



Desert Reflections PV

Theta Upsilon Gamma Chapter of Tri-Ess

P. O. Box 31312, Las Vegas, NV 89173

<http://www.triesslasvegas.com> Email: lasvegastug@yahoo.com

24 Hour Voice Mail: (702) 387-3891



www.tri-ess.org

Volume: 07

Issue: 05

October 2011

T.U.G. Officers

President: Susan R
Vice President: Lorraine
Secretary: Rosaliy
Treasurer: Jacky
Outreach: Nora
Newsletter: Rosaliy

General Members

Kimberly, Nora,
Elizabeth

Contributions by any member and/or SO are welcome. Please submit to rlynn9@earthlink.net.



From the President's Desk

October is here and before we know it the hot weather will be left far behind and cooler weather will be arriving. Halloween approaches and I hope that many will have the opportunity to enjoy the related festivities.

Our general meeting schedule has been resumed and I personally look forward to our upcoming meetings. I believe that some reforms are in order for TUG and I believe we have the sisters available who can make these reforms and make TUG into something special. An important thing we all need to keep in mind is "This is your chapter, it will be what you are willing to make of it." lets all make the commitment to making TUG into the best place to be on meeting nights.

I would also like to welcome everybody back who were on vacation and issue a plea for our newsletter that you will write and submit articles about your summer. Happy Halloween all!

Susan

In this issue

Page Subject

2: Calendar

3: Funny Page

4: Profiles En

Femme

5: Summer Vacation

6: Dining Out

7: Team Tri-Ess

10: A Very Real

Danger

12: In The News

Click on *Desert Reflections* at the bottom of any page to return to this index.

Treasurer's Report:

Our current bank account that is set up under Theta Upsilon Gamma. Those handling it will be determined by who ever are the current officers. In other words the account is actually owned by Theta Upsilon Gamma. The balance is as of 9/18/11 is \$3581.79 with the major regularly occurring expense of \$120 for the meeting room.

Editor's Note: IF at least 12 members make the meetings, the dues will pay the room rent. Need I say more?

Copyright © 2011 T.U.G. All rights reserved. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are those of the author, not T.U.G. or Tri-Ess. You may reprint these articles provided you give proper credit and source.

Fair Use' Statement: Material appearing in this newsletter that originated from outside sources is distributed without profit or monetary gain for research and educational purposes. This is in accordance with Title 17 U. S. C. section 107.



T.U.G. Events Calendar for Oct. 2011



Monday Nights: Girls Mainstream Night Out – venue varies	– 7:30 pm
Second Saturday: Regular monthly T.U.G. Chapter Meeting	– Oct. 08 - 7:30 pm
Wednesday After T.U.G. Chapter Meeting:	
Friends and Family Dinner – en drab	– Oct. 12 – 7:30 pm
Third Sunday: Newsletter article submission deadline	– Oct. 16
Last Sunday: Newsletter goes live on web site.	– Oct. 23



Other Up Coming Events



[Just You - Glamour Boutique 2 - Upcoming Events](#) - Las Vegas, NV

- Third Saturday of each month is Girl's Night Out
-

[Femme Getaway Reunion – October 29 to November 3, 2011](#)

Will be held in conjunction with Dignity Cruises for the Dignity Femme Getaway Halloween Cruise

[Access Clark County Las Vegas](#) Community Affairs, Government and more.





Desert Reflections

Fun ny Page



An 80-year-old Nebraska farmer goes to the Mayo clinic in Rochester for a check-up.

The doctor is amazed at what good shape the guy is in and asks, 'How do You stay in such great physical condition?'

'I'm from Nebraska and in my spare time I like to hunt and fish says the old guy, 'and that's why I'm in such good shape. I'm up well before daylight milking cows and farming and when I'm not doing that, I'm out hunting or fishing. In the evening, I have a beer and all is well.'

'Well' says the doctor, 'I'm sure that helps, but there's got to be More to it. How old was your Father when he died?'

'Who said my Father's dead?'

The doctor is amazed. 'You mean you're 80 years old and your Father's Still alive? How old is he?'

'He's 100 years old,' says the old farmer. 'In fact he works with and hunted with me this morning, and then we went to the topless bar for a while and had a Little beer and that's why he's still alive. He's a Nebraska farmer and he's a Hunter and fisherman too.'

'Well,' the doctor says, 'that's great, but I'm sure there's more to it than that. How about your Father's Father? How old was he when he died?'

'Who said my Grandpa's dead?'

Stunned, the doctor asks, 'you mean you're 80 years old and your Grandfather's' still alive?'

