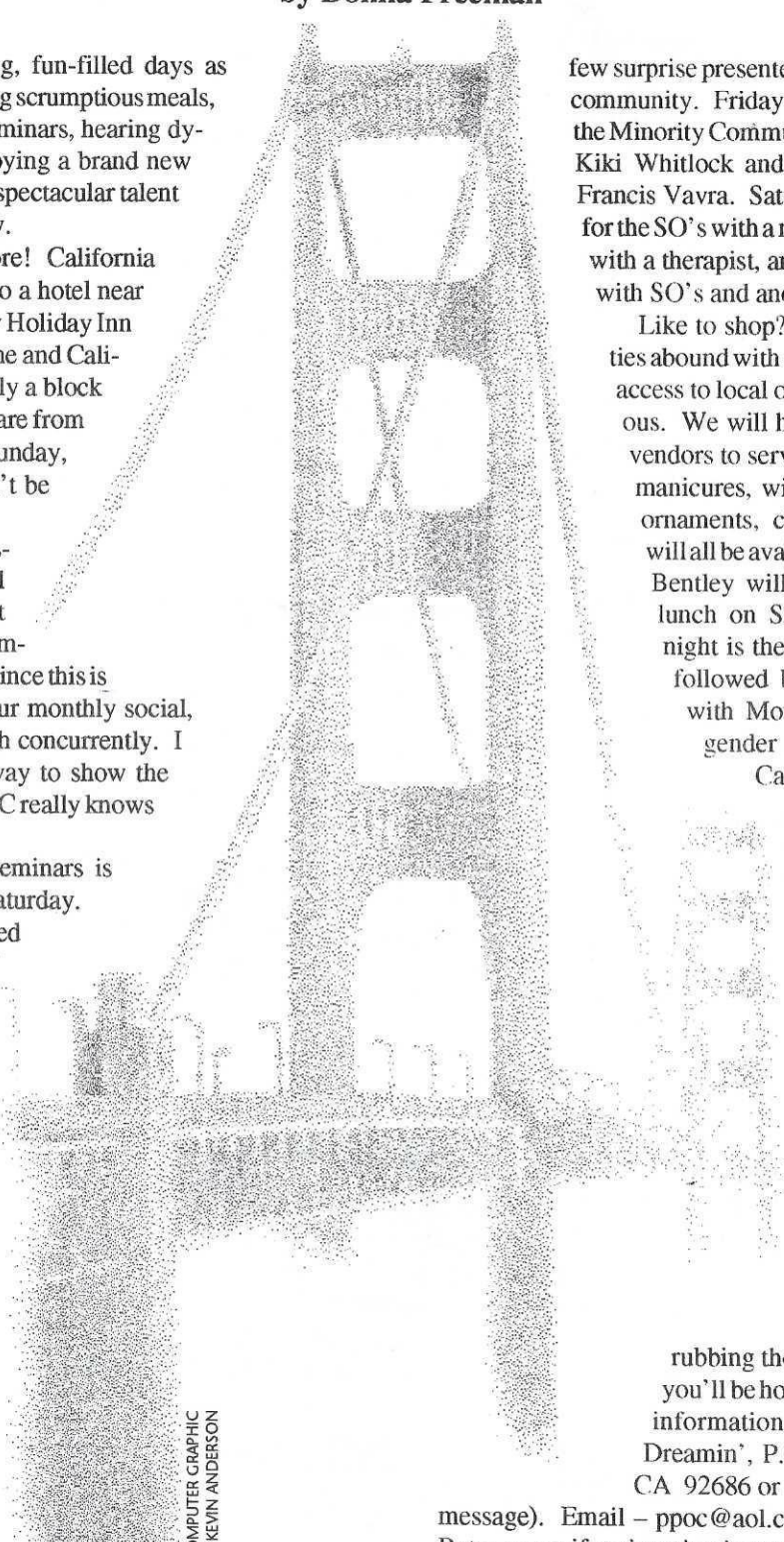
few surprise presenters who are well known in our community. Friday will bring a presentation on the Minority Community by San Francisco's own Kiki Whitlock and an FTM presentation with Francis Vavra. Saturday will provide a full day for the SO's with a morning rap session, possibly with a therapist, and two afternoon panels, one with SO's and another with their partners.

Like to shop? Great shopping opportunities abound with our on-site vendors with easy access to local outlets for the more adventurous. We will have a huge room full of our vendors to serve your needs. Nail care and manicures, wigs, hair styling, comb outs, ornaments, clothing, lingerie and shoes will all be available. Our own Jane Kamper Bentley will be the keynote speaker at lunch on Saturday. The banquet that night is the highlight of the convention followed by unequalled entertainment with Movin' On, a great group of gender performers from Southern California.

Even though I have been to numerous gender conventions, I always enjoy them immensely. It is such fun seeing old friends again while constantly making new ones. If at all possible, I urge you to attend at least part of the convention, you'll not regret it. And if you have some time to volunteer amid all the fun, we certainly could use the help. For more information, call the ETVC or DVG hotlines or the RGA warm line (Keep

rubbing those hands together, gals, and you'll be hot soon, too!). For registration information, contact PPOC/California Dreamin', P.O. Box 1088, Yorba Linda, CA 92686 or call (714) 779-9013 (leave a

message). Email - ppoc@aol.com or dreamin96@aol.com. Rates go up if registration is received after 3/6/96.



COMPUTER GRAPHIC  
BY KEVIN ANDERSON

THE CHANGING

# THE CHANNEL

ETVC Inc., a non-profit corporation, is a non-sexual, membership based organization serving the educational, social, and recreational needs of gender-challenged people, their spouses, significant others, family members, friends, and professionals in the helping services. For details about ETVC programs, membership, article submission guidelines and classified ads, please write to: ETVC Secretary, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486. Minutes of all ETVC committee meetings are available to members on request.

## OFFICERS

President	J. K. Bentley
Vice-President	Lisa Maxwell
Secretary	Jamie Faye Fenton
Treasurer	Jano Bogg
Education	Trina Bloom
Outreach	Lauren Hothckiss & Erin Souza
Social	Lulu Blau & Tedra Thomsen

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership (as of 1/31/96)	367
Total 1994 Membership	438
New Memberships this year	60

## TREASURER'S REPORT

An updated report will appear in the next issue.

*ETVC is a non-profit corporation.*

*Donations to ETVC are TAX DEDUCTIBLE on both federal and California income tax returns.*

Channel, the ETVC Newsletter, is published the last week of February, April, June, August, October and December. Submissions should arrive at ETVC by the 25th day of the previous month. Contents reflect the opinions of the contributors and the editor, and are not necessarily those of ETVC. Other organizations may reprint or reproduce uncopyrighted portions of the newsletter for their members, provided ETVC is acknowledged. Copyrighted materials may be reproduced only with written permission of ETVC.

## NEWSLETTER STAFF

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Associate Editors	J.K. Bentley, B. Dunne, J. Fenton, Ginny K., E. Souza J. & V. Smith
Advertising	Please Volunteer
Photographer	Elaine B.
Layout & Design	Kevin Anderson
Printing	Your Place Graphics

## AD RATES

	Per issue	Per year
Business Card	\$25	\$125
4" X 5"	\$60	\$300

Personal ads from ETVC members: \$3 for up to 40 words. We will *not* accept ads with a sexual objective. Ad deadlines are the 25th of May, July, September, November, January and March. Send ad copy and check or money order to: ETVC, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486

## HOTLINE &

**VOICE MAIL** 415-564-3246

**B.B.S.** 415-564-4903

# Letter from Elizabeth

By Elizabeth Walters

Hello, all! My name is Elizabeth Walters, and I am the new editor — although I prefer the title “editrix” — of ETVC Channel. Starting with this issue, I will be taking over the green eyeshade from our own Francis Vavra, who is going on to bigger things. I use the term “taking over” deliberately: there is no way I could ever replace Francis.

Some of you I have chatted with through postings on the ETVC bulletin board. A few others I know from past ETVC, DVG and SGA socials, not to mention our fabulous costume party at the Dunfy last Hallowe'en. I hope to meet a lot more of you in the coming months.

As a life-long cross-dresser who only went public in 1994, I joined ETVC last May primarily for social reasons. This organization has served that end perfectly: since coming aboard, I have met more wonderful people and made more new friends than I ever would have dreamed possible. ETVC has helped give me what all of us so desperately need — a sense of connection to a real community of people with shared problems, hopes and aspirations.

Despite that, I was originally reluctant to take this job, thinking that the last thing I needed was another complication in my life. But my good friend Cindy Martin was instrumental in helping to change my mind. I thank her for this opportunity and warn you in advance that if future editions of the newsletter don't meet with your complete satisfaction — blame Cindy: it's all her fault!

A new editor's first note to readers is usually the place where bold new initiatives are announced and new directions laid out. I have none to offer. This is your newsletter, not mine. I have only two editorial goals: to open this publication up to as many voices from our community as I can, and to make it as varied, interesting and readable as possible.

