

**July 2018**

**Volume 34  
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## CrossPort Schedule of Events

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

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

**"How to get Trans Health Care covered by Insurance" Mon. July 16, 7-9PM at Heartland Wellness Center, 103 William Taft Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45219**

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)

First Friday Karaoke, Fri. Aug 3, 9:00PM Tostados

August Board meeting, Tue Aug 7, 7PM, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church

Second Saturday, Sat. Aug 11, Location TBD

Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Aug 13, 7:30PM, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church

Thursday Dinner, Thur. Aug 16, 7:00, Mokka in Newport then Social at Rosie's

Saturday Night Out, Sat. Aug 25, 7-11PM, TBD (see Facebook or website)

Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Aug 27, 7:30PM, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church

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****The Elephant In the Room**

This article is going to deal with the Elephant In The Room that nobody wants to talk about within the TG/CD experience. S. E. X.! Yeap, that one. And quite the elephant it is. Huge, and slow to move. In keeping with the metaphor, I like to reflect back to the allegory of 5 blind men describing the elephant. The first one feels the trunk, and says "An elephant is like a large snake." The second feels the leg, and says "An elephant is like a tree trunk." The third feels the tail, and says "Elephants are like ropes." The fourth one feels the tusk, and says "No, no, they are like spears!" The fifth one feels the side, and says "You are all wrong, the elephant is a house." For each of these men, they have a valid experience, albeit different. Their experience is not wrong, but it is certainly incomplete. In clinging to only that which they have first hand knowledge of, they miss the vastness and grandeur of this magnificent beast.

In our community, our experience with sex and the love the Greeks called "eros" is a mixed bag. It's a huge topic, fraught with opinions and nuances that make discussion a potential mine field. People have very strong opinions about the subject, often formed by events and upbringing. Religious and social conventions can demand conformity, while personal experience may provide incredibly compelling reaction. By and large, most of us grew up surrounded by a more conservative, possibly oppressive, attitude about sex in general, which then influenced our mores and morals. Generally speaking, it is fairly common that the expectation is that "correct" sexual behavior is to be controlled, limited to the hetero experience and probably limited to a committed relationship (i.e. marriage).

Because of the strength of opinions in this matter, many of us have experienced such social pressure that any deviation from the "norm" has caused shame. Sometime deep, debilitating, even self-loathing shame. And certain deviations, which could mark you as a deviant, were worse than others. When it is distilled to it's core, the issue is how we deal with what we and others perceive as "perversion". In the past, many activities, attitudes and practices were cast under this large banner. Homosexuality, Fetishes, Pornography, Masturbation, Fornication, Adultery, and anything other than Missionary position coitus were all lumped together and considered "bad". And from a social perspective, some were considered worse than others. Interest-

ingly enough, fornication had competing social inputs. From a religious perspective, it was discouraged, but from many segments it was encouraged. Who can forget the Fonz? Want to prove you're a MAN? Then put a few notches in your belt! On the other hand possibly the WORST possible thing you could be called when I was growing up was gay. Homophobia was so strong that an accusation, true or false, would routinely result in violence. And frankly many other fetishes or worse were all lumped together. Pedophilia, transvestitism, homosexuality, frottuerism, voyeurism, etc. were all just shades of grey.

It is no wonder that someone with a gender identity issue (and that includes crossdressing) would be afraid that they were going to be persecuted. But even if that individual could reconcile the gender identity issue, they often did not want to be associated with other "perversions". This has often lead to strong stated opinions and assertions about sexual orientation and the separation from gender identity. Crossport is not a charter member of Tri-Ess because of the insistence by Tri-Ess that the membership was heterosexual only. And with the current political landscape of Transgender people being branded predators and pedophiles (to keep them out of the bathroom), who can blame them for wanting to distance themselves from all and any association with "those other perverts"!

If you do an internet search on "crossdresser" you will certainly get an eyeful of sexually oriented sites touting sissies, she-males and much, much more. For someone who is fighting for acceptance in society, this association de-legitimizes them. The rhetoric and animosity is so bad that our community feels compelled to highlight the separation between sexual orientation and gender identity.

