



# The Crystal CHRONICLE.



February 1990

Calendar of Events			
2/10	Alpha Omega	Meeting Lakewood, OH	
2/15	Cross-Port	Meeting	Cincinnati
2/17	Paradise	Meeting Lakewood, OH	
2/23-25	Boulton&Park	Texas Tea Party	San Antonio, TX
2/24	Crystal	Meeting	Columbus
2/24	Lambda	Lambda Ball	Pittsburgh
3/3	Imperial Court	Night of 1000 Gowns	New York, NY
3/8	Transpitt	Social	Pittsburgh
3/10	Transpitt	Meeting	Pittsburgh
3/10	Alpha Omega	Meeting Lakewood, OH	
3/15	Cross-Port	Meeting	Cincinnati
3/17	Paradise	Social Lakewood, OH	
3/3		Night of 1000 Gowns	New York City
3/20-25	IFGE	Coming Together Convention	Natick, MA
4/12	Transpitt	Social	Pittsburgh
4/14	Transpitt	Meeting	Pittsburgh
4/14	Alpha Omega	Meeting	Lakewood, OH
4/19	Cross-Port	Meeting	Cincinnati
4/21	Paradise	Meeting Lakewood, OH	
4/26-29	Emerald City	90 in 90 Weekend	Port Angeles, WA
5/4-6	Gulf Coast	2nd Fantasy Adventure Weekend	Houston, TX
6/6-10	Several Clubs	Be All	Pittsburgh, PA

## January Meeting

The Crystal Club has an inquiry from a female CD wanting more information about our group. It was unanimously decided to accept this person, or any other female to male CD, on the same basis that we would accept all other CDs, TGs, etc. It was also agreed that we need to know more

about F to M CDs.

The club should empower officers to make decisions on some issues and decide what issues should be voted on by the members. This would shorten business meetings. The members would have resource on unsatisfactory decisions.

We need input from the GGs on decisions regarding the club.  
The support group is for you also.

The following people accepted nominations, for elections,  
for these positions.

President: Rochelle.

Vice President: Jennifer.

Treasurer: Stephanie Hall.

Secretary: Susan.

Meeting Coordinator: Linda.

Newsletter Editor: Mary Ann.

Screening Officer: Susan

Public Relations: Stephanie Leigh

Club Representative: Stephanie Leigh and Susan.

Significant Other Outreach Person: Beth.  
As far as scheduling speakers, we're working on it. I do  
have a very qualified person, Meral Crane, for the May 26  
meeting.

Meral Crane is a licensed clinical counselor who runs the  
Central Ohio Gender Dysphoria Program. Her area of  
expertise is Transsexualism and Transvestites as well as Sex  
and Relations Therapy. She also does family and marriage  
relationship therapy as her area of knowledge.

Obviously the Central Ohio Gender Dysphoria Program deals  
with Transsexuals. Since Meral must separate TVs from TSs  
she has an insight to these conditions that most of us don't  
have. I personally will look forward to the May 26 meeting.

Treasurer's Report Jan. 1998

Starting Balance	181.12
Meeting Fees	180.00
Donation	40.00
Total	220.00
Food and Beverages	-36.57
Meeting Rooms	-93.50
Newsletter	-30.26
Total Expenses	-160.33
Ending Balance	240.79

Susan

February Meeting

The February meeting will be held on Saturday Feb 24. The  
doors will open by 7 PM, and remain open until 12 midnight.  
The business meeting will begin at 9:30 PM.

February Elections

Following in grand tradition of Eastern Europe, is glorious  
Crystal Club Elections being held at February meeting.  
Comrade President Mary Ann is liking to thank group for  
support for past year, and to beg not to follow Grand  
Tradition of Comrade Concesceau! Is good to come to meeting  
in Day Wear, Evening Wear, or Swim Wear, in Grand Tradition  
of very masculine lady of Wendys commercials! (What  
Columbus department store did you say he manages?) We  
nominate that lady spokesperson for Crystal Club!

Seriously, the past year we've had three officers doing most  
of the work. Mary Ann has been acting president, Susan  
acting secretary/treasurer, and Rochelle acting newsletter  
editor. In reality, we've all three been pitching in doing  
whatever job needed to be done. We've gotten the club off  
the ground, and now it's time for elected officers.

We were fortunate to have many nominations for officers at  
the January meeting. Every office had at least one  
nomination, and some had two. In addition, nominations will  
be open at the February meeting, and we would like to  
encourage members who have not already expressed interest to  
nominate themselves or ask someone to nominate them.

