

Chicago Tribune



Vol # XX Issue #6

June 1995

THE WRIGHT LINE!

By Gloria Wright,

~~~~BE ALL!~~~~



I hope it's not too late to cajole you into attending the 13th Annual "Be All You Want to Be" weekend in Cincinnati, OH. It's from June 7-11. You all should have received brochures in the mail last month. It looks as though this might be the biggest one ever, based on early reservations. Don't let yourself be left out! There's a boat ride, seminars, talent show, and fun, fun, fun. Hope you can make it. I know I'll be there!

### ~~~~NEW MEETING PLACE~~~~

Everyone seemed to love the Holiday Inn Express (HIP), in Elmhurst at our "Prom Night" in May. Rori gave us a tour of the place, including a potential meeting room. Just about everyone voted to give the place a try. So that's what we're going to do.

We plan to test out this new meeting site for three months, June, July and August. Those are the "oven" months that have given us so much trouble at the Midway Hotel, our present meeting place.

We don't plan to burn our bridges at the Midway, so we're telling them we're on a three-month hiatus, and barring the unforeseen, plan to be back in September.

I'm sure our very talented and thorough newsletter editor will include a map and directions to the HIP. Please go there in June, July and August or else you're going to be pretty lonely at the Midway.

If we like the HIP, and they like us, we'll stay there. If not, we'll consider the Midway again, as well as some other sites Rori and Carol are considering.

Speaking of Rori and Carol, all praises to them for their hard work on site selection!

Also, a tip of the wig to Rori and all those who assisted her in making the Prom Night the success it was. A lot of people

*(Continued on page 8)*

## This Month at Chi-Chapter

We meet at the Holiday Inn Express in Elmhurst. Rori is presently negotiating regarding the program. So at this time it will be a surprise.

Those of you who do not have a room may enter the meeting room directly from the South parking lot which will be open to parking. This would be to the right of the building as you pull in. The meeting room is in the front/right corner (SW). Of course you may also enter thru the lobby and turn right....

The room will open at 5:00 pm and there will be a changing area available.

Reservations for a room can be made at (708) 279-0700. Please mention Chi-Chapter

## Next Month at Chi-Chapter

Bar B-Q  
July 17th  
Holiday Inn Express  
Elmhurst

## Inside the Tribune

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## EDITOR'S CORNER



### The Chi Tribune

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Denise Peters

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OR

Upload your article-etc. to:  
*LIFETIME BBS*  
The *OFFICIAL* Chi-Chapter BBS  
(708) 438-1901  
OR  
AOL-DenisePete  
CI\$-71321,2131  
DenisePete@aol.com

Upload can be in any popular word processing format or ASCII text file.  
Typed, faxed articles accepted with prior arraignment

### Prom.....

The Chi-Chapter Spring Fling Prom turned out to be a great success, with as many as 84 members and guests attending. Our featured soloist was Amanda Richards and her Midi orchestra. The meal was very good and consisted of Baked Chicken and Baked Mostascioli. However the restaurant ran out of Chicken due to the large turnout and the late comers were made to eat Prime Rib...(Boo Hoo)

Later a parade of prom queen candidates was held and the finalists chosen by a team of judges consisting of the hotel manager and another hotel employee. The winner of the 1995 Prom Queen crown was Jeni from Wisconsin.

Following this there was dancing in the bar area with music provided by a portable radio.????

Kiki has been under the delusion that I rented a limo for the Prom. Well, actually, I almost had to rent a tow truck... On the way to the prom as my male self, I was involved in an accident and didn't think I would make it. Luckily no one was hurt, (So far) and the vehicles were drivable.....I still made my meet with Susy by 5pm so I could change and finally got to the Prom by 7:15pm....

### Photos.....

Dave of G&L photography has announced the opening of a studio, at *TRANSFORMATIONS* in Oak Park. He will handle portrait, glamour and boudoir shots. Makeovers are available. To make an appointment, call Rori at (708) 383-8338

### Finally.....

Chi-Chapter has arraigned for a new meeting location. The Holiday Inn-Express in Elmhurst, will be our home for the next 3 months during a try-out period. Negotiations by Carole Rogers with the management has allowed us to bring our own refreshments and snacks...(Popcorn-pretzels) But for now the fancy meals which have been a staple at Chi-Chapter meetings will not be available since the hotel would be required to provide these and the cost would be prohibitive. However, in July we will have a outdoor Bar-B-Q at the Inn which should get us into the mood for the August picnic.

