

State University of New York College at Buffalo - Buffalo State University

## Digital Commons at Buffalo State

---

Buffalo Belles Newsletters

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

---

10-1995

### October 1995

Buffalo Belles

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/buffalobelles>



Part of the [Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Commons](#), [History Commons](#), and the [Museum Studies Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Buffalo Belles, "October 1995" (1995). *Buffalo Belles Newsletters*. 23.  
<https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/buffalobelles/23>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Madeline Davis Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Archives of Western New York at Digital Commons at Buffalo State. It has been accepted for inclusion in Buffalo Belles Newsletters by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons at Buffalo State. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@buffalostate.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@buffalostate.edu).



# BUFFALO BELLES



Address Correspondence  
To  
Buffalo Belles  
P.O. Box 1701  
Amherst, N.Y. 14226-1701

HOTLINE: (716) 643-2626  
NU PHI CHI

Pres. Denise Miller  
Tres./VP: Janice Gnau  
Newsletter: Kathy Lorraine  
Helper Wench: Jean H.

October, 1995

Dear Sisters,

Our third anniversary meeting was held on a beautiful fall like evening. Bright and sunny, but with a coolness we haven't had in several months that made getting dressed up again comfortable! ( I seem to start every newsletter with a weather report. I'm trying to decide if it is my farming heritage or my ultimate goal of being one of the weather girls on the Weather Channel).

## Turning out this night were

- |            |            |           |
|------------|------------|-----------|
| Denise M.  | Kathy L.   | Teresa H. |
| Janice G.  | Tammy Z.   | Guest:    |
| Patti J.   | Frances L. | Sheryl    |
| Jean H.    | Colleen R. |           |
| Kathryn Y. | Nancy M.   |           |
| Dana D.    | Cindy H.   |           |

talk, talk and eat. Sounds good to me! The usual pizza and snacks pop and coffee, we had a delicious cake for our party! All of sudden it was eleven! Time for some of us to turn back into mice, while some others went on to enjoy further delights in the downtown scene.

The meeting held a lengthy discussion on several topics. In no particular order...

The search for the phone princess of the Buffalo Belles has been crowned! Your going have to call the Hotline to find out who she is! All I can say is the competition was heated. When the call went out... "ladies start your voices!" produced a cacophony of throat clearings, chair scrapings coughing cavalcade until the lyric sound emerged of "I'll do it" The silence was stunned...of course, that's her!!

When you dial 643-2626 you'll get more up to date information on up coming meetings and happenings. This will especially be useful with the up dating last minute changes for the second meetings.

Quite a bit of time was devoted to the second meeting idea. It is an idea well received. Many want it simply for it doubles the chances of being able to get out at all. Whether this was to be another "in house" affair or out on the town type received some discussion, the answer being it would be a nite out. Each month an event will be held that will appropriate for the group. This will be the incentive for you to call the Hotline. Some of these may come up fast.

We had a fine meeting. The facilities was our's once again. Welcome back Nancy, we missed your beautiful piano playing. We also had a guest with us named Sheryl. Hopefully she be back soon as a full time member.

We held a fairly long business meeting. Much thought and discussion went into several topics. The results will be discussed later. Some changes are coming.

Besides our usual pleasant affair. Talk,

IT MUST BE CLEAR TO ALL, THAT THESE ARE NOT "REGULAR" MEETINGS. Most will be held out in the public. Your ability to deal with this depends on your confidence tempered or strengthened by common sense. (We are trying to set up meeting places that are accepting to us so that there is no embarrassment to us or the facility).

Ideas of Nite Out also led to meeting ideas. And this one is going to remain the same, only better! At least if we can her some help.

I'm constantly saying that, but never really say what help is needed. OK, here is one. We need an activities coordinator. Or two. Perhaps one for regular, and one for Nite Out. You'll have to be able to use a telephone mostly. Some ideas would be nice but suggestions are always forthcoming.

If that doesn't suit your fancy, do you have the ability to write? We could sure use a new letter of introduction, application etc. Have an incredibly good one to work from. Not ours, but the Florida chapter's one that they invite others to modify for their own use. Do we have any volunteers? Especially the activities gal!!

It looks like we are getting our



Janice wishes to correct the impression I may have given last month. She made it clear that her duties with BTS will not preclude her continued involvement with us. I am thankful to be corrected.

third year off well. It'll be interesting to see how the 2nd Nites go over. We hope to have a weeknight event or meeting in the future for those who are weekend 'locked out.'

On another note, Rochester CD Network recently published their attendance figures for May 94 Through May 95. They held 21 events and had attendance of 177. So I had to check our figures.

