

# Alpha Chapter of Tri-E ss

## Alpha-Bits

October, 2003

### Linda's Fem/Mail

Last month, for our September meeting, we had **Gina Lance** as our speaker. She had lots of stories and told us all about GirlTalk. It was delightful to have **Gina** and **Naomi** as our guests.

This month, on October 11, I'm in contact with a speaker but will not know for sure until this weekend. As soon as

we get the information, we'll put it on our website.

For Halloween, **Girl's Night Out** will be having a party at the **Mayfair Hotel. Club**



**GirlTalk** will be throwing an event at **The Lodge**.

Please see our website for links to these groups or ask at the meeting.

Our October 11 dinner will be Grilled Pork Loin **OR** Stuffed Sole. (The fish, not the shoe.)

Please get back to me by Wednesday October 8 as to your dinner choices and how many in your party.

Contact Linda at: damelindatg@hotmail.com OR call (310) 798-5637

See you on the 11th.

*Linda [ [ [ ] ] ]*

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### About Alpha

Alpha meets on the second Saturday of each month. We offer safe caring support for heterosexual crossdressers and their wives or partners.

If you have any questions regarding meetings, contact Linda Wade at (310) 798-5637 or E-Mail at damelindatg@hotmail.com

For couples issues Ginger Rogers is available at xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx or E-Mail at xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Visit our web site at  
<http://geocities.com/alphatriess>

This newsletter is available on our web site. Ask an officer how to access it.

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## Places To Go & Stores To Shop

Those of us who go out and about en femme have discovered that most stores and restaurants accept our business. After all, our money is the same color as anyone else's. Still, it is very nice—especially for the less experienced—to know in advance if a place welcomes crossdressing customers.

Our web site lists gender-friendly establishments mainly in Los Angeles and Orange counties. Unfortunately, the lists are a little out of date and most places have not been verified in a while. I would like your help in updating these lists.

We have two lists: **Places To Go** and **Stores to Shop**. The former is any sort of entertainment venue. It could be a bar, restaurant, night club, theater, playhouse, museum, theme park, or so on. The latter, stores to shop, is any retail establishment that offers products and/or services of interest to crossdressers. Examples are women's clothing or accessory shops, makeup/makeover salons, wig stylists and sellers, hair removal services, and fashion consultants.

I'm not trying to do a Zagat's List for crossdressers. To keep the lists (and my workload) down to size, I have a few restrictions.

To be on our list, the place must be specifically gender-friendly. That is, they must have a formal policy or firm management commitment to treat crossdressers the same as anyone else. No snickering waiters or cashiers, please. No calling the cops when our credit card has a male name on it. Any place that denies us access to the ladies' restroom or fitting room is not eligible!



I'm looking for places only in Southern California, especially Los Angeles and Orange counties. Any place close enough for a day trip, however, is welcome.

So, please tell me your favorite gender-friendly places to go out or to shop. I need the business' name, of course, and their address, city and phone. A very brief description of their offerings is desirable. If they have a website, they are moved to the top of the list in their category, so please tell me that if you can. If they are only gender-friendly on certain days or times, as are some gay bars, please tell me when.

Email this information to me at [katba@comcast.net](mailto:katba@comcast.net). If you have no email, please write this information down and either fax it to me at (562) 425-0442 or snail-mail it to our address on the front page.

Thanks for your help!

*Kathi*

## Truth

As children we learn how to avoid the truth, a skill we carry on well into our adulthood. The first truth avoidance is "I don't know." Even alone in a room with a broken lamp and a mother looking us in the eye we say, "I don't know." It isn't long before we learn the "I don't know" isn't going to work. So the next truth avoidance is "I didn't do it." We find out rather quickly that "I didn't do it" is about as effective as "I don't know." The next avoidance is "she did it." Variations such as "the dog ate my homework," "he did it," "the wind blew it over," and "the devil made me do it" can carry us for quite some time. At some point we learn that "the truth shall set you free" and confession becomes the easier softer way. About the time we learn this we learn that it just isn't true. A plea bargain is not the same as not getting caught. And the best avoidance is get away with it. Politicians, Wall Street CEO's, and other white-collar criminals have learned that; if you don't get caught you haven't done it.

Crossdressers commit very small crimes compared to real bad guys and gals in the world. Most of the victims of crossdressing crimes are crossdressers themselves or their significant others. And the crimes are just the avoidance of truth. Actually they are more compromises than crimes. And they all stem from avoiding the truth of our very being. If one of us steps out of our front door in our new dress and prettiest shoes and a neighbor sees us, what happens? First



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the neighbor now knows something about us, we might be embarrassed, and we might have to explain. If we try to explain we will probably resort to "I don't know," "I didn't do it," or a version of "she did it," such as I lost a bet or I was going to a party. Do you think it will work? Did it work with your mom and the broken lamp? Well there is always confession and what does that mean? First no crime has been committed, no wrong has been done, and no one got hurt. What is there to confess? Nothing but "I really love doing this," "I have done this for years," or "I really should have been a girl." The truth about you and me probably is we are good citizens and nice people with much to give and plenty of reasons to be loved. I like that much better than "I don't know."

