



Rosebuds

November 2005
Volume 18 Number 8

The Periodical News Letter of the New England Tiffany Club



News Flash FACIAL FEMINAZIATION SURGEON TO VISIT TIFFANY CLUB NOVEMBER 8TH

Jeffrey H. Spiegel, MD, FACS, the, Chief of Facial, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at Boston Medical Center, will speak at The Tiffany Club on Tuesday November 8th at 8PM. Dr. Spiegel will have a presentation of his facial feminization surgeries and answer questions from the audience. For more information, please check Dr. Spiegel's website at: www.drspiegel.com



Dr. Jeffrey Spiegel is an assistant professor in the Division of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery of the Department of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery at the Boston University School of Medicine. He received his undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Michigan, where he served as president of the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society, and was selected to present the graduation address at commencement in 1994. Dr. Spiegel completed an internship in General Surgery, followed by a residency in Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at the University of California, San Francisco. Further advanced training was obtained with fellowship in Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and Microsurgery through Harvard Medical School. He currently devotes his practice to facial plastic surgery and head and neck cancer reconstruction. Dr. Spiegel is expert in both the most simple office procedures, and some of the most complex transplant reconstructions done today.

Dr. Spiegel has published numerous articles and book chapters on head and neck oncology and facial plastic surgery, and speaks nationally on these topics. His research efforts were recognized with the 2000 Sir Harold Delf Gillies research award by the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Previous work has resulted in an interview in the science section of the New York Times and a United States patent. To add to his busy schedule, Dr. Spiegel is one of a select few physicians who write and review facial plastic surgery questions used on the National Boards Exam in Otolaryngology- Head and Neck Surgery. In addition to research and writing, Dr. Spiegel lectures and facilitates in several courses at the Boston University School of Medicine, serves as Director of Medical Student Education for Otolaryngology- Head and Neck Surgery, and sees head and neck surgery and facial cosmetic surgery patients at Boston Medical Center.



The Club Needs Your Help And Support

For over two years this club has been unable to get any Member to become the Program Chair to schedule outside events for Members to do. Then we hear Members complain that, "this club never does anything". And now, nobody will take the position of Club Treasurer. We've asked, pleaded, begged and even gotten down on our knees asking for help. We respect people's privacy and don't ask questions about what you do

on the outside. Hell you could be the CFO of a Fortune 500 company and we would never know it. All we ask is a few hours a month to supervise the Club's finances. But nobody wants to help. So it looks like Tiffany will have to go out and hire an accountant to do the job. Now that will cost us some money (as will a program planner which we will probably have to hire since nobody will help us put on outside events). The money we will have to spend will mean that we will be cutting back on other services that this club provides to its members. Maybe we will have to do without heat this winter and the electricity in order to pay for these professionals to do the jobs that our Members refused to do. So, if you see a bunch of girls some Tuesday night in the dark and cold, you will know why. (*A dramatization but you get my gist.*)

The current remaining board of directors, officers, and committee chairs are worn out. It is not clear that we can depend on their services next year or for the years to come. We are at a critical juncture where the loss of those who are keeping the club alive will surely result in its demise.

Please help if you care at all about anyone other than yourself! SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY through the efforts of TCNE. Don't just take from the club, give back your time and efforts.

ROSEBUDS

is published monthly by the
Tiffany Club of New
England
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**Letters, comments, articles and
advertising inquiries can be di-
rected to our mail or e-mail ad-
dresses. We do not recommend
contact via the telephone.**

Skirts and Heels in Manhattan

By Ms. Susan Pauline Bauer

"All my bags are packed, I'm ready to go..."¹ Well, for Ms. Susan it wasn't a jet plane, it was Amtrak's Business Class, "Metroliner," and at long last, my bags were, indeed, packed and, "...I was ready to go." It was only two bags that I was using. They were, however, our two biggest bags. Ms. Susan was off to Manhattan for her annual trek to the Summer Fancy Foods Show. My wife looked on in amazement. "How many pairs of heels are you taking?" "Eighteen, I think." She just shook her head in amazement. "You're going to be gone for eight days and you're taking enough shoes for a year!" "Well ... don't forget I'll be in business clothes (i.e.: Skirt Suits) at the Food Show and then there's the evening outfits and some outfits for walking down to, "the Village." I can justify the amount of skirt-suits that you're taking but the other clothes seem to be way too much. If Alanna was going with you this year, you'd be down to no more than four or five pair of heels." I grinned; she had me.