'He's 118 years old,' says the man

The doctor is getting frustrated at this point, 'So, I guess he went hunting with you this morning too?'

'No, Grandpa couldn't go this morning because he's getting married today.'

At this point the doctor is close to losing it. 'Getting married!! Why would a 118 year-old guy want to get married?'

'Who said he wanted to?'



Copyright © 2004 Creators Syndicate, Inc.

Catholic...last rites.....

A bus on a busy street struck a Catholic man. He was lying near death on the sidewalk as a crowd gathered.

"A priest. Somebody get me a priest!" the man gasped.

Long seconds dragged on but no one stepped out of the crowd.

A policeman checked the crowd and finally yelled, "A PRIEST, PLEASE! Isn't there a priest in this crowd to give this man his last rites?"

Finally, out of the crowd stepped a little old Jewish man in his 80s.

"Mr. Policeman," said the man, "I'm not a priest. I'm not even a Christian. But for 50 years now, I'm living behind the Catholic Church on Second Avenue, and every night I'm overhearing their services. I can recall a lot of it, and maybe I can be of some comfort to this poor man."

The policeman agreed, and cleared the crowd so the man could get through to where the injured man lay.

The old Jewish man knelt down, leaned over the man and said in a solemn voice:

B-5 I-19 ... N-38 ... G-54 O-72

it's hard to remember you are there to drain the swamp, when you are up to your ass in alligators

Funny, I don't remember being absent minded...

Profiles En Femme!!

This months T.U.G. Girl - Elizabeth.



I don't want to be left out of all this soul searching and since our editor has always asked to publish my bio I'll just add a few words here. I too, have been a cross dresser since a very early age (dob) 1925 and to my own surprise am still enjoying it even though I am not as active as I used to be; and even after all

these years I still don't have the answers to all the questions as to why we're hooked on it. Maybe gender, sex, fantasy, non-conformity ---- every one can select their own reason or perhaps a combination of them .I served in the army in WWII; was wounded while overseas in France but during furloughs still was into the dressing --- Nothing can stop a true TV.

Anyhow, since coming out to the west coast in the 50's, I got involved with some TV groups in Los Angeles headed by Virginia Prince, Carol Beecroft and, later on, other groups that met in Orange County and San Diego.

Besides the local activities, the extra perks included the opportunity to travel to the many events sponsored by tri ess and other split-off groups. I've been able to visit Atlanta, Biloxie, New Orleans, Texas, Canada; go on cruises to the Caribbean and Alaska as well as many other places I'd never have seen otherwise.

Before TUG there was a small TV group that met over on Naples Ave in Las Vegas but they broke up. Las Vegas was always a difficult place in which to establish a group. It used to be much more transient and red neck and not too safe for dressers but that was true of most of the rest of the country. But now things have mostly changed for the better. Dressers have almost celebrity status now.

So enough of all this reminiscing. I never was active in the organizational aspects of the TV groups so I can't add much to all the comments from you ladies. And age limits me from being very active in that regard but I do try and get out on the Mondays as often as I can.

So maybe now that we've had all this outpouring of correspondence from the group, we may not even need a newsletter.

Happy dressing! Elizabeth

Editor's Note: Now more than ever, we need the newsletter, not just for ourselves but for others who will come after us.

Additional Note: the photo used above is clip art. We don't have a photo of Elizabeth.

Summer Vacation By Lorraine

Well summer is over and I hope everyone had a good one.

I was supposed to take a fishing backpack trip into the Wind River in Wyoming with my Dentist in July. Doc is a Mormon which is of no concern to me, but the frowning on the consumption of alcoholic beverages had some impact on my trip. Anyway, it was just going to be the two us, then that turned into Four plus me. That was ok because it is always better to have two or more Mormons, because just one will drink all of your beer. But his last email stated that there would be eight plus me going, all of the same Mormon family. This gave me pause, and I invented a scheduling conflict to excuse myself.

So my wife and I decided to drive to Montana, where I am from, and have our daughter and friends to visit. We are partners on a lake lot where we camped for a couple of days.

It had been a wet and cold summer in MT, so the water was cold, but the weather turned nice after the first day. We golfed at a golf course situated along the Clark Fork River and waited for the deer to get out of the way so we could proceed.

Due to scheduling conflict, my wife had to fly home early and I drove home later in the week. My daughter's boyfriend and I rode our motorcycles from Lolo MT to Boise ID and back in two days. We rode over twisty curvy 35MPH highways for about half the distance, it was just gorgeous scenery. We slept alongside a river in just sleeping bags one night. Unfortunately, hearing the water going by all night, made me want to pee often. Still, the weather was beautiful; blue sky; 9000 foot passes and clear blue water. We went 700 miles in two days and my butt really hurt, but it was worth it. I am planning a solo ride to Ely the end of September, will provide details and hopefully pictures next time.

