

June 2018

**Volume 34
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CrossPort Schedule of Events

The Monthly Schedule of Events for CrossPort for June and July are as follows:

First Friday Karaoke, Fri. June 1, 9:00PM Tostados
 Lawrenceburg Pride Event, Sat June 2, Parade at Noon
 Veterans Admin Dayton Pride Fair, Mon June 4
 June Board meeting, Tue June 5, 7PM, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
 Second Saturday, Sat. June 9, Location TBD
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. June 11, 7:30PM, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
 Veterans Admin Cincinnati Pride Fair, Wed June 13, 9AM
 Thursday Dinner, Thur. June 21, 7:00, Mokka in Newport then Social at Rosie's
Cincinnati Pride Festival Saturday June 23
 Saturday Night Out, Sat. June 23, 7-11PM, TBD (see Facebook or website)
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. June 25, 7:30PM, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church

July Board meeting, Tue July 3, 7PM, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
 First Friday Karaoke, Fri. July 6, 9:00PM Tostados
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. July 9, 7:30PM, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
 Second Saturday, Sat. July 14, Location TBD
 Thursday Dinner, Thur. July 19, 7:00, Mokka in Newport then Social at Rosie's
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. July 23, 7:30PM, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
 Saturday Night Out, Sat. July 28, 7-11PM, TBD (see Facebook or website)

Other TG Support meetings may also involve a theme or speaker. Stay in touch with our website and Facebook for the latest changes. Suggestions for themes, venues and events are always welcome.

If you have questions or comments on meeting locations or times, contact CrossPort at 513-344-0116 or at CrossPortCincy@yahoo.com or post them on the CrossPortCincy Facebook group

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**A Question of Stealth.**

June is Pride month in many locations throughout the US and even the world. Pride was founded based on the idea of being visible is important to effecting a change in acceptance, and therefore treatment, of LGBT individuals. But not everyone wants that visibility or notoriety. Especially within the "T" community, the concept of visibility is not as entrenched. In fact, for many in the community, visibility is the exact opposite of what they want.

It is interesting that this aversion to being "recognized" is common across the whole "T" spectrum. Very many Crossdressers live in fear in the shadows of the closet. Trans-people that have gone through an extensive and successful transition are also often protective of the image that they have worked so hard to cultivate. Even active crossdressers, drag queens and people in transition can be quite protective of their identities for a host of reasons. Historically, our larger society has not embraced us with open arms. Some of these fears are elevated in our minds. Some of these fears are grounded in reality. I think of the joke "Paranoia is just good thinking when they are out to get you!"

The reasons for wanting to remain anonymous can vary from person to person. There are some more frequent reasons for Crossdressers. Not wanting friends or family to know, whether it is from shame or from fear of rejection, the lengths that some will go to cover their tracks can be extraordinary. Certainly Crossdressing can be challenging within close personal relationships. This is heightened for those of us that did not realize or accept this part of ourselves early on. Much of the aversion to being out relates back to our experience of acceptance in other aspects and our observations of the attitudes and reactions of those around us. Furthermore, historic public acceptance of Crossdressers and other Transgender people has been poor. In fact, the Stonewall Riots that started the modern LGBT rights movement and Pride were based on Police raids and arrests of Trans, CD and gay individuals.

Even now, while there is more acceptance by society in personal, work and legal arenas, bias and mistreatment still exists. Consider the current political environment with some groups highlighting "bathroom" access, military participation or health insurance. While there is at least a battle going on, with plenty of Trans advocates, there is still a very real set of dangers present. Interestingly, there is

even divisiveness within not just the larger LGBT community, but even within the Trans community. Some Trans individuals that are going through, or have gone through, full transition (TS) have a resentment toward CDs who are not transitioning. This is usually because some TS individuals perceive that CDs are more socially unacceptable and that CD's feed the negative stereotypes which then the TS's are unfairly judged by. To be fair, this perception, while far from universal, has some basis. Try looking up Crossdressing on the internet and see what you find.