While there certainly is a difference between orientation and identity, totally separating them may be counterproductive. After all, a whole person has both an identity and an orientation, as well as an appetite or libido. In the rush to insulate oneself from being branded as a pervert, we may dismiss or deny parts of ourselves that truly exist. In cases of extreme discontinuity of our base reality and how we envision ourselves, cognitive dissonance can occur. In short, the lack of self-recognition and self-acceptance can cause emotional and even intellectual distress. Instead, a much healthier approach may be to examine one's self and the assumptions we make. This can be challenging and it could be helpful to have someone to confide in or discuss with a professional .

One area that many in the TG/CD community often have strongly voiced opinions about is the prev-

### Note From the Editor (Continued)

alence of erotic or risqué material. While there certainly is a lot of it out there, and has a wide variety of presentation, not all of it is pornographic. Some of it is artistic, some of it is profound and some of it is profane. A lot of determining the level of profanity is subjective. I would not suggest the abandonment of all standards of decency, or the substitution of art for relationship, or even to hold the art as always a reflection of reality.

But the art can serve a purpose. A friend of mine had checked out some "she-male" porn, and found it quite enlightening. Assuming it wasn't totally photoshopped, it provided her with a gauge. "Oh, that's what I could look like" and "So this is a real possibility" were some of the thoughts that went through her head. And sure, it might actually invoke excitement, but is that always a bad thing? To be fair, there are drawbacks with some pornography. It can provide an unrealistic expectation. Some of the subjects may in fact have been treated poorly and exploited. Porn can be addictive, including changes to chemical responses in the brain. The same can be said of many subjects that are overindulged or hyper sensationalized. Violence, sports, cooking, and even romance can be abused subjects. All of these subjects in proper moderation, and with respectful treatment can be used for good effect.

Whether in action, observation or discussion, it is important that we take a healthy approach to the role of sex in our lives. Sex is a necessity for the continuation of life, and by that token is integral in our very being. Either ignoring it or abusing it can be destructive. By treating it with full respect, we are likely to find our lives far better, and our psyches more balanced and whole.

Your Editor,  
Meghan Fournoit  
mhb2ist@yahoo.com

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### Statement of Open Letter Publishing Policy

-Meghan Fournoit

As you all may, or may not, be aware, there is a policy that letters to the editor will be published upon request, with very minimal exception. Exceptions would be clearly derogatory attacks against members or our community that would invite, incite or suggest violence. Having made that clear, I will publish letters and opinion pieces that are turned in to me by text format, and will run the article within the next months issue. Cut off is one week before the first of the month. Byline credit is provided to the writer of the letter. Anonymous letters are also accepted, and will be identified as such.

Now that you know the score, it has been brought to my attention that the recent adoption by the board of the Code of Conduct for meetings has not been universally accepted. Specifically, as it was related to me:

"Three people have made it known that they will not attend CrossPort meetings as long as there is a Code of Conduct in effect as they feel it violates their First Amendment Right of Free Speech. The board agreed that if they feel that strongly, they should be given a chance to make their case by writing an article for the InnerView as to why they believe it is a bad idea for CrossPort to have a Code of Conduct."

I wholeheartedly agree with the board that any member of our organization should be able to represent their opinion, and that the Innerview is amongst other things, a forum for making your voice heard. I will certainly publish letters of this type, and have an expectation that counter views have equal opportunity.

I do ask that as you write your letters, please think them through, and try to be civil and avoid the overuse of profanity. I will provide the proper byline credit to the writer, and remind the audience that letters and opinion pieces are the views of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of the board or constituency as a whole. Just remember that whatever you write is a reflection of you, your judgement and your values.

## Cathy's Corner Market

*By Cathy Alison*

The Cincinnati VA Pride Fair

The Cincinnati VA Pride Fair was held Wednesday, June 13 from 10am-2pm. This was the first Pride Fair attended by CrossPort at the Cincinnati VA Hospital, and we really did not know what to expect.

