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THE JOURNEY

NEWSLETTER OF THE BUFFALO BELLES

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- STARTING IN JULY, ALL BUFFALO BELLES MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH.
- BUFFALO BELLES ANNUAL PICNIC THREATENED WITH CANCELLATION! COME TO THE NEXT MEETING TO SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT THIS.

Sheila Kirk To Visit Buffalo Belles

Sheila Kirk will be the guest speaker at the July 10th meeting of the Buffalo Belles.

As a board certified gynecologic surgeon with over 25 years of medical and surgical experience and as a transgendered person herself, Dr. Sheila Kirk is in a unique position to help her Trans community improve their overall medical and surgical well being.

Dr. Kirk specializes in transgender medical and surgical care. She performs MTF GRS and other related surgeries (i.e. hysterectomies, top surgeries, orchiectomies, breast augmentations) for MTF and FTM individuals as well as administers non-op, pre-op and post-op transgender care and hormonal therapy.

For the past eight years, Dr. Kirk has refined her GRS surgical techniques by scrubbing with the most respected surgeons performing Trans-related surgeries worldwide. Her gynecologic surgical/medical training and experience gives her a refined knowledge on subtle but important differences in placement, positioning, size, function and structure that helps her to create the most realistic, sensate and functional neo-vagina possible. And her years of experience performing hysterectomies, ovary removal, breast surgeries, etc. helps her provide FTMS with refined surgical techniques that assure the best possible results.

She did her undergraduate work at Canisius College where she received her B.A. in Chemistry. Her medical degree was earned at Boston University and her residency training took place at the University Hospitals and the Roswell Park Cancer Hospital both in Buffalo, NY. She served as Chief Resident at the Pittsburgh-Columbia Hospitals in Pittsburgh. During the years she specialized in ob/gyn care at a prestigious university-affiliated hospital, Dr. Kirk delivered over 8,000 babies and performed over 5000 surgeries ranging from reconstructive gynecological concerns to infertility problems.

Dr. Kirk is the first Trans surgeon to be elected to the board of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association. In that capacity, she has co-established a committee of Advocacy and Liaison to encourage better communication and understanding of the healthcare needs of her community and HBIGDA professionals who administer their care.

Sought after worldwide as a leading authority on Trans medicine and surgery, Dr. Kirk lectures extensively at universities, medical conferences and symposiums both nationally and internationally. A noted author, Dr. Kirk has written numerous books, articles and research findings on transgender care.

Dr. Kirk's presentation will start at 8:00pm and will be followed by a question and answer session. We expect a large turnout for this evening, so come early.

Why have we named the Buffalo Belles' newsletter The Journey? From the time we come into this world to the time we leave it, we are all on a journey of some kind. As members of the transgendered community, we are on a special kind of journey. Whether a crossdresser, a transsexual or a transgendered individual, we move through life in this world, seeking answers that will give some meaning to our unique existence. It can be a journey of discovery. A journey seeking joy. A journey of hope. A journey of fulfillment. It seems appropriate that a publication that attempts to help us reach these goals should be called The Journey. My hope is that it can contribute something to your own special journey.

Enjoy The Journey!

Kathy's Thoughts

Dear Sisters,

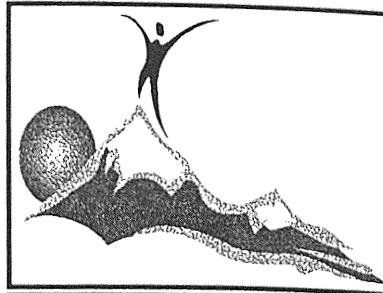
I am very sad to report the passing of one of our members. Linda passed away on May 17th after a short illness. She was 84. Many of you probably never met her, as she only made one meeting in the last three years due to poor health. Before that she had been more active with the group, attending meetings when she could escape the duties of her farm. She had made her debut with the group back in April '94.

Linda was a quiet girl. She was one of those who sat and listened. Never said too much to the group, but when one talked with her one on one, a font of knowledge was there to be learned from. Mostly it was of the matters of the heart. And what her years of experience had taught her: how to live with self-acceptance and dignity. And humor.

It also was from Linda that we learned that there was another 'Buffalo Belles' group at one time in the area. Or what it was like growing up in an era that didn't have a Jerry Springer or an Ohpra parading gender variations on the screen each week. Growing up thinking that you must be the only man alive that has the feelings that we all share.



