

EON (EXPRESSING OUR NATURE) 523 WEST ONONDAGA ST. SYRACUSE, NY 13204 (315) 475-5611 (SC) STO HQ77.9 Eb

THE EON NEWSLETTER..... MARCH 1991.....

.....FROM CHARLISS DOLGE, PRESIDENT, BOARD

OF DIRECTORS

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

WE BELIEVE IN:

THE RIGHT OF THE TRANSGENDERED PERSON TO FULL PARTICIPATION IN AND ACCEPTANCE AND AFFIRMATION BY SOCIETY AS A WHOLE. THIS IS THE RIGHT TO DIGNITY.

THE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE SUBJECT TO OPPRESSION TO COME TOGETHER IN UNITY AND TO CREATE MECHANISMS OF SUPPORT FOR OTHERS OF LIKE KIND. THIS IS THE RIGHT TO PEACEFUL COMMUNITY.

THE RIGHT OF EACH INDIVIDUAL TO DEFINE THEMSELVES AS THEY WISH TO BE AND TO SEEK OUT THEIR PERSONAL INTEGRITY WITHOUT HINDRANCE. THIS IS THE RIGHT TO SELF LOVE.

WE FURTHERMORE BELIEVE:

THAT PERSONS WHO ARE TRANSGENDERED AND/OR OF SAME-GENDER SEXUAL ORIENTATION ARE ENDOWED, BY VIRTUE OF THEIR DIFFERENTNESS, WITH A SPECIAL CHARISMA AND UNIQUE VOCATION TO TRANSFORM THE PERCEPTIONS OF OTHERS AND THE WORLD ITSELF BY BEING EXEMPLARS OF TOLERANCE AND LOVE.

THAT OUR HAPPINESS, PERSONAL GROWTH, AND SENSE OF FULFILLMENT AS INDIVIDUALS CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED WHEN WE PERSERVERE IN HONESTLY OPENING THE REALITY OF OUR SELVES TO OTHERS. EON EXISTS TO PROMOTE THAT COURAGE.

EVENTS CALENDAR

EON GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE THE FIRST & THIRD SATURDAYS AND THE FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH...8:00 PM TO 11:PM

APRIL

6.... ERICA WHEELER, GUITARIST IN CONCERT, JAYNES HALL, TRINITY PARISH CENTER. A REGULAR **EON** MEETING NIGHT. MEMBERS MAY WISH TO ATTEND EITHER THE CONCERT OR THE MEETING. BOTH WILL OCCUR SINCE THERE WILL NOT BE ANY SPACE CONFLICT. COST OF CONCERT IS \$5 - \$10 ON A SLIDING SCALE. SPONSORED BY WOMENS INFORMATION CENTER.

20...AMY BARTELL WILL BE PRESENT AT OUR MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF PHOTOGRAPHING THOSE OF US WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN A GROUP PHOTOGRAPH WHICH WILL BE USED IN A POSTER DESIGN WHICH WILL BE PROMOTED THROUGHOUT THE NATIONAL GENDER COMMUNITY. SHE WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO DO INDIVIDUAL POSES/PORTRAITS. **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**, TRINITY PARISH CENTER, 8:00 AM-12, \$3.50 PER PERSON, \$1.50 CHILDREN, SPONSORED BY EON AS A FUND RAISER. A COMMUNITY WIDE EVENT, ALL ARE WELCOME. CONTACT MOLLY KENNEDY TO OFFER YOUR ASSISTANCE. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO HELP!

MAY

4....PHILLIPS INSTITUTE WILL DO A PRESENTATION ON HAIR STYLING, WIG STYLING, AND ITS 10 STEP MAKEOVER PROGRAM. LOOK FORWARD TO THIS!

18...CHERYL DANN, EON MEMBER, WILL PRESENT AN OVER-VIEW OF LITERATURE WRITTEN FOR/BY THE GENDER COMMUNITY PLUS THE "OUTSIDE" LITERATURE THAT SHE HAS FOUND TO HOLD SIGNIFICANT MESSAGES FOR US. CHERYL WILL ALSO PRESENT US WITH A LOOK AT SOME OF HER JEWELRY DESIGNS IN STERLING SILVER WHICH INCORPORATE GENDER AND SPIRITUAL SYMBOLS.