"Picking out what heels you plan on wearing is somewhat like picking the music to take with you on a several hour car trip. You don't know what type of mood you're going to be in and you don't want to limit your choices," I offered as my logic. My, long-suffering, "better-half" would have only packed one pair of sneakers, her bedroom slip-pers and one pair of her type than an inch. I've got, "flats," "heels." "Remember First heels and couldn't wear either red purse. They have to be looking at me with amuse-to dress with the proper acces-that she was glad that she trip. Perhaps a slight twinge Broadway show or visit to the another visit to, "LIPS-NYC,"[®] which is also in, "the Village. The previous month, she and Ms. Susan celebrated our 38th Wedding Anniversary with Dinner and drinks at LIPS. We had originally gone to see our friend, Jennifer Leitham, who was appearing at the Kitano Hotel on Park Avenue on June 9th. We hadn't seen her in a year and a half when she and Doc Severinsen were performing with the Rhode Island Philharmonic in Providence.



In late May, I suggested that since June 10th was our Anniversary why don't we stay over and catch a Broadway Show? I then added, "Jennifer has only seen Susan; not the other self." She smiled and said, "Okeh." We saw the revival of, "Sweet Charity," on Friday, June 10th. Sometimes, The Village Vanguard will have a 12:30 A.M. session on a Friday but there wasn't any this time so we went to LIPS after the Show. Our, "waitress," when she announced, in some amazement, "Mary Ellen and Susan's 38th Wedding Anniversary! That's like 118 in lesbian years." I digress - back to the present. We went down the list and I double-checked my, "I forgot," mini-list from previous trips. These are the simple things, such as a safety pin on a string. (How else are you going to pull up the zipper on the back of a dress by yourself?), a small wheel of, "Scotch Tape," to help you get your own bracelets on, a small needle-nose pliers for quick jewelry repair. Et cetera. Friday morning we were ready to go. I allowed myself three and half-hours to get ready and to finish packing the second of the two bags. "How do I look? Slip showing? No, "runners? "You look pretty good. Do you have your tickets and your admission badges?" I assured her that I did.

For my trip down, I chose my summer, two-piece, blue and white, skirt and jacket with a very feminine blouse. I used a blue theme for my jewelry and my accessories. I really wanted to get a new wig, but there just wasn't enough free time to do so. We have this in matching sets. Hers is Mint Green with white. She drove me to Brockton's Campello commuter rail station. Ms. Susan was on her way to Manhattan. First to South Station in Boston and then to Penn Station in Manhattan. From center-city to center-city, the railroad is the best way to go. For the picture I.D., I use the ones that were offered at our Tiffany Club's First Event 2003 and 2004. To make sure, I had stopped off at the Route 128 station last year on my way home from one of our Club's Tuesday Night socials. I showed the clerk the photo I.D. and my tickets and asked if that would qualify. He assured me that it would. Those club cars on the train are great. It was a beautiful trip

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

By Cheryl Easton



If you've ever seen the movie "Back To The Future", I would like to take you for a ride in Doc Brown's DeLorean back to the early 1980's. I'm a transvestite and I'm looking for support in the Boston area and after a lot of research, I hear about The Tiffany Club. Since they're the only ones around, I go to a phone booth at the Wayland Public Library and make a call. Two club members show up and ask me all kinds of questions and then I get to follow them back to this house.

Okay, back in the DeLorean to 2005 and I'm a Transgendered person. I'm looking for information and I do a web search and come up with numerous matches depending on what I'm looking for. If I'm looking for Transgendered youth groups, therapists, homeless shelters, internet groups, community health groups for trans-people, college trans organizations, a trans clearing house of information, a GLBT Pride organization, F-M trans groups and of course The Tiffany Club.