Linda had a long marriage with Margaret, who attended a meeting with Linda a couple of years ago. Their successful integration of Linda into their union for almost 50 years should serve as a reminder to all couples of what love and consideration for each other can accomplish. Linda also left behind two sons who never were acquainted with this side of their dad. But it probably doesn't matter, as I'm sure they have enough wonderful memories of him to fill anyone's heart.



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NANCY'S PERSPECTIVE

Hi girls!

WOW!! For lack of a better word "WOW" sums up my feelings about the 17th Annual Be All Convention held in Cleveland the first week of June. I'm convinced the written word can't do justice to the experience, so I urge everyone to see me at the July meeting. I'll be the woman in goose bumps!

When I picked "Perspective" for my monthly column I had some idea how that would relate to events in our world, but let me refresh you: "Perspective: a broad view of events or ideas in their true nature and relationships."



So, what happened? Good question and I hope I can provide some answers. The Be All is a gathering of TG folks from all over the world. A friend of mine once told me that 27 variations of gender have been identified by the professionals, and I can assure you that 26 1/2 of those variations were present. I was intrigued by the cities represented. I would ask a girl "Where are you from?" and they came back with: Tulsa, Chicago, New York City, Albany, Detroit, Nashville, Long Island, Boston, Cleveland, Columbus, Louisville, Los Angeles, etc. I don't want to forget Debbie from near London in England. What a great group!

This year's schedule ran from Wednesday through Sunday morning. It was packed with opportunities to learn about being crossgendered and to enjoy the company of those sisters in attendance. I met one girl who is 82 years old and that made a huge impact with me. I can't provide a full listing of the events since our news-

letter would be 12 pages long, and I'm not sure Camille wants to go there! I'll have the complete schedule with me at the July meeting and will be glad to answer any questions you have at that time.

Vendors anyone? Need some new shoes, a wig, jewelry, makeup, photo, makeover, costume, corset, finger nails done, or advice in any of these areas? They were all available and I took advantage of all of them I think. The IFGE bookstore was open with a wide range of publications that were the best! I saw Elvis, too! Party, great bar available, hotel staff to help carry your luggage to your room, swimming pool, restaurant available, all meals served to us, really all the extras that one would expect. The hotel staff at the Radisson deserve best wishes. I also want to thank the Paradise Club of Cleveland as they did a wonderful job in getting this organized, and acted as the host organization. Great job!

I'll mention some of the group sessions, but will have a complete listing with me in July. Let me say that a lot of information from some real experts was available. Try these: "Partners of TG's", "Why Not A Female Voice", "The History of Women's Shoes", "Beautiful Nails", "Medical Concerns of the CD", "The Seduction of Passing", "In's and Out's of Fine Corsetry". The list goes on, and they were all first rate. I'm starting to ramble a little, but I want to recognize some of the professionals who were there to help all of us: Jim Bridges, Sheila Kirk, MD, Sandra Cole, Ph.D., Allison Laing, Ann West, Richard F. Doctor, Ph.D, Mariette Pathy Allen, and many others.

We had a luau pool party, a dance with a Twist contest and a costume contest, and a formal ball on Saturday night with orchestra. I have never seen so many good looking women in one room in my life (me included)! The gowns, jewelry, makeup, heels and accessories were incredible. The room had the look of a fashion show. I don't mean to imply that each girl was trying to outdo the next, but that thought did cross my mind.

I was right, the written word is not doing justice to the fact that this was a once in a lifetime adventure for me. I encourage everyone to go to Cincinnati next year, and let yourself explore the potential that is within all of us. You will LOVE IT!!!

Take care,
Your sister,
Nancy



CAMILLE'S CORNER

A PLEASANT SURPRISE IN BUFFALO

There is a new girl in town. Her name is Miss Suzi. And this town may never be the same again. What has Suzi done that is so unusual for a place like Buffalo?

I recently spent three hours talking with Miss Suzi one Saturday afternoon, to find out what she is doing in this city. Suzi has opened a shop called Studio 430 that caters to the crossdressing segment of the Transgendered community. It is part clothing boutique, part beauty salon and part photo studio.

The part that is unusual, though, is that the store is in a very visible location on elegant Delaware Avenue in downtown Buffalo, just five blocks from City Hall! While larger cities may have shops like this that cater to the TG community, in a conservative area like Western New York, it is quite rare. But Suzi informs me that there is quite a pent-up demand for a place like hers. She opened her shop on March 14 and business has been very good since then. "In the few months I've been open, I've helped more people find happiness than the psychiatrist I used to work for did in five years".