### Oh My Gosh!!!!

Boys across the country from middle school to college are wearing barrettes. "It's really cool," says a Berkeley, Calif., sixth grader, too cool to be identified. "I wear lots of different colors." Did we mention the kind with flowers and puppies on them? Baffled parents in Miami and New York guess their sons wear barrettes to meet the girls they borrow them from—or to ape the age-and gender bending looks on the club scene, where some men still wear pacifiers. Boys will be boys, sort of. Newsweek, May 22, 95

### RuPaul - Again?

RuPaul has been all over the place, even on the Ophra show which usually doesn't feature 'way out' topics or people any more. I caught RuPaul in the Partridge family movie where she played a school counselor. and rumor has it her male self has a part in an upcoming movie.

**Chi Chapter/TriEss**  
P.O.Box 40  
Wood Dale, IL 60191-0040

**Officers**  
**President:** Gloria Wright  
**VP/Program:** Rori Petros  
**VP/Membership:** Candace Mahne  
**Secretary:** Denise Peters  
**Treasurer:** Deanna Johns

**Committees**  
**Couples Group:** Susan Vaya  
**Newcomers:** Amanda  
Dee Dee Bolden  
**Food:** Sally

TRI-ESS is a not-for-profit social and educational support group for crossdressers and their spouses and partners. Meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month. Except April 95

**Chi Chapter Telephone Hotline:**  
(708) 364-9514

# Deanna's Diary



In the great tradition of Chi Chapter, another door is open, and another experience is shared. It started as an outing for the Girls that developed into a dinner at a different Hotel that grew into our "Spring Prom." Behind the scenes work brought about by a few hard working ladies, in particular Rori and Carol Rodgers, they arranged for this dinner/dance at the Holiday Inn Express in Elmhurst. So enthusiastically accepted and anticipated that a well represented segment of the chapter attended. Those participating were: Deanna, Naomi & Rachel, Julie P, Gloria & Debra, Elizabeth Ann, Carol & Gail, Kathleen & escort, Kiki, Carole, Tammy, Ruby & Ann, Sheila, Lenore, Marcia, Joanie, Olivia, Susan, Pamela M, Jackie V, Jamie P, Amber, Athena, Lori, Candace, Amanda D, Christine K, Bridgit & Debbie, Denise, Jezebel, Sandy & Cindy, Susan R, Carol R, Stephanie, Dee Dee, Elizabeth S, Allanah, Denise H, Jackie & Sandi, Sunny, Burnice, Norma & Joyce, Vickie, Wende, Madelyne, Colleen & Verna, Miranda, Jackie W, Stacey, Mellisa, Claudie & Sandy, Barbara C, Lois, Jenee, Alicia, Jami, Rori, Christine N, Rosie & Sue, Diane, Phyllis, Toni, Anna, Jackie, Kim, Rae, and Sally & Dave.

## ADVERTISING NOTES-BY SUNNY

I would like to welcome and to introduce our paid advertisers to the CHI Chapter community.

**LADY DI'Z BOUTIQUE** owner **DIANE ZIENTKOWSKI**, located in Palos Heights, Illinois. Diane offers fine women's apparel, nail care, color imaging, and makeovers. Diane would prefer Monday or evening hours by appointment; give her a call at 708/448-5690.

**HEADLINERS**, a full-service salon, Owner **JUDY SIMMONS**. Judy's salon is conveniently located off the Kennedy expressway at the Cumberland Avenue exit. Judy offers hair and wig styling, wax, nails and complete makeovers. Give her a call at 312/380-9404.

**THE FASHION EXCHANGE**, located in Villa Park, approximately 1.5 miles from the Spring Fling location. They offer quality, gently-used and new women's apparel and new jewelry and accessories at discount prices. The owners, **MARY ANNE MCNULTY AND MARY BODAN**, welcome you with a 20% off-with-ad-presentation; give them a call at 708/424-3340. On behalf of CHI Chapter, I would like to thank **MARY ANNE AND MARY** for the open house in April for our community.

**TALL MODES TALL GIRLS, OWNER BETTY SHAYKIN**, is located in the Evergreen Park shopping Plaza. She offers women's apparel and shoes for the larger woman. Tall sizes are ideal for the longer male torso. She stocks shoe sizes up to 14WW. She has a second location in Wauwatosa, a Milwaukee suburb. They offer discreet personalized service. For shy people, they have a rear entrance. Give them a call at 708/424-3340.

