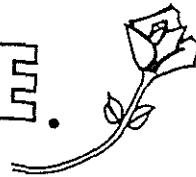




The
Crystal
CHRONICLE.



July 1990

Calendar of Events			
7/5	IXE	Meeting	Indianapolis
7/12	Transpitt	Social	Pittsburgh
7/14	Transpitt	Meeting	Pittsburgh
7/14	Alpha Omega	Meeting	Lakewood, OH
7/21	Paradise	Social	Lakewood, OH
7/19	Cross-Port	Meeting	Cincinnati
7/28	Crystal	Meeting, Attorney	Columbus
8/2	IXE	Meeting	Indianapolis
8/9	Transpitt	Social	Pittsburgh
8/11	Transpitt	Meeting	Pittsburgh
8/11	Alpha Omega	Meeting	Lakewood, OH
8/16	Cross-Port	Meeting	Cincinnati
8/18	Paradise	Meeting	Lakewood, OH
8/25	Crystal	Meeting	Columbus
9/6	IXE	Meeting	Indianapolis
9/8	Alpha Omega	Meeting	Lakewood, OH
9/8	Transpitt	Meeting	Pittsburgh
9/13	Transpitt	Social	Pittsburgh
9/15	Paradise	Social	Lakewood, OH
9/20	Cross-Port	Meeting	Cincinnati
9/22	Crystal	Meeting, Picnic?	Columbus
9/20-23	CIS	Paradise In The Poconos	Poconos, PA
10/12-21	Outreach Institute	Fantasia Fair	Provincetown, MA
11/1-4	CAF	Moon Shadow Ball	Kansas City
11/14-18	Tri-Ess	National Convention	San Francisco
12/22-24	Boulton & Park	Texas T Party	San Antonio
1/6/91	Paradise	Be All You Can Be	Akron

July Meeting

Our speaker for the July meeting will be an attorney. Laura will be speaking on the legal issues of crossdressing in Ohio. Her talk will begin at 8:30.

We are considering having a picnic in September. If you have any suggestions for a site or other ideas, please let us know.

Please remember to bring a can of food for the needy to

the meeting. Last month there was a good assortment of canned and boxed items. Let's keep it up!

President's Column

Ladies if you missed our June 23rd meeting you missed out on a real fun time. We had our own little fashion show thanks to Gloria from Lavender and Lace out of Detroit. Thank you Gloria for coming, it was wonderful. I can't remember a more fun meeting. I don't know of anyone that didn't have fun.

Mary Ann, thank you for working with Stonewall so that we could attend the GayFest. I'd like to thank you all for your support and making this a huge success. Thank you Susan, Jennifer, Lana, and Barbara for building and setting up the booth. Thanks to Cindy, Barbara, Lana, Jennifer, and Susan for working the booth Sunday. Our success was due to the work that these ladies did. Our treatment was great and they were impressed with us. We were invited back for next year. Thanks to Stonewall for inviting us and I hope that we will continue supporting each other in the future.

On June 26th I hope that you were able to listen to us as we told the public about the Crystal Club on the 7:00 pm radio talk show on 610 AM. Susan, Jennifer, Stephany Hall, and myself got about 70% of what we wanted to get out to the public in just an hours time. I only wish we would have had more than just one caller. Thank you ladies for giving your time. It couldn't have been done without you. Thank you again and let's keep up the great work.

July 28th is our next meeting. How many of you know legally what you can do or can't do as a crossdresser? Well, this meeting is one that we all need to attend. Laura will be there to tell us about the dos and don'ts as a crossdresser. Something that we all need to know. I plan on seeing you all there.

Our next board meeting will be held at Lynda's on July 19th. Those that come and smoke will be asked to just step outside to do it. Thank you for understanding. The meeting will be at 8:30. Until then thanks for your support.

Rochelle Richards

June Meeting

Our speaker at the June meeting was Gloria, the owner of Lavender and Lace. She talked a little while about her store in Detroit and how she'd like to put in a store here in Ohio. This would be a big plus for us since she is a big supporter for crossdressers. She made the trip to Columbus on a short notice. Glenda, a member of Crossroads came down with her. They brought plenty of dresses and things to show us. Later on during the night we had a fashion show. Several of the girls had fun trying on the different dresses and modeling them for us. Some of them even lightened her load for her return trip back to Detroit. She has invited any of us that are ever in the area to stop in and have a cup of coffee and look around and visit. We are more than welcome any time.