To achieve both those ends, I intend to exercise a firm editorial hand; however, I also intend it to be a light one. I see my role as that of a literary corsetier: I will take a little pinch here, a little tuck there, solely with the intention of wedging those voluptuous stories into this tiny size 8 newsletter.

Hopefully, the results will meet with your approval, but in any event, let me know how I am doing. If you have story ideas, subjects you would like to see covered or just want to respond to something in an issue, write me care of the ETVC post office box.

I look forward to hearing from you — and hope you look forward to hearing from us!

Love, Elizabeth

**The New**  
**KIMO'S**  
1351 Polk Street — S.F.  
(415) 885-4535

**SHOWROOM and SPORTS ARENA**  
SAN FRANCISCO'S LARGEST GAY SHOWROOM

## President's Message



ETVC President  
Jane Kamper Bentley

### *If You Care...*

Membership is down. In spite of 1995-96 being the year in which we saw 120 transgender people march in our contingent at the Freedom Day Parade; launched our highly successful Gender Fair; turned out 28 members to answer phones at KQED

Pledge Night; and saw 24 members attend our first ever miniature golf tournament still, record numbers have chosen not to rejoin. And they won't say why. A survey mailed to former members got a total of one response.

The why goes unanswered for the present. Someone has suggested that ETVC's very success in getting people out of the closet and encouraging the growth of regional transgender clubs is the reason our numbers are off. Folks just don't need us anymore as a refuge, nor do they need to take a long trip to San Francisco to be crossdressed. Maybe.

A decline in renewing members is matched by another trend: a decline in new members. For about five years prior to 1995, membership stayed right around 440 as the number of new members matched those of non-renewing members. This year, we are getting fewer new members to offset non-renewals. Someone thought this might be because the internet offers websites that compete with our newsletter for readership. Indications, however, are that a good percentage of new members found out about us through a website.

Whatever the reasons, project the current decline over several years and you can see ETVC, because of declining revenues and a declining volunteer base, having to scale back when it should grow, a tragedy for our emerging community. Unless, of course, our club's only purpose was to make it possible for crossdressers to go downtown in high heels.

If that's what we're about, well, let's fold up the operation now and drive on down to the Nordstrom sale. You don't need a community for that—not until the right-wing back-lash settles in here, too, like it is every place else in the country. But if our purpose—not forgetting the fun stuff—is to reach out to tens of thousands still lingering in the shadows, to educate ourselves, the medical community, the political community, the media—our friends, family and neighbors, to encourage each other to reveal our true selves at ALL appropriate (and sometimes inappropriate) opportunities, to form alliances with others ostracized by bigotry, to lend help and comfort to our transsexual brothers and sisters through their often harrowing journeys—if we really and truly want to become a community rather than a population—we need ETVC.

ETVC, finally, is nothing more than an idea: a covenant of love, trust, faith and hope made by people—every single one a volunteer—who care about each other. How much do you care? If you care, put your caring on the line. Go to the calendar page right now. Circle the next meeting of a committee meeting, and attend. You don't need a special invitation. Just show up. You will be welcomed with open arms, I promise you.

In late April or early May you will get your annual renewal notice. please, do not put it aside. Write your renewal check right away. Help to keep ETVC vital. Help it to grow so it can help our community to grow. Thanks.

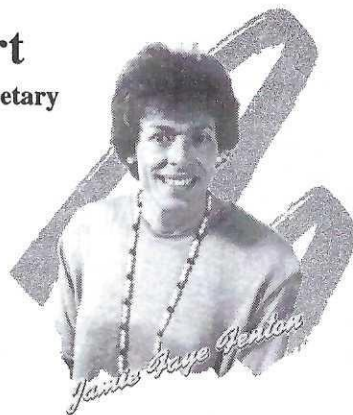
## Secretary's Report

Jamie Faye Fenton, ETVC Secretary

### ETVC Telephone Makeover

We are changing our telephone numbers and how they work. This was necessary to save money and take advantage of technological improvements.

The biggest change involves the ETVC Hotline, which is moving from Berkeley to San Francisco, and is being combined with the ETVC voice mail system. This new number, (415) 564-3246, will serve as our hotline number during the evenings, and as our voice mail number during other times. This number features a new type of call forwarding that allows our hotline volunteers to change the



destination number remotely, so we can expand the hours when a live answer is available.

When no operator is on duty, callers will reach Gal Friday, a special type of answering machine. A simple one level menu allows callers to leave messages for ETVC officers, find out about upcoming events and access basic information about our organization. Pressing the "8" key will take you to the older, more elaborate voice mail system that we have been using for the past several years.

If you have a voice mailbox, you will need to call during times when an operator is not on duty to leave or retrieve messages.

Why did we do this? We determined that most voice mail users were calling to hear recorded announcements and the individual voice mailboxes were very lightly used. Moreover, committee members were having trouble changing the announcement messages. Finally, we had to move out of Cheryl's basement! If any of these changes inconvenience you, please let us know.

Computer BBS Users should note that our dial-in number also has changed. It is now (415) 564-4903.

# Special Events

## Mid Month Socials

Wednesday, March 13th and Wednesday, April 10th

Come spill the beans, dish the dirt, fill your bowl with hot gossip! The gab and gas continues at Eichelberger's — the place to share juicy tit-bits and a giggle with the girls over a cocktail .. maybe a bite from the kitchen as well. Let's flap our pretty lips, sink a few ships and get the place abuzz. 17th & Florida, SF, 8:00 PM. FREE

## Educational Seminar:

### Dealing With Unexpected Situations

Wednesday, March 20th

While cross dressed, have you ever been pulled over by the police while driving, had your wig pulled off in public, been accosted by police while leaving a women's restroom or been approached by a threatening group of teenagers? If these scenarios send shivers down your spine and you're not sure what to do, this seminar is for you! In the next few weeks, surveys and interviews will be held at socials and via the Internet to collect stories and useful advice to discuss at the seminar. Please participate if asked. The seminar will also include advice from a professional organization, and we hope to make the information available to the ETVC library as well as on a World Wide Web site. Join us and add your experiences and opinions to the data..Kimo's upstairs, Polk and Pine, SF 8:00 PM. \$3.

## March Hair Madness

Thursday, March 28th

With the wind in our wigs, things will be a little crazy down by the Bay. First a presentation on how to make the most of what we've got, be it frenzied frizz or faux, by a noted coiffeur.. then a contest with three categories— "Natural Do's" for those who have enough to roll their own, "Big Wigs" for gals who like to pile it on, and "Trez Vogue" for elegant tresses. So brush up your beehives, ladies, and bring it all down — spritz, spray and gel to Jelly's (at Pier 50), 295 China Basin Way, SF, 8 PM. \$5 members, \$7 guests.

*Please note: Nominations for ETVC officers for the 1996-97 term will be accepted at the March 28th Social. Please consider volunteering to run for office. We need your help!*

## Education Seminar:

### New Faces - Makeup Artist Bill Jones

Wednesday, April 17

The Master Returns! Bill Jones, the renowned makeup artist who makes Beach Blanket Babylon's Snow White look like Snow White and Pavarotti look like, well, not quite so much like Pavarotti at the Opera House, can help you achieve the look of your dreams (The Evil Queen? Mimi, in La Bohème? Or maybe just the best you for your debut at California Dreamin). All you need do is bring your own mirror (preferably one with lights) and your own makeup. Bill will tell you everything you need to know about beard cover and those amazing little tricks of his to bring out the loveliest in you. Upstairs at Kimo's - 8 p.m. \$3

## TS Seminar: Hormones and You

Sunday, April 21

When is the right time to start hormones? What emotional or physical changes (aside from the obvious ones) can I expect? If my current dosage gives me just some of the changes I want, will a bigger dosage give me more? What are the most effective combinations of hormones? A prominent Bay Area endocrinologist will answer all your questions and perhaps tell you a few things you hadn't thought about—but should know. 2 - 3:30 p.m. Followed by a pot luck dinner until 5 p.m. Upstairs at Kimo's, Polk and Pine, SF. FREE!

## "I Found My Heart in San Francisco" Night

Thursday, April 25th

It's the kick-off party for the California Dreamin' Convention. ETVC and PPOC co-host a buffet dinner-social at the Holiday Inn Golden Gateway, 1500 Van Ness Blvd in SF, with live music and light entertainment. This night, ETVC members get to be grown-up munchkins welcoming housefuls of Dorothys freshly tornadoed from Kansas (i.e., all that lies outside the Bay Area). We'll sing "Ding-dong, the wicked witch is dead, but the mean queens are everywhere" and teach them flatlanders how to click their high heels together three times and whisper, "There is no place like Kimo's." 8 p.m. Members \$8. Guests \$10.

