

Alpha-Bits

November, 2002

Changes and Opportunities

Hi, ladies! I'm Kathi! Your new newsletter editor.

We are fairly new here, so a little introduction is in order. We have attended just five Alpha meetings so far, having joined last July. I've been dressing for about a year. (Before that, I was salad.) I don't count the decades of closet-hood before I told my wife, Ruth. Dressing in secret is such a bummer! In addition to Tri-Ess, I'm taking some tentative public outings en femme, sometimes with Ruth, sometimes alone.

Actually, I am not new to newsletters. Over the years, I have done several. Once, where the (non-CD) organization had newsletter awards, our newsletter won first place three years in a row. I like newsletters and I shall do my very best on *Alpha-Bits*.

So what's on the *Alpha-Bits* agenda? Each issue will continue to contain meeting and contact info. The president and other officers will have space for columns. I'll have a space to rant or beg, but I'll gladly give it up if I

get articles from YOU. (Hint: That's how to get me to shut up.)

Alpha-Bits is OUR newsletter, not my newsletter. OUR means **YOU** and me! This is **YOUR** opportunity to express yourself. Cross-dressers, I've noticed, are a pretty opinionated bunch. Give us your opinions and your facts and your advice and your poetry and your jokes and your feelings and your insights regarding this which we are all about.

(Continued on page 3)

About Alpha

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

If you have any questions regarding meetings you may contact Linda Wade at

xxxxxxxxxxx or E-Mail at damelindatg@hotmail.com

You may also contact Janyne Cresap at xxxxxxxxxx or E-Mail at jjancresap@verizon.net

For couples issues Ginger Rogers is available at

xxxxxxxxxxx or E-Mail at gingerrogers02@cs.com

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

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

Alpha Tri-Ess Contacts

President

Linda Wade
damelindatg@hotmail.com

Vice President

Janyne Cresap
j.jancresap@verizon.net

Secretary

Loretta
loretta1947@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Charlene

Member-at-Large

Kathy St. John
queenkathy@hotmail.com

Editor/Webmistress

Kathi Barnes
katba@attbi.com
fax: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Mailing Address

Alpha Tri-Ess
c/o xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Alpha-Bits is the official publication of the Alpha Chapter of Tri-Ess. Any article that appears in Alpha-Bits may be reprinted in any transgender related publication at no charge provided proper credit is given to the author and the source.

Next Meeting

Saturday, November 9
7:00 pm social,
7:30 pm dinner

AT: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
 xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
 xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
 Phone: xxxxxxxxxxxx

Menu: Roasted Pork Loin
OR
 Lasagna with Italian Sausage

Speaker: To Be Announced. Please visit our website for the latest details.

RSVP: By Wed, November 6
TO
 Linda Wade,
 damelindatg@hotmail.com,
 xxxxxxxxxxxx
OR
 Janyne Cresap
 jjancresap@verizon.net

Please tell us your meal choice and the number in your party.

Cost: \$21.00 single
 \$36.00 couple



Bug T otaled -- Linda Ok

On the way to Cathedral City about two weeks ago, I managed to roll my car over a couple of times. I came out unscathed except for two incidental scratches and no one else was involved.

I managed to skid on some loose gravel on the 111 freeway (or the Sonny Bono freeway) about 4 miles outside of downtown Palm Springs. I tried to compensate but probably over compensated and rolled across the freeway into the desert.

The new Beetles are built with safety in mind and roll quite nicely. Although I would have preferred not to test it, along with the air bags and seat belts. Oh, and that Phil person was driving.

Many other travelers were there to assist me and they did. This again shows that we are really a caring people, especially when called upon.

A woman doctor was one of those people and she looked me over. She was a gynecologist, which I thought was somewhat ironic.