I had a chance to talk with her for awhile after the meeting and found Gloria to be a very caring and

understanding lady. She is trying to do every thing she can to help us with our needs. She has storage set up for those in her area that can't take their things home, along with a laundry service, make-up person, even lets people have their mail delivered there. She is really there to support and help us with our needs. I wish more people were as open as she is.

She asked me to give every one that was there her thanks and said that she'd like to come back again in the future. She was very impressed with everyone that was there. I hope to see her again in the future and would like to say thank you to her again.

Rochelle Richards

Visit to Lavender and Lace

On June 30th I took a trip to Detroit to visit Lavender and Lace for the first time. I got up about 5:30 to get ready to go. I wanted to get out of my apartment before all the kids started moving around. At 7:30 after finding the right dress to wear and packing a few things to wear home I started on my way. Except for the heat it was a pleasant drive to Detroit. I got there about 11:30 and pulled in the rear parking lot. Nervously I walked around the corner and into the store. Being that the store opens at 11:00 on Saturdays there was only one person besides Gloria, the store owner, there. I walked on in and she said that she was glad that I could make it up and told me that she was glad that we had asked her to come and visit with us. She was very impressed with us and hopes that we'll be here for a long time.

Any way she showed me around the store, and she has most everything that you could want in a store. This was the beginning of my best weekend in a long time. I spent the rest of the day at the store visiting with Gloria and the other girls that came in to visit and shop. There were fashion shows as ladies came in and tried things on much like that of our last meeting. The clothes were beautiful and not overpriced. We had pizza for lunch thanks to Lavender and Lace and Gloria.

Gloria introduced me to everyone that came into the store. If Judy and Jamie are any example of the help she has then nothing will ever hold her growth back. They are all great and very helpful. If you ever get the chance I really urge you to take the trip, it's worth every mile of the drive.

The store closes at 9:00 and after closing we went to a public restaurant for dinner. It was very pleasant going to

, first public place like that and not being stared at.

Gloria invited me to stay at her place for the night and she was a wonderful hostess. She is easy to talk to and very keen to our needs and wants. I hated to have to leave Sunday morning but life has to go on. I loved my visit to Lavender and Lace and Gloria; you all are super people. Come see us again and I'll be returning to visit you all too. Thanks for being so understanding to our needs.

Rochelle Richards

Membership Dues

July has rolled around again and some of you need to renew your membership. Please take a look at the expiration date on your mailing label. That date is the last month of our membership, and represents the last newsletter you will receive if you don't renew your membership.

You can renew by paying \$15 at the July meeting, or by mailing a \$15 check or money order to the P.O. Box.

If you haven't joined yet, this is a good opportunity to do so. You should be sure to have your interview with Susan before sending in your money, since the membership is not effective until the interview takes place.

If you have joined but your membership isn't due for while, this may be a good time to renew anyway. We'll credit you for the full time. Since your second year is a partial year and will run out June 30, the amount will be rounded to the nearest \$5 to cover the partial year. If you joined in July or August, pay \$15. If in Sept, Oct, Nov, or Dec, pay \$10. If Jan, Feb, Mar, or Apr, pay \$5. If May or June, you have been extended to June 30, 1991 for free.

You don't want to miss any issues of the Chronicle, so take this chance to drop \$15 in the mail, or plan to bring it to the June meeting.

June Business Meeting Minutes

These minutes were read at the June meeting.

We're going to try to have an IFGE section in our newsletter. It will be there every month now. [However, we don't have anything for it yet this month - MAH]

We made a booth for the GayFest. We'll be there Sunday 6/23, in case any of you want to drop by, noon until 8.

Susan

Treasurer's Report June 1990

Starting Balance	534.06
Meeting Fees	256.00
Membership Dues	95.00
Raffle	41.00
Total	392.00
Food and Beverages	-43.26
Printing	-17.45
Advertising	-48.94
Supplies	-7.67
Total Expenses	-117.32
Ending Balance	808.74

Susan

Letter from Adrienne

To my new sisters, Crystal Club,

It was so wonderful, a night for me to always cherish! Out, dressed, in public for the first time, being able to have other people see me as I want to be seen, allowing my feminine portion to be released, un hindered. I haven't felt this good since falling in love for the first time as a teenager!