**VELMA AND RACHEL**, hair designers and wig specialists, two long-time community supporters. They offer complete hair care, nails and makeovers in their Chicago northside location. Stop in and let them perform their magic on you. They're offering a 20% discount to CHI Chapter members, so give them a call at 312/528-6960.

For you girls going to the **(Be-ALL)** in Cincinnati, **Sally and Dave of Greyline Photography and Mary Kay** will be providing services on Friday and Saturday. To receive a 10% discount on photography or Mary Kay makeover and products, R.S.V.P. Dave at 312/735-3792 or Sally at 708-466-1905.

**Rachel of Velma and Rachel Hair Care** will be doing comb outs and wig care at the **Be-ALL** and will be selling wig accessories, so look her up or call 312/582-6960.

(Please patronize our advertisers)

## Can She Love Him In Women's Clothes?

by Amy Bloom-IXE

(This is out of a question & answer column in NEW WOMAN 12/94)

**QUESTION:** My husband is a transvestite. He never told me until three years ago, after 16 years of marriage. We have two boys, ages 9 and 11. The boys mean the world to us, and the last thing we want to do is hurt them with a divorce.

My husband wants me to accept his dressing and find him attractive dressed in women's clothing and lingerie. He says that if I can't, our marriage will end when our youngest son turns 18. Although I love my husband and want him to be happy, I cannot feel happy for myself.

He says he needs to wear something feminine in order to feel sexy and emotionally ally free. Without it, he's uninterested and finds sex boring. (Our sex life for the first 16 years was unfulfilling; I used to blame myself for his lack of passion.) When he feels that I'm becoming more accepting, he's very affectionate. When I'm less so, he becomes angry and highly critical of me. Most of the time, he's in neutral. We have been to counselors and psychologists, but nothing solves our problems. All he wants, he says, is for me to like him in women's clothes.

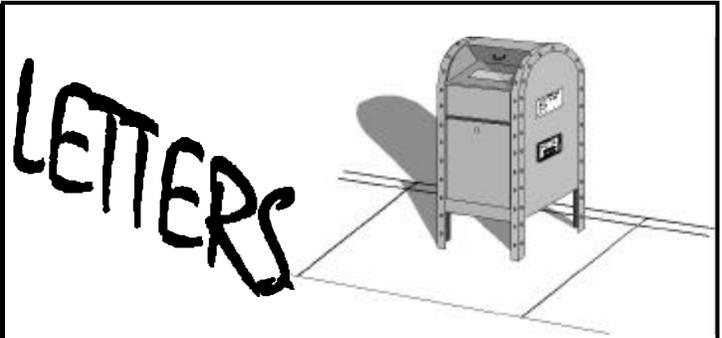
How can I learn to do this? He has tried to tone down his bedtime attire, but I still feel very sad and somewhat repulsed. We are both depressed. My husband says it's all up to me now. Can a wife learn to find her husband sexy and desirable in women's clothing when she misses the look and feel of him without?

**ANSWER:** Maybe. It's certainly possible for a highly motivated woman to come to accept her husband's cross-dressing (there are a number of couples and wives-only support groups). Whether or not that acceptance can include romantic passion is something else,- passion is not the product of mere good will and certainly the product of a need to please an angry, threatening partner.

Everyone has his or her "bottom line." Your husband knows his cross-dressing "is even more central to him than the marriage. It doesn't mean that he doesn't love you or that you've failed him somehow. He has discovered something powerful about himself and hopes that you can it. Maybe you can, maybe you can't. You didn't sign on, 19 years ago, to be with a man who makes love to you while wearing woman's underwear and who feels "most himself". You have to decide what your needs are and how well he meets them emotionally and physically.

It may be sadly, that what you need and what he needs are not the same thing. This is no different, on one level, than one partner becoming suddenly devout (in a marriage of atheists), or

Cont'd  
wanting, desperately and seriously to move to an abandoned



I would like to share with all of you my sincere appreciation for the enthusiastic support you, -our chapters, are giving to the Tri-Ess international. one of you is starting up an international, officers -night in which it will feature a speaker from Tri-Ess. Several of you are conducting membership drives to build Tri-Ess' voice of advocacy for crossdressers and their families. One of you is seeding a 'new Tri-Ess chapter. Another has submitted a donation upon which we will build our Outreach Booth Fund. So many of you are publishing messages from National in your newsletters one of you even published my recent message to our membership! Yet, another is participating in a joint meeting with a new chapter - having fun while building. I have long believed that if Tri-Ess International showed its commitment to you, our chapters, in timely, professional publications, clearly enunciated visions and advocacy programs, you would justify that trust. And you have! For your blossoming commitment I thank you very, very much.