SPECIAL EVENTS

APRIL

13...TWO NICE GIRLS, CONCERT, LESBIAN ROCK BAND FROM AUSTIN, TX IN A BENEFIT PERFORMANCE FOR THE STONEWALL COMMITTEE. 8:00 PM. SLIDING SCALE COST.

27...EON PARTICIPATES IN DINING FOR DOLLARS WHICH IS PRESENTED BY THE SYRACUSE CARES COMMITTEE. THIS IS A BUFFET AND SOCIAL SPONSORED BY EON, FOR EON MEMBERS AND A GUEST LIST OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES. SLIDING SCALE \$7- \$15. THIS IS FOLLOWED BY A COFFEE AND DESERT GALA AT THE SCHINE STUDENT CENTER AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY, WHICH BEGINS AT 10:00 PM. MUSIC BY 93Q, HOSTED BY BOB BROWN. ENTERTAINMENT. \$25 IS THE SUGGESTED DONATION. PROCEEDS FROM BOTH EVENTS BENEFIT THE PWA SUPPORT FUND, AIDS TASK FORCE, AND ALTERNATIVE EFFORTS.

MAY

16-18...THEATRE...ARSENIC AND OLD LACE, PRESENTED BY THEATER A LA CARTE, AT THE MULROY CIVIC CENTER, 8:00 PM. CALL (315) 475-6886

24.... THEATRE...GRAND HOTEL, THE MUSICAL. WINNER OF 5 TONY AWARDS, GREAT DANCING, CROUSE-HINDS CONCERT THEATER, CIVIC CENTER, BENEFIT PERFORMANCE FOR PWA SUPPORT FUND. CALL 471-5911 FOR TICKET INFO.

OTHER GENDER COMMUNITY EVENTS

APRIL

7-14....IFGE COMING TOGETHER CONVENTION, DENVER CO. EON HAS DETAILS, OR CALL (617) 894-8340

MAY

1-5....CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'91, POWDER PUFFS OF ORANGE COUNTY, PO BOX 9091, ANAHEIM CA 92812, (714) 779-9013, EON HAS DETAILS.

28- JUNE 3..TIFFANY CLUB 11TH ANNUAL P-TOWN OUTING, PROVINCETOWN, MASS. MANY PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL! EON HAS INFO., OR CALL (617) 358-2305

15-29....ESPIRIT 91, PORT ANGELES, WA. SPONSORED BY EMERALD CITY GROUP, SEATTLE. EON HAS INFO.

16-19...PARADISE IN THE POCONOS, SPONSORED BY JOANN ROBERTS OF LADYLIKE MAGAZINE. EON HAS INFO., OR CALL (215) 640-9449.

2-5.... MURIEL OLIVE'S ORIGINAL POCONOS FANTASY FESTIVAL, CALL (212) 629- 5750.

JUNE

5-9.... BE ALL, CLEVELAND, OHIO, WONDERFUL EVENT CO-SPONSORED BY REGIONAL GROUPS AND UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF OUR FRIEND SHEILA KIRK. **EON** HAS INFO. CONTACT ANGELA SHEEDY ABOUT FORMING AN "AMTRAK TRAVEL GROUP" FOR THIS EVENT.

JULY

22-26...CROSSDRESSING WITH DIGNITY CRUISE, ABOARD THE NORDIC EMPRESS- ROYAL CARIBEAN CRUISE VACATION. SPONSORED BY DR. PEGGY RUDD, AUTHOR OF "MY HUSBAND WEARS MY CLOTHES" AND "CROSSDRESSING WITH DIGNITY." CALL PEGGY RUDD (713) 347-6563

OCTOBER

18-27....THE 17TH ANNUAL FANTASIA FAIR, PROVINCETOWN, MASS., SPONSORED BY THE OUTREACH INSTITUTE. WRITE: FANTASIA FAIR, KENMORE STATION, PO BOX 368, BOSTON, MA 02215-0368.