Reasons for TS individuals to want to remain anonymous go well beyond not being associated with CDs. Transition can have a heavy price. Personal and familial relationships can suffer or be destroyed. Work environments can be very hostile and discriminatory. Services from health providers, courts, police and almost any other institution you can imagine can also have serious bias. Even though things have gotten better, many TS's have had to live through this. And remember, the matter of self identification, hard gained, means many Trans people would like to just live in that identity without being constantly questioned or reminded of the past. Many Trans people that went through GID and transition in an earlier age do not have the same concept of gender fluidity or non-binary that is more prevalent today. In a recent National Geographic's special, Katie Couric interviewed Renee Richards, who transitioned in 1975. When asked about non-binary gender, Renee definitely showed some surprise and didn't quite get it.

The Trans community at large continues to advocate for humane treatments, rights, and acceptance. Acceptance cannot occur without recognition. Pretending that Trans does not exist, or marginalizing Trans individuals is a tactic to justify continued discrimination and worse. However, not everyone needs to be a Rainbow warrior. Not everyone needs to be on the front line and visible. We need to respect individuals need for privacy and their need to pace their own journey as they see fit. And just because an individual does not present a public identification as Trans, does not mean that they don't have value to our community. Sometimes the best example someone can be is by living their life the best that they can.

Your Editor,
Meghan Fournoit
mhb2ist@yahoo.com

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Facing Hard Choices

Meghan Fournoit

As people under the broad umbrella of “Trans”, we encounter a great many challenges and choices. For some of us, Gender Identity Dysphoria may move us to large and somewhat difficult choices. We often call these shifts in our lives Transition. Some of them are emotional, some of them are physical, some of them are reversible and some of them are more permanent. When looking at the decision to make lasting and permanent changes, careful deliberation is vital. To make a truly informed decision, we need information. We need more than just the technical who, what, when, where and how. We need to some concept of the short term and long-term experience and consequences. This article is a result of an interview I had with one of our beloved sisters, Samantha Slover. Samantha took a big step in her journey this year by having Facial Feminization Surgery, or FFS.

While it’s not always polite to ask a lady her age, Samantha laughed at the question: “I turned 53 this past March. I’m the last of the Baby Boomers”

I couldn’t resist pointing out that made her younger than me....by a whopping 3 months. We agreed that this question was important, as it has a large impact on how her experiences have molded her and influenced what procedures could and needed to be done. Samantha has not approached the decision to have FFS lightly. She did quite a bit of research ahead of time, finding out about techniques, consequences and finances. Samantha reached out to other transwomen that had similar procedures. She interviewed three doctors. She carefully reviewed what procedures and outcomes were possible, and thought about what she really wanted. Samantha has been guiding her physical transition carefully and methodically from her initial decision for this surgery three years ago. After long and careful planning, Samantha had Dr. Barry Eppley in Carmel, Indiana perform the procedures.

I asked Samantha what procedures she had done.

“There are a lot of choices that you can make. There are a lot of things you can do with your nose, brows, eyes, and cheeks. You can choose to have procedures to make you look like someone else, your favorite star. I didn’t want anything that dramatic. I wanted to look like me, but as I would have,

had I been born CIS-female. I just wanted those things that enhanced what I was born with.”

Samantha also mentioned that her facial structure being on the longer side also made a big difference in what choices she made. When asked about how helpful computer generated simulations were, she indicated that while those can be helpful, really there is no substitution for meeting with the doctor and having that real time evaluation.

Samantha chose the more popular procedures for FFS. A brow reduction to smooth the bone protrusion above the orbital socket. Implants along the lower orbital socket to enhance her cheeks and compensate for the reduction in fatty tissue that age and testosterone had reduced over the years. The implant she chose were of the “solid” silicone variety, but there are other options available, including collagen and fat transfer. In addition to the brow reduction, she also had a brow lift, where incisions are made along the hair line and the skin is tight-

ened. She also had her eyelids tightened with an incision in the crease. The scar left behind looks just like a natural occurring line. Samantha also got a nose bridge reduction and a chin reduction, in which some of the bone in the chin area was shaved off.