All members of the Crystal Club are eligible to vote or run for official. If you are unable to attend the February meeting, your vote by proxy is welcome. Send us your signed list of votes to the PO box, or write it down and sign it, and have a member deliver it to the meeting. If you want to run for office, you should either be in the list below, or attend the February meeting.

We asked each nominee to write up a paragraph or two for the newsletter stating why they would feel they should be elected. Of course, not everyone is running opposed, so in many cases there is no need for a statement. I'm printing all statements received to help the members decide who they will vote for at the February meeting.

1. President This job involves leading the group, having a vision of where the club should be and getting us there. There are many tasks to be done, and the President must make sure they are done, either by delegating them to another officer or member, or by doing them herself.

Nominee: Rochelle Richards.

I'd like to thank Mary Ann and all those that were confident enough to nominate me for the office of president. I feel that I've been lucky since I joined Crystal Club. In the time I've been in the club I've grown a lot, thanks to the help of friends and members. I'd like to have the opportunity to return a little of that back to the club. If I am elected I'd like to work with the other officers and members to lead the club down the path of tomorrow. As Adult Social Director of P.W.P. I gained some experience in this area. We had a membership of 600 + and I lead a committee of 75. But it all boiled down to having the ability and willingness to listening to the membership since they are the ones you are serving. Also being able to lead them in the direction that they choose to go. I truly think I am capable of doing this. I hope that you give me the opportunity to prove this to you.

2. Vice-President The VP takes over when another officer is unavailable, and is generally second-in-command.

Nominee: Jennifer.

3. Secretary The Secretary records the minutes of the meeting and reports them, in writing, by the newsletter deadline for inclusion in the newsletter.

Nominee: Susan Pierce.

As secretary I would not only record what was discussed and decided during the meeting but I would catch the essence and spirit of what was said.

4. Treasurer The Treasurer handles the money. This includes collecting meeting fees and membership dues at meetings, doing the banking, keeping track of the income and expenses, and preparing the Treasurer's Report for the newsletter.

Nominee: Stephanie Hall.

I am a professional accountant (CPA, CIA, et cetera), and have been treasurer of numerous other clubs. I feel

that the main job of a treasurer is to keep accurate records and advise the other officers on the availability of money.

5. Meeting Coordinator This job involves making sure the meeting room is paid for, opening up early, closing up late, and making sure there will be food and beverages available. Actually providing the food and beverage may be delegated to others.

Nominee: Lynda Langham.

6. Newsletter Editor This person puts out the newsletter you're reading here; reading other newsletters, typing things in, laying out pages, getting copies, and stuffing envelopes. Other members can help with \*submissions\*, copies, and mailing. Having a computer and printer is a big help.

Nominee: Mary Ann Harris. Volunteer to assist: Lana.

I've been doing most of the newsletter for the past year. Not to imply that Rochelle's been shirking; she's been the lifeblood of this group in more important ways. However, I have a computer (and once had the use of a laser printer) and I produce documents as part of my job. Working with desktop publishing packages, copy editing, and the like are things I already know how to do anyway.

7. New Member Screening Several potential new members write to us each month. Someone must write back to these ladies, establish telephone contact, and interview them.

Nominee: Susan Pierce.

I feel I have the diversity, knowledge, experience, and exposure to continue as the screening officer. Screening effectively is important but it's also important to give the right impression because this is the CD's initial contact with us.

8. Public Relations Director

This person will talk to other local groups, the media, arrange advertising of the group, and coordinate with businesses that serve our community. Work on the Resource Handbook may be part of this job.

Nominee: Stephanie Leigh.

As Public Relations Director, I would do my best to publicize our organization in as many cross-dressing annuals, monthlies, and other publications in our community. I would also be willing to do outreach work with businesses in the Central Ohio area for our use. I would also keep us in contact with Crossroads, Cross-Port, Paradise Club, and Renaissance, and keep us up-to-date.

Stephanie

9. Club Representative

The Crystal Club is affiliated with IFGE and has a representative to that organization. We may become affiliated with Renaissance as well. This person is a liaison to these organizations. Ability to travel to annual IFGE meetings is a plus, but not essential.

Nominee: Stephanie Leigh.

I feel that as the Public Relations Director, the position of IFGE rep would coincide with the other position. With the exception of a couple of times of the year, I am very available to work with IFGE, and attend meetings with other bodies in our community.

Nominee: Susan Pierce.

Club representation is something that I would love. I have the experience to represent the Crystal Club accurately and effectively.

10. Significant Other Outreach Person

Nominee: Beth.