## Other Events Not to Miss!

- Saturday, Mar. 2nd San Francisco Imperial Court Coronation – changed to the S.F. Gift Center.
- Saturday, Apr. 6th ETVC Colors Easter Eggs for Baskets for the Homeless.
- Thursday, Apr. 25-28 California Dreamin' '96 Convention at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn, S.F.
- Saturday, May 4th The 1996 Closet Ball at Bimbo's, SF

For information, call Ginny at (415) 664-1499.

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# TV/TS/TG GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

<b>March</b>				
1	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose (408) 984-4044
1	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley (510) 841-6224
2	Imperial	Coronation	Doors Open 5PM	SF Gift Center (415) 664-1499
3	ETVC	Newsletter Committee	Starts at 5 PM	San Francisco (415) 664-1499
4	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek (510) 937-8432
7	DVG	Pacific Center Rap Group	Starts at 7 PM	Walnut Creek (510) 939-7711
8	ETVC	Poker Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Francisco (415) 664-1499
8	S.Bay	Gender Discussion Group	Meets 8-10 PM	San Jose (408) 984-5619
8	ETVC	Lending Library Open	Hours 7-11 PM	San Francisco (415) 664-1499
8	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley (510) 841-6224
9	TGIF	Potluck and Social	Starts at 4 PM	Santa Rosa (707) 544-1540
9	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento (916) 482-7742
10	FTM	Informational Meeting	Meets at 2 PM	San Francisco (510) 287-2646
10	ETVC	Outreach Committee	Starts at 12:30 PM	San Francisco (415) 731-7032
11	ETVC	TS/TG Committee	Meets at 7 PM	Kimo's-Upstairs (415) 750-1850
11	ETVC	Education Committee	Meets at 8 PM	Kimo's-Upstairs (408) 984-5619
13	ETVC	Mid-Month Gabfest	Meets at 8 PM	Eichelberger's (415) 821-6509
14	ETVC	Significant Others	Meets 7:30-10 PM	Pleasant Hill (415) 664-1499
15	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose (408) 984-4044
15	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley (510) 841-6224
16	ETVC	Bowling Night	Call for details	San Francisco (415) 731-7032
18	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek (510) 937-8432
19	ETVC	Social Committee	Starts at 8 PM	Eichelberger's (415) 821-6509
20	ETVC	Unexpected Situations	Starts at 8 PM	Kimo's-Upstairs (408) 984-5619
22	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley (510) 841-6224
23	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento (916) 482-7742
24	ETVC	Executive Committee	Starts at 2 PM	San Jose (415) 750-1850
28	ETVC	March Hair Madness	Starts at 8 PM	Jelly's, SF (415) 821-6509
<b>April</b>				
1	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek (510) 937-8432
4	DVG	Pacific Center Rap Group	Starts at 7 PM	Walnut Creek (510) 939-7711
5	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose (408) 984-4044
5	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley (510) 841-6224
6	ETVC	Easter Egg Party	Starts at 8 PM	San Francisco (415) 664-1499
8	ETVC	TS/TG Committee	Meets at 7 PM	Kimo's-Upstairs (415) 750-1850
8	ETVC	Education Committee	Meets at 8 PM	Kimo's-Upstairs (408) 984-5619
10	ETVC	Mid-Month Social	Meets at 8 PM	Eichelberger's (415) 821-6509
11	ETVC	Significant Others	Meets 7:30-10 PM	San Francisco (415) 664-1499
12	ETVC	Poker Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Francisco (415) 664-1499
12	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley (510) 841-6224
12	ETVC	Lending Library Open	Hours 7-11 PM	San Francisco (415) 664-1499
12	S.Bay	Gender Discussion Group	Meets 8-10 PM	San Jose (408) 984-5619
13	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento (916) 482-7742
14	FTM	Informational Meeting	Meets 2 PM	San Francisco (510) 287-2646
14	ETVC	Outreach Committee	Starts at 12:30 PM	San Francisco (415) 731-7032
15	DVG	Social	Starts at 8 PM	Walnut Creek (510) 937-8432
16	ETVC	Social Committee	Starts at 8 PM	Eichelberger's (415) 821-6509
17	ETVC	Bill Jones Seminar	Starts at 8 PM	Kimo's-Upstairs (408) 984-5619
19	RGA	Social	Starts at 8 PM	San Jose (408) 984-4044
19	Pac Ctr	TV/TS Rap	Meets 8-10 PM	Berkeley (510) 841-6224
20	ETVC	Bowling Night	Call for details	San Francisco (415) 731-7032
20	TGIF	Potluck and Social	Starts at PM	Santa Rosa (707) 544-1540
21	ETVC	TS/TG Seminar	Starts at 2 PM	Kimo's Upstairs (415) 750-1850
21	ETVC	Executive Committee	Starts at 5 PM	San Francisco (415) 750-1850
25	ETVC	My Heart in SF Social	Starts at 8 PM,	Holiday Inn-Van Ness,SF (415) 750-1850
25-28		California Dreamin'	Thursday-Sunday	Holiday Inn -Van Ness, SF (714) 779-9013
27	SGA	Social	Starts at 7:30 PM	Sacramento (916) 482-7742

# OTHER GROUPS



**Pacific Center for Human Growth**, a counseling oriented growth center, sponsors all-inclusive gender support groups on every Friday except the last one of the month at 8:00 PM, 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley, Call: (510) 841-6224.

**Rainbow Gender Association (RGA)** meets 1st and 3rd Friday of the month 8:00 PM at the New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose. Write: RGA, PO Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170. Call: (408) 984-4044

**Sacramento Gender Association (SGA)** Blue Rose Chapter meets 8 PM the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month in Sacramento. Write: PO Box 215456, Sacramento, CA 95821-1456. Call: (916) 482-7SGA for meeting locations.

**Diablo Valley Girls (DVG)** Meets first and third Monday of every month. 8 PM at Just Rewards Nightclub, 2520 Camino Diablo in Walnut Creek. Write: DVG, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885. Call: (510) 937-8432.

**FTM**, a support group for Female-to-Male crossdressers & transsexuals, holds both open, Informational Meetings, and closed, Support Meetings. Write: FTM, 5337 College Avenue #142, Oakland, CA 94618. Call Voice Mail: (510) 827-2646.

**TGIF (TransGenderism Is Fun)**, formerly the **Redwood Empire Social Club** meets one Saturday each month at a private home in Santa Rosa for a potluck social from 4 PM until early evening. For dates, location and reservations, call Diane or Anne at (707) 544-1540.

Please Print

## ETVC Membership Application

Mailing Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Family Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ New Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about ETVC? \_\_\_\_\_

**Part year membership from January 1 - May 31 is \$10.00 (Family - \$15.00) (New members only).**

**Full year membership June 1 - May 31 is \$20.00 (Family - \$30.00).**

Please remit by check or money order to:

**ETVC, P.O. Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486**

# An Evening at KQED

By Sandra Marie Leigh

On the eve of the worst storm to hit the Bay Area in years, a couple of friends and I battled the weather and the traffic to make it to the KQED studios for the ETVC volunteer pledge night. Having been one of the first people to sign up for this event, it would have taken more than a storm to stop me.

It was just a coincidence that I was at an RGA function the night that Erin, Jane and Cindy came to ask for volunteers. Having always been a fan of KQED and Public Television, it took me only a second to see that this was a great way to help the station as well as make a statement for the gender community. I was really happy to see that others in the RGA group felt the same way, and I was proud to be a part of the group.

From the time we pulled into the parking garage until we left, we were treated as respectfully as any of the other groups that were there. There were fantastic refreshments waiting for us when we arrived. Everyone from the ETVC gang was dressed so nicely — we really looked great! I don't think anyone could tell that we were actually gender bending. In fact, while I was fixing my face in the bathroom, a lady from the Ben & Jerry's group said that I looked fantastic. That was really nice, and I felt right at home.

When we were asked to take our seats in the studio, I could feel the whole group's excitement. It was time to be on television, a moment I had been waiting for since the day I signed up — if not longer. I was able to take a seat right in front and my good friends Diane and Kindra sat next to me.

When the first pledge break started after the end of the John Inman Special ("Are You Being Served?"), my phone was the first to ring. And as soon as I was done with a pledge, it would ring again. I liked being at this spot because time just flew by. In the first break alone, I took five pledges and it was over before I knew it.

At this point, we were fed a wonderful dinner and we had a chance to mingle in the lobby. The atmosphere was much more relaxed than it had been at the beginning and we all enjoyed hearing stories of some of the pledges.

We went back to our stations for the next break and again the phones went crazy. During this break I was very fortunate to get the largest pledge of the evening — a nice gentleman pledged \$5,000.00. I just couldn't sit still: I was on top of the world. During the show,

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the KQED people announced to the entire studio that I had landed this pledge, and when they called back to confirm, it was good. The whole room clapped in approval.

On the next break, I had a chance to be a bit of a ham and wave to the camera when Jamie, a member of RGA, called in to make a pledge. I was told later that the whole room heard me say "Hi!" to Jamie, and that the other members all had to give a bit of a smile over how relaxed and natural I was. Although I didn't know when — or even if — I was on the screen, it didn't matter because I was having a great time and the money kept rolling in.