Before Surgery

I asked her about the chin reduction, since I have read there can be complications where a less skilled surgeon could affect the nerves in that area. (Also since I am personally sensitive to the size of my own chin). Samantha assured me that the surgeon had done a great job, and that the procedure was not quite that drastic. She showed me that the approach was from an incision just under the chin. Samantha detailed several of the approaches. Some were more invasive than others, where an incision was made at a distance along an unnoticeable area, and the skin was lifted or tunneled under to

get to the work site. Some incisions were made from inside the mouth. The surgeon tried to minimize scarring and reduce the invasiveness of the procedures. This helps with the overall result and improves the healing process. Samantha told me that modern plastic surgeons are trending away from doing the old traditional face lifts, finding them far more invasive and providing less natural results.

A big part of the decision has to do with finances. This type of surgery is expensive, with a general ballpark budget of \$20,000. Samantha managed to come in under that budget by couple of thousand, but it was still a major expense. If you keep the expense in perspective by comparison to many other procedures, it is surprising the cost is not even higher. This is probably because these procedures are cosmetic and therefore elective which insurance does not cover. This is not a "trans" discriminatory practice as it applies across the board. Because insurance does not help with most plastic surgery, doctors have found that keeping the total cost down helps make it more affordable, and therefore more marketable. But don't fret if you do not have a chunk of cash sitting around to cover your expenses. Most plastic surgeons will have some sort of financing options. Just remember to treat this expense like any other, and try to make good fiscal decisions.

When the long awaited day finally arrived, Samantha went in for a 7 A.M. surgery on a Monday. As you can imagine, she had some trepidation and those little second thoughts. But when I asked her about it, her response was more about the actual physicality of surgery, and the potential results, not whether she was making the right decision.



After Surgery, Same Day

"You get what you get with surgery. That's why you have to choose your doctor and procedures wisely. I made sure that I was using a board certified plastic surgeon, and one with Trans experience. You would

be surprised to know that half of the plastic surgery out there is performed by doctors who aren't certified."

Her daughter lives only 20 minutes away from where the procedures occurred, so it was natural that she was Samantha's support for the day. The procedures took at least 5 hours, and there was processing and recovery from anesthesia time. But even with that, it



Day 2, Still Rough

was outpatient surgery. Samantha mentioned that anesthesia is rough on her, and that the nausea after waking up was rough on her. "It was hell walking out of there" she said. Though she was in and out in a day, she was in no condition to be driving around for a couple of days.

Recovery is experienced in stages. There is the first few days where you just get over the controlled hover above death, followed by progressive healing from being cut open. After that, the body needs to adjust, swelling to go down, and absorb the results of the shock to the whole system. Samantha mentioned that the hardest parts for her was dealing with the nausea, and the pain from incisions in the mouth and chin. She couldn't eat much more than blueberries for two weeks. While some people may be able to



1 Week, Nose Splint Removed

return to work in a week, two weeks is more realistic given the extent of the surgeries Samantha had. One big step that really pleased Samantha was getting the splint and packing off her nose. As she put it "My nose was swelled like an Alabama Tick!"

*Day 24, With Makeup!*

Toward the end of the interview, I had ask Samantha if it was worth it. Was she happy?

Samantha affirmed "Yes, definitely".

She went on to explain that while this set of procedure met her expectations, and she was

pleased with the results, it was only one of many steps in her journey. We talked about HRT, and the effects both physically and emotionally. She has been on HRT for a couple of years, which has had some physical effects, mostly on skin, hair, some fat redistribution and muscle mass. Emotionally, it has had a "bigger picture" effect, but not the mood swings

*7 Weeks, Just about there*

some experience. Samantha has also had a bit of laser hair removal, which is needed for the face and some other areas. HRT may reduce the need for body hair removal, but that takes time so other means are still helpful. Samantha is already looking into GCS (bottom) surgery.

All of this circled back to the original part of our conversation. The why. For Samantha, there has always been this thing, sometimes unexplainable, sometimes painful, sometimes inconvenient, ever-present, that didn't seem right. It took her a long time to figure it out, but now when she looks in the mirror, she sees herself looking back.

Movie Review: Kinsey

-Meghan Fournoit

While this 2004 movie, starring Liam Neeson, is not exactly current, it has popped up on cable recently. Since it had a fair Rotten Tomatoes rating, my wife decided to record it. We watched it together, and found it to be worthwhile.