Suzi felt there was a need for her services that weren't being met here in the Buffalo area. "I needed to help us, the TG community. Many individuals don't know where to turn for help in order to express themselves. I provide a fun & safe place for people to experience their femme self".

Suzi, a tall, lovely lady, moves gracefully and wears an unassuming smile. She loves dressing but doesn't consider herself

a CD, nor a TS. "I'm just me", she remarks. "Opening the shop has become almost a spiritual thing. I thought it would be a sexy and fun way to make some money, but it has developed into something much more. I'd like to teach the people who come in here that there is more to their life than just dressing up".

She goes on to tell me she has been married for twenty years and has two teenage children. "My wife is not crazy about my crossdressing but she tolerates it. She does think my business is wonderful, though, as it helps pay the bills and then some". In fact, Suzi informed me business is so good that she is thinking of expanding. Currently she sells shoes, lingerie, street clothes, fantasy and fun costumes, wigs, jewelry, accessories and make-up. She features a transformation service, make-up application, shopping trips en-femme and trips to area night spots. Sometimes a limo is available for those trips.

We are enjoying trading stories of various adventures we've had, when we are interrupted by the Gay Pride parade as it goes by her storefront. She excuses herself and steps outside to wave at the parade participants. When they see Suzi, they wave back and some even applaud her. They seem to appreciate what she is doing by running such an 'out' business in the city.

After the parade passes by, we return to our interview and I ask if there's ever been any negative reaction to her store. She says the only disapproval was during the Allentown Art Festival when the Allentown Village Society (the Festival organizers) asked Suzi to remove her sidewalk sign that advertised her services. Now that the festival is over, the sign is back.

My meeting with Suzi comes to an end when her appointment for a transformation arrives. I thank Suzi for an interesting interview. We hug good-bye and I wish her luck with her endeavors. I think Miss Suzi will be around for awhile. As long as we continue to celebrate our gender diversity, someone like Miss Suzi will always be welcome.

(If you care to contact Suzi, she can be found at 430 Delaware Avenue at Edward Street. The phone # is 884-7991.

Captivating Quotes

I had to give up jogging for my health. My thighs kept rubbing together and setting my pantyhose on fire.

The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing in the right place, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

Time may be a great healer, but it's also a lousy beautician.

Age doesn't always bring wisdom. Sometimes age comes alone.

Sometimes I think I understand everything, then I regain consciousness.

You don't stop laughing because you grow old; you grow old because you stop laughing.

Inside some of us is a thin person struggling to get out, but she can usually be sedated with a few pieces of chocolate cake.

Can it be a coincidence that "STRESSED" is "DESSERTS" spelled backwards.

TRANS COMMUNITY NEWS

"TRANS FORMING FAMILIES: REAL STORIES ABOUT TRANS- GENDERED LOVED ONES"

This is a great new book, edited and self-published by Mary Boenke.



The book is a collection of stories by mothers of very young gender variant children, parents of adult transgendered folks, spouses and partners, and even grandparents, siblings and friends. Written mostly by "ordinary" people, who have all struggled from bewilderment to acceptance and even celebration, these 31 stories serve as role models for all those families who are still hurting, rejecting, or feeling isolated -- or who have already "arrived"!

The subjects vary greatly, -- both FTM's and MTF's, intersexed persons, crossdressers, adults and children, mostly American, but several from other countries; some even with physical disabilities, and from all walks of life. But all are stories of profound caring, stories of pioneering families who put love above all else and come out accepting, even celebrating the courage and specialness of their transgendered loved one.

Jamison Green says "No concerned parent, family member or friends of a transgendered or transsexual person can fail to be moved by these stories, a long overdue book, a book of love..."

The book also includes a glossary, current list of trans organizations and a trans-family reading list. Also an Introduction by Jessica Xavier, Foreword by Robert Berstein, and Preface by the editor about her own family experiences and learnings. Predicted to be a best seller within the trans community.

Mary is the mother of an FTM son, Chair of PFLAG's Transgendered Special Outreach Network (TSON), founder and Co-President of the Roanoke PFLAG chapter, and a trans-activist.

(She is also a co-author, with Jessica Xavier and Nancy Sharp, of the popular 16 page introductory booklet, Our Trans Children, which has sold over 13,000 copies. 2nd edition, updated, now available, also from Mary [below]. \$3 for 3, \$18 for 25, \$34 for 50, etc. including mailing.)