No one stared, no one gawked, and most of all no one tried to "over assure" me that I was "OK", not abnormal, I was just another newcomer, which for me was perfect. That was the best possible support, knowing I am no longer alone and I was just another girl to be treated decently. I probably could have gone almost anywhere, truly public after the meeting, had someone asked, I was so enraptured with the night.

That part of my being had waited over 20 years to be the primary person, to make me whole, so much more than shielded in my bedroom or occasionally the rest of the house. I am so thrilled to have found this group, and now as a member, I truly hope to be able to help others find us, without fear, and relieve their anxiety.

I left the closet, and now the house, I like myself so much more -

Adrienne

Card from GayFest Participant

My name is Steve Shipp and I worked in the gay parent's group booth next to your group's booth yesterday. I just wanted you to know that I really enjoyed meeting all of you and I learned a lot about your group and wish you all well. When we closed up I was able to say good-bye to all but one of the people I met. He wore jeans and a pink top. [That would be Jennifer - MAH] Please extend my regrets for not saying good-bye and not knowing his name. It was a real pleasure meeting him and I hope our groups could work together in the future.

Regards,
Steve Shipp
864-6196

Letter from Visitor

Dear Friends,

I acquired your address from the "directory" section of Tapestry magazine. I am a 37 yr old TV who has enjoyed his/her other self since my early teens. I'm reasonably passable and especially enjoy going out dancing, dressed, to the various clubs in nearby Boston.

I will be in Columbus, Ohio at a convention the week of August 12-17, and would love to take that opportunity to meet new friends.

If you would be kind enough to let your membership know, and encourage them to write to the above address if they would like to meet with me.

Thanks you for your consideration,

Ingrid
P.O. Box 5391
Manchester, New Hampshire 03108

[I've sent her this newsletter. Unfortunately, she'll miss our August meeting, but if anyone would like to go out, please drop her a line.]

GayFest

The Crystal Club had an educational booth at the Stonewall Union's GayFest on June 24.

It was a success, we weren't swamped by people asking questions, but we did give out information and talked to people about our club and the TV/TS community.

One lady (GG) who passed by our booth by chance inquired for a friend of hers, a transsexual who was unaware of any gender dysphoria program or therapists who treated gender dysphoria. I gave her some information about the Central Ohio Gender Dysphoria Program. I got the very clear impression that the TS needed help badly. Maybe it's fortunate for that person that the Crystal Club was there.

Michael McFadden of Stonewall seemed impressed by our booth. We built it the Sunday before GayFest and Lana made a great sign. We had the only covered booth.

One of the most positive things about the Crystal Club being at the GayFest is that we have oriented the people to the Crystal Club. Consequently, next year's GayFest should generate more interest in our club and the TV/TS community.

I had a good time there, the crowd was very relaxed and I was not aware of one single negative comment. Everybody was very friendly. I took some time to walk around and bumped into some people I know, they didn't seem the least bit put off by my crossdressing.

We met three female-to-male TS's there, and it's very likely that they'll be at the July 28th meeting. The sentiment of the club is that we would like for these people to come and socialize with us and join the Crystal Club. We should make them feel welcome by calling them "sir" or "you guys", using their male names and treat them like guys and their SO's like women. Remember when you dress, you want to be called "ma'am" and be treated like a lady, we should give them the same consideration.

Susan

Fame and Fortune

Our own Rochelle Richards was quoted in the Dispatch on June 25. In the article on GayFest, reporter Felix Hoover said:

Rochelle Richards of the Crystal Club, an organization for crossdressers, said, "The groups here all have been abused one way or other. We want to stop being abused."

WTVN Talk Show

Maybe some of you heard us girls on the WTVN talk show with John Corby. I thought it went very well, WTVN treated us very good and John Corby was great. It was a very short hour to try to educate the public, I'm told it went fairly well. Next time we should try to be even better. We invite input by anybody who is so inclined.

It's been a busy month.

Susan

Phone Caller

Even though only one person phoned the show during the hour we were on, three of the callers in the next hour wanted to discuss us. The first such call was especially interesting. The GG caller originally was very hostile, but Corby did an outstanding job of talking her through it. By the end she was just about ready to live and let live. (Unfortunately, he didn't quite confront her with the conclusion.) If you find yourself in a discussion with an anti-gender person, you may find similar techniques helpful.