My attention now turned to my car and the things in it. Most of those things being Linda's clothes, that I have

been taking to Cathedral City on the weekends. As I looked about the wreckage, I spotted some items that had made it from my car to the desert terrain. I saw (along with some onlookers I'm sure) a pink wig box, a couple of skirts here, a nightgown there, makeup, etc. I gathered them up and put them back in suitcases with the rest of my feminine things. Some years ago this would have been very embarrassing. I have learned that we can be our own worst enemy. Now I just don't say anything or react in a way to bring attention to it, unless I want to.



I called Kathy at the house. She came and picked me up. Lucky for me she was there to help me.

The Green Beetle is no more, but thanks to my insurance I am in a new car. Now I have a Blue Beetle and am very happy with it, although this is not the recommended way to obtain new wheels.

Call it safety features of the car, fate, luck, or whatever, but for me God was there that day as he is every day.

Linda [[[]]]

Moving? Changing Your E mail?

Or, perhaps, would you prefer we send *Alpha-Bits* to a different address?

Please let us know your new address as soon as possible so *Alpha-Bits* can follow you. If you can, email your new information direct to *Alpha-Bits* Editor Kathi at katba@attbi.com. If you don't have email, please fax to xxxxxxxx, no cover sheet needed. If you can't email or fax, please write to us at the address on page 1. Please tell us the name under which you get the newsletter.

Linda's Fem/Mail

Janyne gave a wonderful presentation at our last meeting on "Compulsions of a Crossdresser".

I thought it was well organized and well delivered. I really appreciate the research that she put into it and for her over all effort.

Her comments about being on a "fast track" were indeed apropos for all of us to ponder. We are all in different places and some not on that "fast track" anymore, but it is something that we need to take stock of.

Our speaker for our November 9th

meeting will be announced shortly. Please check our website for the most current information

Our dinner choices are: Roasted Pork Loin OR Lasagna with Italian Sausage

Please get back to us by Wednesday November 6th as to your choice of meal and how many in your party.

Linda: damelindatg@hotmail.com or xxxxxxxxxxxx OR
Janyne: j.jancredap@verizon.net

See you on the 9th.

Linda [[[[]]]]

A Plea...

We send out *Alpha-Bits* by email and by snail mail, sometimes called the post office. The email version costs a whole lot less—nothing. The snail mail version is a major part of our budget.

So, please help YOUR Alpha Chapter save money!

If you're getting the paper version of *Alpha-Bits* but could receive it (in color, even!) by email in an Adobe PDF file, **please** let us send it electronically. To do so, just email Kathi at katba@attbi.com. Please tell her the name under which you receive the printed version. Thank You!

Changes and Opportunities (continued)

Some say that to get articles, an editor must suggest topics. OK, let's try a few. If any of these ring a bell with you, write an article around it. If the bell stays un-rung, perhaps they'll suggest something else for you to write. How about...

- **Crossdresser Legislation** What (if anything) do CDs need in new laws and administrative rules? How do we go about getting this legislation?
- **Outreach vs. Activism** How do we gain acceptance in the general population? How can we do personal outreach? How can we become activists? Or should we do anything at all?
- **A Wife's (or SO's) View of Alpha** Criticize us or praise us. How can Alpha Chapter make its events more useful or meaningful to our GW attendees? How can we encourage more to participate?
- **My Outing** Have you had a time out en femme that was particu-

larly significant to you? It may be of interest to us all. Describe it.

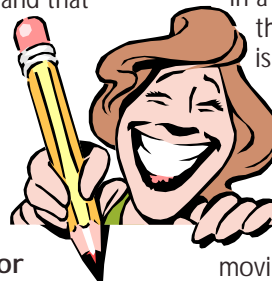
- **Pick Your Own Topic** Have I missed saying what you want to say? Without doubt, I have! Say what you wish, right here. All I ask is that it is G-rated (certainly no worse than PG-13) and that it doesn't unfairly criticize any individual or organization.

More ideas? How about...