We changed seats after a few breaks so that people in the back could move to the front for some phone time. Although I enjoyed the rest, I was really glad to get back up front when one of the other groups left early. During one of the breaks, the Ben & Jerry's people brought ice cream for us all to enjoy.

Getting the largest pledge was nice, but the truly rewarding moments for me were when a lady from the Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic called to say that she had seen and heard that ETVC was on and that she thought we were all wonderful for donating our time and for "coming out of the closet."

Then, during the last pledge drive of the evening, I took a call from someone in Monterey asking about our group. She felt that she was isolated much as I had felt before I heard of ETVC. I talked with her long after the pledge drive was over and people were leaving. I was able to give her information on the group and she was really appreciative. My night couldn't have ended any better than that.

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# Rupaul, Look Out

By Veronica Smith

What would tempt you to dress up and pose for pictures? How about if your make-up was done by an expert and the photographer was a professional? Okay — what if someone gave you \$350? Well, those inducements convinced little old me to pose for an audio equipment ad in a trade magazine.

Early in December, a friend said that an agent was looking for a cross dresser who looked good but definitely didn't pass (Hey, what?). Even though I doubted very much that I qualified, I dropped some pictures in the agent's mail slot and wrote it off. But that Friday night, there was a message on the machine that I'd been picked. When I called back the next day to confirm, the agent told me she had submitted seven models (including some who even work at Finocchio's), but the client wanted me. The ad's theme was something like, "You might be fooled by other things in life, but you won't be fooled by the sound of our equipment." Thus, the idea of a non-passing cross dresser. The shoot was scheduled for a Monday afternoon and they wanted me to bring a couple of cocktail dresses to choose from.

That Monday, I couldn't decide what to wear, so I ended up grabbing six dresses, six pair of shoes and all the different jewelry and undergarments that might be needed for each

outfit. I even took my make-up kit just in case the cosmetician ran out. My clothes bag bulged like those crammed in overhead compartments by obnoxious plane passengers. By the time I threw everything in the car, I was running late. It was raining cats and dogs, so of course I got stuck in traffic. I extricated myself from the traffic jam, found a parking place and ran to the studio, lugging my gargantuan garment bag. I felt

of man am I?") To be honest, I felt a little awkward, and even though everyone was very friendly and pleasant, I worried that I wasn't giving them what they had expected. Also, it became obvious that they didn't know the difference between a cross dresser and a drag queen, because they used the terms interchangeably. One assistant even told me to, "Let go, like when you're singing in the clubs," which made me wonder what the agent had told them.

After I'd gotten out of the make-up (although I hated wiping it off — it was pretty wild) and gotten dressed, everyone again was very friendly and the manager gave me two of the Polaroids and a check for \$350. They said that I could come back next month to look over the photos and select any that I wanted. I photocopied the check because the entire experience seemed so unbelievable and I wanted proof. I was told that the ad wouldn't be out for another two months, but that I'd be informed about it and even given a copy. Later that week, I called the agent and subtly asked if she'd heard anything about how the shoot went. She

said that the film crew had said only positive things and that they thought it went well. I felt surprised and mentioned to Juana that perhaps I have a chance at a new second career, being a model for advertisements or for Christmas or Father's Day cards, perhaps. Looking at the two Polaroids, Juana said, "Maybe more like Mother's Day, Veronica. But I wouldn't quit my day job."



Veronica before...

...after



PHOTOS BY ERIC BUTLER

self-conscious.

Instead of a demure lady with a slightly daffy smile, they were confronted with a rain-soaked, six-foot guy grimly clutching what looked like all of his possessions. "I've come for the photo shoot," I croaked. The crew members looked surprised. However, when I stepped out of the puddle that had formed around me and opened my bag, the sight of so many sequins allayed their suspicions. To speed things along, I placed myself in the capable hands of the make-up artist. She did a great job — too good, in fact: when they shot some Polaroids to check composition and lighting, I looked "real." Being the only one in the photo, it was difficult to judge scale, so my height was not a dead giveaway.

I thought it pretty ironic that my problem now was to look less real. I suggested using a wig (instead of my own hair) and posing full front to show my shoulders (rather than three-quarters). The cosmetician also laid on the make-up a lot heavier to look more artificial. After a few more Polaroids, we were ready to begin.

We proceeded to shoot nine rolls of film with me seated on a stool and holding a microphone. The photographer suggested that I actually sing, but the only lyrics I knew were to "What Kind of Fool Am I?" and "How to Handle a Woman," neither of which seemed very appropriate (although I got a strong reaction to the line, "What kind

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## Gender Skybox

By Erin Souza

### Tiara Tales II

**W**elcome back to the skybox where I have taken up temporary residence with a cot and sleeping bag while my room at the Wuzzy Home gets soundproofed. The poweresses that be put me adjacent to a former Miss ETVC whose snoring rivals Pete Townshend's guitar feedback during his heyday with The Who. While Miss Black-and-Decker cuts down the last of the old growth forests in her sleep, let's recap the final days of Miss ETVC 1995-B.

November 30: Attend first End Of Month social at our new venue, Jelly's. Learn that magical powers of the tiara do not include the ability to country line dance. Others manage to enjoy themselves while avoiding Miss ETVC's uncoordinated size elevens.

December 11: Make prime time debut on KQED's pledge drive along with two dozen proud and courageous ETVC/RGA/DVG members who brave the winter's first severe storm while traveling to and from the studio. Do outreach to fellow volunteers from Ben & Jerry's and the Telementors computer instructors. Earn return invitation from KQED for future drives. Will try to schedule appearances coinciding with Ben & Jerry's volunteers so we can have more free ice cream.

December 17: Enjoy plenty of good song and too much good food at Ginny's Annual Christmas Carol Sing Along. Know that I am

with true friends when no one seems to mind my off key singing. Regret that regal vocal coach was not one of my perks.

December 28: Return to Jelly's for last social of 1995. Lulu, Tedra and the social committee give us a Pre-New Year's Eve to remember complete with noisemakers, live band, the Lingerie Lizards, and singer Julie Rose (of Really Big Shew fame). Receive long lost scepter via Tammy Kingsley's friend Heather Lamborn. Locate Lauren's guitar string marks to verify authenticity. Enjoy cake for Nancy Ann's year unmentioned birthday while saxophonist Dale plays Beatles' "When I'm Sixty-Four" in background. Yet another fine example of the anti-aging benefits of cross dressing.

January 4: Attend Lisa Maxwell's contestant dinner, the first contestant related activity of the Cotillion season. Photos are taken, ideas and stories are shared over Christine's luscious dinner. Share four Cotillions worth of accumulated wisdom in hope that others will not need four Cotillions to achieve their goals.

January 15: Travel east, with new friend and neighbor Leah, to attend DVG before reign expires and before more rain begins. Luck out on both counts. Meet my adopted Portuguese sister and legendary Lost Girl Crystal Powers, whose 69 straight days and nights out en femme during '93 ranks right up there with Joe DiMaggio's '56 game hitting streak. Joe probably didn't have to shave every day either — ouch!

January 18: Attend ETVC End of Month Social at Eichelberger's, my last as an active Miss ETVC. Schmooze with contestants and Cotillion production brass. Receive valuable stepping down advice and encouragement from Tiffany, who, along with being director of this year's event, is also 1990 Miss ETVC and an inspiration for yours truly to perform en femme. The Cotillion that she won was my first public event and contact with ETVC.

January 20: Attend final public event, The Imperial Gala. Pose for regally stunning pictures with Korean tourists in Holiday Inn Lobby.

January 21: Attend, as a private citizen, ordination ceremony for the now Reverend Lauren Hotchkiss, at the California Miracles Center. Realize that there is, indeed, much valuable life after Miss ETVC dom.

Thank you for a wonderful five months, gender fans. Though the reign has ended, my commitment to ETVC, and the fun I'm having, has not. Enough of you participated in the miniature golf tournament and the KQED pledge drive to make me want to continue organizing these events on an annual basis. Look for these, and possibly other zany outreach events, in the months to come. Until then, play fair and, as always, have fun.

