

THE JULY 1990 NEWSLETTER

Editor...Charliss D. IFGE/EON Rep....Angela S.

WE'RE SO GRATEFUL We now have a place in Syracuse where we can meet on a regular basis. Some time ago, we affirmed that such a place exists for us- that we only had to uncover it. We know that finding what is right for us in life is a process- that, whatever the objective, we are responsible for performing the footwork( sometimes in a pair of heels, sometimes not ) But without the original affirmation, belief, or trust, the footwork will become dreary and devoid of inspiration. Thankfully, we were able to maintain our enthusiasm as we went along- we were able to keep our vision, and, importantly, our picture of a meeting place is only one part ( an essential one ) of a much larger vision we all have for EON.

THE SPECIFICS Our new meeting place comes our way courtesy of the AIDS Task Force Of Central New York, in the form of a large, nicely furnished conference room, a kitchen, rest rooms, ample and private parking, and secutiy.

The address is 627 W. Genesee St., Syracuse.

Meeting times are: General Meeting...8:00 PM, 3rd Saturday of each month. Rap Session...8:00 PM, 1st Thursday of each month.

Directions: see the enclosed map.

The Task Force is offering this space at no cost to EON.

HOWEVER "What goes around comes around." At some point, we shared something that we had. It was returned to us in

the form of what we now have need of— a meeting place.
And so...it is now our turn again. We will be passing the basket at our meetings, and subsequently passing it on for use by the Task Force. Let us also be open and willing to explore ways in which we can continue to be of assistance to each other within and without the EON organization.

As crossdressers- whatever our individual orientation and life objective- we have, each one of us and collectively-much to give away, to share out of whatever sense of

completeness and personal growth that we experience as we go
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along on our chosen path. We have, each one of us who is happy with our choice and the sense of wholeness, the experiences and relationships that we enjoy because of this choice...we have had that unusual and exciting experience of transforming what used to be considered a problem into a solution. We need to remember that transformation never occurs in isolation. Solutions, personal growth, and opportunity always occur within the context of relationship, never alone or on our own- as fear, or false pride or lack of self esteem would have us believe.

The gift of our meeting place seems to hold a lesson for us: as crossdressers, we not only have each other- we have "others" as well, and that is significant, they are significant.

THE RESPONSE CONTINUES It has been about a month since our advertisement last appeared in the SYRACUSE NEW TIMES newspaper, and letters of response and inquiry are still coming in. At a recent planning meeting attended by Charliss and Angela at newcomer Molly's home, Angela brought out eight such new letters. By this time, Angela has already answered these letters and we await the hoped-for requests for screening interviews.

OUR FIRST MEETING On a saturday evening, June 23rd, EON held its first official and announced general meeting in a suite of rooms at the Quality INN in Syracuse. It was a start, and according to those in attendance, an enjoyable and productive one.

The hotel staff was helpful and courteous, and EON hopes to expand this relationship for our mutual benefit. For example, we are planning to use this hotel, and its next-door sister, the DAY'S INN, as our host hotel for our major Fall event, the EON AUTUMN ACCORD.

Our EON rep, Angela S. has sent a letter of appreciation to the hotel, thanking them for the service we received in setting up for our meeting.

Those who attended this important meeting: newcomers (let's hear it!) Denise from Binghamton, Tara from Little Falls, and Molly from Syracuse; Angela S., Charliss D., Cheryl D., Joanne M., Audrey M., Jackie Alexander- all from Syracuse.

As well as the business meeting portion of this get-together, when EON progress and objectives were discussed, there was an evening's worth of opportunity for each one of us to get to know each other just a little bit

more- to share, to laugh, and to be helpful where help was needed.

Ever reluctant to end an all too rare opportunity to get together en femme, some of the girls made a foray into downtown Syracuse after the meeting had ended. Molly, Audrey, Jackie, and Charliss added a nightcap to the evening by presenting themselves at Ryan's: looking their best, standing at the bar during the last hour of business, drinking their Cokes and club sodas, chatting away amongst themselves and politely fielding occasional inquiries from some of the other Ryan's patrons.

Truth be known, being out like this in downtown Syracuse was a first time experience for all but Jackie, who led "her girls" through the doors of Ryan's, through the scrutiny of the proof-checker, and carved their passage across the crowded floor as though a den mother leading a field trip.

Also truthfully, how nice it was to have her along and doing just that being her caring and attentive self...

## USEFUL INFORMATION - PRODUCTS &SERVICES

Hair cutting & styling, wig styling, makeup consultations & make-overs...Jackie Alexander(member of EON), a professional who works at a salon in Auburn. Call 253-9551, ask to speak with Jackie in order to set up an appointment.

Electrolysis...UPTOWNE ELECTROLYSIS, 450 Hawley Ave., Connie Willits, CPE, 422-1404.

Footwear, ladies sizes 9-14, all widths; various heights of high heels, lower heels, flats, sandals, boots. SHOE EXPRESS, mail order catalog available, call 1-800-888-2755. This business is owned by Ann West. She is very helpful and courteous, and comes highly recommended by Charliss D. Ann West offers high quality, stylish and reasonably priced name label shoes, and service is prompt.