In my own life I have come to an understanding about my gender, my spirituality, and myself. There is no one to blame, nothing to deny, and I do know. There are many people in the transgender community who are trying to carry truth into the world. They do it by outing themselves, by speaking to groups, or trying to change laws to make life better for us all. They also go out into the world and eat at real people restaurants, go to the theater, get their nails done, and make friends wherever they go. These gals are making life better for all of us by living their truth and telling their truth. If somebody ever asks you, "Why do you crossdress?" You can always say "I don't know," or you can tell the truth. When it comes to your gender expression the truth will set you free. I of course understand the need for security for some people. I also know that the need for secrecy for many of us is another way of saying, "it wasn't me."

*Janyne Cresap*

# T raveling the Gold Line

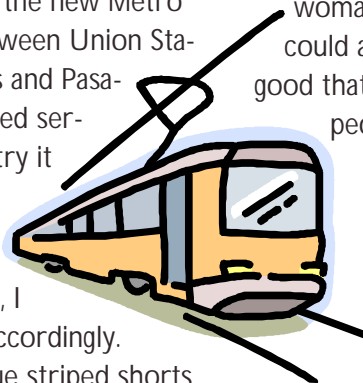
As you may know, the new Metro Link Gold Line between Union Station in Los Angeles and Pasadena recently started service. I decided to try it out.

It has been very hot in our area. So, I decided to dress accordingly. I wore a pair of blue striped shorts and a lacy top that would be cool in the sweltering heat.

There is an immense parking structure at the end of the line in Pasadena and after I parked my car, I went to the figure out the ticket machine. A friendly attendant showed me that I could get a round trip for a senior for 90 cents. I boarded the train and enjoyed watching the scenery go by.

When I got to Union Station I wanted to transfer to the Red Line to Hollywood and something rather fascinating happened. Several people asked me for information. One woman with three kids wanted to know which train went to Wilshire/Westlake. (They both do) Another woman asked me for the time to see if she could catch the next train.

On the return trip I received more questions from my fellow travelers. A man with two little girls wanted to know which stop on the Gold Line was closest to Old Pasadena.



After I finished my trip, I couldn't help but wonder why so many people had asked me for information.

I finally concluded that I presented the image of an elderly, friendly, woman that they felt that they could approach. It made me feel good that I was able to help those people.

*Charlene*

## Next Meeting

**Saturday, October 11**

**7:00 pm Social**

**7:30 pm Dinner**

AT: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
 xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
 xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
 Phone: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Menu: Grilled Pork Loin  
**OR**  
 Stuffed Sole

Program: To be Announced

RSVP: Please RSVP to Linda by Wednesday, October 8  
 Contact Linda at (310) 798-5637 or damelindatg@hotmail.com

Please tell us the number in your party and your dinner choice(s).

Cost: \$21.00 single  
 \$36.00 couple

# Womanless Beauty Pageant

## Deputies to 'dress' up for pageant

SUN CITY: 'Macho' cops will get a chance to show off their 'softer side' - in sequins and pumps.

By Stephanie Ingersoll  
Carolina Morning News

Some of Beaufort County's burliest deputies are having a heck of a time finding dresses that fit.

Not to mention high heels.

But they are men with a mission and not afraid to trade their body armor for body glitter if the cause is right.

At least 13 male deputies are scheduled to compete in the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office's first "Womanless Beauty Pageant Fundraiser" next month to raise money for an officer appreciation dinner.

Master Sgt. Tim Newman is atwitter with anticipation.

"I'm still looking for my outfit," the training officer said Wednesday, after a break in a ground fighting class at the state police academy in Columbia.

"I'm going to check out a couple from Frederick's of Hollywood and Victoria's Secret and pay the overcharge (for larger sizes). They don't exactly have sequins at the Big & Tall Shop."

The former Marine is thinking

maybe a dark dress or skirt combination is the way to go. His wife will help him pick out a wig to match.

"I'm looking for something that won't make my butt look big and will make my legs look good," he said. "I have great legs."

Not to mention a nontraditional smiley face tattooed on the right calf of his 5-foot-10, 210-pound frame. He isn't sure if he will shave or wear hose.

So why would a group of typically tough cops set aside their usual dignified demeanor in front of anyone willing to pay a few dollars to watch?

Lance Cpl. Midge Scott, who conceived the idea and is coordinating the pageant, said many wanted to help her raise money for an officer appreciation dinner in December. Others just can't turn down a chance to compete.

"These guys that have volunteered to be in it, they're really anxious to see what kind of costumes they can come up with," she said. "They're very competitive by nature, no matter what the situation. ... I've heard a few of them say they know they have this pageant wrapped up."

The pageant, to be held at Sun City's Pinckney Hall on Oct. 4, will consist of a modeling portion where contestants show off their outfits and they'll be asked a question by emcee - and sheriff's wife - Angie Tanner.

There's no talent segment - unless walking in high heels qualifies - and no swimsuit competition.

"I don't want to be shot," Scott said. "I have the sheriff protecting me so far."

After all have completed their walk and answered their question, judges including a country singer, a Citizen's Police Academy supporter and an officer from the S.C. Department of Natural Resources will crown one deputy with a tiara.

The audience will also get to pick a favorite by casting votes for a dollar apiece for the people's choice award. That winner will also get a tiara. Pageant runner-ups will get small trophies.

The competition will be stiff. There will be detectives, patrol officers, a K-9 handler, and a "fair" number of SWAT team members.

"They're your all-around masculine, macho guys," Scott said. "So many people think of officers as having a macho mentality, this will actually show the community they do have a softer side."

Reporter Stephanie Broadbent can be reached at 837-5255, ext. 110, or [stephanie@lowcountrynow.com](mailto:stephanie@lowcountrynow.com)