The Crystal Club was formed to support crossdressers, and a big problem for many crossdressers is unsympathetic Significant Others (SOs -- wives, girlfriends, husbands, partners -- let's call those unsympathetic ones USOs). Maybe the Crystal Club can help to educate some of these USOs by designating a Significant Other Outreach Person (the SOOP? oh, please!) whose function is to talk to USOs and try to help them understand, accept, and enjoy sharing life with a crossdresser.

I'd like to try doing that. I like talking to people, and I certainly have no reservations (instead, I have positive feelings) about crossdressing itself, although I have had to give serious thought to some of its side effects (such as, what do we tell the kids?? Having dealt with some of those considerations may help me to relate to people who still have problems with some similar questions). I think crossdressers have a tough enough time that any really significant other should be supportive! And -- I think SOs who don't appreciate crossdressing are missing out on a lot. I'd like to help crossdressers, and their SOs who are not yet supportive, to enjoy the difference that life has offered them.

The other jobs up for elections in this newsletter had descriptions in the last newsletter. The very concept of this job was just brought up at the last Crystal meeting, so its functions aren't yet well-defined. Another possible function for this job that we discussed at the meeting is to represent SOs to the Crystal officers. Personally, I don't think the SOs need this; we're all just as capable of speaking for ourselves, when we have something to say, as the (non-officer) crossdressers are. But if SOs want someone to represent them, I'm willing to do that (if I get enough input from other SOs!). If and when we vote, please make clear what you feel this job should cover.

I'd also like to make it clear that I don't want to campaign for this job against anyone else who would

like to do it! I am not convinced that I'm the best person to reach all USDs; if anyone else would like to do this, I'd encourage you to run or volunteer for this -- and -- if you do want me to do this, I DEFINITELY want help from any of the SOs who ARE supportive and comfortable with crossdressing. I think it's time the Crystal Club started providing more real support functions, such that we can overcome some of the obstacles facing crossdressers, and that SOs can help by reaching other SOs, and I'm willing to start working on that, but would like all the help I can get.

#### Your Name in Lights

Ladies, this is your space. We'd really like to have you write articles for the newsletter. Surely there are some interesting stories out there. Or some tips on how to avoid getting read. Or some great ideas about things to do. Some feelings about the club, or about how your first time felt. We'd like to hear from the newcomers.

Please write something up for the newsletter and bring it to the next meeting, or mail it to the club PO box.

#### Editor's Edict By Rochelle

Howdy Ladies!

We missed a few of you at the last meeting. We had some new faces join us at the Jan. 27th meeting. We had a total of fourteen come out and help us prepare for next months elections. There were 3 GGs of which one attended for the first time. We enjoyed having her there and hope she'll return in the future. We also had eleven TVs of which there was two new ladies attend for the first time. Ladies we'd like to say welcome and we hope to see you again at future meetings.

As we all know next month Feb. 24th is time to elect officers. I can't really express how important it is that everyone be there if any way possible. It's important that we grow, lead, support, follow, and create as a group. The officers that we elect are the ones that we want to lead us in that direction. I feel lucky to be part of a group of people that has stood fast to support this club. I just know that you'll be there next month to continue supporting

it in the second major step of the long journey. Taking a chance in starting the club was our first major step, now we need to take that second step and elect our first set of official officers. So let's not stop now. We have an excellent group of people running, so let's come out and support them with our votes. So till we meet again at the next meeting I'd like to wish you and yours all the best.

Rochelle Richards

#### Crossdressers Calendar

The first crossdressers calendar/date book has been made available. It features major events on monthly pages, on a separate page, a section for femme and male apparel sizes, name and address section with space for femme and male names, traveling distance chart, and a calorie counter chart. The price is \$3.50 each, postpaid. Available from JME of Western Michigan, PO Box 1153, Grand Rapids, MI 49581.

#### Book Review

"Transvestites and Transsexuals: Toward a Theory of Cross-Gender Behavior" by Richard F. Doctor: Plenum Press, New York, 1988.

No doubt, Dr. Doctor's book will be a long standing reference work on the topic. Future studies in the field will reflect his work. While Transsexuals are included, Doctor's work focuses mainly on theoretical understanding of heterosexual crossdressers. Transgenderism and homosexual crossdressing are addressed to a lesser degree.

Plan to read and reread this book. It is that rich. You can't get it all in one journey through its 234 pages. It is laden with statistical evidence supporting its conclusions... in a truly "scientific" manner. This, for a non-academic makes for heavy going. But it is penetrable. For example: Doctor supports, with the "numbers", a conclusion that 98% of all crossdressers are NOT GAY.