Some of the groups that serve Transgendered in the Boston area include BAGLY, IFGE, GLAD, BOSTON PRIDE, FENWAY COMMUNITY HEALTH, MTPC and WALTHAM HOUSE. I'm sure that I've left some out. Each of these organizations does a great job in reaching out to Trans-people and GLB people as well. They have higher profiles these days than Tiffany does in part because they have at least one person who works as a full time employee. You call these other organizations during regular hours and your call will be answered. Most have an Executive Director who attends events and helps make their group more visible. At TCNE, we're around Tuesday nights and answer the phone for four hours a week— maybe if somebody feels like it. If you call us on Wednesday morning, chances are you will not get a return call until the

next Tuesday, if then, because the person may not be able to call you from their regular full time job. If I were at the end of my rope about being Transgendered and needed to talk to someone right away, do you think I would wait over a week for a call back? If I didn't find a short dock to walk off of, I'd be looking on the web for another organization to call and chances are they would answer the phone.

Point is that Tiffany can no longer serve the Trans community on a part time basis. There are people we need to reach that we're not getting to now. A full time person can do fundraising that we are unable to do right now to help pay for the cost of the job. Very few new volunteers have come forward to serve on the Board of Directors the last 5 years. The Investments Group on the Cape has all but folded because the same people got sick of doing the all the work. The time has come to do things differently. The Board of Directors (of which I'm Chair) does have a proposal to try an Executive Director experiment for 6 months without changing the bylaws to see if it will work. I urge my fellow Board Members and the Membership of the Club to support it. If not, maybe Doc Brown will take you back to 1980 one way.



Skirts & Heals continued from page 2

down. The fellow next to me, when he saw me checking out the Jazz scene in Manhattan, told me that in High School, he played the drums and the Jazz Camp he once got to attend was by Buddy Rich. "Needless to say," we talked about jazz music and its' musicians. I had told him, that in, "my former life," in the Food Business, I had worked with the New England Jazz Legend, Roy Haynes' nephew, John Evans and of my friendship with Jennifer Leitham. Leonard Feather, the noted, late, author of, "The Encyclopedia of Jazz," once cited Jennifer as, "the best left-handed, up-right bassist. A virtuoso." My seat-partner also did some cooking as a hobby. I thought to myself, "Wow, I'm dressed the way I want to express myself; I have conversation about jazz and food. What could be better? The only way it would have been better if, he was a female and we could have also

Skirts & Heals continued next column

talked about fashion or the lack of it, hem lengths; nail colors, color co-ordination, and shoe shopping trips! In retrospect, I can truthfully state that for nine days I was dressed as a girl, a mature girl. My voice tends to, "give me away." In all those nine days, no one was ever discourteous to, resentful to, or snickered to or at, or about my expression of my true gender.

It was very heart-warming. It made me feel, "warm and good," inside. While I try to, "pass," it isn't the, "end-all," for me. I just want to be me. A year and half ago, I did buy a male suit for the wake and the funeral for my daughter's sister-in-law. It has been the only, "male clothes," purchased by me in almost four years. It would go back even further, if I don't count that polo shirt I bought to wear for the rehearsal dinner cruise for my God-daughter's wedding.

I arrived at Penn Station after a lovely trip. Along with the conversations, I read a bit from, "Alice in Genderland" I had just finished, "Pretty Woman," I visited the Club Car twice or was it three times? I've been staying at the Hotel Pennsylvania, when I visit New York City. I continued to do so. It's right in the middle of everything. Hence you just pull your wheeled suitcase right across Seventh Avenue and you're there. No cab fare involved. One of the clerks at the reservation desk waved, "Hello," to me. She remembered me from last month, when Susan and her wife stayed there. I had on the same cool, summer outfit.

After changing clothes and refreshing my make-up, it was off to LIPS for some dinner. The entertainment was nice and I met several, "sisters," who not only knew about, "Tiffany," but two had been to our Clubs' First Event.

Last year the Summer Fancy Food Show occurred during, "Pride," week. However, this year the Village was not as crowded as last year when Alanna and I went to the Show together. I did walk back to the Hotel from LIPS. Bank Street is only a half block from Seventh Avenue and the Hotel is only 21 blocks up. In most of Manhattan, there are twenty blocks to the mile. This is one girl who finds walking in high heels very, "delicious." However, I did stop for a Cappuccino on the way back. It wasn't as good as Peet's but this girl has been, "spoiled," by decent coffee.