The drive home was great; I left Lolo at about 5:00 PM. I forgot how many bugs come out at dusk in Montana and Idaho. I slept in the pickup for about 5 hours and arrived home the next day.

It is really a great trip up 15 through Nevada, Arizona, Idaho and Montana; I hope yall can make it someday.

DINING OUT EN FEMME



Rounders **by** **Rosaliy**

It is August 22 and once again it is Girls Night Out. Tonight we will be trying a new (for us) restaurant, a place called Rounders located at 8030 Blue Diamond Rd.?

Rounders comes recommended by one of our newest members.

Hi Ladies,

I have been asked to send out the announcement

for our next eating out night (8/22). Are you up to something new?? Let's meet at Rounders located at 8030 Blue Diamond Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89113. My wife and I have dined there twice and I was greeted warmly and treated cordially both times. If you want to take a look at their menu, you can find it on their website:

<http://www.rounderslv.com/>. See you on the 22nd at 7:30PM.

Holly

A good time was had by all. Well worth a repeat visit. (somehow Karen managed to avoid getting into the pictures.)

Team Tri-Ess By Susan



What is a team? A team is a group of individuals who work together in order to achieve a common goal. In order for a team to be successful, all of its members must perform their part.

I would like to give an example from my own life. First, people seem to relate better to personal experiences of others, and second, this example will allow you to learn more about me. Back in my 20s I raced sailboats. I sailed with a friend of mine, Ray, and the boat that we sailed was a Catalina 22. Boats of this size are often sailed by two people, one who is the helmsman and the other tends the sails. In addition to these jobs, when racing there is need of a tactician, which is normally performed by one of the two members of the team. Ray was the helmsman and skipper and our initial tactician. I handled the sails. Over time as my skills improved I took over the tactician duties.

When I first started sailing with Ray, we were mid-fleet finishers, certainly no contender for the top places, but over time we became more of a team and within a year of us starting to sail together we were winning our local club races and were placing in the trophies at the major regattas we sailed in. Within the first 2 years we were consistently winning every major regatta we sailed in. One year we sailed in the Catalina nationals, 78 of the best boats in the country were there, we placed 11th, a remarkable achievement.

What was it that allowed us to become so successful? After thinking on it awhile I came to the conclusion that we had something that the other boats did not. A faster boat? probably not. It was what we possessed as a team that made us successful.

The first thing that we had was commitment. We were both committed to our sailing. We knew at the beginning of every season when all the races were, both our club races as well as the major regattas we were going to sail in. In the nearly 10 years that we sailed together, only once did one of us miss a race. Ray had missed one race because his wife had passed away. Both Ray and I placed sailing as our priority, nothing was ever scheduled over the top of a race. Ray was retired and did a lot of traveling, but he was never gone for a race. Ray even went so far to tell his wife, "You know the race dates, anything that you plan on a race day, I will not be there." I myself missed a friend's wedding and another friend's party because the dates conflicted with race dates. Both of them understood when I told them I could not be there, they knew my commitment to my sailing and respected it. More often than not, if somebody wanted me to attend something they would check with me on available dates before making their plans.

The second thing that we had that very few others did was consistency. From the time that Ray and I first started sailing together, we always sailed together. A very common problem that happened on other boats is that the crew would change, somebody did not want to sail anymore, or wanted to sail his own boat, or on another boat. Without a consistent crew, the team was always having to relearn working together.

For the crew on a new boat, it was learning the controls or characteristics of the boat. For the skipper it was a matter of training the crew to their sailing style. Since Ray and I always sailed together, once we had our various tasks defined and practiced we were able to perform efficiently and effectively.

The last thing that we had was good teamwork. We both knew exactly what our job on the boat was. Ray's job was almost entirely in the cockpit. His hand was on the helm and it was his job to make sure the boat was going where it needed to. His eyes were also on the instruments, he would indicate when we were up or down as well as velocity and wind information. My job was to control the sails. It was up to me to make sure that the sails were the optimum shape to extract the required amount of power from the wind. My eyes were outside the cockpit, looking at the sails, looking at the water to know where the wind was, looking at other boats and their positions. Since I was the tactician, it was my job to know where we needed to go and how best to get there and relay course information to Ray. Both of us knew our jobs so well there was no need to give any form of instruction to the other, no argument over decisions that needed to be made. The result of all of this is that we operated well as a team where other boats struggled, net result, wins for us.