First, the parking situation at the VA was horrendous. We were asked to not park in the VA Lot or garage, but they were also in the process of paving three of the streets closest to the VA so street parking was banned on them. Our intention was to meet at the police office at 9am, get visitor badges and then I would pull my van around to the auditorium, unload then go park.

I got there before 9am, found a lot space, and went to the police office and got a visitor badge (which you swap for your driver license). While waiting for Samantha and Sheila to arrive, I decided to unload from where I was parked, and wheeled the cart into the entrance to wait for them. About 30 minutes later, I heard from Samantha who had been looking for a parking place for at least that long. I advised her that I intended to park in UC's Eden garage so she headed off to park there too.

About 9:40 Sheila arrived at the Police office, got a visitor badge and we headed to the auditorium to set up. While the largest room at the VA, it was still only half the size of a high school basketball court. Samantha arrived shortly after that so while they began the setup, I moved my vehicle to the Eden garage and by the time I had returned, JJ had arrived early to help.

Both of the side walls were lined with tables. We found that we had been assigned 1/3 of an 8' long table, splitting it with two other groups. Fortunately (for us) one group did not show up, so we split the table 50/50 with BRAVO (Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization).

PFLAG was on the other side of BRAVO. HRC was on our other side and Lisa Johnson of the Cincinnati PD was on the other side of HRC. There were also several Veterans organizations represented as well as The Kassie Project.

The Pride Fair started about 10am, and early on we were approached by a gentleman who was interested in CrossPort. He had been to our website and self-identified as "a CD." He had some specific questions about resources for learning how to do makeup and things of that nature. We talked for sev-

eral minutes and he took a copy of the latest InnerView.

At noon, our own Dr. Laura Ann Weaver gave a speech on how she had been a patient at the Cincinnati VA for 20 years and how important it had been in both treating the cancers she had been diagnosed with and in helping her transition to the woman she is today. The main thrust of her speech was that if you are a veteran, register with the VA now rather than later. As she said "It is easier to find your discharge papers when you aren't having a heart attack."

After Laura's speech, MUSE Cincinnati Woman's Choir performed four songs. They were quite good and I was most struck by their first song, a prayer from Namibia, sung in one of that country's languages. Namibia has more than six official languages so I do not know which one it was, but it was simply beautiful.

Antonia arrived at noon and a bit later Samantha headed for home.

Shortly after the music, we had another visitor who had a transgender nephew under the age of 18 and asked what events we had they could attend. We suggested the peer group meetings but that they would need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. We also told them about the parent/child peer group run by the Children's Hospital TG clinic and Heartland.

Most of the other visitors we had were hospital employees with a few patients mixed in. The VA had asked for each group to provide a question about themselves and our question was "In what year did CrossPort begin supporting the Greater Cincinnati Transgender Community?" The answer choices were 1985, 1995, 2005 and 2015. Only one person correctly guessed 1985, and most people were quite surprised when they found out the correct answer because they had never heard of us before.

About 1:30 the number of visitors had dropped off to zero, so we packed up along with everyone else and headed out. Fortunately CrossPort has a dolly cart because it was a full two block walk from the VA entrance to the Eden garage.

I really want to thank the other volunteers that helped. Almost every one put in more time than they originally signed up for, arriving early or staying late. So thank you, JJ (Jessie) Hart, Samantha Slover, Sheila Victoria Young and Antonia Harter for your time and representing our community so well, and for your companionship throughout the day.

Trans Jokes from [www.them.us](http://www.them.us)

Here are a few jokes from the website [them.us](http://www.them.us) with a trans relevance. Some of the jokes are funnier than others, but it is important to have a sense of humor. Humor is an important coping mechanism for all the curve balls life throws at us.

How many trans people does it take to change a light bulb. Just one, but people will always ask if your light-bulb's had, you know, The Change.

If a trans lesbian marries as bisexual, does that make them a BLT?

How many transgender people does it take to change a light bulb? Just one, but they have to live in the dark for two years to make sure they want it changed. And then get the opinions of two electricians to make sure it needs changing.

