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Buffalo Belles Newsletters

Madeline Davis Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,
Transgender Archives of Western New York

4-1996

April 1996

Buffalo Belles

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BUFFALO BELLES



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To
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P.O. Box 1701
Anherst, N.Y. 14226-1701

HOTLINE: (716) 643-2626
NU PHI CHI

APRIL, 1996

SISTERS IN CHARGE:
CINDY H.
JEAN H.
KATHY LORRAINE

Dear Sisters,

The March meeting was a great success. A good turnout was had. This was despite another of our cold, wintery nights. We had a mini blizzard during the meeting and about 6 inches of snow were waiting to greet the girls upon leaving. A slippery drive either home or out on the town was experienced once more. The good news is the next meeting will be in the spring, and more than 3 weeks into it!

Those who attended the meeting were treated to our first Video Night. It was an interesting perspective to see one's self as the camera does. The effect was so much different than looking at the 'picture' of the TV screen, rather than the mirror image.

Now all of this is probably old hat to you who have their own camcoders, but to us who are "possession challenged" this was a new experience.

It really confirmed in my mind the fact that I have an Adams's apple! I suspected it in the past, but now it was confirmed. It will be turtleneck city for me at the mall!!!

I don't think any of us are about to apply for a position as anchorwoman of the news after seeing our faces in the close up the camera sees!! OK, maybe Cindy still will. But girls, the tape I took home was much kinder on my own set, as the one we used had a bad setup on its color balance.

It was a reality check in many ways, but also very positive in others. Hey, it gave me



ATTENDEES

JEAN H.	DANA D.
PATTI J.	FRANCIS L.
RENE K.	PAULA
KATHY L.	JANICE G.
PAULA C.	MICHELLE
CINDY H.	
DENISE M.	GUEST:
HOLLY H.	KY
JOAN C.	

enough encouragement that I went out on the town after the meeting for the first time in awhile. And that was in the face of the rotten weather.

Renee promises to bring her camera in the future so we can give all other chances to be a Video Star. Bring a blank VHS tape with you and you can take it home with all your beauty and poise in evidence for further study at your leisure.

A special thanks to Jean and Renee for bringing the equipment for the evening, Mention must be given to Denise and KY who acted as our schoolmarms in demonstrating the proper feminine movements and grace on walking. Their patience and encouragement were greatly appreciated.

The other main attraction for the night was the counting of the ballots for our election. As you have probably already surmised, you are still stuck with me. Probably as soon as you saw the weather report, you thought Oh No, not her still!! Hey, don't blame me, I didn't vote for myself! Hey, I've often said that I'm not as stupid as I look! (Which still leaves a lot of room.)

Despite much wailing, crying, pleas of mercy, etc. Cindy H. and Jean H. were also held elected.

To console the anguish of the duly elected, they immediately left following the meeting on the officers jet for some recovery at the beach house at Key West. Some jaunts were taken down to Rio for some beauty treatments. Some skin bracing was intermixed at the officers chalet in Vail.

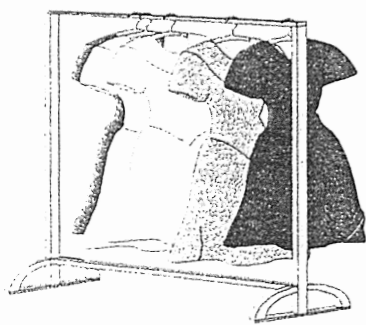
Probably the thoughts of the salary, retirement package with the very complete health plan that is part of the officers compensation did contribute to the acceptance of their fate!

So it's a done deal. We finally have an elected group. We don't know what we will be called. Probably anything we want, I suppose. So far we have had the working title of Three Sisters, like in 'Tri-Ess', get it? Or the three Stooges, or the generic 'Officers'. For some reason I keep getting the three old hags sitting around the grave holding Orek's skull in Hamlet! "Three Hags" This is starting to be fun. Is it time for another top ten list? What is your suggestion?

One serious thing about the election. Did you mail in a ballot? We received four via our P.O. box. They were from Jean, Paula, Kathy and Danalyn. If you mailed one in and aren't listed LET US KNOW. The reason isn't to try to get another recount but to check on our mail service. Recently we had a prospective member claim to have sent in her application and check. We never received it. Did your ballot or anything else ever go unacknowledged?

