

ISSUE #1

SEPTEMBER 1987

## WELCOME TO OUR FIRST ISSUE!

Greetings! This is the first issue of FTM, a newsletter for the female-to-male transsexual and crossdresser. In addition to supplying newsworthy articles related to FTM's, the newsletter will provide an 'open forum' in which you may send us any information you would like to share, such as apartment share rentals, support groups, reactions to current issues/concerns within the gender community, or an article on a related subject. Send them to [redacted] San Francisco [redacted] or call Kevin at [redacted].

## FEMALE-TO-MALE GET-TOGETHER #3

We all remember our first steps during our transitions, our need to talk to others who felt the same way, and the joy of learning we weren't the "only ones." The FTM Get-Togethers give us an opportunity to meet and learn from others who understand, and to be there for those who seek answers and advice. Get-Together #1, held in San Francisco in December 1986, and Get-Together #2, held in Hayward in March 1987, were well attended and brought many new and old friends together. We have had an increased demand for more gatherings, and hope to hold one at least every 3 months.

Get-Together #3 is planned for Saturday, Sept. 19, 1987 at the Chez Mollet Restaurant, 527 Bryant St., San Francisco, from 7-10 p.m. You may come for just a soda and chat, or you may order an elegant dinner (prices range from \$9-16). A special slide/tape show on Bay Area women who passed as men in the early 1900's, entitled "She Even Chewed Tobacco," will be presented at 8:30 p.m. For more information on Get-Together #3, call Lou at [redacted].

If you would like to host a future Get-Together, know of a suitable meeting place, or have an idea for a speaker or program, please let us know.



"LIGHTNING TURNS WOMAN  
INTO MAN!"

The July 21, 1987 issue of Sun (a National Enquirer-type tabloid) reports that a 35-year-old woman from West Germany was struck by a lightning, causing "an almost instantaneous sex change." The gossip sheet said lab tests showed the electrical charge destroyed her genes and chromosomes, resulting in a rapid decrease in the woman's estrogen levels and increase in testosterone levels. It quoted doctors as saying, "We thought it was just the result of physical trauma, but then hair started to appear on her face and legs. When her breasts began to disappear, we realized a phenomenon was occurring. She still has her female sexual organs, but they are undergoing changes as the transformation continues."

Now, don't say we didn't warn you--but maybe you can save thousands of dollars on hormone injections and surgery by standing on the roof with a coat hanger during the next thunderstorm!

A FTM POPE?

A FTM reigned as Pope John VIII for 2 yr. 5 mos. 4 days, after Leo IV and before Benedict III. In 855 A.D., passing as a man, Joannes was elected pope by the people. John VIII was discovered when, nine months pregnant, he rode in a procession on a donkey and went into labor. He was murdered on the spot. A bust of Pope John VIII was placed with other popes in the Siena Cathedral in 1400 and later destroyed by Pius V. John VIII's life and reign as the 105th pope has been erased from history, although his existence has been documented by over 400 well-known writers.

NEW FTM STUDY UNDERWAY

Interest in bisexual and gay-identified FTMs was generated at the 10th International Gender Dysphoria Symposium in Amsterdam this past June. In response, Dr. Eli Coleman of the University of Minnesota's Program in Human Sexuality (along with his associate Walter Bockting, a sexologist from Amsterdam) is trying to locate and interview as many FTM's as possible who identify as bisexual or gay men. Dr. Coleman plans to publish his findings in an upcoming issue of the Archives of Sexual Behavior. To participate in this confidential study, call Dr. Coleman collect at (612) 376-7520, or write him at 2630 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis MN 55414.

SEXUALITY RAP GROUP

Are there any gay or bisexual FTM guys out there interested in meeting twice a month for a discussion group? Dr. Mildred Brown is interested in facilitating a therapy group with around 4-6 people at \$20 per session. The groups would meet in San Jose and focus on sexuality issues. If interested, leave a message for Dr. Brown at identifying information redacted

GENDER DISCUSSION GROUP

A non-leadered discussion group is being organized in San Jose and will meet every other Thursday, 7:30-9:30 pm. The group includes both FTM and MTF TS's. In addition, if enough people from the S.F./East Bay area want to meet twice a month, or alternate between SF and SJ, that's possible, too. If interested, please contact Patricia identifying information redacted

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