How many transgender people does it take to change a light bulb? Just one, but literally everyone else to tell them to slow down.

How do you console your nonbinary friend that keeps getting mis-gendered? Pat them on the back and tell them "their, their"



Above: Crossport Booth at Cincinnati Pride Festival

Left: Rainbow Flag raised at Ethicon Endo-surgery



## Building Bridges Collaborative

*Inclusive, dynamic, and PROUD!*

**The next meeting will be held at  
Lighthouse Youth Services in  
Cincinnati, Ohio on Monday, July 9  
from 5-8pm.**

**Rough Schedule:**

**5-6pm Social/bridge building**

**6-8pm Formal discussion**

- **Mission, vision, & value proposition modification and approval**
- **3-5 nonprofit highlight presentations**
- **Reviewing surveys on organization offerings/services**
- **Additional foundation building**

*Please contact Ryan Joseph Allen for more info [ryan.allen@lozemustwin.org](mailto:ryan.allen@lozemustwin.org) or 859.835.2764*

## Movie Review: “A Kid Like Jake”

### Editors Note:

*With June being Pride month, there were several choices for LGBT themed films on cable On Demand. Many were a little older, like “The Crying Game”, “To Wong Foo”, and “Brokeback Mountain”. But a very contemporary one, starring Jim Parsons (aka Sheldon Cooper from ‘Big Bang Theory’.) My wife and I watched “A Kid Like Jake”, a story about a couple that deals with discovering their 4 year old son is gender non-conforming. I was going to write a whole review, but this one from Christy Lemire seemed to be fairly accurate. While I found the subject to be admirable, I am not really sure that I found the film to cover much about Gender expression. Rather, I found it to be more a story about a couple struggling to communicate and come to grips with what life has put before them.*

-Meghan

The following review is from the Robert Ebert web page:

<https://www.rogerebert.com/reviews/a-kid-like-jake-2018>

Christy Lemire

June 1, 2018

“A Kid Like Jake” tackles the tricky topic of gender dysphoria with sensitivity and grace.

It roots its family’s confusion in a recognizable, present-day reality, which perhaps could make this complicated subject matter relatable—or at least accessible—to viewers who might never have had a reason to consider it. And the fact that the central figure is a 4-year-old kid bound for kindergarten somehow heightens the simplicity and purity of the film’s message: This is someone who wants to be seen and loved for who he truly is, which he expresses in the most fundamentally human way possible.

Director Silas Howard and writer Daniel Pearle (adapting his own play of the same name) depict the routine of mundane daily life for this Brooklyn family in understated ways, from bath time

to packing up the lunchbox and everything in between. But because they handle so much of the meatier material with such decency and honesty, it makes you wish they’d gone deeper emotionally and let us get to know Jake a little better for ourselves.

Jake (Leo James Davis) seems perfectly happy at preschool wearing tutus and playing Cinderella in the dress-up corner. This is a kid who has the entire Disney princess collection on DVD and wants to go as Rapunzel for Halloween. Jake’s mother, Alex (Claire Danes), who put her career as a lawyer on hold to be a stay-at-home mom, assumes this is just a phase and doesn’t think there’s any cause for concern. But Jake’s dad, Greg (Jim Parsons, who’s also one of the film’s producers), is a therapist. And as reports from the school principal (Octavia Spencer) about Jake’s outbursts and stubbornness become more frequent, Greg believes having his child see a psychologist could provide some guidance.

A quietly simmering anxiety comes to a boil as Alex and Greg thrust themselves into the fraught process of applying for private schools. “A Kid Like Jake” vividly depicts this most bougie of ordeals: the campus tours where all the couples look alike and radiate the same thrum of anxiety, the cutthroat competition, the naked striving. This is something that should be easy but it’s not—especially in a place like Park Slope. Spencer, with her trademark warmth and wisdom, cleverly suggests as Jake’s current principal that Alex and Greg use the fact that their kid is a little different as a strategy to stand out from the rest of the pack. Mom and dad want their child to end up somewhere that’s flexible and forward thinking. And yet, there Jake stands at that first school interview, every bit the proper little man in a blazer, buttoned-down shirt and tie.