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# 1996 ETVC COTILLION EXTRA

## The Summer of LOVE



*Valerie Genalo, Miss ETVC 1996*



*Bobbie Bentley, Mr. ETVC 1996*

## ETVC's Lovely Summer in January

by Veronica Smith

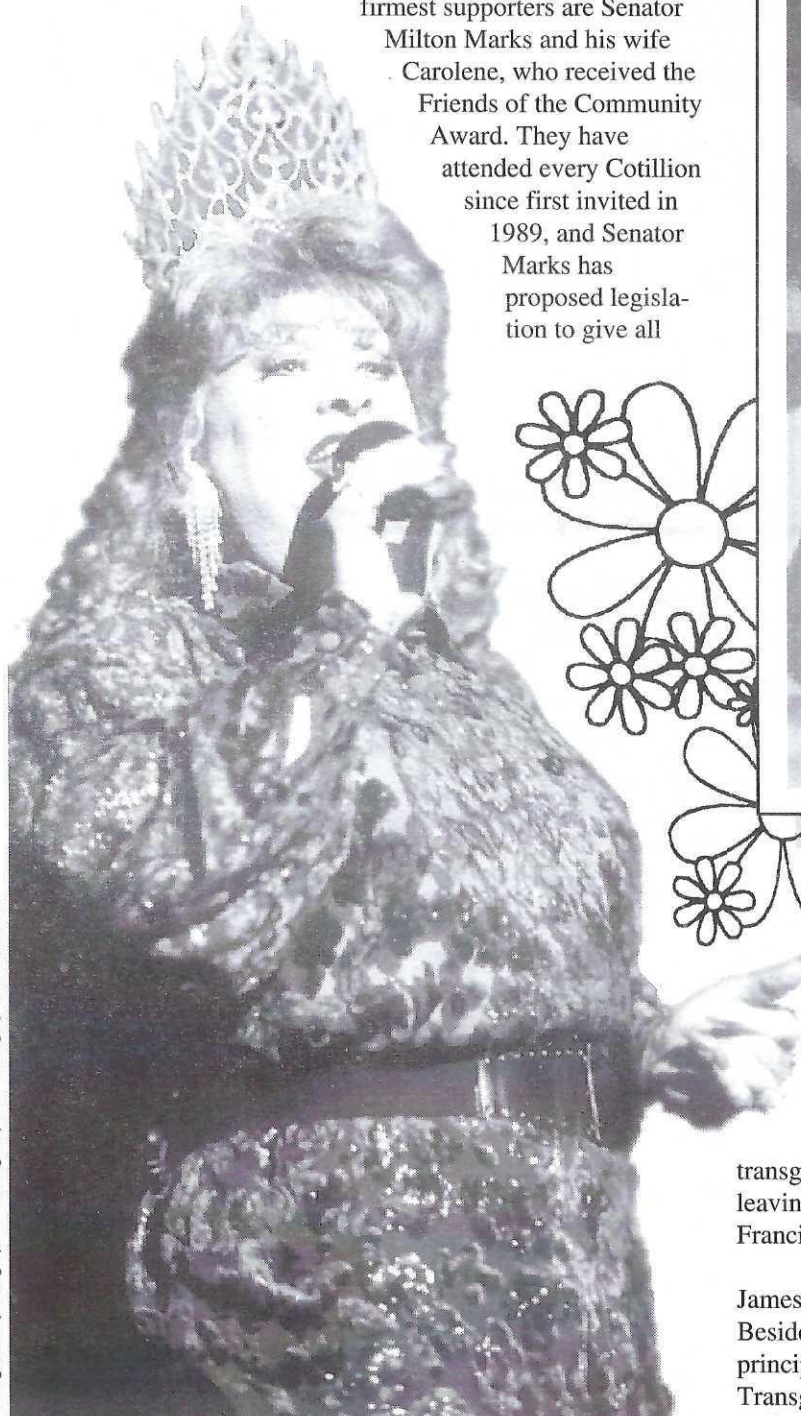
ETVC's 12th Cotillion took place at the Russian Center on January 27, 1996. The theme was "Summer of Love," and true to its title, the entertainment started extremely upbeat with the eight contestants rolling onto a colorful stage in a psychedelic bus to energetic tunes from "Hair." From the first big production number with Director Tiffany Woods and all of the contestants to the final crowning of the new Miss ETVC, the entire evening was a real crowd pleaser.

The new Miss ETVC is Valerie Genalo, who jumped ahead of the pack of talented contestants and literally did cartwheels

around them in the Active Wear competition (she even executed a split — yikes!). As dramatic as Valerie's Active Wear entrance was, however, Christine Salvetti won that particular award, which just goes to show how close the competition was. First Runner-Up was won by Dawn Wilson with a thought provoking performance of a mythical meeting between Malcolm X and Martin Luther King. During the Talent Contest, leonine Darcy Leopard displayed her spots in a tight-fitting cat-suit and purred her way to Second Runner-Up. Sandra Brewer charmed the crowd and apparently the contestants as well, for she was voted Miss Congeniality; and Cowpoke Bobbie Bentley's poetry roped

the title of Mr. ETVC (get along li'l doggie). Kindra Van Spyk gave a spirited performance with a dance that got the audience clapping along as Kindra spun faster and faster to ever-quickening music. And the audience really warmed up with Talent Award Winner Marilyn Mansfield's production of Donna Summer's "Love to Love You, Baby": there's just something about seeing three big busted gals in outrageous outfits gyrating to a disco beat that enlivens the heart and stirs the blood. The judges were Betsy Bell Ringer, Jacques Michaels, Crystal Catamco and Deja Dior.

There were a lot of other awards, too, of course, for besides being an entertainment, our Cotillion is also an opportunity to show appreciation to our friends and supporters. Two of our firmest supporters are Senator Milton Marks and his wife Carolene, who received the Friends of the Community Award. They have attended every Cotillion since first invited in 1989, and Senator Marks has proposed legislation to give all



Miss Congeniality  
Sandra Brewer

transgendered Californians full civil rights. Senator Marks is leaving government this year, but his wife will be running for San Francisco Supervisor.

James Green received the Outstanding Achievement Award. Besides being a major leader in outreach, Mr. Green was the principle author of "Investigation Into Discrimination Against Transgendered People," the report based upon testimony gathered at the San Francisco Human Rights Commission and from which the San Francisco's transgender civil rights law resulted.

Co-MC Tommi Rose belts out a number

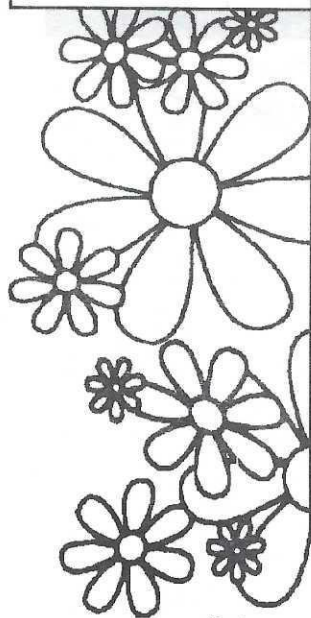
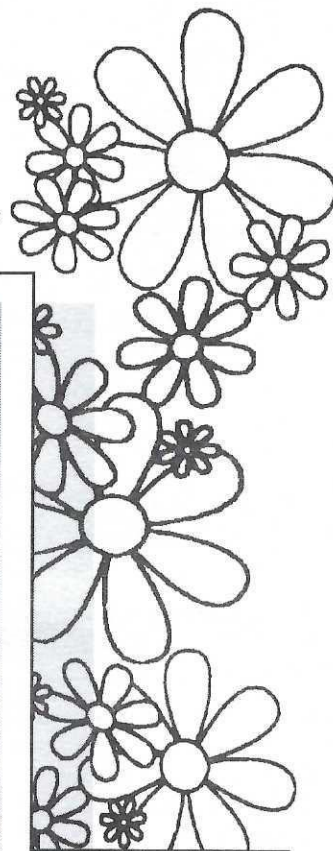
Design, computer graphics and digital photo editing by Kevin Anderson



should be given to each individual who invested his or her time in making it an event enjoyed by the 350 or so attendees. Much thanks must be given to entertainers Cockatielia, Julie Rose, Vina Las Vegas and Tommi Rose, whose performances were bright, lively spots. Also especially appreciated were the quick quips and smart banter of Mistresses of Ceremonies Tommi Rose and Timmi Ryan; the two emcees comedically bridged any slow moments that might have occurred during the four hour show. And lastly, very special attention should be given to Producer Lisa Maxwell and Director Tiffany Woods who deserve so much of the credit for the show's success.

*Cockatielia performs while Joe Shore signs for the audience.*

*Jane Bentley greets Senator and Mrs. Milton Marks, "Friends of the Community, 1996"*

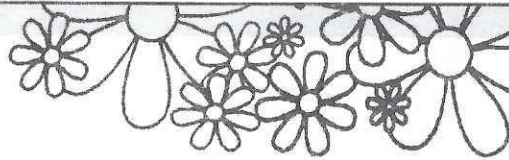
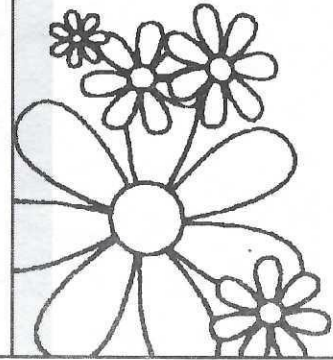


*Debutante Coordinator Laura Van Nuys and Francis Vavra talk to a guest.*



Ann Trautwein won the Joanna Caron Award. This award recognizes the person who gives the most energy, time and effort to the current ETVC Cotillion and is especially difficult to determine because so many give so much to make each Cotillion special. And the Cotillion is very special. It is ETVC's largest event and a showcase to the rest of the transgender community. The enormity and complexity of pulling off such an event is rarely appreciated. So thanks

Right, Valerie Genalo, Miss ETVC, 1996; Left, Bobbie Bentley, Mr. ETVC, 1996 framed by several contestants



## Farewell from Miss ETVC 1995

By Erin Souza

The 1996 Cotillion was a memorable night for me. I hope it proved to be memorable for all of you as well. I want to thank all who took part, all who volunteered their time and efforts, and all who attended for making the event so special. Not being a contestant this year afforded me the opportunity to watch the show and take pride in the truly talented, compassionate and courageous group of people who have contributed so much to my own personal growth. While purpose of the Cotillion is to choose representative for our organization, I find that, at this event, you are all representing the beauty and dignity that is ETVC.

