



# RENAISSANCE

## GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS

Dina Amberle: Editor

SEPT '94

### CHAPTER BOARD ELECTIONS

Each year our Chapter Board positions come up for nominations and elections. Nominating ballots are included in this newsletter. The election of all Board positions will be held during the November meeting.

Chapter Board positions are open to any full Chapter member and participation in the nomination and election process is encouraged for all members. It is a democratic process and all positions are up for grabs by any qualified nominee. There is no 'inside track' or favoritism in this process. It is an absolutely free and open system for the group to choose its leadership.

These Board positions are important for the future well-being of our group. New leadership is necessary for our organization to stay fresh and innovative. Three of the current Board members have announced that they will not stand for re-election so there is a need for active members to step forward for 1995. If you wish to have a voice in the direction of this Chapter, please consider nominating yourself or a friend for our Chapter Board.

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### ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY PLANS

Our annual Holiday party has been planned for Saturday Dec. 10. We will be moving to an new - but familiar - site this year: The Doubletree Hotel in downtown Phila, the site of last year's IFGE Convention.

The plans include hors d'oeuvres, drinks, live band, prizes, and holiday merriment. Parking at the hotel garage will be included in the \$35 ticket price.

Further details will be forthcoming and ticket availability will be publicized at the meetings and through our national newsletter. Please make plans to join us for this year's annual Holiday Party!

# ♥ "Ask Diane" ♥

You may be wondering if our resident advice columnist is truly qualified to answer the myriad questions she has tackled here. Well, that's one question that you won't find published in her column. But if you still wonder about her answers, perhaps you should instead be wondering why we...ask Diane.

Dear Diane,

Sometimes when I'm out in a nightspot, they guys seem to assume that because I'm dressed as a woman that I'm 'available'. Why is that?

Cheers,

Bertha Barfly

Dear Ms. Barfly,

It may have to do with your mode of dress. If you're wearing clothes that send the wrong message, men are bound to get the wrong idea. It may have to do with the types of places you frequent. A single 'woman' in a notorious pickup joint will attract attention. If it's any consolation, you can now appreciate better what real women must put up with all the time.

Temperately,

Diane

Dear Diane,

To what do you attribute the recent popularity of films featuring men in drag?

From the aisle seat,

Jean Siskel

Dear Jean,

Well, 'The Crying Game' made a lot of money and movie producers are very interested in making lots of money. There is also something sensational about men in female garb and the movies are about sensational visuals. The easiest route in Hollywood is imitation, hence the spate of films featuring men in drag.

Cinematically,

Diane

Dear Diane,

It's almost Halloween season and I haven't any good ideas for a costume this year. Got any yourself?

Au revoir

Morticia Addams

Dear 'Tish,

I'm the wrong person to ask because I don't like Halloween. I had a very bad experience with it when I was just a child and never trick or treated after that.

Traumatically,

Diane

Dear Diane,

You are my role model but I was wondering who your female role model is?

Admiringly,

Wanda Be

Dear Wanda,

My female role model is Barbara Damrosch, the co-host of 'Gardening Naturally' on The Learning Channel. I admire any woman who looks great without makeup and isn't afraid to get dirt under her fingernails.



# PLACES TO GO!



RENAISSANCE GREATER PHILA. CHAPTER MEETINGS Third Saturday of each month. October meeting on the 15th featuring Kristina Haughland, curator of the Phila. Museum of Art's costume collection speaking about 'The History of Lingerie'. Also in October: Photographer Stephanie Jennings for portraits. November meeting on the 19th featuring Phila. celebrity, the one and only, Henri David. Call 215/630-1437 for further info

GATSBY'S Popular nightclub and disco features something different each night of the week. Monday nights: amateur Drag talent (lip-synch) contest for cash prizes. Gatsby's, Cuthbert Blvd, between Rtes 38 & 70, Cherry Hill NJ. Call 609/ 663-8744

THE CARTWHEEL "DRAG SEARCH '92" Every Monday night, 11:30 PM amateur contest leading up to Miss Cartwheel pageant in Sept. The Cartwheel, Rte. 202, 1 mi. west of New Hope Center, New Hope, PA; Call 215/862-0880

THE PRELUDE Reincarnated nightclub features drag shows on Monday nights, with other entertainment each night of the week. Prelude, 408-A York Road (1/4 mile east of The Cartwheel), New Hope PA. Call 215/862-3600

THE CASBAH Alternative lifestyle crowds welcomed on Wednesday and Saturday 'Swingers' nights. Cover charge of \$10 gets admission plus open bar. Good, lively crowd. The Casbah, 5 S. Bank Street (Betw. 2nd and 3rd; betw. Market and Chestnut sts.)

KEY WEST Multi-level gay establishment in center city features Miss Key West contest each Sunday night at 11:00 PM. Key West, 207 S. Juniper Street (between Broad and 13th; Walnut and Locust sts). Call 215/545-1578

THE 247 BAR Center City bar with three levels of entertainment, features piano bar on the top floor with Darryl and Trish, weekends. Usually charges a \$2 cover. 247 S. 17th Street, Phila. PA 215/545-9779

CHECK OUT The Philadelphia Gay News (75¢) and Au Courant (Free) for current events at clubs, etc. Available in Center City and various spots around the area, including the nightclubs listed above.

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**FAKE TRESSES AND NICE DRESSES...**We had a small but dedicated group of our gals at New York's Edelweiss nightclub last Saturday. Thanks to all those who ventured up the turnpike to try it out...'Rock the Casbah' was a popular song in its day and the Casbah nightclub downtown is indeed rockin' on Weds. and Sat. nights when they host special nights for anyone into or appreciative of alternative lifestyles. Angela, Elizabeth, April and Dina have visited and report lots of fun to be had. In fact, Angela has set up light housekeeping at the Casbah, not having missed a single party since they opened it...Tonight's Miss America pageant will have the contestants going down the runway barefoot during the swimsuit portion. Everyone agreed that wearing high heels seemed unnatural with swimwear but now the girls are beginning to realize that high heels do indeed give the leg and ankle a pleasing aspect and many have said they'd rather have those pumps going for them.....

NOMINATIONS FOR CHAPTER BOARD POSITIONS

Anyone may nominate themselves or someone else for any Chapter Board position. The only qualification that must be met is that Board positions can only be held by a full (dues paying) member of our Greater Phila. Chapter.

Board candidates must be responsible, concerned members of our group. The direction of our group is dependent on how the Directors wish to lead. Board membership is neither as difficult nor as easy as it may seem. If you wish to get involved in leading our organization, a Director's position can be an exciting venture with many personal rewards.

If you care about the future success of Renaissance, please give some consideration to nominating yourself or someone else whom you believe would be an asset to our group.

The positions are as follows:

MANAGING DIRECTOR: \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY: \_\_\_\_\_

TREASURER: \_\_\_\_\_

MEETINGS  
& PROGRAMS: \_\_\_\_\_

OUTREACH: \_\_\_\_\_

BOARD ASSISTANCE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Greeters & Meeting volunteers)

Nominating ballots will be collected during the September and October general meetings or can be mailed in to our Chapter address: Renaissance Gr. Phila., P. O. Box 530, Bensalem PA 19020.

General election for all Board positions will take place during our November general meeting.