The book is \$13.95, including mailing, 164 pages, paperback. Make check out to Mary Boenke and mail to her at: 180 Bailey Blvd., Hardy, VA 24101.

ROYAL WANTS TO LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER AS A BOY

A royal runaway hoping for a sex change cannot return to the Gulf for fear of death by stoning

Anyone who met Taff al-Khalifa, in casual clothes and crew-cut, would see a polite young man, small for his age. He calls himself Taff now and dresses in the men's clothes he has felt drawn to since he was a small child.

But three weeks ago things were very different. Then Taff was Princess Latifa of Bahrain the niece of one of the most powerful men in the Middle East, King Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa.

Brought up to follow royal protocol and Islamic law in the oil-rich kingdom, Latifa, 21, tried everything to reconcile what she knew was expected of her and the inner voice that told her she was transsexual, a boy born into a girl's body. Three weeks ago, as the pressure for her to marry became unbearable, Latifa ran away from her family while on a visit to London and created herself a new identity - Taff.

Accustomed to luxury, Taff has nothing now, except his friends. He has no papers or passport and no means to sustain himself. He is trying to regularize his status as an asylum seeker with British immigration but it will be a long, slow process. His family who consider him mentally unstable, have had him tailed by a private detective and he has fought off an abduction attempt.

If Taff is returned to Bahrain he faces the death penalty. Islamic law would consider him gay, a crime punishable by stoning. Tampering with his body - as he has done through testosterone injections and as he intends to do through gender reassignment treatment in this country - is taboo.

"As a member of the royal family you are supposed to set the example for everyone else," Taff explains. "The way you behave can give permission to everyone else to behave that way. That is why what I have done is so serious." He laughs, sadly. "The King was always my favorite uncle. But there is no way he can tolerate this." He has felt for as long as he can remember that he ought to have been born a boy. "I also knew, even as a child, that I wasn't the only one in the world feeling like this," says Taff. "When we were abroad on holiday I was always looking out for people like me."

It wasn't till 15, when a friend told I him what a transsexual was, that Taff realized what he felt had a name.

While he always played the role of a Bahraini princess at royal functions, Taff's upbringing was different from that of his cousins. His mother, the King's sister, is a divorced busi-

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TRANS COMMUNITY NEWS

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nesswoman who is extremely liberal by Middle Eastern standards and refused to allow her three girls to grow up like spoiled little princesses. Taff knows she will be blamed for having brought up a transsexual for a daughter.

He grew up, as Sheika Latifa, working on his mother's farm. "When you are a child in Bahrain, you grow up like a male until you reach puberty," he says, "but then, at 11 or 12, girls are suddenly separated from boys and they clamp down on you. There's suddenly a mold you are supposed to fit into. I found it shocking to have to suddenly behave as a female and be separated from my male friends. In a way I expected to grow up and become a man. At puberty it was like my body was rebelling against me."

At 12, Taff was sent to Weston Birt, a girls' boarding school in Gloucestershire. Although the family could have afforded any of Britain's top schools, they chose a minor one to stop Latifa acquiring airs and graces. Peer pressure made it impossible not to have a boyfriend. "It was like an experiment. I was trying to fit in," he says. At 16, on his return to Bahrain, Taff announced he intended to join the army. This was always the next step after school for princes. For a princess, it was unheard of. In the end, the King agreed.

"It was the happiest time of my life," Taff says. "It was a great release. Some of the men were surprised at first but in the end they just treated me like one of the boys."

One year on he was recommended for elite officer training at Sandhurst - one of 90 women out of 400 soldiers - where he flourished. But at times he felt isolated. "At Sandhurst, women are kept separate from men and I found this odd after having served alongside men," he says.

He yearned to serve alongside men as in Bahrain and, because, it is illegal to be gay in the British army he could not tell anyone about his dilemma. After Sandhurst, Taff was obliged to return to Bahrain and join the infantry, which involved carrying heavy weapons.

"It was impossible," he admits. "I wasn't able to take the physical stress because my body wasn't built for it." After a hip injury, he was medically discharged last year.

Now he needed to find a way to put off his family's increasing insistence that he find a husband. He found himself a boyfriend who he was eventually able to tell about his fears of being the wrong gender - but all the time pressure was building to be more feminine, to settle down. "A couple of times I was suicidal," says Taff.