Many thanks to all who supported me during my term as Miss ETVC, including my inspiring predecessors, Lauren and Francis, and my co-regent, Dillon King (you were dearly missed this night, babe.)

Congratulations to Mr. and Miss ETVC 1996, Bobby Bentley and Valerie Genalo. As I said in my farewell speech, "May you receive all the love, support and inspiration you deserve. And may you give back the same in return."

I know you will both succeed, especially with such charming and supportive S.O.s as Katherine and Toni. Know that I wish you the best, and know that you can always count on me for support and assistance.

With my regal duties completed, I will focus once again on my job as outreach co-chair and on my own personal growth, which in many ways has only just begun. I look forward to my sisters (and brothers) in ETVC being part of my personal growth, as you have been these last five years.

Much Love and Gratitude,

Erin

*Erin Souza  
does standup*



# Out with the Old Boars, In with the Mice!

By Elizabeth Walters

In the animal "zodiac" of the Far East, the close of 1995 saw the departure of the year of the boar and the entrance of the year of the mouse. Well, there was nothing mousy or "boaring" about the celebrants at this year's transgender New Year's gala at Jelly's! As the hours ticked down toward the beginning of 1996, ETVC's pre-New Year's bash at Jelly's brought a healthy dose of animal spirits to all ETVC members and friends, regardless of what their gender — or zoological-zodiacal — orientation might have been.

Although it went off two days early, the New Year's celebration — held on Thursday, December 28 — was a party with more than enough holiday spirit to tide attendees over for the last 48 hours of the old year. It featured just about everything a celebration requires: wine (an excellent champagne, uncorked just before the magic hour of midnight), women (and attractive



Rocking "Lingerie Lizards" vocalist Jasmine Bouquet tears into another number. You go, girl!

men) and song (provided by a rocking band and a splendid vocalist).

The party, scheduled on a normal ETVC social night, was enjoyed by 80 ETVC members and their guests. In addition to convivial holiday beverages, those in attendance enjoyed music for listening and dancing provided by a live band, the Lingerie Lizards, and by cabaret-style singer Julie Rose. As



Mr Bobby Bentley relaxes for the camera with his partner, Katherine Shannon Collins. A few weeks later, he was crowned Mr. ETVC for 1996.

the midnight hour grew near, noisemakers were passed out and a count-down began — good preparation for the actual New Year that was then only two days away. The hour of midnight was greeted with a chorus of Auld Lang Syne and a heartfelt round of champagne toasts.

When the ball dropped, however, the ball wasn't over: the revellers continued to enjoy music and dancing long after midnight.



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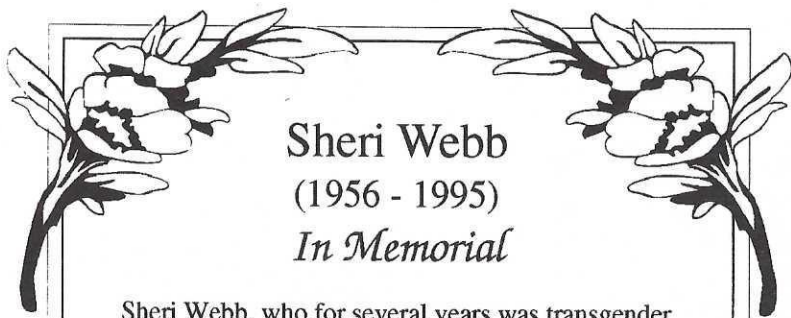
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**Sheri Webb**  
(1956 - 1995)  
*In Memorial*

Sheri Webb, who for several years was transgender coordinator at the Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center (TARC), died just a few days before Christmas from complications wrought by AIDS. On January 10, more than a dozen of her many friends joined together at TARC's offices at 187 Golden Gate Avenue in San Francisco to remember her. "When I was down and out and really needed somebody," said one woman, "even though I wasn't a client, Sheri was there."

In addition to her role as caregiver, Sheri was an outspoken participant in the successful effort to obtain transgender civil rights in San Francisco in 1994. She was a judge at the 1995 Miss ETVC Cotillion. In an interview in the September/October 1994 edition of *The Channel*, talking about the extra care she gave dying clients, she recounted how she would take them for a visit with her family in Marin. "It's kind of like giving a person her flowers now instead of after the fact. Why not?"

## Thanks to Two Wonderful Guys for Two Wonderful Years

By Juana Smith

ETVC has recently changed the location of its monthly socials from Eichelberger's to Jelly's. While change is always exciting, it also brings mixed feelings.

Eichelberger's took us in when the owner of Chez Mollet closed his doors. The courteous Cornelius and the debonaire

Dennis hosted us for two fun-filled years. Unforgettable memories have been forever embedded into our collective past.

As Lulu pointed out, they have always been "really sweet."

Because of the kindness extended to us by Cornelius and Dennis, however, we will not say "Good-bye" but "Hello" once a month, at the mid-month ETVC get-togethers.

## Jelly's on the Waterfront

by Joey "Knuckles" Souza

You think of the waterfront, and what comes to mind? Wharf rats the size of basset hounds? Marlon Brando telling Rod Steiger how he coulda' been a contenduh'? Black sedans, with no plates, unloading something (someone? a former someone?) into the bay? Yeah, and any joints at the waterfront are fulla' burly guys in wool watch caps, swapping tales of fights in different ports along the coast.

Well, it ain't like that down on Pier 50, it ain't like that at all. This Jelly's is a really classy place. Clarise, the owner, keeps it that way. Nice view of the bay and the skyline, plenty of free parking (all the cars have their plates too) and some really swell dames and sophisticated gents attending.

Once inside you find it cozy, but not claustrophobic. There's room to move about. Lots of that nice polished light-colored wood. Hey, there's even a dance floor! Kind of reminds me of those places by campus where my brainy sister and her college friends hang out. We got the place all to ourselves, so there's no sweating about running into undesirable, less informed types of the public, if you catch my drift. All the action's on one level, so you can sit at the bar, and still keep an eye on what everyone else is doing. Frances, your bartender, pours your drink choice, and Tom, at the side window, prepares good food at reasonable prices. I'm partial to 'dem french fries and ranch dressing for a buck and a half. And if the action gets too hot for ya, then step outside, to the patio for fresh air and the view.

Jelly's is open for saturday and sunday brunch, too; call (415) 495-3099 for more info. I hope you drop by. And if you see my brainy sister, be sure to buy her a drink, but nothing too stiff. I don't want none 'a' you mugs takin' advantage of her.

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# Garbo's at Eight

by Cori

The Denver night scene; a large western city under the watchful moonlight gaze of the Rocky Mountain Front Range; to the surprise of many, an almost endless variety of night clubs, piano bars and brew pubs. This scene has become the playground for some of my gender bending friends and myself.

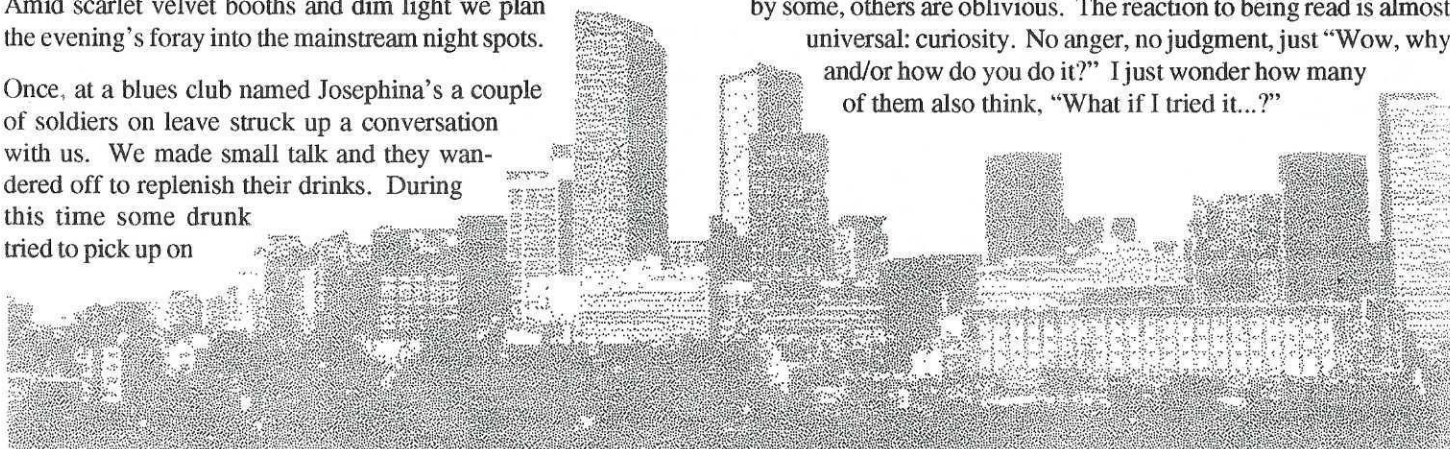
A good friend of mine named Teri and I have begun a Saturday night tradition of meeting at an upscale piano bar named Garbo's. Amid scarlet velvet booths and dim light we plan the evening's foray into the mainstream night spots.