Since my room had a refrigerator in it, I brought my, "leftovers," back to my

Skirts & Heals continued on page 5

TRANS NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Four years isn't much time to spend behind bars for stabbing a man 20 times, but that's what one man got for a killing in Fresno, Calif., last year, after a blind date in a bar went terribly wrong.

Estanislao Martinez didn't deny that he repeatedly stabbed Joel Robles with a pair of scissors, but his lawyer told the judge he had a good excuse — he killed the victim in what he called a "gay panic."

Martinez and Robles had been out drinking and went back to Martinez' apartment for some privacy. But at the time, Martinez thought Robles was a woman. He soon found out Robles was a cross-dressing man.

"The decedent represented himself to be female. She/he said he was female to him," said Martinez' lawyer, Roberto Dulce. "There was some sexual activity that occurred. All under the impression that Mr. Martinez was engaging in sexual activity with a woman."

Martinez went into a rage after he realized Robles was a man, stabbed him repeatedly, then jumped out his window onto the street. People found him naked and covered in blood a short time later.

In court, Dulce, a public defender, argued that the attack was a case of "gay panic," not cold-blooded murder.

"It's a rage that ... doesn't justify the conduct, but excuses it to a certain degree and therefore it's not murder," Dulce said.

Dulce said the panic Martinez felt was a sort of temporary insanity brought on by the shock of realizing he had been duped by a transgender man. Dulce said his defense is similar to "heat of passion" arguments made in the past. (*Fox News*)

California became the first state in the nation to ban denials of insurance coverage based solely on a person's transgender status when Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed legislation today authored by Assembly Member Paul Koretz (D-West Hollywood). AB 1586 adds gender and gender identity to existing anti-discrimination provisions in California laws regulating insurance companies and health care service plans. The new law will take effect January 1, 2006 and prohibits insurers and health plans from discriminating on the basis of gender identity in contracts and policies or in the

provision of benefits or coverage.

"Transgender people are part of our human family and they deserve equal access to health coverage and treatments available to everyone else. AB 1586 goes a long way toward ending the indignities that transgender men and women face when trying to access healthcare. This is a matter of human compassion and basic fairness," said Assemblyman Koretz. (*American Chronicle*)

"Let's Slim Together for Christmas"

Bulgarian film icon Anya Pencheva takes the measures of singer Azis, who is the new face of a national slimming campaign.



will encourage plump people to take care of their bodies prior to the excessive holiday food feasts.

Their inspiration should be the eccentric music artist, who has undergone several liposuctions and still remained overweight. Azis also complained that the recovery period after slimming surgeries was extremely painful.

Actually the pop-folk performer has never appeared embarrassed of his well-rounded figure. His music videos and photo sessions often show him in ornate short dresses and stockings or mini shorts and tights tops.

The "Let's Slim Together" move has also been supported by film icon Anya Pencheva, musicians Iskren Petsov and Hilda Kazasian.

An Oklahoma City police officer who underwent a sex change operation is settling a sexual harassment lawsuit against the city. The City Council has agreed to pay Sergeant Paula Schonauer four-thousand dollars and reinstate 80 hours of sick leave.

Schonauer filed the lawsuit last December. She says she was harassed by rank-and-file officers and was removed from street duty after complaining to supervisors.

Schonauer says she just wanted her job back and wasn't trying to draw a big cash settlement. She says she was recently put back on street duty.

The American Airlines Specialty Sales department has announced that George Carrancho has been named National Sales & Marketing Manager-Gay and Lesbian Community. Carrancho, an 11-year AA veteran, joins with colleague Betty Young to form American Airlines' unique "Rainbow TeAAm," recognized as the

first GLBT national marketing team at a FORTUNE 100 company.

FROM OUR NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT

Hello Everybody,

Way back in the day (fifteen years ago to be exact) I attended the first Southern Comfort Conference in Atlanta. In those days we still had a Bush (George Sr.) as President, Beavis and Butthead was all the rage on TV, and Madonna was teaching all of us how to "Vogue". We had about 50 people attend Southern Comfort that year and I had one of the most wonderful experiences of my life. Later this month I will be returning to Southern Comfort to assist their staff in handling a crowd of over 600.