PROGRESS REPORT_____

THE THIRD FLOOR AT TRINITY PARISH CENTER: TIM BISHOP HAS A VERY SPECIAL PLACE IN THE HEARTS OF THOSE OF US WHO KNOW HIM, AND WHILE THIS IS CERTAINLY SO BECAUSE OF WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR US WITH THE THIRD FLOOR, IT IS REALLY SO BECAUSE OF SOMETHING THAT IS VERY FUNDAMENTAL TO TIM. THE GIFTS OF TIME AND ABILITY AND ENTHUSIASM OF A BUSY, SOUGHT-AFTER PERSON, NOT JUST AS A CONTRACTOR, ARE REALLY EXPRESSIONS OF WHAT TIM IS AS A HUMAN BEING AND AS A PUBLICLY GAY MAN WHO COMMITS HIS BEING TO THE WORLD HE LIVES IN AND TO THOSE WITH WHOM HE SHARES IT. IF YOU HAVEN'T MET TIM BISHOP, YET, YOU'RE MISSING SOMETHING.

AS YOU READ THIS, TIM HAS JUST ABOUT COMPLETED ALL THE REPAIR WORK TO THE WALLS AND CEILINGS IN ALL THE ROOMS WITH SHEETROCK, PLASTER, AND JOINT COMPOUND. SOON, THE PAINTING WILL BEGIN.

THE FIRST ROOM TO THE RIGHT WILL BE OUTFITTED AS THE OFFICIAL EON OFFICE SPACE. THE SECOND ROOM ON THE RIGHT WILL BE DECORATED AND FURNISHED AS A DRESSING AND MAKEUP ROOM FOR THOSE WHO NEED THIS. THE LARGE ROOM ACROSS THE HALL FROM THESE TWO WILL SERVE AS A LOUNGE AND CONFERENCE ROOM, EVENTUALLY EQUIPPED WITH A STEREO SYSTEM, TELEVISION, AND VCR. THERE WILL ALSO BE A COFFEE BAR, SINK, AND COMPACT REFRIGERATOR. THIS ROOM, CALL IT A COMMON ROOM, WILL ALSO BE A SPACE THAT EON WILL MAKE AVAILABLE TO OTHER GROUPS IN THE COMMUNITY WHEN IT IS NOT NEEDED FOR EON USE. IT WILL BE A WONDERFUL ROOM TO SHARE WITH OTHERS. THE LARGE CENTER HALL WILL ALSO BE FURNISHED AND DECORATED: BOOKSHELVES, READING TABLES, PLANTS, COMMUNITY ARTWORKS, DISPLAYS, ETC.

WHILE WE WILL STILL BE HOLDING OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS IN THE DOWNSTAIRS PARLOR, THE THIRD FLOOR SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO **EON** MEMBERS AT ALL OTHER TIMES, NOT JUST AS A GROUP BUT TO INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS AS WELL. IT WILL BE A WONDERFUL PLACE WITH MUCH POTENTIAL FOR THE INDIVIDUAL WHO INCLUDES IT AS PART OF HER OR HIS PERSONAL LIFE.

| THIS IS ALL REALLY QUITE UNIQUE TO SUPPORT GROUPS WITHIN | THE |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| GENDER COMMUNITY, OR ANY COMMUNITY FOR THAT MATTER. THE | |
| QUESTIONS WE NEED TO ASK OURSELVES ARE THESE, AND THE | |
| ANSWERS ARE VERY IMPORTANT: | |

WHAT DID WE DO TO DESERVE ALL OF THIS? WHAT ARE WE, THAT WE DESERVE ALL THIS? DO WE EXPERIENCE ANY GRATITUDE FOR THIS GIFT, AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS A GROUP, AND ARE WE DEMONSTRATING THIS? WHAT ARE WE WILLING TO DO IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE VISION WE HAVE FOR THIS SPACE, IN TERMS OF PHYSICAL LABOR, RAISING THE MONEY TO FURNISH AND EQUIP IT, AND IN TERMS OF CREATING PRODUCTIVE WAYS OF USING IT?

RELATED TO THIS, IS OUR EXPERIENCE OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE PARISH CENTER ITSELF: WE NEED TO NEVER FORGET THE WAYS IN WHICH OUR USE OF IT AS A FACILITY FOR MEETING AND SHARING- AMONGST OURSELVES, WITH THE PARISHIONERS AND OUR OTHER NEW FRIENDS, AND WITH ALL THOSE OTHERS WHO USE THE PARISH CENTER FOR THEIR OWN MEETINGS- HAS EXPANDED OUR OWN LIVES AS INDIVIDUALS AND THE POTENTIAL IT HAS ALWAYS HELD OUT TO US, AS A GIFT, REALLY, TO EXPAND EVEN MORE IN TERMS OF INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP EXPERIENCE.