He became part of an underground gay scene in Bahrain, so it was possible for him to start having girlfriends. Even there he had to pretend. "I used to pass as a lesbian because I knew the gay community did not accept transsexuals," he says. A couple of times he was picked up by the police's Ardab (discipline)

MISS TIFFANY UNIVERSE CONTEST



winner was "every bit as feminine" as Miss Thailand.

In March, for the first time, not only was the Miss Thailand beauty contest televised nationally, but so was the Miss Tiffany Universe contest, which is the equivalent for Thailand's male-to-female transsexuals. An April Associated Press report from Bangkok concluded, after polling many viewers, that at least one of the Tiffany Universe finalists made Miss Thailand look "positively mousy" and that the Tiffany Universe

squad but, recognizing a princess from her ID card, they let Taff go. "I knew no one would tell the King because they would be afraid to be the messenger of such news, but I was shaking in my boots every night when my mother came home in case someone told her something," he says.

Three weeks ago, Taff came to London to visit his married sister. "I thought I could tell her what was going on," he says. "She's very open and I love her to bits. But I didn't get the reaction I wanted. She is religious and there was no way she could embrace what I was telling her. She said, 'I knew you were different, but not like that'. She thought I was mentally unstable and called the police, saying I was on drugs."

Taff ran away but was enticed back by the promise of a job for life in the Bahraini army, with a promotion. His passport, money and clothes were taken and he realized that being allowed out to say good-bye to his friends for the last time was his last chance to escape. A private investigator employed by his family tried to abduct him. "There was a fist fight," says Taff. "I decided then never to go back."

He will miss his home and his family but there is little option now for him except to seek asylum in Britain. "I've gone too far now," he says, "and if I have any form of surgery I will never be able to go back." In the next few weeks he has to evade possible further kidnapping attempts, begin the process of seeking asylum and - having given up the fortune he was due to inherit and any hope of a royal lifestyle - find a way to support himself.

But he is looking forward to starting treatment as for most of his life he says, he has felt as if his body is a prison. In Britain, he says, he may be poor but at least he can choose who he wants to be. (From ON-Q News)

FOR A BETTER YOU...



Fashion Tips

Color Coordination Principles

We think about our colors for two reasons: appearance and fun. There are two areas of color that we have to be aware of for appearance. The first is our natural colors, the color of one's skin, hair, and eyes. The other is the colors of all things you can put on yourself: clothes, accessories, shoes, make-up, and even hair. Your skin, hair, and eyes have a natural harmony of color that is uniquely you. Your clothing and make-up colors should coordinate with your natural colors. The colors of our wardrobe should coordinate with each other as well as with our natural colors. Some colors compliment, some colors contrast, and some colors clash. We can make almost any color combination work if we wear them fashionably and imaginably. Every single rule can be broken if it is artistically (or outrageously) enough done.

You can think about your wardrobe in two ways: your wardrobe items and your wardrobe colors. We can put our wardrobe items into three categories: dominant wardrobe apparel, secondary wardrobe items, and accent pieces. Dominant wardrobe items include the major clothing items: a suit, separates coat and skirt or trousers/pants, dresses, and overcoats. Also, any casual wear outfit like pant suits or sports wear - even sweat suits. Basically, the largest thing you have on. Shoes and nylons can be considered a dominant wardrobe item. They can be thought of as part of a suit or separates outfit. Secondary wardrobe items for women include shirts, blouses, sweaters, shawls, hats, some accessory items like purses, and also nylons and shoes. Accent pieces are things like scarves, some accessories, and jewelry.

Likewise, we think about our wardrobe colors in relation to our wardrobe items and in the same categories: dominant, secondary, and accent wardrobe colors. The dominant ward-

robe color may not necessarily always dictate the appropriate secondary and accent colors but it may determine them to a certain extent. The dominant wardrobe item sets the color tone. The secondary wardrobe colors complement the dominant. The accent color items provide contrast.