Lydia O'Leary makeup. This is the foundation that is widely used by crossdressers as a beard cover. It can be found in Syracuse at ADDIS & DEYS. This store has a Lydia O'Leary COVERMARK display in the cosmetics department of the downtown store. The saleslady is an understanding and helpful woman by the name of Margaret. She has helped a number of us in choosing the right product.

MARSHALLS and PETER HARRIS CLOTHES are always good places to keep in mind when shopping for quality clothes at

discount prices. It's worth it to keep droping by these places on a regular basis, as merchandise comes and goes. Look for names like Christian Dior and Carol Little skirts and blouses; suits, jackets, and blazers by Evan Picone. Sizes often run to 18 & 20

THINK ABOUT IT " Transgendered people have probably existed in all cultures, across all ages. So it is safe to assume that there are people like you in your community. How many? The only estimate from sex researchers and therapists applies to transvestites. They guess that 5 percent of the adult male American population has the need to crossdress. If there are 10,000 adult males in your community, you could estimate that 500 of them are transvestites. But only a handful of them may accept themselves or lead a life that would permit them to join a support group. And even fewer would be willing to undertake the effort to get such a group organized... " And, "... The benefits of shared experiences leading to understanding and acceptance also extend to the family members and friends of the transgendered." quoted from the Renaissance Education Association's Community Outreach Bulletin, BUILDING AN ORGANIZATION.

CROSS SPECIES DRESSING Charliss D. inherited two wonderful friends through her relationship with Donna, Charliss's significant other.Kate and Arn are a fun-loving couple, spiritually oriented in their relationship with the world. They enjoy sharing their relationship, and their sense of humor with others.

Inevitably, the time came for Charliss to share her feminine, crossdressing self with these two wonderful people. For one thing, she wanted that level of honesty and intimacy with them. For another, Donna needed to continue her relationship with them on that same basis, the one on which it was formed and maintained. Furthermore, Charliss and Donna needed to share specifically about their trip to Boston for the IFGE Coming Together convention. It was a first for both, and there was much more to share than just the Monet exhibit that was concurrently showing in Boston, originally Donna's stated reason for going to Boston.

Telling the truth was not without its stresses, but it

was liberating and rewarding for everyone.

Knowledge of truth also further liberates one's capacity for humor, expands it in terms of accepting it as well as creating it.

Recently, Kate and Arn threw an outdoor birthday party for their two year old daughter, inviting friends and family, young and old, and their lawn that afternoon was

swarming with young children who were playfully interacting with each other and the mock-up Sesame Street characters that Kate had created and placed about the lawn.

Arn himself, over six feet of masculinity, sensitivity, and good humor, appeared in a very realistic Big Bird costume. Kate remarked: " I think he passes very well, don't you?"

Then, later, in a quiet and private moment alone with Charliss, Arn spoke from deep within the soul of his Big Bird personna: " I could talk to you forever about this, but I could never really communicate the actual experience of cross species dressing...it's...it's something you have to experience for yourself..."

CONTRIBUTIONS EON newsletter editor Charliss D. is looking for crossdressers and significant others who would be willing to contribute to the content of the newsletter.

What could you contribute? Pertinent news items that you run across; the same for cartoons and jokes; useful information about shopping, makeup, events; thought provoking and/or inspiring pieces of articles and literature; your own personal experiences, including introspective pieces; you name it...we'll consider it.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

TGIC, Albany...Regular meetings are as follows: Socials- 2nd Saturday, 145 Club, 8PM. 4th Friday- Club room, 8PM

Rochester CD Network...Meets the 2nd Friday of each month. Will be adding second meeting, TBA. Hotline number (716) 251-2132

August, TBA,...4th annual MARDI GRAS (Canada) Contact: Kandi Kane, Box 185, Perkinsfield, ON, LOL 2J10, Canada

September 14...Rochester CD Network Sock Hop, Dinner, Music, Entertainment

September 20-23...PARADISE IN THE POCONOS, Creative Design Services, PO BOX 1263, King Of Prussia, PA 19406 (215) 640-9449

October 12-21...16th annual FANTASIA FAIR (Provincetown) Fantasia Fair, Lincolnia Sta. PO Box 11254, Alexandria, Va 22312

October 19-21...DRESSING FOR PLEASURE GALA, New York City. Fashion Show & Dinner Dance; workshops. Featuring designers of corsets, shoes, leather & latex fashions. Constance Enterprises, PO Box 43277, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043 (201)746-0072

November 2,3,4...EON AUTUMN ACCORD. Banquet & outings. Syracuse.

November 14-18...TRI-ESS National Convention, San Francisco. TRI-ESS, PO Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275

> PS:...THE SUCCESS OF EON, YOUR SUCCESS, DEPENDS ON YOUR PARTICIPATION. YOUR SUPPORT...YOUR IDEAS, YOUR HOPES...ARE NEEDED AT THE NEXT MEETING ... JULY 21. ANY QUESTIONS, CALL CHARLISS (315)422-6220 or Angela (ask for Jim Sr) at (315)673 - 2821



PRETTY AS YOU ARE...DON'T JUST STAND THERE. YOU'RE NEEDED...