I think the conversation is very instructive. The host first gets her on the same side by going along with her concerns. Then he gets her thinking about some of the issues, in a very friendly and nonthreatening way. I'm transcribing it here because I think it's of interest.

Tina) I'm calling about the people who were on last hour. These people need help!

Corby) A couple of these guys claimed they've been to every shrink in the book and there's nothing they can do about it.

Well, if my husband looked like that I know he'd find a new wife!

Well, some of these guys at least were married, but many of them in the club apparently are married and their wives go to the meetings!

Oh, that's the strangest thing I've ever heard of in my life!

MMH.

don't want to dress like a man. But when I...

Well it sounds like you don't want to dress like a woman either!

at when I come home from work I put jeans on and a shirt! You know, I'm not gonna leave my dress on all evening. and make up on, you know?

eah.

It's not fun.

Well, apparently these guys get something out of it.

I guess so. I think they need help. I think they're really rebellious against something or somebody.

Well, they claim that nobody really knows.

I mean if God created two Eves we wouldn't be here!

(laughs) Well, let's put it this way. If Adam had worn a dress, they probably would never have had Cain and Abel.

(laughs) I just thought it was kind of funny. And they think it's natural.

Well, now, they didn't necessarily say it was normal, they just say that's the way God made them. And, I don't know, a couple of them didn't look too bad, I hate to say!

(laughs)

Looked better than some of the women I saw today.

Well, how many women do you see cross dressing like men?

Well, that's what I said before, you call them business people.

(laughs)

The little string ties, and the slacks. You know, that's one thing that I think is pushing it, I think women should be allowed to dress like women, even if they're in a business position, a lot of women a dressing in these, uh, it's almost like a men's suit, only there's a dress with it. And I just don't think it looks very good. Do you?

No. Well, I don't believe in women's lib, I thought whoever started it should have been shot. I mean, it's hard enough to raise a family and a husband, you know, and your kids, and work a full time job too.

Oh, sure!

I mean, that's like overload.

Well, I tell you what, Donna Reed never had these problems. All she had to do was keep the meal on the table and keep the pearls polished.

I'm telling you, times have changed!

They sure have!

I wanna go back to the old days.

You want to go back to the good old days, and...

I'm telling you!

Down in Grove City when the men opened the door for you when you got out of the car, and lit your cigarette and picked up the tab,

(laughs)

and all those nice things that nobody does anymore.

No.

You know, a lot of women, if you open the door for them, they get angry.

Yeah, I know, they get offended by it.

So that's why guys have quit doing it, because they can't figure out which is which.

(laughs) who likes it and who don't!

Well, I'll tell you, guys are real confused these days, too, they're not quite sure where they fit in.

Yeah, that's true.

You're supposed to be like Alan Alda and cry at the drop of a hat and then do the dishes, but then go out and do the manly things and bring home the bacon and, so we're just as confused as the women are.

I guess so!

It was a lot easier when you could just watch Ozzie and Harriet on TV and do what they do.

Yeah! You got married when you was 18 and had kids and that was that!

That's right! And you were married and you weren't too happy, but it didn't matter!

Yep, you said "I do" you're stuck!

You're a done deal, and you made the best of it, and you went to a lot of ball games, and when you got a little older, you complained about the grandkids, which still goes on quite frequently.

Oh, I think I'd enjoy the grandkids.

Yeah, well, the good thing about grandkids, apparently, from the grandparents I've talked to, is eventually they go home.

(laughs) Yeah!

Tina, thanks for the call!

Large Shoes

According to the Channel 4 news, a new shoe store specializing in large sizes is opening in downtown Columbus. Called Magnifie, it carries women's size 9-13 shoes. It is located in the City Center Plaza at 289 S. 3rd.

Be All 1990

The 1990 Be All You Want To Be Weekend commonly referred to as just "Be All" is now history. This four day event is co-sponsored by Cross Roads of Detroit, Chi Chapter Tri-Ess of Chicago, Paradise Club of Cleveland, and Transpitt of Pittsburgh. The location of the event is rotated annually among the cities of the sponsoring organizations. This year's event was the eighth annual and was hosted by Transpitt at the Pittsburgh North Sheraton Inn.