So enough with the old happenings, that is the past, onto the future events of our second selves. But.....

Thank you for your vote of confidence from the three of us.



Our next meeting is being moved a week later than usual. This is for the Easter

Holiday on our regular date. We will have a new feature for this meeting, Kathy C. will be joining us. Kathy is a delightful lady of unusual warmth and care. She genuinely likes the ladies of our community. When being her usual self, she also doubles as an expert tailor.

The purpose of her visit is for you to bring in that dress, skirt, blouse or anything else that doesn't fit quite properly. For most of us, regardless of how much we try to diet, squeeze or pad, the female form that the clothes are designed around is not quite what we achieve. This is where Kathy can help.

I know from my own experience, that proper fit and look of my outfits depends quite a bit on their modification and alteration. But, because I'm not quite the best endorsement one might get, I'll also tell you that Collean, Denise and Holly have used Kathy's services also! We know how sharp they look!

The idea is for you to bring to the meeting the items you would like altered. (Sorry, clothing only!) Kathy will pin and mark them for what's necessary. They will be ready for pick up at the next meeting. Or you can arrange directly with her for a personal pick up or fitting at her normal location in Eggertsville.

I think Kathy is quite fair in what she charges, her work is wonderful and so is she! Bring as many as you wish.

Have you noticed our inclusion in the listing of social support groups in Artvoice? Cindy got us this listing in this very interesting bi-monthly publication of the downtown scene. What is especially nice about this listing is that it is around at just about any suburban super market. Along side the real estate guides and used car rags. We hope this is just a start in a further expanded outreach program. Hopefully we will soon be listed in

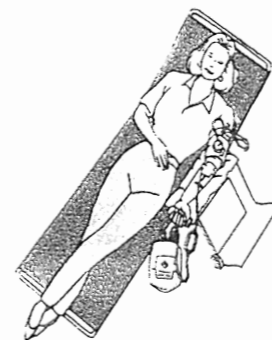


many other publications in hope that the lonely sister who feels so desperately alone will find us and be able to finally join into the sister hood that we have.

In last month's list of members and meetings attended, Frances L. was inadvertently left off. She placed fifth on the list with 28 meetings attended.

I would like to thank Kathryn for taking the help wanted ad to heart. She has completely rewritten our application info package that we send to prospective new members. Our old one had become a disjointed mess mostly due to my inability to run a copy machine properly. We have several potential new members waiting for an application and hopefully we will continue to see new faces at the meetings soon. Thankyou Kathern, and also Dana for volunteering also.

If you were not at the last meeting, you missed the news that our dear friend and member Teresa was to under go her SRS surgery an March 7th. Her surgery has been reported successful and she is at home recovering now.



Teressa, we wish you much happiness finally getting your life the way it was intended. We can only hope that the surgery hasn't changed your inner sprits and beauty, which didn't need an alteration at all! Now, if they could do something about that "Treckie" problem.....

Hope to see many of you at our next meeting.... Kathy.

OOPS!

FOR MARY KAY PRODUCTS CALL CRISTINA



THE TELEPHONE WAS NOT CORRECT FOR CRISTINA, OUR MARY KAY GIRL, IN OUR LAST NEWSLETTER. THE CORRECT NUMBER IS:

824-6082

IF YOU WANT TO ORDER SOME GREAT PRODUCTS, FROM A VERY PLEASANT, SUPPER LADY, GIVE HER A CALL!



* * * * *

THE BIRDCAGE

* If you haven't seen this movie yet, don't go any further in life until you do. This movie is well worth the price of a ticket. Be fore warned that if you do go to see it dressed, wear something loose and flowing, water proof mascara, and make sure that if you are timid about going to the "ladies room" that you go before you leave home. This movie will split your tight dress, tears of laughter will ruin your mascara and you will pee your panties.

* "The Birdcage" stars Robin Williams and Nathan Lane as a gay couple who masquerade as straight in order to fool Williams' son's conservative prospective in-laws.