Once, at a blues club named Josephina's a couple of soldiers on leave struck up a conversation with us. We made small talk and they wandered off to replenish their drinks. During this time some drunk tried to pick up on

me. To my rescue, one of the soldiers came striding across the room and bellowed out "Hey, that's my wife!" The drunk apologized profusely and made his exit. I was greatly appreciative.

While making a short cut to another club, we happened upon a little piano bar named Herb's Hideout. The clientele is one of the strangest mixes of people I have ever seen, a blend of over forty jazz devotees and young people in tailored suits and cocktail dresses. We have had the pleasure of being treated to drinks by some of these well dressed men and this place has become a favorite.

Throughout these adventures in mainstream society we get read by some, others are oblivious. The reaction to being read is almost universal: curiosity. No anger, no judgment, just "Wow, why and/or how do you do it?" I just wonder how many of them also think, "What if I tried it...?"



## Difference Found in MTF Brain

(excerpted from article by UPI ScienceWriter Susan Milius)

For the first time, scientists say they have found a difference in brain anatomy between male-to-female transsexuals and men who think of themselves as men. Researchers focused on a small region deep in the middle of the brain called the BSTc. Male-to-female transsexuals had BSTc regions about half the size of the same region in non-transsexual men, said Dick Swaab and colleagues from the Netherlands Institute for Brain Research and Free University Hospital in Amsterdam.

The transsexuals' BSTc was as small as the same region in women. "Our study is the first to show a female brain structure in genetically male transsexuals". Just what the BSTc does in humans is not clear, but Swaab called it "an appropriate candidate to study" because "the BST plays an essential part in rodent sexual behavior."

Researchers compared structures of six male-to-female transsexuals with heterosexual and homosexual men, and found that sexual orientation did not influence the size differences. Transsexuals report feeling they are trapped in a body of the wrong gender, and scientists have puzzled for years over whether any biological difference would explain the persistent feelings.

Psychology Professor Marc Breedlove from U.C. Berkeley, a specialist in hormonal effects on the brain who published a commentary on the Dutch research, warned the results show only a difference, not when or why the difference developed. Hormones sweeping through the fetal brain could have changed

the BSTc's development so that a baby was "born different". However, later parts of the transsexual experience could have influenced the development of a female-sized BSTc.

The possibility that a physical difference could push people toward transsexuality "would be a great comfort", said Dr. Sheila Kirk, speaking on behalf of the IFGE in Waltham, Massachusetts.

"Transgenderists spend the earlier part of their lives puzzling "Why do I need to do this?" she said. Kirk practiced obstetrics and gynecology as a man for 27 years before retiring and adopting the name and dress of a woman. The foundation estimates roughly one percent of the world's population, genetic males and females, feel some urge to switch genders, at least in dress. In parts of Europe, women who wish to be surgically converted to men outnumber men wishing to go in the other direction.

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My hubby was pulled two ways: on one hand, he was very intrigued for he had only recently told me that he had wanted to cross dress for a long time. But, on the other hand, he was very cautious; he had yet to dress in front of me and had not even thought about going out in public that way. Of course, my "no guts, no glory" attitude slapped me in the face; I definitely wanted to go to have dinner there at the next social and started to dial the restaurant for reservations. But the future Veronica thought that perhaps we should check out the Chez before that to make sure it was safe. After all, he'd heard that some bars in the Tenderloin that catered to the transgender community were pretty hard. A friend of his had even said that at the Motherlode, "they'd just as likely shoot you as serve you a drink." That sounds kind of naive, now, but you've got to keep in mind that we hadn't been to either of these places.

So I called the Chez and made reservations that very evening. A very flamboyant bartender named Edward took my call, but just would not believe we were really Mr. and Mrs. Smith. Even though we were going as "Mr. and Mrs." and were dressed in gender-appropriate attire (although I wore a leather vest and pants), Hubby was still nervous as we drove to the South-of-Market Street address, which (at the time) we considered dangerous.

At a half a block away, he slowed down and (just like in some gangster film) he drove on past the place checking it out. The Chez looked more respectable than we'd thought it would be. It looked relatively safe, not necessarily a place one would get mugged in, at least, from the outside.

We parked the car, got out, held hands, took a deep breath and walked into the bar part of the restaurant. The inside of the bar looked not only safe, it looked downright quiet. Since the idea of going to the Chez was mine, I took the lead and led us to the bar. Looking at a skinny, blond bartender, I asked, "Are you Edward?"

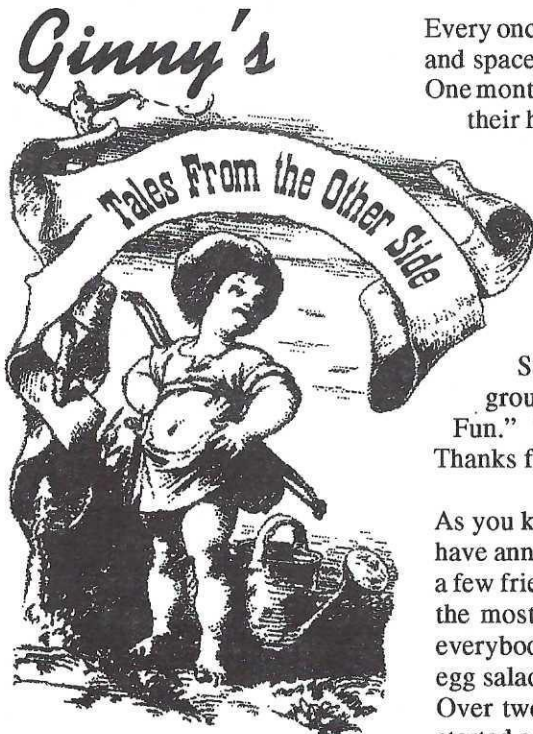
"Yes," he responded. "May I help you?"

"We're the Smiths," I said, whereupon, Edward bent over in giggles and said he wanted to see an I.D. — he still didn't believe me! When he saw my I.D., he laughed even harder, screamed, "It's true" (as if we needed assurance), and led us to the restaurant area.

The darkness of the restaurant/bar and our own anxiety prevented us from looking around initially, but as we adjusted to the situation, we became quite aware of where we were. . .

*(To be continued)*

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Every once in awhile we need to stop and thank a few people who volunteer their time and space so we can meet and keep our Significant Other Support Group a reality. One month every quarter for the past year, three of our significant others have opened their homes and hearts to you and to others who are afraid or have no one to talk to about their partner's transgenderism. Let's thank Julie Freeman, Elaine Baskin and Wilhelmina Beins for being there for you and for all of us on a regular basis. Finally, thanks to both Erfert and Juana for their great articles on these pages. Ladies, we appreciate your graciousness.

Also a big hand to Diane and Anne Giles who are making another dream a reality with their once a month potluck in their Santa Rosa home one Saturday each month. Incidentally, they have changed the name of their group from the Redwood Empire Social Club to TGIF, "TransGenderism Is Fun." This event is fun and these two generous, loving people are the reason. Thanks from all of us.

As you know, I'm always looking for a reason to have a party. Over the years, we have annually colored Easter Eggs on the Saturday night before Easter. We invited a few friends over and colored seven or eight dozen eggs, had a contest to determine the most beautiful, most creative, most outrageous, etc., etc., and then I forced everybody to take at least six eggs home, because we could never make that much egg salad and they would be just thrown out. This year I'm getting a little smarter. Over twenty years ago one of the Imperial Court Empresses, Tenderloin Tessie, started a fund-raising event to pay for dinners to be served to the homeless, etc. on

Thanksgiving and Easter from a local church. When Tenderloin Tessie passed away, Empress Phyllis took over the task and this good charity work is still going on. I'm inviting every one of you to an Easter Egg coloring contest on Saturday night, April 6th, at our home in San Francisco at 8PM. Please bring between a half-dozen to a dozen HARD BOILED eggs to color. You can take a couple of the ones you like best home with you, and we will deliver all the rest on Easter morning to the First Unitarian Church in San Francisco's Tenderloin for their Easter Baskets. Now it's right — good fun — good food — good purpose. The Easter Bunny will be looking for you, so you better come, or he'll turn your carrots purple!