“A Kid Like Jake” wisely comes at this child’s current state from a variety of angles, not all of which are sympathetic. Friends and family members might mean well—or at least tell themselves they mean well—but end up saying something inadvertently dismissive or demeaning. The always-great Ann Dowd, as Alex’s judgey, passive-aggressive mother, tries to impose her will on everybody all the time, but eventually reveals unexpected complexity to her character. Priyanka Chopra, as Alex’s good friend and the mom of one of Jake’s schoolmates, might not be as trustworthy as she initially seemed. People are imperfect.

## “A Kid Like Jake” (Continued)

As Jake’s parents, though, Danes and Parsons have an effortless, evolving chemistry that’s always compelling. They enjoy an easy banter with each other at the film’s start, which gives way to more prickly exchanges as the story grows more complicated. Despite being super-liberal and LGBTQ-friendly, they’re not always nice to each other when it comes to their own child, a realistic manifestation of the increasing stress they’re under. And the climactic fight in which they finally have it out and say all the hurtful things they’ve been holding onto is just brutal to watch. It’s raw, painful and

honest and—above all—necessary.

But while we get a great sense of these characters and how the dynamic of their marriage changes, we don’t see or hear much from Jake himself. He is an idea that is discussed, dissected and endlessly debated, but he’s depicted visually in fleeting images and gauzy lighting. And a subplot involving Greg and a therapy patient (Amy Landecker) who’s having marital troubles of her own is well acted but feels like a distraction.

Still, “A Kid Like Jake” has a real shot at opening up some hearts and minds—or at least making folks see the world in a slightly different way.

## CrossPort Board Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2018

Cathy was the meeting Facilitator.

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

Board members absent: None

Guests present: None

The meeting was called to order at 7:14pm.

### **Old Business:**

Cathy submitted the Minutes from the May 8th meeting. They were accepted.

**June Pride Festivals:** There was not a lot of response to the request for putting together an Outreach Team. Cathy suggested using SignupGenius to get volunteers to commit to specific times per event. She had used it for the VA Pride Fair with success. The board agreed.

**June 2 L,Burg Pride Festival** – CrossPort did not have a presence at L’Burg Pride as originally intended. A series of last minute communication breakdowns caused Stacy to think she did not have any volunteers to staff the booth so we did not go.

**June 13 VA Pride Fair** - Cathy reported that all times slots for the VA Pride were covered and the only thing remaining was to pick up the booth equipment and handouts from Stacy.

**June 23 Cincinnati Pride Festival** – As team lead, Jeanne will put together a SignupGenius and post it to the Crossportcincy FB page.

Vicky provided Jeanne advice on a dozen different

items based on her previous years of working the booth at Cincinnati Pride. Laura Ann, Tina and Jeanne all committed to be there part of the day.

**Summer Picnic Planning** Stacy reported the best time to rent a pool would be August 4th or 5th. Heartland is interested in joining us for this. Stacy will narrow down the number of pools to 2 or 3 and let Heartland have input on the final venue.

**2018 Membership Drive.** Cathy did not have time to post a request for members in May but will do so in June. On a vote of 6 to 1, the board voted to approve the collection of voluntary small donations at the peer group meetings and the Third Thursday Social provided it was done in a way that did not pressure people into giving, i.e. making people aware that we had a donation container and not ‘passing the hat’.

**Pursuit of Paying Sponsors.** Cathy did not have time to create notices to send to all sponsors that their payment will be due after the June 2018 InnerView was sent out. She will do that before the July issue is sent out. It was suggested that advertising rates be set for 1/4, 1/2 and full page ads in addition to the business card side ads.

**Library Donations.** No new donations have come in. There was a discussion of how to increase the usage of CrossPort’s rather substantial library, but according to the by-laws it may only be used by voting members.

**Provider Questionnaire.** Laura Ann did not remember offering to ask the VA to provide two providers to review and make suggestions. She requested that she be resent the questionnaire with a clear email subject and a reminder.