* Buffalo News Staff Reviewer Melinda Miller admitted that this was not her kind of movie. But gave it 3 of 5 stars. Maybe she dislikes

* * * * *

TREASURER REPORT

MEMBERSHIP INCOME

16 AT \$25.00	\$400.00				
3 AT \$15.00	\$45.00				
			TOTAL		
			+		\$445.00

MEETING FEES COLLECTED

1/96	15 @ \$5.00	\$75.00		50 / 50 SPLIT	
DOOR	7 @ \$5.00	\$35.00		1/96	\$13.00
2/96	8 @ \$5.00	\$40.00		3/96	\$10.00
3/96	15 @ \$5.00	\$75.00			
					+
					\$248.00

EXPENSES

	PRINTING	STAMPS	PIZZA	REFMNTS	OTHER	
12/95	\$42.00	\$34.00			\$13.00 ENVELOPS	
STAGE DOOR			\$21.00		\$80.00 RENT	
1/96		\$12.00	\$33.00	\$48.00		
2/96	\$26.00	\$36.00			\$57.00 PHONE	
3/96			\$20.00			
TOTAL	\$68.00	\$82.00	\$74.00	\$48.00	\$150.00	- \$422.00
						BAL + \$271.00

WHO AM ? WHAT AM I ?

What we all seem to share is a lifelong conviction that we're in the wrong bodies. What we do about it varies a lot from soul to soul. I'm persuaded that we're truly feminine beings. How we came to be that way is unimportant when compared to the fact that we are! Males who are really males just don't want to be females. So, we are not really males. The spectrum of gender expression is just that, a spectrum of expression, not of being. A nun is no less of a woman than a housewife or a hooker, but each has a different personality, a different and appropriate way of expressing her femininity. (Get to know one who's been all three and you're really onto something....) And I think that the secretive closet TV who only rarely sneaks into her wife's undies is just as much a woman as a post-op TS. But, surely, not the same kind of woman. Be yourself and you will go through life the person you were ment to be.

CALENDAR

MARCH 29 - 31 Expressions at the Piller and Post, Fort Eire Canada

APRIL 13 Regular Buffalo Belles Meeting - Kathy the taylor

MAY 4 Regular Buffalo Belles Meeting

MAY 16 - 19 Paradise in The Poconos - PA. 610-640-9449

CALL HOTLINE FOR ADDITIONAL UPDATED INFORMATION

MSC. STUFF !!

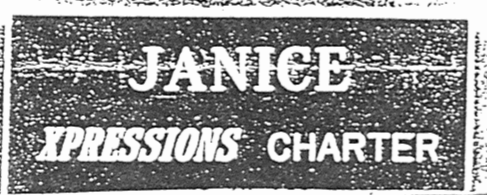
WANTED

Poetry Prose Art Work Short Stories

NAME TAGS:

There was discussion at the April meeting concerning name tags for the Buffalo Belles members. It was tentatively decided to order one but to pattern the type after the tag I received by joining Xpressions (see example). The cost of the tag (which is a heavy duty metal one) will be \$5.50 with an additional \$3.50 for a magnetic backing to avoid the use of pins. Colors and writing will be decided with the group name being an option. The writing style can be mixed with any of the pin colors although the writing colors are preset with the pin color. If you have a preference that the Belles should decide upon please let me know. If you would like to order just one send in your name, if you wish the name Buffalo Belles to be included, and a \$5.00 deposit, remaining will be due upon receiving the pin.

Writing Style	color	Pin	Writing
Block		Burgundy	White
Contemporary		Silver	Black
Old English		Lt Gray	Blue
Script		Lavender Blue	Green
Century		Pink	Tepe
Advent Grade		Gold	Black



For those who attend meetings and wish to bring in old magazines, catalogs, etc. to give out to the girls...please draw a slash line through the cover so others will know it is available for the taking. Others may find quite interesting what you throw in the recycling bin! If you have books, videos, etc to donate to the library, please make sure it gets to the proper person, so as not to get tossed.

 Don't forget to remove address labels if you wish to preserve your secrecy, and order forms inside!

Original pieces by, for, and about transvestites, cross dressers, drag queens, transgenderists, transsexuals, and the transgendered community.

Have you ever poured your feelings into a piece of poetry or a drawing, only to tuck it away, never to be seen by a living soul? Well, dig those things out! Bring your work out of the closet!!

The Gender Identity Center of Colorado, Inc. is looking for your creative works. It is our intention to publish a book of original pieces from the heart and soul of our community.