In the same period, we held 13 meetings and had 154 members in attendance. They had 40 wives attend, while we had an eleven turnout. Interestingly, Rochester CD is moving back to one meeting per month, from two, while we are trying to increase. Maybe it's about time we held a joint meeting in some neutral area in between, like Batavia.... A Nite Out for both of us.

Cindy is suffering a little "buyers remorse" and wishes to sell her brand new silicon forms. They are a "C" cup size and are too large for her. She is looking in the range of \$250.00 - Half price of what she paid for them.

We are making a change in our mailing address. To save us money and to be more conveniently located, we are now at P.O. Box 1701. Amherst, N.Y. 14226-1701 ... We are letting the old one go. so please make this change in whatever records you keep.

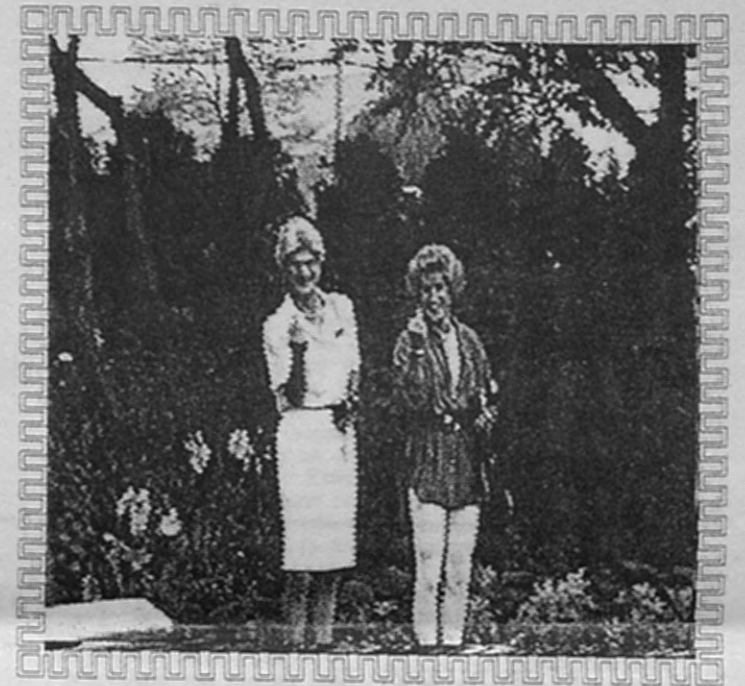
That's about it for this month sisters. Hope to see you all at a meeting real soon. In the meantime, remember to take care...



Kathy and Sheryl



Denise M.



Our Friendliest Members

- \* \* \* \* \*
- \* October 7 - Buffalo Belles regular meeting. (tag sale)  
\* Clear out those closets and pick up some bargains.
- \* October 28 - Nite Out Halloween (9:00pm meet at Compton's)
- \* November 4 - Buffalo Belles regular Meeting -  
\* Makeup/over workshop.
- \* November 10-12 Nites Out - Riverside Weekend. Get your  
\* reservations in quick! Only 20 rooms left as of Sept. 6th. Hurry!
- \* December 2 - Buffalo Belles Regular Meeting - Christmas  
\* party.
- \* \* \* \* \*

## Transsexual presses fight for custody of daughter

Associated Press

AMSTERDAM — A man in the process of becoming a woman is fighting for custody of his 3-year-old daughter, saying the sex change won't make him a bad parent.

Julie MacFarlane, 37, originally known as Douglas, began his crusade when Fulton County Family Court Judge David Jung gave custody of the child to MacFarlane's former girlfriend, the Daily Gazette of Schenectady reported Thursday.

Jung cited a psychologist's determination that the gender change would confuse the child.

MacFarlane was awarded liberal visitation rights, but was ordered by the court to maintain a male identity while with the child.

Jung would not comment on the ruling, but J. Gerard McAuliffe, MacFarlane's lawyer, said the ruling stated that MacFarlane would have received custody had it not been for his desire to be a woman.

Eleanor M. DeCoursey, the former girlfriend's lawyer, said her client considers discussing the case inappropriate. But she said the primary concern should be the child.

MacFarlane, for his part, said he already has proved he is a good parent, and said his unusual experience could help him provide his daughter with both male and female perspectives on life.

"What she needs now is love," MacFarlane told the Gazette.

"Whether the person is wearing pants or makeup and a skirt doesn't matter."

MacFarlane, who lives in Amsterdam, about 30 miles west of Albany, dresses and acts like a woman while he is in the process of having a sex change. Hormone treatments have triggered breast growth, and electrolysis has removed facial hair. MacFarlane's driver's license and other legal documents, except for his birth certificate, bear the name Julie.

Doctors say he must maintain his female identity for one year and then pass a psychological evaluation before they will perform the \$15,000 genital operation.