TO THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS AND TO MAKE DECISIONS REGARDING THEM, TO COME UP WITH ANSWERS, IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME IN OUR GROUP EXPERIENCE. FOR MANY REASONS, THIS MAY BE A TURNING POINT FOR OUR GROUP, AND SURELY FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US AS INDIVIDUALS. WE WILL NEED EFFORT AND COMMITMENT; GRATITUDE AND ENTHUSIASM; FUNDRAISING IDEAS AND MONEY; COOPERATION AND WILLINGNESS TO SERVE; MEANINGFUL PROGRAMS AND AN ATTITUDE OF SHARING AND SUPPORT; WE WILL NEED ALL THIS AND MORE, NOT TO JUST KEEP WHAT WE HAVE- FOR SURELY WE WILL LOSE EVEN THIS WITHOUT THE ABOVE- BUT TO EXPERIENCE THE POTENTIAL FOR PROSPERITY IN JOY, SPIRIT AND PURPOSE THAT IS OURS.

THE NEW YORK STATE GENDER COALITION

MOLLY AND KIA REPRESENT EON TO THIS ENTITY WHICH INCLUDED THE BUTTERFLY GROUP FROM BINGHAMTON, THE CD NETWORK FROM ROCHESTER, AND THE TGIC GROUP FROM ALBANY. THE GOALS OF THIS COALITION OF GENDER SUPPORT GROUPS INCLUDE CREATING THE MEANS TO SHARE INFORMATION, COORDINATE EVENTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES, AND TO PRESENT THE COALITION AND OUR COMMUNITY AS A VIABLE POLITICAL ENTITY WITH BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS AND EXPECTATIONS. THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING WAS HELD AT TRINITY PARISH CENTER ON DECEMBER 15TH, 1990. THE FIRST REGULAR MEETING WAS HOSTED BY ALBANY IN FEBRUARY. THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 20TH, THE SAME DAY AS OUR PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND OUR REGULAR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, WHICH WILL FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHER AMY BARTELL. THIS SHOULD BE A FULL, FUN, AND INTERESTING DAY FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US TO EXPRESS OUR NATURE!!!

UPDATES_____

SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS FOR SIGNIFICANT OTHERS: THOSE WHO HAVE PICKED UP THEIR MEMBERSHIP KITS AT GENERAL MEETINGS ARE AWARE THAT THERE TWO ARE CHANGES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE REGARDING ATTENDANCE AT THE EON GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS (THOSE WHO HAVE NOT PICKED UP THEIR KITS, OR WILL NOT BE AROUND AT MEETINGS OR ON OTHER OCCASIONS, CAN HAVE THESE KITS, OR MEMBERS HANDBOOKS, MAILED TO THEM ON REQUEST)

EFFECTIVE ON THE DATE NAMED FOR THE FIRST SIGNIFICANT OTHERS SUPPORT GROUP MEETING, MEMBERS MAY INVITE THEIR SIGNIFICANT OTHERS- SPOUSES, OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS, LOVERS, PARTNERS- TO THE FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ONLY. THE SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AND THE FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH MEETINGS ARE FOR MEMBERS ONLY. EON WILL PROVIDE SPACE AND FACILITATORS OR MODERATORS (PEOPLE WITH SUCH EXPERIENCE AND FROM OUTSIDE OF EON, SUCH AS CLERGY, THERAPISTS) FOR A SIGNIFICANT OTHERS SUPPORT GROUP SO THAT THEY MAY ADDRESS AND EXPLORE THEIR OWN ISSUES REGARDING CROSSDRESSING AND TRANSGENDERISM ON A MEANINGFUL AND REGULAR BASIS. IT IS OUR INTENTION TO MAKE THIS SERVICE AVAILABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AFTER WHICH EON WILL ONLY OFFER FURTHER ASSISTANCE IF ASKED. THE SUPPORT GROUP FOR SIGNIFICANT OTHERS WILL BELONG TO THEM.