# It's Easy to Use ETVC's Transgender Lending Library

by Ginny Knuth

Over the past few months we have opened our Lending Library to all members. You may browse through the books, pamphlets and magazines from 7PM to 11PM once a month, on the second Friday of each month. All you need to have to make use of these materials is an ETVC membership card. If you decide you would like to take a book or two out, you may join the Library by filling out an application with your personal data and also a deposit of \$10 to cover possible losses of ETVC material while in your possession.

Of course, if you cannot make it to the Library on the open night, you may join the Library by sending your name, address, membership number and telephone number to us, along with your \$10 deposit, plus \$10 to cover mailing costs of the material you order. All material is on loan for a one month period. Call me at 664-1499 for directions.

We are still searching for members to donate a little time to help organize our libraries. Can you help us? We need to create an up-to-date listing of all the materials in the Lending Library, and we have been working on it, but we need more hands and minds to get it done. Please call me if you have any time or interest in accomplishing our goals so everyone will know what is available from this valuable resource. Call today — we need you!

Here are some of the exciting new books and videos recently acquired for our ETVC Library:

**B0188 When Women Were Priests**, Karen Jo Torjeson  
*Women's leadership in the early church and the scandal of their subordination in the rise of Christianity.*

**B0189 "Kink" The Hidden Sex Lives of Americans**, Susan Crain Bakos, *A sexy foray into the kinky subculture that proves truth is stranger than fiction.*

**B0190 With Mother's Help, TV Fiction Classics**, Sara Warren, (ETVC Member) *Fictional story of a transvestite.*

**B0191 Mrs. Doubtfire**, with Robin Williams *VHS Tape of the Movie*

**B0192 Bosom Buddies**, with Tom Hanks *VHS Tape of two of the Sit-Com Episodes*

**B0193 99% Female** Donated by Diane Giles *VHS Tape of Southern California Asian Beauty Pageant in San Diego. Beautiful Designer Gowns.*

**B0194 Lingerie in Vogue Since 1910**, Christina Probert  
*Seventy years of B&W Drawings and Color Photos of women's lingerie which have appeared in Vogue Magazine.*

**B0195 Sensual Lingerie**, Brad Stephen *The art of silken seduction in color photography.*

**B0196 Medical, Legal and Workplace Issues for the Transsexual**, Kirk and Rothblatt, *A guide for successful transformation for MTF and FTM.*

## The Uninvited Dilemma

A Question of Gender

by

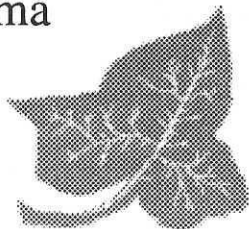
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**Perfume.** Or parfum, in French. Perfume has the highest concentration of essential oils and is the most strong and long lasting. Perfume is a potent mix of ethyl alcohol and essential oils, generally eight parts to one.

**Eau de Toilette.** A thinner mixture than perfume, containing approximately five per cent essential oils.

**Cologne.** A slightly thinner mixture with only about three per cent essential oils.

**Body lotions and creams.** Five per cent essential oils are mixed with lanolin, mineral oil, beeswax, or other oils and emulsified with water.

**Bath Oils.** A mixture of 15% essential oils with mineral oil, lanolin or other plant oils.

**Powder.** A mixture of essential oils and talc, then sifted through silk screens.

—from the Emporium's Club West Bulletin

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# BOOK REVIEWS

## Tannen Descends from Venus; Gray Is Lost on Mars

Review by Sandra Brewer

**You Just Don't Understand**, by Deborah Tannen was published in 1990. In this book, the author uses an interesting and in-depth approach to contrast the differences in male and female behavior and speech patterns. Deborah is an esteemed professor of Linguistics at Georgetown University with several publications to her credit. *You Just Don't Understand* contains extensive notes, a rich bibliography, and an index to help you find items of interest. Some key points made in this book are described below.

To prepare for our excursions to womanhood, it helps to study the differences in male and female behavior patterns. Chivalry isn't dead; it thrives because it lets the man stay in control, and the woman feel appreciated. Men can't rest until they find a solution to every problem, but frequently all a woman wants is some sympathy and a chance to talk. This can drive a man into a cave (or a closet, whichever is handy). For some reason, men need to boast and always be one-up on each other; women are expected to be modest and avoid interrupting men. Men always talk about business and sports, while women's talk is centered on people and relationships. If a man and woman get lost on the road they are in big trouble; women, of course, can't read a map, and men aren't supposed to have to. Most women are happy to let the men hold doors, fix cars, and especially install tire chains in the snow. Finally, women need to avoid getting angry, but it's all right for them to cry.

**Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus**, by John Gray was published two years later in 1992. In this book with its catchy title, the author comes out of his cave long enough to cover (copy?)

much of the same ground as his predecessor, but the book lacks any depth and only belabors the same points over and over again.

After studying Transcendental Meditation for nine years, John got his PhD from a small unaccredited school in San Rafael. "Men Are From Mars" contains all the information needed to sign up for the author's seminars, but it has no index or bibliography. A few bits of wisdom from this book follow:

Men need to escape (?) when conflicts arise. A man needs the opportunity to pull away, or he'll never get a chance to feel his strong desire to be close. A woman's self-esteem cycle averages the same length as her menstrual cycle. The author seems to think all men and women fit the stereotypes he describes. He never mentions the feminine side of men, and he provides no insights into understanding how a woman thinks. The book uses very polished language, but it lacks any depth; the author only reports his observations of our behavior without exploring the motivation behind it. Finally, it gets very redundant when the points are reiterated.

## With Mother's Help

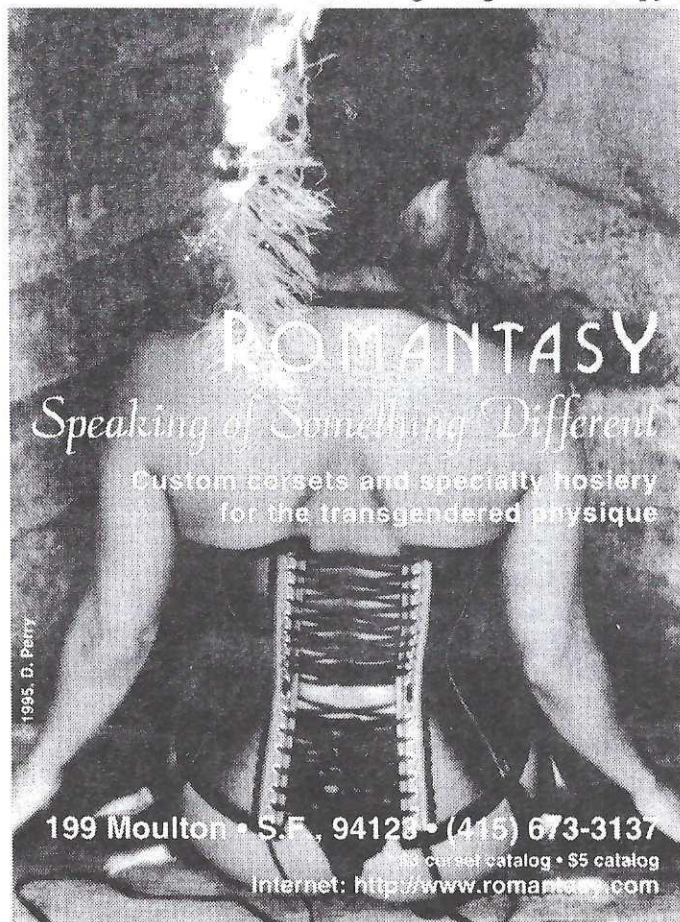
TV Fiction Classics by Sara Warren (ETVC Member)

Review by Sharon LaRose

This is a fictional work of ninety pages. It is the story of a teenage boy with feminine yearnings. At a time when the mother is injured, she calls on her son to take over the housework. Having a broken arm, she also comes to rely on him to help her with washing and setting her hair as well as other feminine chores. Mother starts him out in an apron to protect his clothes and then progresses to a house dress and then a dress.

All crossdressers will identify with his inner feelings of excitement and wonder about where it is all leading. Since his mother is encouraging him and helping him, he goes full speed toward becoming a girl. When found out by one of his female classmates, his shame and fear is replaced with joy when she, too, is accepting of his femininity and takes him shopping, and a romance follows.

There is a lot of truth in the form of inner turmoil and emotions mixed into this bit of fluff. Fun light reading. I certainly found enough of my own childhood in it to draw a lot of comparisons and I'm sure all crossdressers will.



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