MacFarlane said he had been confused about gender for his entire life. As a child he preferred to play with girls, and as a teen he tried to compensate for his feelings with what he called "super-macho behavior."

He even joined the Air Force but found his feelings stronger than ever. He consulted an Air Force psychologist and almost immediately was discharged for homosexuality.

MacFarlane said he is not homosexual, but a woman born into a male body.

"I'm not embarrassed about it," MacFarlane said.

MacFarlane said his gender change would not confuse his daughter.

"She knows I'm her daddy and I'm never going to disillusion her about that," MacFarlane said.

## A waistnipper by any other name

By CINDY SKRZYCKI  
Washington Post

I was at in a department store, stocking up on cotton underwear and minding my business, when something unsettling caught my eye.

Displayed on the racks nearby were pair after pair of some product that for all the world looked like underwear. These things had control panels of Lycra and other stern-looking synthetics engineered to — let us put this delicately — squeeze back into the body vast adipose rolls of jiggling flesh.

What were these things?

I started reading the labels. The Shapewear Smoothie Firm Control Body Briefer had a hidden panel for extra tummy control. Or, as the small print said, "Does what your diet doesn't."

I moved on to the Vanity Fair Shaping System, a sort of mini-slip with a little stretchy thing under it. Its tag: "Shaping the body, mind and spirit."

But for "sheer power," Bali suggests the "Waistnipper," a contraption descended from the whalebones of the Victorian era. It offered a color code of tags so the woman who wanted her waist nipped could choose light control (blue tag), moderate control (fuchsia) or firm (purple).

For those who want to go whole, er, hog and maybe even have a few garters, there were bodysuits for \$39.50 that allow you to pour everything in there from breast to butt. It must be tough to breathe in one of those things, not to mention what misery it must be in the summer. And how in the world would you go to the bathroom? There were at least a dozen hooks and snaps barring the way.

Then it hit me. These weren't underpants. These weren't control anything. These were girdles.

Not that they called themselves girdles. Not one of

these garments, from the smallest of panties with panels to the biggest mother of all controllers, breathed the word "girdle."

This is because, in the ethos of the 1990s, girdles are bad. Girdles are something frumpy and fusty, something essentially dishonest.

In the late 1960s, girdles began to suffer their deserved fate. It had something to do with the decision to renounce all things restrictive. Which was easy to do when one was, say, 23 and still could respectably wear a two-piece bathing suit because one's belly resembled the surface of a kettle drum and not the surface of a kettle.

Which brings us to today.

It is amazing how the protocols of the 1960s have been belly-bumped out of the way by fleshy imperatives.

Women are wearing girdles, just so long as no one calls them that.

What is wrong with a little benign self-deception? This is what is wrong: Girdles are not about fixing problems, but hiding them. And not calling them girdles just aggravates the insult.

If you have a stomach or a big back porch it is okay to display it proudly, on the theory that if men can have huge guts hanging over their belts without social penalty, then by God, women should have that right too. And if you have a stomach or a big back porch and decide you do not want it because it somehow diminishes you or threatens your health or feelings of self-worth, then it is fine to fix it through rituals of self-denial and frenzied activity.

But not this.

The rows and rows of control garments and underpants with funny panels in the front are proof that women have seized the unseemly middle ground.

Let's be honest here and call a girdle a girdle.



"Is this your first time in a gay bar?"



# Kelly's Post Op Party!



Janice, Colleen, Holly, Patty, Kelly, Janice

## COUPLES ONLY

We are now making arrangements for our members and their wives to meet. This includes going out for dinners etc. So far we are meeting as husband/wife or boyfriend/girlfriend only. With the large group that we have signed up now, It is very difficult to set up times and places to suit everyone. Please call the Hotline if you wish to be included on future group meetings.

## INTRODUCTION

The Erie Sisters Club are proud to present the Fourth Annual Riverside Gala Weekend. If you have been a part of previous year's events, then you will remember the Victorian charm of this turn of century inn where time stands still. Anyone fortunate enough to attend will experience an enchanting weekend of fun, friendship and entertainment, all in the atmosphere of this time in history. So ladies, bring your prettiest gown or party dress and have a great time!

ERIE SISTERS  
2115 WEST 8 TH ST.  
SUITE 261  
ERIE PA, 16505

### DRESS AND BEHAVIOR

All participants of the Riverside Gala Weekend must dress in a dignified, tasteful manner appropriate for the event and the charm of the hotel. Anyone whose attire is deemed unacceptable by the Riverside committee will be asked to change or leave.

This policy is necessary to insure not only the success of this event, but future events as well.

Terms And Refunds: \$10.00 Surcharge after October 15, 1995. \$15.00 deducted from refunds before November 1, 1995. No refunds after November 1 1995.