**Love to all of you,  
Jane Ellen Fairfax**

Newfoundland lighthouse (in a marriage of work-oriented urbanites). Neither partner is obliged to want what the other one wants or needs. We hope that those needs will remain complementary; however, they don't always, and then there's tough decision-making to do.

If you are determined to try to accept and become positively responsive seek out a therapist with some competence and experience in the area of cross-dressing. Don't let anyone tell you that if you love him, you'll accept this. Don't let anyone tell you that he's a pervert and you have to rescue your boys from his influence. Don't let anyone tell you anything other than that you, too are entitled to be happy, to be fulfilled, and to be loved as you wish to be loved. < >

Reprinted from the June issue of IXE newsletter

# Suzie Sez

By Susan Roberts

About crossdressing. In the beginning it can be totally consuming! That's precisely what scares the wives! Perspective is the keyword! Easy to say hard to do though, I know. In my own current philosophy I am striving to view my dressing as a gift. An unusual gift, one not understood by most people, but a gift nonetheless. As in any gift given to us by the Creator/Cosmic Glue/Mother Earth (whatever), whether it be a talent for music, art, dealing with people etc, (again whatever) it can be abused if used incorrectly and cause much discord in ones life. But if put in a proper perspective it can be a thing of beauty and a source of joy! Crossdressing, I believe is a gift we are meant to have fun with also. A gift that can expand our consciousness and widen our perspective allowing us to see life from more than just one side. Sort like one foot in a high-heel and the other in a wingtip! Hee, hee! (A real fashion no-no and I heartily don't recommend simultaneous wearing.)

Also it helps to think of it as a new wonderful horizon. One to be explored, savoured and shared. And if you can somehow get your spouse to view it as something good and maybe allow her to share in it, then you'll be miles ahead of the game. First though she needs certain assurances from you that will convince her that she is not loosing the husband she knows! If you want it all to work you also need to be THAT man she married! Sure, your revelation to her was probably a real shock, right? Heck think of it this way. What if you came home from work one day and found your wife dressed in lumberjack overalls, construction boots, a red flannel shirt and wearing a glue-on bristly beard! Would this be disturbing to you? Think about it!

Granted the above example is an over-simplified one but I think it works. Perspective, moderation, control, and trying to understand each others viewpoints are essential, I think. (Also one heck of a good sense of humor works wonders too!!!! :)

Love ya,  
Suzie

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## WHO IS THIS WOMAN IN THE MIRROR

BY STACEY McVEIGH

ONE DAY AS I WAS STANDING IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR.

I SAW A DIFFERENT REFLECTION LOOKING BACK AT ME.

WHO WAS THIS WOMAN IN THE MIRROR ACROSS FROM ME?

SHE WAS TALL, THIN AND QUITE BEAUTIFUL.

AS I LOOKED IN THE MIRROR AT HER I FELT AS IF I'VE SEEN HER BEFORE.

I TURNED AWAY FOR A MOMENT AND SHE WAS GONE.

AS THE DAYS PASSED BY, ALL I COULD DO WAS THINK ABOUT WAS THIS WOMAN I SAW IN THE MIRROR.

I WISHED SHE WOULD APPEAR AGAIN.

MY HEART WAS LONELY AND EMPTY WITHOUT HER.

I HAD NO FRIENDS

MY LIFE WAS GOING NO WHERE.

THEN ONE DAY AS I WAS SLEEPING I HAD A DREAM I WAS LOOKING IN THE MIRROR.

OH HOW I LIKE WHAT I SAW IN THE MIRROR ACROSS FROM ME.

IT WAS THAT WOMAN IN THE MIRROR LOOKING BACK AT ME.

MY HEART WAS HAPPY.

I HAD FOUND A FRIEND.

MY LIFE NOW FELT COMPLETE.

I HAD FOUND SOMEONE WHO WAS KIND, CARING, COMPASSIONATE AND LOVING.

WHO IS THIS WOMAN LOOKING BACK AT ME FROM WITHIN THE MIRROR?

AS I AWOKE I REALIZED IT WAS THE SECOND SELF WITHIN ME LOOKING BACK AT ME FROM WITHIN THE MIRROR.