Registration began at noon on Wednesday with a banquet dinner held that evening in the hotel. The programs really got started on Thursday and included Ballroom Dance Instructions; a seminar for wives and partners of crossdressers; a seminar for TS's; a bus tour of Pittsburgh; luncheon at Auntie Mame's Restaurant; a panel discussion for TV's, TS's, and significant others; and an evening dinner cruise and entertainment aboard the River Belle on the Ohio River.

Unfortunately, since I could only spare one day of vacation I missed Wednesday and Thursday. I arrived at the Sheraton about 11 PM Thursday night while everyone was out on the river cruise. I checked in at the hotel registration desk, got a key to my room and a cart to transport my luggage. The hotel lobby was absolutely dead. When I went out to my car to get my luggage, three school busses pulled up to the hotel entrance. I thought, Oh No, just what I need three busloads of high school kids. Imagine my surprise when it turned out to be three bus loads of cross dressers returning from the dinner cruise. Needless to say the hotel lobby rapidly livened up.

On Friday and Saturday the event was broken into two programs, one for TV's and one for TS's with plenty of opportunity for intermixing of the two groups at breakfast, lunch, and in the evening.

I was in the TS group and attended seminars and workshops on topics such as psychological care, religious issues,

the transgender (non-surgical) option, legal issues, employment, hospitalization insurance, hormone therapy, cosmetic surgery, voice modification surgery and sexual reassignment surgery. The program for TV's included additional ballroom dancing instructions; a seminar for wives and partners only; cosmetic and makeup class; a seminar for the novice TV; a presentation on crossdressing on stage and in the movies; rap sessions with Richard Docter and Sandra J Cole, two psychologists with extensive experience in working with crossdressers; hair and wig care; self defense techniques for women and a workshop for the advanced TV by Kay Gould.

On Friday evening there was a banquet dinner, then we were entertained by the Renaissance City Choir followed by square dancing. I skipped the square dance and went to the hotel disco, which was packed, since word of our presence at the hotel had by now gotten around town.

On Saturday evening there was another banquet dinner and the "Strut Your Stuff" talent show. My expectations for this show were low, however it turned out to be one of the highlights of the entire event. Approximately twenty girls did numbers including comedy skits, singing, playing musical instruments and lip synching. They were all quite good and the show was produced and emceed by Wendy Parker who I understand works in Hollywood as a production manager. She was funny and talented and did a very professional job.

On Sunday there was a farewell brunch and another Re All was over. This was the third one I have attended and every one has been better than the last one. There were 241 people in attendance. I met people from Los Angeles, Sacramento, Albuquerque, Kansas City, Chicago, Cleveland, Syracuse, Atlanta, Birmingham, Boston, Lexington, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Washington DC, Knoxville, Pittsburgh and Toronto. I was disappointed that only two people from Crystal Club attended.

Ladies, this is a major event. It is an opportunity to meet people from our neighboring organizations as well as from across the USA and Canada. Best of all it is an opportunity to have a fantastically good time and it is quite literally right in our own back yard. Next year the event is being hosted by Paradise Club and it will be held in Akron OH which is 126 miles from Columbus. I hope all members of Crystal Club will seriously consider attending.

Lynda

Americans with Disabilities Act

IFGE made all our club representatives aware recently that a bill is pending before Congress that is highly

offensive to the gender community. It lumps in transvestites, transsexuals, gays, etc with child molesters and pyromaniacs. There has been a call for all members to protest the act to their senators and representatives.

I thought it would be a good idea to check this bill out and find out what its status was. I made a few phone calls and was surprised at what I found.

The ADA was sponsored by Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa. His office referred me to the ADA office, run by Bob Silverstein, the Chief Counsel of the Senate Subcommittee on Disability Policy. (The ADA office is at (202) 224-6265 if you'd like to talk to them yourself. Mr. Silverstein is pretty busy but whoever answers the phone can probably tell you whatever you want to know.) The bill is intended to prohibit discrimination against people who are disabled. The term disabled is carefully defined in the bill to mean a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual; or a record of such an impairment; or being regarded as having such an impairment. Examples include being confined to a wheelchair, being blind, deaf, retarded, or having AIDS.

There was recently a case where a crossdresser was discriminated against, and sued his employer claiming protection as a handicapped person. Apparently he won his case. I don't know about you, but I don't consider myself handicapped or disabled, and I don't think being a crossdresser is a disability. Evidently Congress shares this opinion - they were apparently shocked at the court decision and decided that a legislative remedy was in order.