Over the years Southern Comfort has become one of the premier LGBT events in the country and one not to be missed. To find out more information please see their website at www.SCCATL.org.

I've also received my flyers for the Gold Rush event in Denver. The dates will be February 23-26, 2006 and will be held at the Red Lion Inn - Denver/Central. For further information contact the Gender Identity Center of Colorado at www.ColoGoldRush.org or call 303-202-6466.

In my previous column I mentioned having lunch with Masen Davis. Masen is a dynamic F to M and will be a great addition to our growing network of speakers. Masen, Jennifer Reid and I are making plans to attend the Creating Change Public Policy event in November. I attended the Stonewall Democrats Convention in San Diego on August 26-27. It was truly amazing to meet so many people that have dedicated their lives to our cause. I made some wonderful contacts for possible speakers at our events. Please give Stonewall Democrats your support!! You can contact them at—

www.StonewallDemocrats.org or call 202-625-1328 for more information.

This fall I am looking very forward to being a guest speaker for Transgender issues at local colleges and universities in my native Southern California. I always attempted to give the students a clear view of what is going on in our world. They always show great interest and ask a variety of intelligent and thought provoking questions. Later this month I will also be hitting two other major milestones. I will be participating in five-mile "Walk Los

Continued next page column 1

Angeles" for the twelfth year in a row and I'll be turning 49 years young. I want to extend a welcome to anyone from TNCE who wants to come to Los Angeles to visit. I have had several sisters and brothers visit and we've always had a grand time exploring the sights and sounds of LA

Next issue I'll review my trip to Southern Comfort. I look forward to seeing you all at First Event in January.

Love,
Michael/Christine Hochberg



Skirts & Heels continued from page 3

room. Saturday I went, "uptown," to Broadway to select a show to see. I poked around got my ticket for that night's performance and, "had," to stop off for a drink at Sardi's. Why? It's just like Mount Everest. "It's because it's there." Then, it was time to walk back to the hotel but a sudden downpour caused me to take the Subway. They don't use tokens anymore. I still have some 15¢ tokens at home from 1961. While it's always nice when a gentleman gives you a seat on a crowded subway car, it's more thought provoking when a nice, young, woman rises to give me her seat. I accepted and saw a nice, warm glow on her face. Maybe my next wig should be silver-gray instead of blonde.

It was back to the Hotel to change clothes, shoes, purse, and re-do some make-up. After seeing, "The Musical of Musicals," it was off the, "The East of Eighth," for dinner and say, "hello," to Marty, their head chef. Brianna Austin introduced me to this, gender-friendly restaurant two years ago. After a great, well-prepared, meal I made sure that, Gloria, a waitress there, had my card, she was going to check on some shoe stores that stocked wide width heels. More leftovers, I had to save room for dessert! After a nice walk back to the Hotel to put away my food, a short trip to the Hotel's lounge for an Irish coffee or two and then to face the first of four 5:00 A.M. wake-up calls. Sunday, the Food Show started. I only took one seminar this year and that was on Monday morning at 8:30 A.M. It takes a while for Susan to emerge in the A.M.

END OF PART ONE—
PART TWO IN THE DECEMBER
ROSEBUDS

¹ From: "I'm Leaving on A Jet Plane."
Mary Travers of Peter, Paul, and Mary.

GENDER JOURNEY

By Frances Cardullo Part 4

Frances ventures into the business world at a trade convention .

Note: This is the same show that Susan Pauline talks about in her article.

Sunday June 29, 2003

Dear Diary

Today was the first day of the NASFT food show – a show that Frank has been attending for over 40 years. It was time to introduce Frances to all the vendors in attendance. To say that I procrastinated would be an understatement.

The show started at 10 AM. At this time I hadn't even dressed or put on makeup. Jamie (Cardullo's Buyer) was due in about 11 AM but I had already told her that I would meet her at the show.

Since I was overwhelmed with decisions about what to wear when I was packing, I had brought along about 1/3rd of my wardrobe, most of which I had recently purchase – by almost "melting down" my credit card when I realize that I didn't have any appropriate business attire. For today I chose a tan skirt, and a linen blouse. For walking comfort I had on white sandals but I dressed them up by wearing nylons. To look even more professional I had purchased a leather satchel for my files and business cards. It came with a leather shoulder strap but I opted to leave it off and carry it the handles.