If you are of a "scientific" bent, you will find Dr. Doctor's work very clear, cogent, and to the point. If you are not particularly "scientific" or "scholarly", it is still a rich source of information you can use in learning about yourself and others. More importantly, it is a book with the potential to provide you with the basis of a clearer, more fundamental understanding of yourself... whether you are "scholarly minded" or not.

A professional in one of the "hard sciences", I had a lot of questions about "me" before reading Doctor's work. I have far fewer now. I had some obviously wrong conclusions about "me" before, now I'm certain I have fewer of these too. For example, I recognized five essential facts, as a result of reading Doctor's work:

1. I am not some sort of mental case.
2. I am not a "latent" homosexual.
3. I am not less a "man", father, husband because I am a crossdresser.
4. My being as I am, feelings and all, can be integrated into my everyday life. Crossdressing is not some sort of an island unto itself.
5. I am not alone in having these feelings and desires.

Acceptance of yourself as a crossdresser is a hollow victory, if you lose your marriage in the process. A separate chapter deals with the wives of crossdressers and their feelings. The contents of this one chapter are worth the price of the book. This chapter represents one of the very few times in print we are presented with the wives' side of the issue.

Recognizing and accepting myself as I am has been made far easier by reading Dr. Doctor's work. It may well do the same for you. I recommend it without reservation.

Mikki D'Auceilli  
[Courtesy Tri-Ess Femme Mirror.]

#### Exposure

Have you ever fantasized about walking around your hometown while dressed? Since my ego has become so inflated with all the excursions of the past three years, it seemed this Halloween night was the perfect time to do it, for real.

Like a lot of crossdressers, my femme side bears little resemblance to the male. For this I am truly grateful. As usual, I'd gotten an invitation to a party at this terrific bar. En route, I'd decided to stop and perk up the evening for the owner of a little video store. I'm in the place five or so times a week. The owner and I go through considerable BS each time, with my "man" side condemning his

inventory and him scorning my pick of movies.

So here I was dressed to the nines in a low cut black silk dress, side slit showing my best assets, all covered by clinging blue black hose. A full dark brunette shag wig came almost to my shoulders. I was wearing as much liner and mascara this one time as I usually wear in a year.

Leaving my car safely around the corner, I sauntered into the video place, which was deserted except for the owner. I stayed on the non-carpeted aisles until the lick of my heels made him swing away from the movie on the big screen. Confidence taking over, I walked right up to the counter. "Been busy tonite, Terry?" I asked.

His eyes traveled from my taped cleavage to the ankle straps of my pumps, "few kids in earlier...don't I know you?" he asked.

"Maybe, maybe not," I replied. Continuing, "Terry, how do you define frustration?" I asked him?

Grinning widely he shook his head.

"Frustration," said I heading for the front door, "is not ever figuring out who I am!"

Ignoring his urging me to remain, I left leaving him guessing. I felt safe knowing, even with heels on, I could beat Terry and his 300+ pounds back to my car. The party was great, greater possibly because I was already warmed up with my little stop at Terry's place.

A week later, needing a movie for the night, I stopped in at Terry's store. Confident in my after-work mufti of dusty jeans, boots, and a five-o'clock shadow, I pulled my cap down and went up to the counter with my selection.

"Anything going on in town?" I asked.

"Naw... not since Halloween. Something kinda interesting happened in here that night through," he replied.

Turning to a VCR, Terry inserted a tape and pointed to the big screen TV. There was my femme self in all her glory approaching the counter in her Halloween finery!

"It's been driving me nuts!" he grumbled. "I think I know this person; I'm even sure it's a guy I know."

"Can't be," I countered, "look at that figure, those boobs"....

"Well," said he, "she was tall, it's hard to tell from this tape, but there was just something not quite right about her...."

We watched the tape two or three more times. Terry was shaking his head, repeating again and again: "She seemed to know me real well...."

I was looking at his camera perched up on the shelf, making a note to be more observant in the future. At least, I got on TV. I just wonder how many people are going to see that tape while Terry is trying to figure out this frustration!

Joanna Kavalaskus  
[Courtesy Tri-Ess Femme Mirror.]

#### Newspapers

The Dayton Herald is printing Cross-Port in it's support group section in the Sunday paper. We had four requests for information after the first week it ran. [Courtesy Cross-Port Inner View.]

The Columbus Dispatch and the Crystal Club have set up an interview for, of all times, Valentine's Day evening! Several officers and members of Crystal will be there. More info, hot off the presses, at the February meeting!