The legislative remedy came from Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina. (You've no doubt heard of Sen. Helms, he's the bigot who hates everyone except white male WASP smokers and tobacco farmers.) Helms offered an amendment which states that certain groups of people are not to be considered disabled for purposes of this bill. As it was explained to me, they threw Sen. Helms a bone in order to keep him from opposing the entire ADA. Here is the relevant text from the Senate version of the bill:

Sec 508. Transvestites. For the purposes of this Act, the term "disabled" or "disability" shall not apply to an individual solely because that individual is a transvestite.

Sec 511. Definitions. Under this Act the term "disability" does not include "homosexuality", "bisexuality", "transvestism", "pedophilia", "transsexualism", "exhibitionism", "voyeurism", "compulsive gambling", "kleptomania", or "pyromania", "gender identity disorders", "current psychoactive substance-induced organic mental

disorders", as defined by DSM-III-R which are not the result of medical treatment, or other sexual behavior disorders.

There is also language in the bill to single out users of illegal drugs and make sure they are not covered. The bill does not exclude coverage because a person is in one of these categories. It merely ensures that a person is not considered disabled solely by virtue of their other issue. A deaf crossdresser, for example, would still be protected as a deaf person.

Is this offensive to us? You bet it is. Can we do anything about it? Not really. The Senate and House voted on their separate versions of the bill several months ago. As of June 29, 1990, there were only two differences between the House and Senate versions that had not been resolved by the committee. One was whether food handlers with AIDS were covered, and the other was whether Congress itself was exempt. The Helms amendment was voted in long ago with overwhelming bipartisan support in both chambers. (The Senate voted 99-1 in favor of the amendment, only Senator Alan Cranston of California opposed it, and he's in trouble now as one of the Keating 5, so he has less influence now than he did then.) Basically, there is no more opportunity to amend the bill. That time was in 1989.

Is this bill really harmful to us? Probably not. All it says is that being a crossdresser or transsexual is not something that prevents us from doing our normal jobs or living normal lives. This also happens to be true of the other categories listed. Some of them are illegal and hurt other people, others are harmless. We may resent being lumped in with them, but the real impact of this law upon us will be zero. It was OK to discriminate against us before and it still will be. Even without this language, it would still have been OK to discriminate against us.

So what do we do about this? If we put our energy into getting sections 508 and 511 removed from the AIA, we will most likely come up empty. It's too late, and Congress evidently has no sympathy for us. Helms is a powerful individual who could kill this entire bill if it didn't contain his amendments.

However, there is another channel where we might have better success. Jesse Helms is up for reelection in November of 1990. His opponent, Harvey Gant, stands a good chance of beating him. If we put our energy into helping Gant, we could very well get Helms out of office. This would be a good first step toward getting some less hateful legislation out the door where it could do some good. (Maybe in a few years there will be a bill prohibiting discrimination based on Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation. (The latter phrase

is usually interpreted to include the gay community but exclude the gender community, when it really ought to include both.) In the current climate, they couldn't even prohibit discrimination based on sex! The ERA has gone down to defeat.)

According to the Gant headquarters (704-338-1990 in Charlotte, NC) a recent poll by the Charlotte Observer had Gant with 44% and Helms with 40%. However, the stated margin of error is 4.5%, and the Gant office doesn't trust the poll because it overrepresented the Charlotte area. Since Gant is a Democrat and Helms a Republican, urban areas will tend to support Gant more and suburban and rural areas tend to support Helms. (Also, Helms supports subsidies to tobacco farmers.) Other polls and the Gant office believe the race is really neck and neck.

So how can we help get Gant elected? Well, since most of us live outside of North Carolina, campaigning door to door isn't very likely. I am sending our newsletter to two of our sister organizations in North Carolina (Kappa Beta in Charlotte and Phoenix in Asheville), in the hope that if enough people are made aware of the importance of this election to the gender community, gay community, feminists, blacks, nonsmokers, and others that Helms has continually stomped on, the word can be gotten out on a nationwide basis and significant funds can be sent to help win this election. Folks, let's get the word out! I especially invite suggestions from our sisters in North Carolina, and hope this message will be passed along to other organizations within the gender community and beyond who can do something to help defeat Jesse Helms this November.