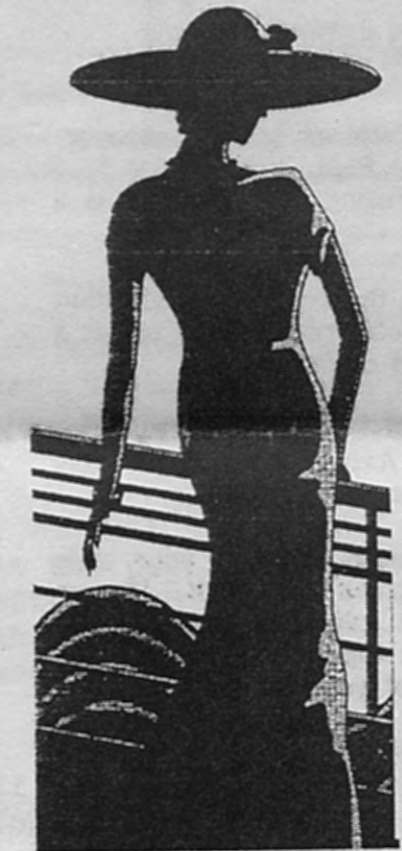
### Saturday and Sunday Only

Club Special	\$100.00	Per Person
Single	\$125.00	
Double	\$175.00	

### Saturday Only No Overnight

\$50.00/person

RIVERSIDE GALA WEEKEND



Nov. 10, 11 & 12 1995  
**THE EXPERIENCE  
OF A LIFETIME**

Complete Package including room and all functions. (3 days)

Single	\$190.00/person
Double	\$275.00
Couple	\$275.00

A limited number of two bedrooms with shared bath are available at a special reduced Club Rate: \$150.00 person (Minimum 3 Persons In Group Max 4)

## Pantyhose Pointers

BY: NEWS BRIEFS STAFF








Control top, sheer-to-waist, nude, opaque, size A, size Q, size P-M, size 1, 2 or 3.... with all these confusing options, what is a girl to do.

Heidi Hoveland of the National Association of Hosiery Manufacturers off these to get a leg up in the world of fashion:

- ▷ Stick to neutral colors such as beige, black, and navy. Avoid fad colors such as hot pink and dewberry.
- ▷ Try to match hose color to your shoe color for a sleek, streamlined look. If your shoes are lighter in color than your hose, it can make your feet appear as if they are cut off from the rest of your body.
- ▷ Always hand wash your hose in mild detergent. Never, ever throw them in the washing machine.
- ▷ Don't put on hose while wearing jewelry that can snag them. Keep your fingernails filed smooth for the same reason.
- ▷ If you're wearing a print, a plaid, or checks, match your hose to the darkest color.
- ▷ Better shape can be attained by wearing body shaper hose or control tops that extend to mid-thigh.
- ▷ In choosing sizes, always check the package back. If you are between sizes, opt for the larger size.
- ▷ If an elegant, sophisticated look is what you're after, sheer hose is the answer.
- ▷ Tights, opaques, and other hardier styles are ideal for the work place (if you are so lucky).

## Shelf Life

How long does makeup last? We asked New York dermatologist Mary Ellen Brademas, M.D., to clue us in when it's time to toss:

Product	Signs It's Bad
 <p>Moisturizer: 1 to 2 years</p>	Water-based moisturizer expires faster than oil-based products—yet, daily moisturizers tend to be used up before they go bad. Wash hands before applying to prevent bacterial contamination.
 <p>Lipstick: 2 years</p>	Lipstick is oil-based, so changes will be signaled by an odd smell and texture—the lipstick will become gritty and hard to apply.
 <p>Blush, eyeshadow, powder: forever</p>	Powder products can be kept indefinitely. To keep them germ-free, wash brushes and sponges weekly with soap and water; this will prevent facial oils from coating the makeup.
 <p>Foundation: 6 months to 1 year</p>	Water-based foundation will expire more quickly than oil-based. It may change in color and smell. Always use with a clean sponge; store, capped tightly, in a cool, dry spot.
 <p>Liquid eyeliner: 4 months</p>	Bacteria can flourish in liquid eyeliner because of its high water content. Contaminated eye products are dangerous because they're applied so close to the mucous membrane of the eyes.
 <p>Mascara: 4 months</p>	An expired mascara can cause infection; the wand takes bacteria off the lashes and stores it in the warm, moist tube. Never share or sample mascara or add water to it.
 <p>Nail polish: 1 to 4 years</p>	A change in consistency will tell you that a nail enamel has gone bad. The color will separate—the polish will look curdled. Store tightly sealed polish in a cool, dry place for the longest shelf life.