- **A Fashion and/or Beauty Column for CDs** Does anyone out there have the knowledge and the nerve to write a monthly column on letting us look better?
- **Questions and Answers** Anyone game to answer members' random questions about cross-dressing?
- **Replace the Editor Column?** Do you want space for your own thoughts and feelings on a monthly

basis? Here's the place to get it.

Since you're going to write an article, you'll want to know how to get it to me. The best way is email to katba@attbi.com. Second choice is a floppy disk (PC format) or typed copy sent to Janyne's address, which I'll list in a moment. Third choice is faxing them to xxxxxxxx. Fourth choice is your choice; tell me how you want to get your article here and we'll work it out.



For mailings and for a return address, we have been using Linda's address, but she'll be moving soon. We have no P.O. Box. Janyne has volunteered her address, so to mail anything to Alpha Chapter, please send to:

Alpha Tri-Ess
c/o xxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thank you for letting me be your Alpha-Bits editor.

Kathi

Alpha Web Presence

Isn't the Internet great? Even a little organization like ours can have a web presence just like a Fortune 500 company. And we do!

In fact we have three, count 'em, three sites. We have our regular website and two Yahoo discussion groups. I discovered the website before I joined, but just recently found out about the discussion groups.

Kathy St. John set up the site and the groups and did an wonderful job of it. As noted last month, Kathy and Linda will be moving soon. So, Kathy has handed over the reins of all three sites to me, along with the newsletter job.

Below, I list the sites and encourage you to visit them.

Alpha Chapter Website

<http://www.geocities.com/alphatriess>

Our website presents the face of Alpha Chapter to the public. It explains Tri-Ess' view of crossdressing, with a few twists of our own. I've given it a bit of a makeover. Please visit the site and let me know what you think.

The site will have our meeting info for each month, updated the weekend before the meeting. Full past issues of Alpha-Bits are there, too. Ask an officer how to access these issues.

The Yahoo groups are still under construction. I'll be talking about them later. For now, I just list their locations and a couple of words.

Alpha Open Yahoo Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/alphatriess>

Membership is open but moderated. It's our way to communicate with and reach out to non-member CDs.

Alpha Members-Only Yahoo Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/alphamembersonly>

Membership is by invitation only, to Alpha Chapter members. It's our way to communicate among ourselves.

Let me know what you think, ladies.

Kathi

You might be a redneck crossdresser if...

- You wear a dress that's strapless and a bra that ain't.
- You wear combat boots with a mindress.
- You have a Ford F150 pick-up truck, with a gun rack, a Dale Earnhardt license plate frame, and a Confederate flag on the tailgate, next to the bumper sticker that says "I sell Avon Skin-So-Soft"
- Your purse is a toolbox.
- You try to wax your legs with Turtle Wax.
- You wear a black John Deere baseball cap with pearls.
- You chew tobacco. (Chewing is OK, but don't spit, nice girls swallow)
- You use glitter to highlight your moustache.
- You wear tube tops with your mini,
- because it shows off your Harley-Davidson tattoo.
- Your favorite ring came off a cigar.
- You keep spare ammo in your bra.
- You get a run in your stockings while changing a tire on your motor home.
- You pluck your eyebrows with needle-nosed pliers.
- You store your lipsticks in a socket-wrench box.
- You use duct tape to keep your "tuck" in place.
- You call your vanity "your work bench."
- You use a pocketknife to sharpen your lip and eye liners.
- "Doing your nails" means sorting the ten-pennies from the sixteen-pennies.
- Your favorite leather skirt was made from the moose you shot last fall.
- Your new sandals are made from truck tire re-treads you found on the road.
- You keep a spare lipstick in your toolbox.
- You wear a pair of C-clamps as screw-on earrings.
- Your best silver necklace is made from beer can pull-tabs.
- You braid the hair that sticks through your fishnet stockings.
- Your nail enamel is made by Rust-o-leum.
- You use paint thinner to remove your makeup.
- Your moisturizer says "non-detergent SAE 10W30" on the container.
- You remove your leg hair with duct tape.