So what can you, as an individual, do to help? From out of state, the most effective thing you can do is send money. You can contribute to the Gant campaign by sending a check to 700 E. Stonewall St, Suite 655, Charlotte NC 28202. Make the tax deductible check out to "Gant for US Senate".

Another thing you can do is help get voters registered. Lower income Democrat citizens tend to vote in lower percentages than their Republican counterparts, so higher voter registration will tend to help elect the Democrat Gant. Sending money to Project Vote will help fund the effort to register more voters. Their number is 202-328-1500. Send tax-deductible checks made out to "Project Vote" to 1424 16th St NW, Suite 101, Washington DC 20036. Include a note to earmark the contribution toward voter registration in North Carolina. (It is important that this registration activity be low-profile and not associated with the Gant campaign. Several years ago a Helms opponent worked directly to register voters, and Helms retaliated by getting fundamentalist religious organizations to register large numbers of conservative pro-Helms voters.)

We are going to have to live with the offensive language in the ADA. But if we pool our resources, perhaps we can get the author of that language out of the Senate. Your help is needed. Get the word out now! Send your donation to one of the above worthy causes. I will be sending a donation for \$50 to the Gant campaign and also to Project Vote, and I urge you to do likewise. (Or \$5 or \$10 or whatever you can afford.) I also urge organizations who want to do something to reprint this message in your own newsletters.

Mary Ann Harris

Related Organizations

Local Support Groups

Crystal Club
P.O. Box 287
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
(614) 777-0648

Meral Crane, GIO
Central Ohio Gender Dysphoria
P.O. Box 02008
Columbus, OH 43202

Early Clubs

Cross-Port
P.O. Box 12701
Cincinnati, OH 45212
(513) 851-6174

Alpha Omega
Northern Ohio Tri-Ess Chapter
P.O. Box 954
Elyria, OH 44036

Transpitt
P.O. Box 3214
Pittsburgh, PA 15230

Paradise Club
P.O. Box 29564
Parma, OH 44129

IXE
Box 20710
Indianapolis, IN 46220

Crossroads
Box 1245
Royal Oak, MI 48068-1245

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

National Organizations

IFGE
P.O. Box 367
Wayland, MA 01778
(617) 894-2212

Renaissance Education Association
Box 1263
King of Prussia, PA 19406
(215) 640-9449

Tri-Ess
Box 194
Tulare, CA 93275

Jane Ellen Fairfax
Tri-Ess Femme Mirror
P.O. Box 1105
Alief, TX 77411

Our Sorority
P.O. Box 11254, Lincolnia Station
Alexandria, VA 22312

Policies

The Crystal Club is an open support group for cross dressers. We welcome TV, TS, TG, FI, and others who assume a complete trans-gendered identity. Both Male-to-Female and Female-to-Male individuals are welcome. We welcome their spouses and significant others (SO's.) We welcome guests from other cross dressing organizations, when cleared through an officer.

Meetings are the fourth Saturday evening of each month. Meetings are open only to cross dressers who have been screened or approved by an officer, and to cross dresser's

spouses/SO's, helping professionals, and approved guests. The location of the hotel is given out after the screening process.

There is a monthly meeting fee (see schedule below) to cover the cost of the room, food, soft drinks and coffee, and general operating expenses of the group. This fee is above and in addition to annual membership dues. If you wish beer or wine, BYOB (many people do.)

Nonmembers may attend as many as three meetings before joining. Usually a new member will join at their first meeting, making a total payment of \$30 (\$25 for couples) at their first meeting.

We do not care about the sexual orientation of the members and attendees. We do, however, require that all attendees behave like ladies or gentlemen 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 as the gender they are presenting, i.e. entirely as a woman or entirely as a man. Members will usually 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.

Membership is \$15 per year in advance. After the first complementary copy of the newsletter, additional newsletters are sent only to members who have paid their dues. 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, rounded to the nearest \$5 (4 months.) Additional years will be from July 1 to June 30.

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Meeting Reservations

For July 28 meeting, reservations must be received by telephone at 777-0648, by July 26, to qualify for the \$3 "early bird" discount. You can also pay at the previous meeting if you wish. Include your femme name, mailing name

and address.

EVEN IF YOU DON'T MAKE A RESERVATION BY THURSDAY, PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AT THE CLUB PHONE NUMBER, 777-0648, TO LET US KNOW IF YOU'RE COMING TO THE MEETING. A message as late as noon Saturday can still help us make sure we have enough food.



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