All works will be considered, within the following guidelines:

1. Erotica, yes; pornography, NO.
2. Short stories should be limited to three typed, single spaced pages, one side.
3. Submissions will be edited only for spelling and punctuation, unless these factors are part of the work--please advise with your submission.
4. Humor is a good thing.

Please provide us with the following information:

1. Name you want published with the work.
2. City and State
3. Group Affiliation (optional)

Please send to: G.J.C. of Colorado, Inc., Attn: Book
 1455 Ammons St, Ste 100, Lakewood, CO 80215

If you want your submission returned, please provide a S.A.S.E.



Does this ring any bells in your head??
 Dad, you have a bigger problem than you know!

Father challenges methods of day-care center that permitted 6-year-old son to wear dress

By LISA RESPERS
 Baltimore Sun

WOODLAWN, Md. — When Henry Holmes picked up his 6-year-old son from the day-care center in the Social Security Administration's headquarters last week, he found the boy laughing and playing. And wearing a dress.

Holmes did not think it was funny. "He was playing in this area they call 'housekeeping,' and he was wearing a shiny, white dress that resembled one a little girl would wear in a wedding," Holmes said. "I was told it was part of their curriculum, but I don't see how his wearing a dress is part of the learning experience."

That incident now has sparked a dispute over teaching methods at the Social Secur-A-Kiddie Child Care Center's kindergarten program.

An irate Holmes has taken his son, Gerald, out of the program. The center, meanwhile, insists that such dressing up is not unusual or harmful. And the state, asked to investigate, says that dressing up is an appropriate part of a child-care curriculum.

After last week's incident, Holmes, a single parent, complained to officials at the center, which occupies space in Social Security's Operations Building but is not managed by the agency.

He also filed a complaint with the state Child Care Administration, which licenses day-care facilities, about his son being allowed to wear the dress. He alleged that the center's housekeeping area was unsafe and not properly supervised.

The complaint was investigated Wednesday and found to be unsubstantiated, said Linda Heisner, executive director of the Child Care Administration.

She also said that "dress-up" activities are considered an appropriate part of child-care curriculum.

"Children have a choice when there is a dress-up activity," Ms. Heisner said. "That kind of play is developmentally appropriate for preschoolers."

Lindi Budd, executive director of the day-care center, said the facility provides clothing such as men's shirts and ties, dresses and high heels, and firefighters' and nurses' uniforms for children to use.

Parents should not worry about such activities, said Betty Smith Franklin, an associate professor of psychology and sociology at Goucher College. Young children frequently experiment with clothing as a way of "playing out positions of power" — dressing up as grown-ups, she said.

"The idea that you play at a bunch of different roles is important when it comes to a child's development," Ms. Franklin said. "When people are concerned, it is usually based on fear of the confusion of sexual roles and identities, and if it gets to that point, the parent and the child need to sit down and discuss it."

Holmes said he discussed the incident with his son and explained that other children might tease him for wearing a dress. To his dismay, he said, the boy responded, "I don't care."

International Foundation for Gender Education
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IFGE PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THE RETURN OF
 TAPESTRY JOURNAL!
 IN AN ALL NEW, MONTHLY ELECTRONIC FORM
 ON WORLD WIDE WEB

Beginning sometime in late spring or early summer, IFGE will debut a monthly magazine on their new website.

"Although the response has been ten-to-one in favor of our new print publication," explains IFGE Director of Publications, *Transgender Tapestry*, many long-time supporters said they had grown attached to the old name. So it seemed the ideal title for our new electronic magazine."

Unlike *Transgender Tapestry*, which is quarterly, the *Tapestry Journal (Electronic)* will be posted monthly at the IFGE's new website.

"The electronic magazine will also be closer in tone to the old magazine," Stine says. "*Transgender Tapestry* is designed to appeal to the whole TG community. *Tapestry Journal (Electronic)* can focus more on material of interest to smaller, but all important target groups, like helping professionals—as well as newcomers."

The *Tapestry Journal (Electronic)* will feature new material, a letter column, reviews, poetry, coming out stories, convention announcements, community news, articles with a scholarly or scientific slant, and reprints from back issues of its earlier print incarnation.

Like its print sister, it will also contain IFGE's Directory of Organization and Services.

Tapestry Journal (Electronic) will share space with an electronic bookstore, where readers can order publications produced or distributed by IFGE.

