

All The Beautiful People!

The Official Newsletter of the Carolina Trans-Sensual Alliance
August, 1998

A Support Organization for Crossdressers, Intersexuals, Transgendereds,
Transsexuals, Their Significant Others and Families

VIRTUAL NUDITY

I READILY ADMIT THAT WHEN I AM DRESSED *en femme* for a night out at a club like Masquerade, 300 Stonewall, et al, I enjoy – nay, prefer – short, sexy skirts. The joke about me is that I buy all my clothes at "Slutz-R-Us". This is not to say that I don't have – or enjoy – conservative attire, too. I do. It's just that when I wear it, no one from CTA, etc., ever sees me. Thus, many have the opinion that short is all I wear.

While everyone is entitled to his/her opinion, it would be better for all concerned if those who find my (and other's) preference for revealing attire distasteful, to keep their opinions to themselves. They won't, of course; but, that's the price any crossdresser with any flair for fashion, or a preference for attire that is not considered "acceptable" (by the more conservative members of our community) has to pay. So be it.

I'm reminded of an incident with one of my former step-daughters about this very topic. It was, I think, when Tashla, our youngest, was in her Junior year in Evanston (IL) Township High School, 1978. I had been dressing *en femme* about two-years, and all three of our daughters knew it, had seen my (now ex-) wife and me several times when we were all tricked out for our bi-monthly jaunts to the jazz clubs up-and-down Chicago's famed Rush Street as a couple of babes out-on-the-town. They enjoyed it, had fun kidding both of us, and appreciated that that was one of the reasons they liked me so much: I had a lot better taste in all things feminine than did their father.

Although I can't remember the conversation, word-for-word, it went something like this....

Tashla was standing in front of my desk, tugging at her painted-on micro-mini skirt, the one that was smaller than my wife's fave dishtowel, complaining that our next door neighbor's son, Scott, was hassling her – "sexually". Knowing Scott was a pretty good kid, I didn't leap up, grab the shotgun, rush into his parent's house and demand that he marry Tash. "What did he do?"

"Looked at my legs." (You would have been proud of me: I didn't giggle, roll my eyes or splutter for more than a few seconds.)

"He also told me that my skirt was too short."

I encouraged her to get to the hassling part.

"That's it."

Although ETHS didn't have a dress code back then, Evanston was an upscale community just north of Chicago, and the administrators didn't have to worry about kids not wearing "appropriate" attire to school. The peer pressure, alone, would take care of that!

Tashla's skirt was too short – and too tight. Even her mother, a stylish and remarkably attractive woman with a penchant for sexy clothes (like me!) didn't wear skirts that were that tight or that short. I asked her if it was comfortable.

"Oh, sure!"

"Why are you constantly tugging at it?"

Yer gonna love this response: "Uh, that's what they do in the movies. Guys like it."

"Then, maybe Scott was only doing exactly what you wanted him to?"

Another great reply: "It wasn't Scott's attention I was trying to get. It was Steve's."

I tried to explain that dressing in clothes – especially in school – that left one nearly nude is not selective. The impact of having one's backside hanging out would be universal.

She opined that I should do something about Scott. "What? Couge out his eyes?"

I asked what she was going to do about the skirt. "Nothing; but, I am going to tell mother on you. She encourages individuality, and will agree with me that Scott was out of place to talk to me like that."

"Your mother might encourage individuality, Tash; but, I doubt that she would appreciate your catching pneumonia just because you want to get Steve's attention."

How different is that from what many CDers do when they go out to the clubs dressed in their (our) sexiest outfits? Not much; and, you know what? I ain't stopping!

So, if you think you have a reason to complain about or comment on someone's sexy clothes, keep your comments to yourself. Remember: "Mum's the word. Keep it under your arms!" *Divinity* ♥

I GOOFED! I gave you an Incorrect Address for Incarcerated TG

DOES THE WORD "DUH" HAVE ANY MEANING HERE? Yep! In our June, 1998, issue, I listed the wrong mailing address for inmate Harry Langert.

For the record, it is: DIN# 82A0167, Green Haven

Correctional Facility, Drawer B, Stormville, N.Y. 12582. Sorry, Harry!

Drop Harry a line or two when you have the chance.
Divinity ♥

Keep Your Eye on Charlottean TS Terry O'Connell

YOU'VE SEEN OTHER ARTICLES IN THIS PUBLICATION about former NASCAR driver J.T. Hayes, now a very attractive post-op Terry O'Connell.