A RECOVERY PROGRAM FOR GENERAL MEMBERS AND THE ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY: THERE HAS BEEN A GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST IN HAVING A TYPE OF AA PROGRAM FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO BEGIN OR CONTINUE THEIR RECOVERY FROM ALCOHOLISM AND OTHER DRUG ADDICTIONS, ESTABLISHED SPECIFICALLY SO THAT INDIVIDUALS MAY HAVE THE FREEDOM AND SUPPORT TO OPENLY ADDRESS AND EXPLORE THEIR ISSUES OF GENDER IDENTITY AND/OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION AS THESE ISSUES ARE ALWAYS CONNECTED/LINKED TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS. SUCH A MEETING WILL BE AT THE TRINITY PARISH CENTER, ONCE A WEEK. IF INTERESTED, CONTACT CHARLISS DOLGE. THIS TYPE OF PROGRAM HAS BEEN OF GREAT VALUE TO THE MEMBERS OF SEVERAL GENDER/ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY GROUPS AROUND THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING TIFFANY CLUB AND RENAISSANCE.

GLAS (GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE THE ST PATRICKS DAY PARADE: OF SYRACUSE) EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO EON TO JOIN THEIR CONTINGENT IN THIS PARADE THAT WAS VIEWED BY AN ESTIMATED 130,000 PEOPLE (TALK ABOUT ECONOMY IN COMING OUT!) GLAS HAD THE PARADE PERMIT- A FIRST !- A WONDERFUL FLOAT AND A BEAUTIFUL RAINBOW CONSTRUCTED OF SEVERAL GIGANTIC, ELONGATED COLORFUL HELIUM BALLOONS, SEVERAL OF ITS OWN PEOPLE MARCHING, MANY OF THEM IN GREAT COSTUMES AND WITH WONDERFUL FLAIR AND EXUBERANCE. FOUR MEMBERS OF EON ACCEPTED THE INVITATION: KIA, ROBIN, MOLLY, AND CHARLISS. THEY MARCHED, EN FEMME AND WAVING RAINBOW FLAGS ON LONG STAFFS, FOLLOWING JUST BEHIND THE LEAD BANNER OF GLAS. THIS WAS AN EXHILERATING EXPERIENCE, PERSONALLY AND AS A SHARED EXPERIENCE. AFTER THE PARADE, ALL OF US RETURNED TO THE PARISH CENTER FOR COFFEE AND DONUTS, AND TO BASK IN THE MEMORY OF THE EXPERIENCE. IT ALL ENDED TOO SOON, IT SEEMED. IF THIS IS INDEED TRUE, THAT IT ALL ENDED TOO SOON, THEN CLEARLY, I REALIZED LATER THAT SAME DAY, THAT OUR SPIRIT REQUIRES, ON A MORE FREQUENT AND REGULAR BASIS, THE MORAL OR TRANSCENDENT EQUIVALENT OF THAT WHICH WE EXPERIENCED BEING OUT MARCHING IN THIS PARTICULAR PARADE. FOR ITS OWN HEALTH AND USEFULNESS, IT NEEDS TO BE COMMITTED TO PRINCIPLE AND FREEDOM DAILY IN SOME WAY. AND WORDS ALONE WON'T DO IT: TO TURN TO THE WISDOM OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: " IT IS NO USE WALKING ANYWHERE TO PREACH UNLESS OUR WALKING IS OUR PREACHING."

FINAL THOUGHT ON ACTUALLY EXPERIENCING WHAT YOU ARE: "SOMETIMES (WHEN SURFING) YOU REACH A POINT OF BEING SO COORDINATED, SO COMPLETELY BALANCED, THAT YOU FEEL YOU CAN DO ANYTHING--ANYTHING AT ALL. AT TIMES LIKE THIS I FIND I CAN RUN UP TO THE FRONT OF THE BOARD AND STAND ON THE NOSE WHEN PUSHING OUT THROUGH A BROKEN WAVE; I CAN GOOF AROUND, PUT MYSELF IN AN IMPOSSIBLE POSITION AND THEN PULL OUT OF IT--SIMPLY BECAUSE I FEEL HAPPY. AN EXTRA BIT OF CONFIDENCE LIKE THAT CAN CARRY YOU THROUGH, AND YOU CAN DO THINGS THAT ARE JUST ABOUT IMPOSSIBLE."

Midget Farrelly