#### Trans-West Virginia

Hello from your sister "up north". Hi, it's Alona. Yes, the sister from "up north" Tabetha referred to was me.

From the sounds of the InnerView, things are going very well for Cross-Port. I really miss you girls. Some of you became very much like family to me. I don't know when I'll get back down there again, I'm hoping it will be soon.

I am writing for more than just social reasons. I would like for you to help get the word out that there is now a group meeting in West Virginia. For now let's call it Trans-West Virginia, or TWV for short.

As it stands we will be meeting on the third Friday of the month, each month. Our first meeting was January 19. It was not a large meeting, only three people attending, but it is a start. The February meeting will be Friday the 16th.

We will be meeting at a Days Inn located at the Winfield exit off of I-64 between Huntington and Charleston. We will have a bedroom/changing area and an adjacent conference room. We unfortunately do not have a place like Christopher's available to meet in yet.

We would like to invite any of our sisters from Cross-Port, who may wish to attend, to please come and join with us. We will need the help getting started. Also we would like to extend a special invitation to any of our sisters in the West Virginia and southeast Ohio areas. Anyone wishing to attend may contact us at this address:

Alona V. Miller  
P.O. Box 258  
Kingwood, WV 26537

[Courtesy Cross-Port InnerView.]

#### Sexy Shoes

This year for Christmas, almost everything I got was for Linda. This includes a gorgeous gold cocktail dress from my wife. Problem is, you almost have to have gold shoes to match.

I have searched through a few catalogs I have, and decided to get some from the sexy shoe man, Jim Leslie. I spoke to him a few years ago, and at that time, his shoes only went up to size 10. I told him he was missing out on a very large market, especially since his shoes would attract TVs (all his shoes have only 4 and 5" heel heights). Well now his catalog has shoes up to size 13, including all half sizes.

The girl I spoke with, when I placed my order, was very helpful in choosing my proper size. She said she wished everyone would just be open about what they wanted, and it sure would make it easier. She said that size 12 was by far their #1 seller, and she's almost sure that they weren't for their wives.

Well I got my shoes in two days UPS, and just love them. I think I will wear them to the next meeting. If you would like a free catalog from the sexy shoe man, write to: SEXY SHOES, 488 N. Second St., PO Box 48, Rogers City, MI 49779.

Nowadays any retailer, who sells larger womens apparel, knows and just expects men in their shop. You'll find that most of the girls who come right out and say it's for them usually get help they need, and leave with a good experience. [I'll bring my catalog to the February meeting - MAH.]

[Linda, courtesy Cross-Port InnerView.]

### Crystal Club Cancellation And Refund Policy

Cancellation up to two days before an event: 100% refund.  
From two days until noon of the event day: 50% refund.  
After noon on the day of the event: no refund.

### Policies

The Crystal Club is an open support group for cross dressers. We welcome TV, TS, TG, FI, and others who assume a complete feminine identity. We welcome their wives and significant others (SO's.) We welcome guests from other cross dressing organizations, when cleared through an officer.

We do not care about the sexual preference of the members and attendees. We do, however, require that all attendees behave like ladies at all times. Everyone has the right to feel secure, knowing they will not be ridiculed for their dressing or their appearance, and knowing they will not be "hit on" by anyone present.

We require that all attendees come completely dressed in feminine attire, or not dressed (i.e. in masculine attire). It is expected that most members will normally dress, but this is not required. Persons are not permitted to arrive partially dressed, for example, a dress and male hair, or a dress and an unshaven face, as this may draw unwanted attention to the rest of the group. Ladies pants and casual wear are fine. An adjacent changing room is available if you prefer to come in male clothing and dress at the meeting site.

Meetings are open only to cross dressers who have been screened or approved by an officer, and to cross dresser's wives/SO's, helping professionals, and approved guests. The location of the hotel is given out after the screening

process.

Membership is \$15 per year in advance. First year membership will run for 12 months from the date of payment. Second year membership will be pro-rated to run out at the end of the Crystal Club fiscal year, June 30. Additional years will be from July 1 to June 30.

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### Reservation Form

For February 24 meeting, reservations must be received in the mail by Feb 20, at Box 287, with payment, to qualify for the "early bird" rates. You can also pay at the previous meeting if you wish.

Before Feb 20:	
Members	\$12.00
Member couples	\$17.00
Non-members	\$15.00
Non-member couples	\$20.00

After Feb 20:	
Members	\$15.00
Member couples	\$20.00
Non-members	\$15.00
Non-member couples	\$20.00

Femme name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing name \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_  
address \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To:  
Crystal Club  
P.O. Box 287  
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-0287