By now I am sure you are starting to wonder what this has to do with Tri-Ess, I am just about there. I would like to mention how the yacht club that I was a member of worked. On the application itself it mentioned that it was a "working" club. There were expectations of everybody who joined. Everybody was expected to write at least one article for the newsletter each year, either about a race they were in, sailing tips, or anything else for that matter. Everybody was expected to be on the race committee at least once per season, usually this was done by boat,

the skipper and crew would run the race. They would lose out on points for that race, but since everybody was expected to serve as race committee, everybody would lose the same number of points. Our yacht club held a major regatta once a year where boats from all over the west came to sail. Every member was expected to contribute to the regatta, either as race committee, protest committee, food committee, helping people getting their boats launched and retrieved, helping set up the race course, and many other jobs. It took every member of the club to pitch in and do their part to make these events the success they were. Just as the great success Ray and I had as our two-man racing team, our yacht club was highly successful because every member pulled their own weight to make it the success that it was.

One last example of the importance of teamwork. Ever watch football? What does it take for a football team to be successful? The 11 men out there on the field need to know their jobs and perform them well for the team to succeed. If even one player does not do their part, the whole team fails.

Now where this all relates to Tri-Ess. I have seen and heard of the problems throughout the organization, where the members are not involved and leaving the work to be done to others. Imagine the football team if only the quarterback did his job and every other member of the team sat on the sidelines and watched, how successful would that team be? In my yacht club, could it have been the success that it was if even a small number of members did not do their part? I can guarantee that it would not have been what it was if the members did not give their support. What about Ray and I? If either one of us did not perform our job on the boat then we would not have been winning races. In all of these cases it took every member of the team to do their part to make the teams successful.

In Tri-Ess we are a team and every member has a part to play on this team and just like the teams I mentioned above, it cannot succeed unless all members of the team are doing their jobs. Remember what I said about the ingredients that made Ray and I so successful at racing? These same things apply to Tri-Ess members:

1. Commitment - We must be committed to this organization. Like Ray and I committed to being at every single race, we must be committed to being at every single general meeting of our chapter. We must be committed to giving our support to our chapter and its services, we must be committed to our fellow members.

2. Consistency - We must maintain our commitment continually. Do not just write one letter for the chapter newsletter, keep writing them. Do not just show up to a couple meetings and then decide you can skip one to do some other activity, make the meetings a priority and attend every single one. Your friends and family will understand if they know you have a prior commitment on a given night. Be consistent in any support that you give to your chapter.

3. Teamwork - Like any team, your chapter has many jobs to be done and the need of the members of the team, all the members, to do their part to get these jobs done. When even one person sits on the sidelines and watches the whole team is weakened. In small chapter this can be devastating to the chapter. It is important that everybody contribute actively to their chapter and nobody sits on the sidelines just watching.

None of this is really all that hard. In reality, if everybody contributed to the chapter then the workload on any given member is really light, literally minutes a month. The hardest part is actually committing yourself. Make the decision and follow through. By committing yourself to this organization and doing your part, you grow, your chapter grows, the whole organization grows and we all achieve success together. I have given my commitment. I attend all chapter meetings without exception, I write consistently for our newsletter, I currently serve as president of my chapter. How about you? Are you willing to commit to make this organization successful?

A Very Real Danger By Susan

Recently I received news that a sister in my chapter has taken her own life. Although I do not know if her dressing was a contributor or not, her passing really hits home about the danger we in the gender community face. Most statistics show that better than 50% of TG people attempt suicide, often more than once. I will be perfectly honest here, I myself have attempted it three times. Roughly 30% of TG people succeed in taking their lives. The Transgender community has one of the highest, if not the highest, rate of suicide of any group.

Being transgendered is not the direct cause of these suicides, but rather depression that is often triggered by being TG. According to suicide.org, untreated depression is the number one cause of suicide. We as transgender individuals often face a very hard life that easily contributes to depression and ultimately suicide if the issues most of us face remain unresolved. Being TG is often a lonely affair, society shuns us, and loved ones often do not accept us. Many of us have at times in our lives have tried to deny who we are in order to fit into society, only to learn that we cannot deny ourselves without causing ourselves considerable harm, often leading to depression.

Often we have to fight our battle with depression alone, especially if your spouse or family are unaware of your crossdressing. Depression is very very difficult to deal with on your own, help is needed. If you cannot confide in your spouse or family because they do not know, then it is important that you find somebody who can give you

support. In our case, many of our Tri-Ess sisters have had to deal with the same problems that we do, they know how you feel and can give you some caring help to help you through your troubles. They have been through the fire and came out of it, they can help you do the same.