NOW I KNOW WHO THAT WOMAN WAS IN THE MIRROR LOOKING BACK AT ME

**H**

June 4 CGS Picnic  
June 7 SSGNO

**A**

**June 7-11 BE-ALL**  
June 10 CGS Social  
June 10 Gemini Gender  
June 13 CGS Meeting  
June 14-18 Transgen 95

**P**

**June 17 Chi-Chapter Meeting**  
June 24-25 Tri-Ess International Board Meeting  
June 24 CGS Social  
June 27 CGS Social

**P**

July 5 SSGNO  
July 8 Gemini Gender  
July 11 CGS Meeting

**E**

**July 15 Chi-Chapter Meeting**  
July 25 CGS Social  
July 26-30 Spice  
July 29 CGS Social

**N**

**Aug 19 Chi-Chapter Meeting**  
**Aug 20 Chi-Chapter Picnic**

**I**

Sept 27 Southern Comfort

**N**

**Oct 26-29 Fall Harvest St. Louis**

**G**

HOLIDAY INN Express  
933 S. Rt 83  
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(708) 279-0700

**S**

STARDUST BANQUET HALL  
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Milwaukee (414) 297-9328  
Stardust  
Houston (713) 723-8368  
**Holiday Inn Express**  
Houston  
Clubhouse Players  
Temptations

**(NO CHI-CHAPTER COUPLES MEETING IN JUNE)**

**JULY**

Clubhouse Players  
Milwaukee  
Stardust  
**Holiday Inn Express**  
Temptations  
Memphis, TN  
Clubhouse Players

**AUGUST**

**Holiday Inn Express**

Atlanta

**LOCATIONS**

**MEETING HALLS**

**CLUBS**

**CLUBHOUSE PLAYERS**

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10235 W. Grand  
Franklin Park

13126 S. Western Av  
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1450 Algonquin Rd  
Schaumburg  
(708) 397-4521

MIDWAY HOTEL  
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Elk Grove Village  
(708) 981-0010

**OUT OF FOCUS****BY****KIKI****BINGO!**

Well, I was able to hit two of my New Year's Resolutions a while back with one whack! Went out to lunch as Kiki and---bought a sexy shimmering, sequined evening gown which has been on my list of "to do's" for a couple years.

Called a fellow girl-friend up and told her I wanted to go to Gurnee Mills and get an evening gown at The He Ro Group for the Prom coming up and for the BE All. She readily agreed to go and suggested we do lunch as there are a couple nice places to eat around the Mall.

We decided on a Tuesday and the Saturday before, I was so filled with anticipation, I just had to check the place out before hand to get the lay of the land since I had never been there.

Seeing it from the Toll Road several times, I realized the place was huge and when I drove in, I had no idea where to find He Ro's. I went down a long curved road to the North end and parked by entrance F. The parking lot was packed and once inside, there were hundreds of people malling about.

I looked at the directory, and lucky me, He Ro's was near the entrance I came in. Everything seemed OK for a day out as Kiki except for the crowds. I had never seen so many people in one Mall in all my life. Seeing an attendant I asked him if this was unusual. He said, "No. Its like this every Saturday". And as if the people shopping were not enough, they even have tour busses coming in an out. Thank goodness we were going up on a Tuesday.

Finally, Tuesday arrived and I put on a my new tan dress with short sleeves and a long full skirt, a yellow head band to hold my red hair back, suntan hose, cognac loafers, and a yellow knit sweater/jacket over my shoulders. I wanted to look just like an ordinary well dressed woman and not the Queen of the Trailer Park out shopping. I was ready to leave at 9:30 in the morning. A new record for getting out.

I picked my girl-friend up at her house, met her delightful wife who was helping her with a selection of shoes for the outing and off we went.

It was a beautiful day and driving down the tollway as Kiki with my girl-friend was a joy in itself. It felt so good to be hopefully, two attractive and passable gals out for a day at Gurnee Mills and lunch.

It wasn't nearly as crowded as last Saturday and in a few moments we were inside. We passed at least a hundred people, mostly women, as we made our way and didn't get any quizzical looks that I could tell. One of the things that both of us do when out in public, is to absolutely, positively avoid eye contact with anyone.

Its a man's thing to make eye contact at least for an instant. Women never do. If I look at someone, I look at what they are wearing, or quickly at their face, but never at their eyes and make contact. If you do, its a dead give away if they have any weird ideas you are not what you appear to be.