The story is about renowned researcher and biologist Alfred Kinsey, Author of the "Kinsey Reports" on Human Sexuality. The movie traces Kinsey's childhood and upbringing, with an emphasis on his love of biology, and the repressive attitudes about sex prevalent at the time. Following Kinsey into college and his professorship at Indiana University, the movie suggests that his upbringing presented some challenges to intimacy early in his marriage.

Kinsey and his wife overcame these issues, which later played a role in his relationship with his students. Being well liked and respected about his opinions, students came to him for advice and information about sex. Kinsey experienced that there was a pervasive lack of knowledge about basic biological fact and understanding of "normality" of behavior.

After completing a major work on his study of insects, Kinsey was not really satisfied with his work. This coupled with his realization that there were no good scientific studies that he could refer students to, Kinsey decided to explore human behavior in a similar fashion; by amassing a great deal of information. Kinsey launched into his studies and formed a research institute. The movie details several struggles with funding and conventional skepticism.

Along the way, Kinsey himself pushes the boundaries of his own experience. While Kinsey's results provided the public with a fresh and honest understanding of human sexual behavior, his personal experience and that of those around him echoed the impact that those behaviors could have on intimate and familial relationships.

The movie itself was well acted and produced. There were some humorous scenes and dialog, as well as some tension when his research and personal involvement lead to relationship complications. While I won't spoil too much of the movie, I will say that for the most part it was thought provoking. I always enjoy movies that create an atmosphere for discussion. This one did.

Cathy's Corner Market

By Cathy Alison

After being away from the Transgender Community for over twenty years, I am constantly amazed at how much different society perceives trans-people now verses how they were perceived "in the bad old days".

Many of you are too young to remember that the late 1980s and early 1990s were the height of the AIDS epidemic. And many people believed that AIDS was a "gay disease". Some still think that today, but back then it was believed by over 90% of the population.

And that belief often became a backlash against anyone thought to be gay (which included anyone whose public gender presentation did not match their birth gender). So I ask you to read this 28 year old article and compare it to how you are treated when you are in public today. I think you will be surprised.

Not Always Roses

(first published in the May 1990 InnerView)

by Cathy

There are several of us in Cross-Port; Jennifer, Linda and myself included, who travel around to different towns and go to various functions, nightclubs and other attractions, but it is not always a bed of roses. Sometimes we do get into situations that are a bit out of our control, and have to hope like hell that we emerge in one piece. Every time you break new ground by going to a new town or restaurant or bar, especially if you are trying to travel with the "straight" crowd, there is an element of danger involved.

There is always the chance that if you are "clocked", some yahoo with a bone to pick may decide to take his frustrations out on you. Some jerk with an inferiority complex may decide to prove that there is at least one person in the world he is better than, at your expense. At some level, this element does provide a bit of a kick. You go into a straight bar, hang out for a couple of hours and have drink or two, exchange pleasantries with some of the other patrons, then head for home and safety. There is a rush in doing something "forbidden"; mixing your fantasy of cross-dressing with being in a public place where everyone can see you then escaping unscathed.

Going to a straight bar is a lot different than going to a gay bar. In most gay bars cross-dressers, while maybe not a common sight, are known. Everyone in the bar knows the score. A skirt in a gay bar usually spells out "cross-dresser" to everyone in the place. Cross-dressing has always been a subculture linked to the gay community in some way, usually through female impersonation. There is a knowledge that although the cross-dresser may not be gay, they suffer from the same forms of persecution that attacks the gay community and because of that there is a level of toleration you will not find in a straight bar.

In a straight bar the people you are dealing with may never have seen a cross-dresser in person before. Heavens, they may never have even seen one on Phil or Oprah. It also means that the person in the skirt is dealing with all of the "normal" American ignorances and prejudices. To these people, a skirt means a woman, and that person had better be what they appear to be. In a place where alcohol is served, this can be a volatile mix.

Linda and I have both been "scalped" while being in a straight bar. Linda lost her wig one night when she was in Boston, and myself at Lucy's in the Sky here in Cincinnati. In my case it was a drunk who wanted to know "what right those faggots have being in here". In Linda's case it was an attempt at humiliation to prove that she didn't belong at that bar. In both cases we escaped with hair more or less intact, but it is a sobering experience, being nothing less than a physical assault on your person.