Now, most GG's would attend this show in a pair of slacks – I brought those along too – but couldn't get myself to wear them. I had to look my best for my "coming out" to the trade.

I was sitting in the coffee shop having breakfast at 11:30 when I spotted Jamie beginning to walk over to the trade show at the Javits center. She joined me and I confessed to her that I had been procrastinating out of fear. Jamie stated that I looked great and that we should start over to the show.

At the show, we had to go over to the pre-registration booth to pick up our badges since I had originally registered as "Frank" and decided that Frances wearing a Frank badge just wouldn't do. Pre registrants are required to show a picture ID but I was hoping that they wouldn't ask me. They did and I took out my driver's license that had a pretty good picture of me, taken about one year ago. I held it out for the clerk to see but I keep my fingers



over my gender letter, "M", and my first name "Francis". Fortunately she only looked at the picture and I breathed another sigh of relief.

Armed with our ID badges we walked in to the largest trade show in my industry. This is by all accounts, an intimidating show. It takes up the both floors of the Javits center. It's huge. Normally I would walk down to aisle 100 and start to work my way up to 3600 and go down stairs and do the same. As I walked in there was the Steiner Foods booth. This was the first year that they had a front location and I was glad to see them since Kenny, the Steiner rep, had seen me many times already as Frances. Mr. Steiner was there too but he was busy and didn't seem to notice me. Good I thought. I handed Kenny an "Introducing Frances Cardullo" card (the text of which was printed in part one) and told him to read it and pass it along to Mr. Steiner. This scene was to be repeated over forty times during the course of the show. Every time I would be asked if I was happy and the answer was a resounding, "yes". Several vendors enquired about how Karyl, my wife, was taking it and I had to honestly tell them, "not well". I didn't have the heart or energy to explain to them that she was a fundamentalist Christian and that she opposed my transition on religious grounds.

A couple of interesting things did happen. Several vendors thought that I was Frank's twin sister (they didn't get an "Introducing Frances Cardullo" card). One vendor thought that Frank had retired and that I was another member of the family who had taken over the business. I think the most memorable experience was with Lawrence Chiperno. His dad and my dad had done business for years. The Chiperno line of candies had disappeared from the scene for many years and I was glad to see them again at the show. When I introduced myself to Lawrence, he warmly greeted me, reminded me that his dad and my dad had done business for years and proceeded to kiss me on the lips. That was a first.

During the course of the show we had come across a booth that was being operated by Patsy's Italian restaurant. They were canning their pasta sauce and were there to introduce it to the trade. I had heard of Patsy's but had never eaten there. I handed my card to Frank; the matre'd and asked him if I could get reservations for two for that evening. He assured me he would take care of it personally.

Gender Journey continued next page

AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS

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Mark Your Calendar

MAKE YOUR PLANS FOR FIRST EVENT 2006

The First Event Committee has set the dates for the 26th edition of FIRST EVENT. The 2006 program will run from Thursday January 19 through Sunday January 22, 2006.



GLAD Expands Trans Resources

GLAD has gathered all of their material about trans legal issues on one page. GLAD (Gay Lesbian Advocate and Defenders) is located in Boston and represents all of New England.



*GLAD Executive
Director Lee
Swinslow*

They have worked very hard for all of us in the community. Please take a look at what this organization has accomplished by looking at the GLAD transgender page. Then read the remarks by Executive Director Lee Swinslow and see that this is a group that works hard for everybody.



TIFFANY CLUB YAHOO GROUP POOL

Pool was conducted by Members of the Yahoo Group

Question: What do you consider yourself?