As J.T. Hayes, "he" was an established driver on the NASCAR circuit. He competed in the California Golden State Super-Modified and Sprint Series, as well as the Winston Cup.

After J.T. dropped out of the scene in 1991 with no explanation, he underwent gender reassignment surgery in '92 to become Terry O'Connell. Now the rest of the world is beginning to know the story as she re-emerges as perhaps the world's first transsexual race car driver.

"I walked away from all of that to have the reassignment surgery," O'Connell recalls. "My career began when I was still a kid in the early '70s. I was a go-cart champion. By 1990, I had advanced to the NASCAR Winston Cup."

O'Connell eventually settled in Charlotte, where she worked at a local department store selling handbags. "It was different," she says matter-of-factly. "I went from being a celebrity in the motorsports community to being totally unknown. I needed the anonymity and the time to find myself."

Currently she works for a local talent agency in pro-

motions and modeling. Even though her gender has changed, O'Connell's love of motorsports has never waned. In '94, she began to design graphic art for other drivers, whereupon she found herself developing close friendships with people who knew of J.T., yet were unaware of Terry.

"It's been a mixed bag," she says. "I think for the more socially aware people, it's a non-issue. I'd made a lot of friends who'd gotten to know the girl and liked her. Some of them just had to get past the story."

In addition to competing in motorsports again (she just finished a stint in the Michelin Cross Country race) O'Connell has been profiled in *Newsweek* and *People*, made numerous appearances on TV talk shows and now has plans for her own entertainment career.

"I'm auditioning for soap operas and there are plans in the works for my own talk show," she adds excitedly.

She spoke at the Atlanta Gay Pride Celebration, June 27th. It is our hope to have her participate at the upcoming The First Annual **TRANS**America Convention, a Trans-Millennium Event, to be held in Charlotte, May 6-8, 1999.

We'll keep you advised.

courtesy of *ETC.* and *Divinity* ♥

SARAH IN A SUITCASE

by Dallas Denny

*Midweek, I saw her
Reciting, joyously, a poem just written
Of Sarah, escaped from her prison
Tripping lightly down Commercial Street
Shopping, dining, discovering herself
Blossoming, growing, discovering
Happy just to be*

*On Saturday night, she sat in the doorway in her
pajamas
Singing, smiling
Still drinking in the experience
Still wearing Sarah's face*

*Until she remembered her time was short
And collapsed, weeping, weeping
At the thought of the morrow*

*On Sunday morning, she made it to brunch
Dressed in her gorilla suit
Her vulnerability packed away
As carefully as her clothes
Uncomfortable with her hugs
Brusque, rigid
Lest Sarah burst unbidden
From a suitcase grown much too small*

courtesy of *GenderQuest* ♥



St. John's Wort Might Fight Alcoholism, UNC Study Says

BECAUSE ST. JOHN'S WORT WORKS FOR DEPRESSION, it might also help people with alcoholism, a UNC Chapel Hill researcher says.

Dr. Amir Rezvani, research associate professor of psychiatry, tried the popular herb on lab rats which were bred to prefer alcohol and found that they drank 50% less than untreated rats. "We don't know if it will work in human for alcoholism....but we're optimistic," he said. "I believe alcohol-

ism is a very complex disease. It has biological factors and psy-chosocial factors. I don't think we'll have a magic bullet to cure or treat it." If St. John's wort works, it would have to be taken in connection with family therapy, social support and perhaps drugs, he said.

This is still in the therapy stage.

courtesy of *Charlotte Observer* ♥

Non-TG Gets Breast Implants; Wins \$400,000 Bet

WHILE WATCHING *THE VIEW* ON 7/2/98, I SAW A report about a straight man - *not* a crossdresser or transsexual - who allowed his buddy, a breast augmentation plastic surgeon, to implant saline breasts in his chest....36Cs.

The bet? Not only did he have to agree to have them implanted, he had to keep them in for one full year.

The kicker? He refuses to have them taken out, even

though the bet has been resolved (to his wallet's benefit).

Why won't he take them out? "Chicks love 'em!"

Just when you thought you'd heard everything.

Now, if only I could find a plastic surgeon dumb, ah, er, um, *nice* enough to make the same bet with me....

Lucky bastard. I hate him!

Divinity ♥

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