Bars are not the only place where you need to be careful. When Jennifer, Jeaninne and I were in Louisville we decided to go downtown on Saturday afternoon to do some shopping. Downtown Cincinnati is such a pleasant place on a Saturday with all of the stores and restaurants and people; why not do the same thing in Louisville? We quickly found out that although the two cities are similar in many ways, it does not include the downtown area.

Most everything was closed and very few people were around. We had a good meal at a nice restaurant and the waitress and waiter were both familiar with the Miss Gay USA pageant that was going on. They told us that about the only shopping left downtown was at a nearby shopping arcade, so away we went. That place, however, was overrun by inner city teenagers with nothing much to do, so we soon picked up a quite vocal following of a half dozen boys between the ages of twelve and fifteen.

Cathy's Corner Market, (continued from page 4)

Feeling that discretion was the better part of valor, we headed for the car. Our tag-alongs left the arcade too and stood out in front of it, about a half block away. As we started to cross the street, there was a flash of yellow, and a fourteen year old wearing Reeboks dashed by, Jeaninne's hair in his hand. There was no way we could hope to catch him in heels (and probably couldn't if we'd been in Reeboks ourselves), so we continued to the car where Jeaninne was able to pull a spare wig out of the trunk.

We drove around the block once to see if the kid had disposed of the wig now that we had split. What we did find was a young man in his late twenties. He waved for us to stop and he had Jeaninne's wig in his hands. Cautiously we rolled to a stop at the curb and cracked the car window an inch. He held out the wig for us to take and said "I want to apologize for what happened to you. Not everyone around here is like that. My brother does what you do in order to deal with things. I don't do it, but I love my brother." We thanked him, took the hair and headed back to the hotel; none the worse for wear, but still angry and full of adrenaline.

Now. Do events like this keep us from going out? No. Do they make us more cautious? Sure. Although after a dozen or so escapades out without incident, we sometimes get a little too sure of ourselves, and occasionally get reminded that there are

some people who regard us as invaders in their little corner of reality. We have to constantly remind ourselves that in a way, we are different, and have to compensate for that difference.

Hints on how to avoid trouble? Try some of these: Go to upscale places, it seems the more successful and educated the other patrons are, the more secure they are in their own selves, and the less likely they are to cause trouble for other people. Go to places as your male self first to get a "lay of the land". How is the place laid out, what kind of people go there. Go on off nights. Hotel bars on a Sunday are usually pretty low key. Don't go alone, it is nice to have a backup. Although I have heard it said two cross-dressers makes it four times as easy to get spotted, a woman alone gets a lot more scrutiny than if she is with someone. Besides, you could go with a male or female friend as well. If someone makes a point of letting you know that you are unwanted, leave. Principles don't count for much if you are outnumbered. Carry a little insurance. I usually carry mine in a little container labeled Mace. I haven't used it yet, but I certainly carried it when we went to the Halloween bash in Dayton last year. No point in not being prepared.

The best way to stay out of trouble? You can always stay at home, but that isn't any fun. Besides, if you do that you may never be able to experience the feeling you get when a cute guy asks you if you want to join his co-ed volleyball team.

Sephora Is Launching In-Store Beauty Classes for Trans People

BY ARABELLE SICARDI

MAY 22, 2018



The company's free programming for the trans community launches in June, and will be hosted by transgender Sephora cast members.

A lot of the most tender, intimate moments of my life have happened in the aisles of Sephora. I've met girlfriends on first or second dates there as an excuse to bond with them over perfumes and serums (if only so we can hold hands while we "test the products"), I went with my best friend's mother for her 70th birthday to help pick out skincare for her retirement era, and I later went with a friend who had recently begun transitioning to help pick out her first full-coverage foundation. Sephora is a place where life decisions are prepared for with free samples and perfume testers lining our pockets. It's where we come out powdered and perfumed, ready for whatever life decides to throw our way.