Tapestry Journal (Electronic) will debut sometime in late spring or early summer 1995.

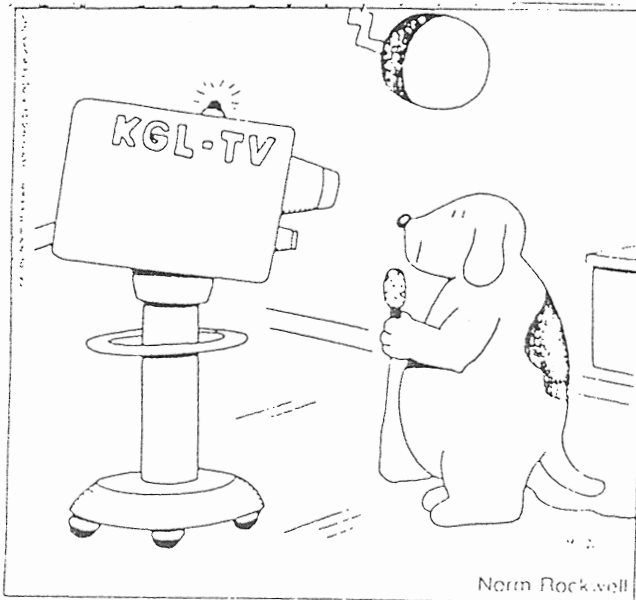
The first issue will be announced.

THE DOWNTOWN CLUB SCENE as from THE ROYAL SCEPTER, of the Imperial Court of Buffalo

March 1996

17 St. Patrick's Day Parade at 2pm	18	19	20 Free Line Dancing @ Stagedoor 7pm with Tye	21	22 Community Network General Meeting 7:30 @ 777 Main St	23 ESPA Night of 100 Parties Contact Bill Goodman @ 836-6148
24 SHEARS of Hope @ J.C. Penney Duet Show @ Buddies	25	26	27 Free Line Dancing @ Stagedoor 7pm with Tye	28	29	30 Emperor's Bachelor Party @ Buddies An all-male evening
31 Palm Sunday Dwina Diamonds Birthday Empress' Shower @ Tiffany's						

CROSS DRESSEERS ?



Norm Rockwell

"Tonight's subject: Transvestites. Our guests are wolves that like to dress up in sheep's clothing."

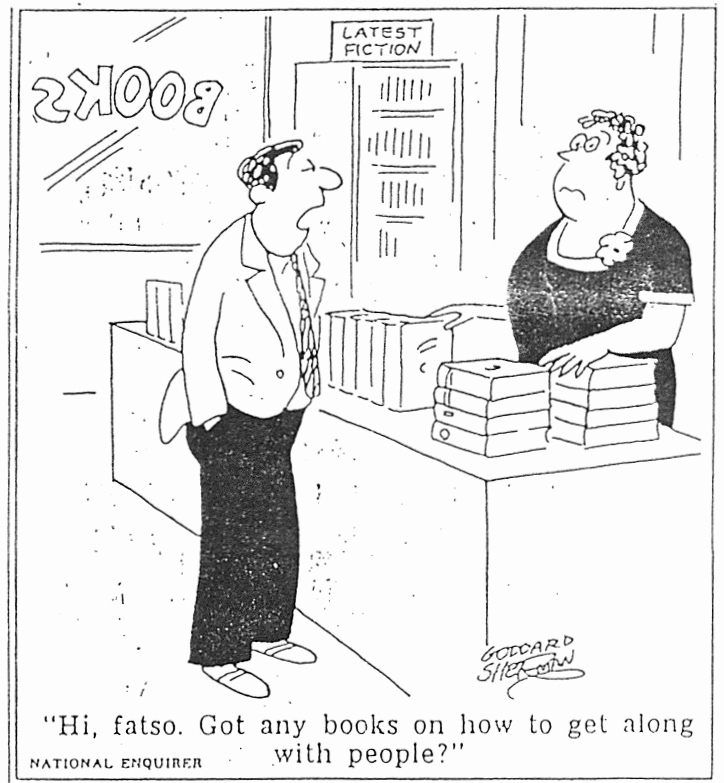


Mary Redenbach

Finger Tips

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"Hi, fatso. Got any books on how to get along with people?"

NATIONAL ENQUIRER