The dominant wardrobe color is the dominant color of the largest thing you have on: the color of your suit or dress. Women, particularly if they do not have to wear a conservative business suit to work, have a greater freedom of clothing and a greater freedom of color in their wardrobe. If a woman

has the choice to wear a dress to work it may not necessarily have to be the standard one note business color. She may be able to wear dresses of color or multi-colors or prints. Although even a floral print dress will usually have a dominant color or color theme. The suit coat or overcoat that a woman could wear over a printdress could match the dominant color of the dress. Women may also have the choice of mix & match dominant colors with separates in suit and coat and skirt/pants combinations. An example is a red suit coat over a black skirt and white blouse. Or black

coat over a red dress. Or the black, white, black combination: black coat, skirt, and shoes and white blouse and white opaque nylons. And, of course, casually one can wear anything one desires. In the most conservative context shoes should probably match the color of the outfit. With dresses, other than the conservative standard black, brown, and navy, shoes need not match the dominant color of the dress. They can compliment that color or they can be color neutral like black, brown, or white. Nylons may also be part of the dominant color, but that is usually so only with black and white dominant colors. That need not be so. I like to wear blue ny-

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lons, especially opaque, with a blue outfit and shoes. Same for red. This may depend on the context. I can't imagine red nylons at work, but for a nightclub I like it.

Your secondary wardrobe color is the color of the second most prominent thing you are wearing: usually whatever you are wearing on top of your skirt or trousers like your shirt or blouse. This color should compliment your dominant color and it should also compliment you. It can depend on your skin tone as well. You may have a great deal of choice here, particularly if you are wearing a color neutral dominant color like black, brown, navy, or white. You can go strong or light, bright or pastel with the color of your blouse. Although this color may be second in size of cloth and color it can be the strongest color you are wearing. You might be able to wear a dark green suit with a bright green blouse. Or it could be the lightest color you are wearing: the same suit with a light pastel green blouse. Or you could wear a black suit with a chartreuse blouse. If you are wearing a dress your suit coat can be the secondary color. If, for example, you are wearing a print dress with floral designs, or a patterned skirt with a matching solid color top, rather than wearing a suit coat in the dominant color you could wear a coat in the secondary color - the color of the print designs. These choices depend a great deal on both your skin tone and hair color. They can compliment both your wardrobe color and your colors, particularly your eyes. Nylons could be considered secondary color items when they do not match the dominant wardrobe color. But nylons are generally not used as a secondary color item - that is daring fashion. Nylons are usually color neutral, that is, they are flesh toned or

black or white. Shoes are also often color neutral: black, brown, white. Even if that does not match the dominant wardrobe color it isn't really useful as a secondary color because it is so customary to have these neutral color shoes. But it is also possible to use shoes as a secondary or accent color. If you have a white suit with a red blouse, red shoes are a possibility.

Accent colors provide contrast. They are frequently the brightest, strongest color one is wearing; that is why there is so little of it. Accent colors work very well echoing your natural secondary or accent colors: your hair and eyes. An important function of accent colors is to act as a mediator or liaison between the dominant and secondary wardrobe color and your natural colors. In this case they may be used for a mollifying effect and may be the lightest color you are wearing. Scarves are the most useful accent color item. Even in a conservative business environment a woman might be able to wear an appropriately colorful scarf under her coat or coat dress. Some accessories act as accent color items: a red belt on a black dress for example. Jewelry provides infinitely fun and wonderful accent color possibilities. Think of gold and silver, all the colorful gems and minerals, and also all the things made of plastic, glass, and all the other natural and synthetic materials.

Select your dominant wardrobe color based on your natural color theme. Select your secondary wardrobe item and color to compliment the dominant color and your own skin tone and colors. Pick accent color pieces to highlight your dominant and secondary wardrobe colors and your natural colors - your hair and eyes - or to act as a mediator between your wardrobe colors and your natural colors.



Make-up tips

More makeup mishaps are made with blush than with any other cosmetic, according to New York makeup artist Jim Crawford. "Women don't understand where to apply it, so they guess and then go overboard," he says. To blush like a pro, read on:

- Little or none is best -- and if you're under 21, don't bother!
- Use blush to contour, not to highlight.
- Place brush at the hollow of your cheek (the indentation below the cheekbone) and sweep it upward on a diagonal.
- Never, never, never put blush on the apples of the cheeks. Keep it BELOW the cheekbone and away from the eyes.
- Choose a natural shade -- no bright pink, no violet
- Blend, blend and blend again.



Man! I Feel Like A Woman!



I'm going out tonight-I'm
feelin' alright
Gonna let it all hang out
Wanna make some noise-
really raise my voice
Yeah, I wanna scream and
shout
No inhibitions-make no condi-
tions
Get a little outta line
I ain't gonna act politically
correct
I only wanna have a good time

The best thing about being a
woman
Is the prerogative to have a
little fun and...
Oh, oh, oh, go totally crazy-
forget I'm a lady
Men's shirts-short skirts

Oh, oh, oh, really go wild-yeah, doin' it in style
Oh, oh, oh, get in the action-feel the attraction
Color my hair-do what I dare
Oh, oh, oh, I wanna be free-yeah, to feel the way I feel
Man! I feel like a woman!