Sephora knows that it is a comfortable space for the cosmetically inclined, and for the past three years it's been building up what it means to be that kind of community space through its store programming. In 2016 Sephora launched complimentary in-store classes for those experiencing major life transitions, Classes for Confidence. Up to this point, those classes

have focused on workforce re-entry and beauty in the face of cancer, with participation from community organizations around the country. In June 2018, Sephora will launch a series of in-store programming



around the country for the trans and nonbinary community, hosted and developed by transgender Sephora cast members. On Tuesday, May 22, the first preview class will be held in New York City.

“This is the third curriculum we’ve rolled out, and we couldn’t be more excited. It’s been two years in the making. It’s one of the initial programs we wanted to design, but we wanted to make sure we did it right,” says Corrie Conrad, Head of Social Impact and Sustainability at Sephora. Conrad has been spearheading the programming since joining the company a few short years ago. These classes and Sephora’s entrepreneurial bootcamp fall under her purview. “We held focus groups and worked with our employees experiencing their own gender journeys to help determine class content, sensitivity training procedures, and to help figure out which stores would make the most sense. The trans and nonbinary community is a beloved part of our community and we want to be allies. That’s the point of all our programming: Whether you’re entering the workforce or questioning your gender, that’s a major life transition. We want to be there for you.”

Dominique Anderson, a Color Consultant at NYC’s 34th Street location, is one person in the queer family within Sephora that has helped inform this new programming. “There was a time that I felt as a trans person I had no idea where I fit into beauty. I’d walk into certain cosmetic stores and feel out of place and hesitant to approach anyone. It was when I began shopping at Sephora that I knew it was a place where I was free to be myself. Sephora welcomed me with open arms and it’s why I work at this company. During these classes, I hope to teach clients tricks that I

use myself to soften up features and achieve certain looks. I want to instill confidence in my clients so that when they walk out of Sephora, they feel comfortable letting the world know who they are.”

Besides in-store classes at 150 locations, there will be a series of video tutorials on Sephora’s various YouTube channels led by Sephora’s trans Beauty Advisors. Topics will cover color correction, smoothing the skin, and other topics suggested during focus groups with trans members of the community. If you’re an ally hoping to help support the program yourself, there’s a specific product line you can pick up next purchase that directly funds the programming. The SEPHORA COLLECTION Retractable Brush (\$24.50, in store and online) and the Sephora Stands FEARLESS lipstick (\$12.50, in store and online) both directly fund the community programming.

To see a company cater to the trans and queer community not as token models in one-off beauty campaigns, but in centering us as essential to their community is a relief. By employing trans people and providing them resources through which they can help themselves and their customers, they’re showing that beauty and politics are linked, all the time, and sometimes wonderfully. Having the trans community direct and build the programming nationwide is the only way to make such a program thrive, because there are so few spaces by us, for us on a national scale. Given this year has already proven to be one of the worst so far on record for trans people in the U.S., and particularly for trans women of color: To have one



of the biggest beauty companies in the world hold space for marginalized people is pretty powerful.

Arabelle Sicardi is a genderqueer beauty writer. They write about beauty and power for magazines.

All Photos courtesy of Sephora

May Board Meeting Report *By Cathy Allison*

CrossPort Board Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2018

Cathy was the meeting Facilitator.

Board members present: Jeanne, Cathy, Laura Ann, Stacy, Tina, Vicky

Board members absent: Jill

Guests present: None

The meeting was called to order at 7:11pm.

Old Business:

Cathy submitted the Minutes from the April 3rd meeting. They were accepted.

June Pride Festivals: The board decided it was a good idea to put together an Outreach Team of members to help staff the CrossPort booth at festivals and social fairs. Cathy will post a volunteer request on Crossportcincy FB group.

June 2 L.Burg Pride Festival – Stacy will be team lead. Jeanne, Vicky and Laura Ann will also attend.

June 12 VA Pride Fair - Cathy will be team lead. Laura Ann and JJ will also attend.

June 23 Cincinnati Pride Festival – Jeanne will be team lead. Stacy and Tina will also attend.

Summer Picnic Planning. Stacy has looked at several swim clubs and continues to search for a suitable location. The idea of a summer picnic popped up on the Heartland boards. Stacy will talk to Sarah about the two groups doing it together. The Mt Airy picnic site will be listed on Craig's List and the donor's money will be returned.