**New Business:**

**July Board Meeting Date:** There was a discussion on moving the July 3 meeting date as it might conflict with the July 4 holiday but it was decided to leave it on July 3.

**Official crossport.org email addresses:** Jeanne had investigated setting up email addresses @crossport.org for the board and editor. There is a limitation with the current web hosting package which limits this ability to recognized 501(c)(3) organizations.

**Code of Conduct and Ethics:** It was brought up that three people have made it known that they will not attend CrossPort meetings as long as there is a Code of Conduct in effect as they feel it violates their First Amendment Right of Free Speech. The board agreed that if they feel that strongly, they should be given a chance to make their case by writing an article for the InnerView as to why they believe it is a bad idea for CrossPort to have a Code of Conduct.

**Membership designation change:** There was discussion on changing the CrossPort membership designations from 'Member' to 'Associate' and 'Voting Member' to 'Member'. This would require a change to the CrossPort bylaws that would require a vote by the Voting Members. Laura Ann volunteered to write up the necessary ballot verbiage.

**Monthly Reports:**

**P.O Box.** Vicky provided a report. Nothing was in it. We do have an upcoming annual renewal of \$82.

**Hotline Phone.** Stacy submitted a report to the board. It was a slower than normal month for phone calls.

**Membership.** Vicky submitted a report to the board. As of this Board Meeting, CrossPort currently has 23 voting members for 2018.

**Finances.** Vicky submitted a report to the board. CrossPort currently has \$1282.93.

**CrossPort Website and Social Media.** Due to her change in jobs, Jeanne did not have time to report on these topics.

**Email Correspondence.** Cathy submitted a report to the board.

-There was one request to get the InnerView. Cathy resolved it.

-There was one request for information about the peer group events. Cathy resolved it

-There was one request to be added to the Crossportcincy FB group. Cathy resolved it.

-There was a request for information on LGBT crime issues and resources by a student from a local high school. Cathy referred him to several resources.

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

-Noah Lewis of Transcend Legal sent an email offering to give a presentation to the CrossPort membership on getting their health insurance companies to approve trans-related therapies and surgeries. It was forwarded to the board.

-Debbie Peterson from the VA sent an email providing specifics about the VA Pride Fair.

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. Jeanne will no longer be able to lead due to her recent job change. Tina has agreed to act as backup lead as necessary. Last meeting was attended by 12 people.

**First Friday Social.** Stacy submitted a report to the board. 15 attended the June event.

**Second Saturday Social.** Stacy submitted a report to the board. Five went to Boswell's and then to Urban Artifact. She is thinking about making Boswell's a more or less permanent dinner place for this social, so it will be the place in June as well.

**Thursday Night Social.** Stacy submitted a report to the board. 14 showed up for dinner, then some went first to Crazy Fox and later to Rosie's to meet others.

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

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

**Outreach.** There was no Outreach report for June.

**Newsletter.** Cathy submitted a report to the board.

-The May newsletter was emailed to 281 email addresses on May 2. 279 were delivered. 100 emails were opened and 69 had clicked through to the InnerView.

-The June newsletter was emailed to 283 email addresses on June 2. 281 were delivered. 87 emails were opened and 46 had clicked through to the InnerView.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06pm. The board agreed that Cathy should facilitate the July meeting.





More Fun at PRIDE!  
More Fun at PRIDE!



## Happy Birthday!

Wendy L.C.

Barbara E.

Erica C.

Cynthia J.

Rachel A.

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.

## TAKE YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO A HIGHER LEVEL!

CrossPort members can choose to become a member at an increased level. Those donating to the organization through the higher levels will be acknowledged quarterly in the newsletter, much like donors to the symphony or other non-profit organizations. The levels of membership are:

\$30 - Basic Membership

\$50 - Bronze Level

\$75 - Silver Level

\$100 - Gold Level

Please consider a donation at the higher levels to support CrossPort's mission to the transgender community in Greater Cincinnati.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

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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

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