Therapy is also very highly recommended to anybody who is dealing with depression. A specialist in gender issues is preferred, but if none of these are available in your area then another therapist will do. It is best to interview any therapist and find out what their opinions on gender issues are and only select a therapist that you feel comfortable talking about your issues with.

We as Tri-Ess members should be on the lookout for anybody (including ourselves) that show any of the following signs:

- 1. Mood that is altered from the norm.**
- 2. Withdrawal from the group, friends, or family.**
- 3. Feelings of worthlessness.**
- 4. Feelings of no hope.**
- 5. Feelings of being trapped.**
- 6. Talking about suicide or death.**
- 7. Abuses drugs or alcohol.**
- 8. Changes in eating habits.**
- 9. Changes in sleeping habits.**
- 10. Feelings of excessive guilt or shame.**
- 11. Feelings of depression that last longer than a few days.**
- 12. Personality changes.**
- 13. Loss of interest in most things.**

These are all signs of suicide and if you or somebody that you know exhibits these signs then suicide may be a very real danger. Anybody who exhibits these signs (including yourself) needs to contact a therapist immediately and seek help.

Depression can be cured, and if treated the desire to end one's life disappears. Many of those that had attempted suicide and survived it and were able to work out their problems and get their depression under control went on to live happy lives and were very grateful that they did not succeed in their suicide attempt.

WHAT IS CAUSING DEPRESSION AND THOUGHTS OF SUICIDE IS TEMPORARY.

Life should not be thrown away for something that will pass. A therapist can help to work through these issues and help to overcome these feelings and allow one to go on and live a happy life.

Suicide is an emergency situation. If you or somebody you know is in imminent danger of suicide then call 911 and get help. Here are also some toll free suicide hotlines that can help:

1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433)
1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)

Due to the unique challenges we as TG people face, suicide is a very present and real danger. If you are the one considering this option, reach out and get help, there is help for you. If you know somebody who is heading down this road then reach out to them, help them to get help. Suicide should NEVER be an option!

In The News

Transgender 10-Year-Old, Jackie, Born A Boy, Happier As A Girl

HUFF
POST PARENTS

THE INTERNET NEWSPAPER: NEWS BLOGS VIDEO COMMUNITY

Turns out there are parents in the news who do the right thing. Jennifer and John of Ohio have a transgender 10-year-old child, and they support Jackie's decision to live life as a girl.

Since she was 18-months-old, "it was always dancing, dress-up, " says her mother Jennifer. Jackie loved the color pink and wearing ballerina outfits. She wanted sparkles and pretty shoes.

So when Jackie was about two-years-old, Jennifer started looking on the Internet, she tells "[Good Morning America](#)." That's when she first learned about transgender and started to wonder.

Jackie's sister, Sagan, was the first to ask if she really wanted to be a girl. "Yeah," she told her sister.

And when Jackie was just ten years old, she went to her mom, crying. "I'm a girl and I can't do this anymore," Jackie said. Without hesitation, Jennifer said, "It's gonna be okay." There was no judgment or disappointment.

Jackie's family abandoned the pronoun "he." At first, they only let her wear girls clothing at home, but eventually allowed her to live as a girl full-time, at school and elsewhere. When asked, Jackie's father John says he has two daughters.

But, not everyone in the family has been as accepting as Jackie's parents. Her grandfather is resistant. "I can not accept that a nine or ten-year-old can make decisions for himself that will be life lasting," he tells GMA.

Although Jackie's parents worry about the future -- things like puberty and how Jackie might be treated later in life at work -- for now, they are focused on her happiness. When Jackie looks in the mirror, all she sees is "a girl that's a person," she says.

Jackie's story will be part of ABC's "[Primetime Nightline's \(Extra\)Ordinary Family](#)" special, airing tonight, Wednesday, Aug. 31 at 10 p.m./9c.

* * * * *

Editor's Note: Since we have dvr here, we recorded the program. It is actually 3 stories, of which this is the headliner.

The last story involves a man coming out of a bitter divorce and experimenting, who took bad advice and did gender surgery twice. Once to change to a woman and once to change back after realizing his surgery was a mistake.

Overall the stories were well presented and provides a lot about which to think.

The above article is presented here with only one change – the font size of the title.

**TO ACCESS
ALL THE BENEFITS
OF MEMBERSHIP.
BECOME A MEMBER
soon !!**