Code of Ethics and Conduct. Cathy submitted a first draft proposal. It was moved to accept it as-is so that it will add structure to the Peer Support Group meetings. Adjustments can be made after member feedback. The board voted 5-1 to accept it. Jeanne will post it to the CrossPort web site and the Crossportcincy FB group.

2018 Membership Drive. Cathy will post another request for members a few days after she posts the Outreach Team volunteer request.

Pursuit of Paying Sponsors. As there were only issues of the InnerView covering the first 6 months of 2017, Cathy proposed emailing notices to all sponsors that their payment will be due after the June 2018 issue is sent out. She will provide the board with a sample at the June board meeting. The board decided that in the future, sponsors will pay for 12 issues, not 12 months.

Library Donations. This item was tabled until the next board meeting.

Provider Questionnaire. Laura Ann will ask the VA to provide two providers to review and make suggestions.

New Business:

There is a discussion on trademarking CrossPort. It is currently trademarked by a sports apparel company in California.

Monthly Reports:

Vicky reported on the PO Box. Only three advertisements in it.

Hotline Phone. Stacy submitted a report to the board. She has received 6 phone calls from people about meetings and the newsletter or who just wanted to talk.

Vicky reported on Membership. She submitted a report to the board. As of this Board Meeting, CrossPort currently has 19 voting members for 2018. Vicky reported on Finances. She submitted reports for April and May. Including the membership money given to Stacy, CrossPort has \$1221.58.

CrossPort Website and Social Media. Jeanne submitted a report to the board. The new CrossPort website had 278 unique visitors in the last month, 40% of whom go to the calendar. The Crossportcincy group is quite successful with 132 unique visitors to the group in April of a total 154 members. More focus needs to be given to the public CrossPort Cincinnati FB page.

Email Correspondence. Cathy submitted a report to the board.

There were two requests to get the InnerView. Cathy resolved them.

There were two requests for information about the social and peer group events.

Two TG newsletters were received, from IXE and from Chicago Gender Society. These were forwarded to the board and to Meghan.

Samantha King invited CrossPort members to attend the Gretchen Carlson Leadership Community Workshop. Cathy posted it to the Crossportcincy FB group.

Southeastern Ohio LGBTQ Coalition invited CrossPort members to their Pride Night in Zanesville. Cathy posted it to the Crossportcincy FB group.

The average response time to email queries looking for support was less than 24 hours.

CD/TS Peer Support Group. Stacy submitted a report to the board. Tina will no longer lead the group so Stacy and Jeanne will lead it. May 14 will be a special night with three women coming to talk about hair, makeup techniques and skin care.

First Friday Social. Stacy submitted a report to the board. The May First Friday at Tostados Grill had 15 attend.

Second Saturday Social. Stacy submitted a report

to the board. Three went to Chuy's. Met two girls at Old Street who are now in the Crossportcincy FB group. Looking at Boswell's for the May event.

Thursday Night Social. Stacy submitted a report to the board. She was not able to go but was told 17 people did go.

Saturday Night Out. Stacy submitted a report to the board. There was no Saturday Night Out in April.

Library. Jill submitted a report to the board. Nothing new to report.

Outreach. Stacy submitted a report to the board. She and Jeanne went to the Building Bridges meeting and also are on the Living with Change advisory council.

Newsletter. Cathy submitted a report to the board. The April newsletter was emailed to 277 email addresses on April 2. 275 were delivered. 87 emails were opened, 65 had clicked through to the InnerView.

The May newsletter was emailed to 281 email addresses on May 2. 279 were delivered. 91 emails were opened and 60 had clicked through to the InnerView.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11pm. The board agreed that Cathy should facilitate the June meeting.

Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Sheila W. | Antonia H. |
| Richelle Ashley B. | Bridgette M. |
| Emily C. | Brenda R. |
| Ken U. | Tina S. |

If you would like to be added to our list, please send the month and date of your birthday along with your name to:

CrossPortcincy@yahoo.com.

A couple of Classics by Doug Sneyd, originally published in Playboy Magazine.