Choices	Votes	%
Crossdresser	2	18
Pre-Op Transsexual	2	18
Non-Op Transsexual	4	36
Post-Op Transsexual	2	18
Admirer	1	9
Spouse or Friend	0	0
Not sure / In between	0	0



**Tiffany Club Thanks our
sponsors for their
continued support.
Please patronize them.**

FIRST EVENT PLANS MARCHING ALONG

Registrations are flying in for the annual Tiffany Club First Event January 18-22. The annual program returns to the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Woburn, Massachusetts. The 5 day program starts on Wednesday the 18th in the evening and runs through noontime on Sunday the 22nd. There will be daily programs and seminars on Thursday, Friday and Saturday with professionals in many capacities. Doctors, lawyers, therapists, beauty advisors, authors and more have already signed up to be part of our presenters for First Event 2006. Vendors will have booths on Thursday through Saturday during the day to help you with whatever you need for you to perfect your look. After the sun goes down, the fun really gets going. There's something to do every night. Here's the lineup:

- Wednesday Night:** **Pool Party** at the Crown Plaza
A **night at the theatre** in Boston with dinner
- Thursday Night:** All Star Comedy Night and buffet dinner at the Crowne Plaza With **Amy Tee** and other great comics
- Friday Night:** The World Famous **Fashion Show** and buffet dinner
- Saturday Night:** The Annual Banquet with guest speaker **Dean Spade**

For more information and to register on-line you can register and it's a secure link please go to: <http://www.tcne.org/fe2006/index.html>



Amy Tee

Amy has an illuminating presence that will attract the audience and industry alike. This rising young star will make you smile even before she makes you laugh. She delivers smart, insightful observations from a life spent in and out of the mainstream. Her playful persona underscores her subtle delivery. With this winning combination, the response from the audience is laughter.



Dean Spade is a trans attorney and activist, and founder of the Sylvia Rivera Law Project (SRLP). SRLP is a collective legal organization providing free legal services to low income people and people of color facing gender identity discrimination, and engaging in public education, policy reform, and community organizing support focused on issues relevant to trans, intersex and gender nonconforming people. Dean's writing has appeared in the Berkeley Women's Law Journal, the Howard Scroll, GLQ, the Harvard Lesbian and Gay Review, the Chicano-Latino Law Review and other publications. His essays have appeared in the recent books, "Without a Net" edited by Michelle Tea, and "That's Revolting: Queer Strategies for Resisting Assimilation" edited by Mattilda Sycamore. Dean is also co-editor of the online journal makezine.org.



EVENTS NOVEMBER 2005

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Open Meeting 7 - 11 PM	2	3 You Are Not Alone 7:30 PM	4 Friends and family - Christine Becker 7:30	5
6	7	8 Open Meeting 7 - 11 PM	9	10	12	13
14	15	16 Open Meeting 7 - 11 PM	16	18 You Are Not Alone 7:30 PM	19	20
21	22	23 Open Meeting 7 - 11 PM BOD Meeting	24	25 Thanksgiving 	26	27
28	29	30 Open Meeting 7 - 11 PM	<i>"If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded."</i> --Maya Angelou, poet, actress, civil rights activist			

Gender Journey continued from page 5

At one point during the show, I had to go to the bathroom and as luck would have it, there was a line at the ladies room (something I am beginning to realize is quite common). While waiting in line, the phone rang and it was my son Francis. The last thing I wanted to do was to carry on a conversation with him in the ladies room so I summoned up my best "fem" voice and told him I would call him back, which I did about fifteen minutes later. When I told him that I couldn't talk earlier because I was in the ladies room, he said, "you don't belong in there anyway". I hoped this wasn't an indication of things to come. It wasn't.

After the show, Jaime and I collapsed in the hotel room but knew that sleep would be dangerous because we had 7 PM dinner reservations. She also announced to me that she had made arrangements to meet a friend in the Village after dinner. That was not good. I was planning on her going to the airport, with me, to pick up my son Francis when his flight arrived at 11:37 PM. He had never really seen me as Frances and I wasn't sure what his reaction would be. I had thought that Jaime's presence would make it easier.

Okay, let's think about what I could wear that might be acceptable in the restaurant and for picking up Francis. I selected a very nice pair of white pants, a black blouse, my white cardigan sweater, black pumps and my pearl necklace. I didn't look too bad.

Jaime and I had a wonderful dinner at Patsy's and when we were just about finished the waiter came over and said that a gentleman wanted to buy us either a drink or a bottle of champagne. When I enquired who it was, he replied that it was Mr. Peter Steiner. Since we both had plans and were short of time, I told him to thank Mr. Steiner and we would take a rain check on his kind offer.