The girls need a break-tonight we're gonna take
The chance to get out on the town
We don't need romance-we only wanna dance
We're gonna let our hair hang down

The best thing about being a woman
Is the prerogative to have a little fun and...
Oh, oh, oh, go totally crazy-forget I'm a lady
Men's shirts-short skirts
Oh, oh, oh, really go wild-yeah, doin' it in style
Oh, oh, oh, get in the action-feel the attraction
Color my hair-do what I dare
Oh, oh, oh, I wanna be free-yeah, to feel the way I feel
Man! I feel like a woman!

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Man! I feel like a woman! I get totally crazy
Can you feel it Come, come, come on baby
I feel like a woman

Written by Shania Twain & Mutt Lange

LEGISLATOR IS FIRST MEMBER OF CONGRESS TO CRAFT INCLUSIVE PERSONNEL POLICY:

On June 14, Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (9th District, Illinois), a past co-sponsor of the Illinois Human Rights Act and the Illinois Hate Crimes Act, amended her personnel non-discrimination policy to protect "gender self-image or identity." In so doing, she became the first member of Congress to officially recognize gender variant people. The terms "gender self-image and identity" are broadly inclusive and include transgender individuals as well as men and women, regardless of sexual orientation, who may be perceived as overly effeminate or masculine. This policy came to pass fol-

lowing a meeting with *It's Time, Illinois*, a political action group for the transgender and gender variant community in Illinois, during GenderPac's National Gender Lobby Days in Washington, D.C. Said Riki Ann Wilchins, executive director of GenderPac, "This is a courageous move to do some small symbolic justice to an embattled minority that is both underrepresented and overtly discriminated against in national politics and on Capitol Hill. Let's hope others see the way clear to follow the Congressman's example and do the right thing."

GLAAD(Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation)
LINES, June 21, 1999



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ENJOY THE JOURNEY

JUNE 1999



BUFFALO BELLES

Camille's Thoughts



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As you may recall a couple months ago, I announced that we would be having upcoming elections for positions/jobs that are opening up due to members leaving or who cannot continue with their present duties. Well, that has changed. The fact is, in the recent member survey, not many of you offered to help with club duties and it seems pointless to ask for someone to run for an elected position with such poor responses. As a result, I will be contacting those members who did express a desire to help or assist in various functions that keep the Buffalo Belles a functioning and healthy organization. It will be easier to have an interested individual commit to a particular task, such as hotline care taker, new member interviewer, snack gal/guy, meeting facilitator, librarian, etc. When we have many hands helping, it makes the work light. I will continue as the newsletter editor but will cease working the hotline/voicemail, interviewing new members, coordinating meetings. We have gotten over our recent financial problems but now we need the help of individuals willing to do relatively simple jobs. You've heard this from me before: this organization will only be as good as you want

it to be. I can tell you now that we are getting close to having to suspend activities. Don't jeopardize its existence by assuming someone will be there for you. Enough said.

As June is Gay Pride month, I thought it appropriate that I ran an article or two that might enlighten us to certain issues that are pertinent to the gay/lesbian /transgender community that we are part of. Some of you may be saying to yourself "But I'm not gay, Camille. What more do I need to know about this lifestyle?" Well like it or not, crossdressers, transsexuals and other transgender individuals *are* members of the 'queer' community. "But, I'm not 'queer'. Don't say that I am." Ah, but you *are*. Not necessarily gay, but you are 'queer'. Let me explain.

The general population believes that crossdressers and transsexuals are gay. They assume that if we present ourselves as a female (or as males with F to M) we must be interested in attracting a male. So they figure we must be gay. Available statistics show though, that 90% of crossdressers are heterosexual. But because of this misconception, crossdressers and transsexuals are grouped together with the gay/lesbian population. And they have always been labeled as "queer". We are involved in an alternative lifestyle whether we dress once a month for our meetings or we have transitioned as members of the opposite sex. If you are ever out in public and run into some homophobic individual, he is going to assume you are gay or queer. Hopefully the worst that may happen is a nasty look or remark directed your way. Within our community the term 'queer' does not have the harsh meaning that most people

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