I am real sneaky about it but I do take a peek back at them to see if a quizzical look was given in our direction. None were given and that's great because I'm 5"10 and my girl-friend is a couple inches taller. We were passing!

Once in He Ro's, I found the section in the back that had all the sequined gowns and went up to the lady at the desk and said in the female voice I had practiced all day Monday, "Oh, I'd love to try on some gowns for a party I'm going to and--for a Drag show". As I said the first part she smiled nicely and at the drag show part her head did the slightest bob but she continued smiling the whole time.

I knew it was Ok to say the drag show part because we met a couple of their sales ladies up at the 94 Club one night at a show and some of the performers were wearing their gowns.

I picked out a couple gowns and showed them to her. She directed me to the dressing room to try them on. This was the first time I have ever done anything like this and I could feel my heart beating in my throat. I suddenly wondered what in the world I was doing there and wanted to turn around and leave. I regrouped and told myself there was no backing out now, I had come this far.

The room was huge with several booths along two walls. She directed me to the second booth on the right. I hung up my gowns and started to undress then realized there was no door to close. "Ye gods, no door", I muttered half out loud.

I quickly moved to a booth further in and changed. She appeared every now and then and I asked her to zip me up. She told me the gown was beautiful on me. Other women came in, saw me in different gowns and never blinked.

I must have tried on six or seven different gowns and several times went out in the show room to get zipped up, or to get another gown. My girl-friend brought in a couple things and tried them on, then some more women came in and we all got along just fine thank you. Either we passed or they thought we were such sissies we were harmless.

I bought the most beautiful, sexy, green shimmering sequined floor length evening gown and wore it to the Prom.

We had lunch at Ruby Tuesday's. I ordered a Manhattan straight up and my girl friend ordered pink lemonade with vodka. We both ordered lady like things, Spinach Quiche and a Caesar salad. The waiter treated us as perfect ladies.

We had another round after we ate and then went shopping for earrings for my new gown. Believe me, never, ever have a drink and then go shopping for earrings and bracelets. That last drink really hit me. I lost my cheap attitude, my female voice, and bought half the store out.

Bill is still bitching about it but Kiki is saying that when she wears that gown, it takes on a life of its own. And it was worth every dime.

(Continued on page 8)

## Where's The Holiday Inn Express?

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## GEMINI GENDER GROUP

The Gemini Gender Group will meet on Saturday, June 10th at the following location:

Universalist Church West  
13001 West North Ave.  
Brookfield, Wisconsin  
(Take Highway 45 to exit 420(North Ave))  
Club M & M is the local hangout

They will also be taking part in the Milwaukee Pride Parade on Sunday June 11th. The parade will assemble at the PrideFest Grounds in front of the Cream City Foundation Alyn Hess Stage on the War Memorial grounds and will commence at 12:30pm. There is free admission to anyone who enters the grounds before 12:30pm

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*"Out of Focus" (Continued from page7)*

And I can hardly wait to do it again.  
.....

Prom Night was fab. Food was good enough. Promenade for Queen of the Prom is a great idea. I'm sure Rori has some more ideas for that. (She has ideas on every thing.) I hope this turns into an annual affair.

I know how difficult it is to find a place for our group. The committee did a great job in finding the Holiday Express for our meetings, but gez, when we have a banquet, a fancy place would be great. This place is no more than a bigger closet.

Is it true that Denise rented a Limo for the night?

Bye.

??

20% off  
with this ad



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*'The Wright Line' (Continued from page 1)*

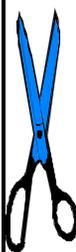
suggested we should do that kind of thing more often, even though it is more expensive. Your thoughts and input are always welcome.

Also.....congratulations to Jeni of Wisconsin for being crowned "Prom Queen" (and I DO mean queen). It's not often that a serene, sedate, understated wallflower like Jeni (not!) wins a competition like that. Actually, she was her normal ravishing self. But the rest of us weren't chopped liver either. I think we showed the locals, including the Shriners who were there that we know how to dress to the nines!

Finally, thanks to Amanda for entertaining us with original songs, sung in her real voice. It looks like we've got some real talent in our group!

See you next month, at Holiday Inn Express in Elmhurst!

??



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7:30 - 9:00 Movement Modeling \$15.00 (Joan Sassano)  
9:00 - 10:00 pm Vocal Coaching/Range \$15.00 (Dee King)

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