Just before leaving, I decided to play it safe and use the bathroom. As I walked in, there was a lady there who was apparently distressed about something. She looked at me, turned around and asked me if there was any blood on the back of her white pants. (She had obviously just got her period.) I informed her that there was but if she kept her top pulled down, no one would notice. She asked me if I ever had this problem and I told her not for years since I was postmenopausal. Then she asked me if I was attending the food show? I told her yes and that I was a buyer. She said that her company "Boca

Gender Journey continued next column

LETTERS TO ROSEBUDS

For your information, a couple of weeks ago, in the Odeon cinema, Festival Park, a person sat on something sharp in one of the seats. When she stood up to see what it was, a needle was found poking through the seat with an attached note saying, "You have been infected with HIV". The Centers for Disease Control in Birmingham, reports similar events have taken place in several other cities recently. All of the needles tested HAVE been found positive for HIV. The CADS also reports that needles have been found in the coin return areas of pay phones and coke machines. Everyone is asked to use extreme caution when confronted with these types of situations. All public chairs should be thoroughly but safely inspected prior to any use. A thorough visual inspection is considered the bare minimum. Further more, they ask that everyone notify their family members and friends of the potential dangers, as well.

Thank you.

Editor Note: This letter was sent to our Reporter Sue Bauer from a friend of hers in England and she has given us permission to reprint it.

A letter was recently written to the Worcester Telegram and Gazette by a man who complained about a question on his drivers license renewal form. On the form one of the questions asks if you have changed your sex since your last license renewal. His letter was full of the usual Archie Bunker stuff about back in the "good old days".....

Alyssa Jacqueline Ozma Wright, A Member of our Yahoo Tiffany Group sent a reply to his letter to the newspaper and it was published in the newspaper. It's with her permission that we reprint her letter

A letter, "Sex-change question asked on application" (Telegram & Gazette, Sept. 21) shows that there's still work to do to educate the public about transgender and intersex issues.

This is a matter of treating people right and allowing them the freedom to be themselves. Apparently it's OK in some people's minds to allow hoodlums to beat up transgenders in parking lots because of who they are. (This is something that happened to me last year).

Sadly, there's still a need for the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance (Nov. 20), in which solemn ceremonies worldwide honor those killed because of their real or perceived gender identity or expression.

More enlightened attitudes are long overdue in our society. Employers must know that such issues should be considered irrelevant as to whether a candidate will be a good employee (although past employers' ignorance may have affected a candidate's job history). In 1999, the San Francisco Department of Public Health reported a 70 percent unemployment rate for transgendered people.

Although Massachusetts case law and Boston and Cambridge city ordinances provide some protections for the transgendered, stronger protections are needed.

I implore our state and local elected officials (state representatives, senators and Worcester city councilors) to do the right thing and pass laws extending non-discrimination laws to cover gender identity and expression. Or do we want a society in which the transgendered and intersexed cannot find work or housing and are discriminated against in homeless shelters as well?

Alyssa Jacqueline Ozma Wright



Bons" had a booth there. We exchanged cards and I promised I would stop by tomorrow.

On the way out I made a point of stopping by Mr. Steiner's table – there must have been eight guests with him – to thank him for his generous offer and tell him that I would see him tomorrow at the show.

I escorted Jaime to a cab for her ride to Greenwich Village and I started to walk back to the hotel so I could get my car and pick up my son at Newark airport. I was glad that he was coming into Newark. It was easier to get to than LGA or JFK. I picked up the car and headed over to the airport, arriving a full thirty-five minutes early. I even found a spot in front of the terminal to pull into. A very illegal parking spot I might add. I turned up the Yankees and Met's game, turned on the interior light and pretended to be talking on the phone. I did not get bothered but it was close. While I was waiting, two cars behind me and one in front of me got towed and I was sure I was next to be asked to move but just then Francis called me and I informed him that I was at door eight.

A few minutes later he arrived at the car, put his luggage in the back and got in. Took a good look at me but didn't say anything. We had a wonderful conversation all the way back to the hotel, which turned out to be a much longer trip than the one to the airport. We were both exhausted and retired for the evening almost immediately. Frances had had a great first day in the city and at the show. *To be continued in part 5.*