"Wow, Doc, you're one hell of a surgeon. I never imagined I'd have such great orgasms after my SRS, and you only used your fingers!!"



"My wife doesn't understand me."

CrossPort Social Meeting

The social is held on the *third Thursday of each month at 7:30pm* at a local restaurant (currently Mokka) and its purpose is to provide an opportunity for all transgender individuals to get out and socialize at a safe environment. Following dinner is a gathering at Rosie's Tavern, Covington, an LGBT friendly bar that is used to TG patrons.

Combined Peer Support Meeting

Meets 7:30pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church. The meeting, which focuses on female-to-male and male-to-female transition as well as crossdressing issues, and living your authentic gender identity, offers an opportunity to network in a supportive forum.

CrossPort Board Meeting

The board typically meets on the *first Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm*, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church, to discuss club matters. All members are welcome to attend.

CrossPort Saturday Night Out

This is an evening out at a local nightclub. It is tentatively scheduled for the *fourth Saturday* evenings of each month. The time and location of this event will change with each occurrence.

NEW

CrossPort Second Saturday Social

This is an evening out at a local dining establishment. Similar to Third Thursday, but for those of us who can't get out during the week. It is scheduled for the *second Saturday* evenings of each month. Unlike Thursdays, the time and location of this event will change with each occurrence. Fantastic compromise on the Great Dinner Debate!

Karaoke Friday Nights

The *first Friday* of the month CrossPort meets for a social engagement to share fellowship, music and merriment at a Tostado's, starting at about 9:00pm
Spouses, Significant Others (S O's), and family are also welcome and encouraged to attend all meetings and events.

For more information on all meetings please email CrossPort: crossportcincy@yahoo.com, visit the CrossPortcincy Face Book group, or call the CrossPort Phone number listed below.

Contacting CrossPort

Mail: P.O. Box 1692, Cincinnati, OH 45201

Email: crossportcincy@yahoo.com

Phone: 513-344-0116

Our phone line is a digital mobile telephone answered by a designated CrossPort Member. Please be assured that you can safely leave a message and your call will be returned in confidence at a time of your choosing.

CrossPort Website: <http://www.crossport.org>

Message us through Facebook, either through the CrossPort Cincinnati page or the CrossPortcincy group.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

All membership information will be held in strict confidence.

Our goal is to better serve your needs!

PREFERRED NAME: _____

(+LAST INITIAL) (used at gatherings/newsletter)

MAILING NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

*EMAIL: _____

NEWSLETTER: YES ___ NO ___

PHONE: _____ OK TO TEXT? ___

SPECIAL EDUCATION/CAREER/SKILLS? (TELL US ABOUT YOU!)

YOUR INTERESTS: TS ___ TG ___ CD ___ GAY ___ FRIENDSHIP ___

EVENTS ___ OTHER ___

*YOUR DATE OF BIRTH: ___/___/___

MUST BE OVER 18 TO ATTEND, UNLESS PARENT/GUARDIAN IS PRESENT

SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER'S NAME: _____

TODAY'S DATE: ___/___/___

HOW DID YOU FIND CROSSPORT? _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE: NEW ___ RENEWAL ___ INFO CHANGE
(\$30/YEAR, JAN-DEC)

TYPE OF PAYMENT: CHECK _____ CASH

PAYPAL accepted via our website: CrossPort.org

FULL MEMBERSHIP @ \$30/YEAR (Jan 1-Dec 31)

Voting, hold office

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING AT A HIGHER LEVEL, TO SUPPORT CROSSPORT EVENTS AND SERVICE TO THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY IN THE GREATER CINCINNATI AREA

BRONZE LEVEL @ \$50/YEAR

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MAIL TO: CrossPort, PO Box 19936, Cincinnati, OH 45219

Or pay at any CrossPort meeting or event

Or via the website: CrossPort.org

Paid advertisements in the Innerview are not an endorsement by CrossPort.

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“To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to
 make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.”
 – Ralph Waldo Emerson

Scott E. Knox Attorney at Law
 13 E. Court St., Ste. 300, Cincinnati, OH 45202
 (513)241-3800; scottknox.com; scott@scottknox.com
 2011/12 “Best Lawyer”, CityBeat

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