

January 2019

**Volume 35
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Crossport Schedule of Events

The Monthly Schedule of Events for Crossport for January and February are as follows:

First Friday Karaoke, Fri. Jan 4, 9:00PM Tostados
January Board meeting, **Wed. Jan 2nd, 7PM**, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
Second Saturday, Sat. Jan 12, 7:00 PM Boswell's
Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Jan 14, 7:30PM, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
Thursday Dinner, Thur. Jan 17, 7:00, Mokka in Newport then Social at The Crazy Fox
Saturday Night Out, Sat. Jan 26, 7-11PM, TBD (see Facebook or website)
Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Jan 28, 7:30PM, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church

First Friday Karaoke, Fri. Feb 1, 9:00PM Tostados
February Board meeting, Tue. Feb 5, 7PM Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
Second Saturday, Sat. Feb 9., 7:00 PM Boswell's
Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Feb 11, 7:30PM, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
Thursday Dinner, Thur. Feb 21, 7:00, Mokka in Newport then Social at The Crazy Fox
Saturday Night Out, Sat. Feb 23, 7-11PM, TBD (see Facebook or website)
Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Feb 29, 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.

Crossport.org is posting additional meetings by other Trans- related groups. Please check out the website for more information

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

Welcome to 2019!

It seems a funny thing to write, as I am still looking forward to Christmas even as I type this. (Gee, I wonder if this is the year that Meghan gets a present.....?) Anyway, this time of year is typically spent on two thoughts: A retrospect of the last year, and a prediction of the coming year. I'll admit, my crystal ball is just plain glass, and not very accurate for a seer's job. So I don't think my predictions for anything other than the mundane will be very revealing. But I will take a stab at it.

In 2019, I see personal strife. Some politicians will make poorly informed statements and push controversial policies. Other politicians will make alarmed responses and obnoxious comparisons. The media will over report all of it. The general public will remain in a state of antipathy, anxiety and apathy. Crimes will be committed against innocent people, and the perpetrators will not be brought to justice. Other people will be prosecuted for crimes they didn't commit. Over 90% of all major league sports fans will be disappointed that their favorite team did not win the championship.

But on the positive side, Spring and Summer will yield some beautiful days. There will be flowers and fall foliage. Huge groups of people will gather together to show each other support and love. People will discover fun, new ways to share some time. There will be a new recipe for an awesome beer, but you can only get it at selected locations. Despite the lackluster performance of the sports teams, there will be a brilliant play by either the unheralded rookie or the veteran everyone thought was past their prime. Some of you may laugh so hard, your drink will come out of your nose. And when you least expect it,

someone will show you a kindness deep enough to make your eyes well up.

I guess my point is that life will continue on much as it does now. All the ups and downs, the good and the bad, will be there. Despite the acrimony that we have experienced over the last couple of years, and all of the audacious reports we hear on the news daily, life is still hopeful. There are challenges, failures and loss in all of our lives, but we can choose to deal with them in either a positive or negative way. And when we choose to learn from our challenges, to affect what we can and accept what we can't, we find that peace and love are there for us.

Admittedly, it is easy to exhort a positive attitude, and maybe even to adopt it for a short period of time. Keeping that attitude and resolve over time is difficult. Using my morning run as an analogy, I think I may have a way to sustain the attitude throughout the year. It is always tough to start, but once you get going, you build momentum. Pacing yourself can help you avoid burning out early. After a while, when you are getting tired but aren't quite there, use a series of short, visible and attainable goals. Push to the next, and the next, and the next.

As a carrot for Crossport members, keep in mind our monthly schedule. Also look for events, like the swap meet in the early spring, various Pride events around June, Transgender Days of Visibility and Remembrance, Halloween, and of course the winter Holidays. Even if you don't have family to share with, reach out to your community here. We would love to celebrate your life with you!

Your Editor,
Meghan Fournoit
mhb2ist@yahoo.com

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Happy Birthday!

Jenny F.	Cathy A.	Judy Ann H.
Shelly B.	Terry S.	Noah L.
Maggie Mae	Marcie R.	Aluna K.
Gina S.	Marsha D.	

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.

Crossport Board Election Results!

Vicky Blum, Stacy Lynn Makin and Cathy Allison met at 7pm on December 18 to review the ballots and verify the validity of any write-in votes. This was the first election where an on-line balloting process was used.

22 Ballots were cast, making this the highest turnout by percentage in many years (71%).

Here are the results, in order of the number of 'yes'

votes received, then position on the ballot in case of a tie:

- Cathy Allison - 21 votes, 1 abstention
- Wendy Le Cross - 20 votes, 1 no, 1 abstention
- Stacy Lynn Makin - 20 votes, 1 no, 1 abstention
- Callie Liskay - 17 votes, 5 abstentions
- Jill Ambrose - 17 votes, 1 no, 4 abstentions
- Jean Fine - 16 votes, 1 no, 5 abstentions
- Laura Ann Weaver - 11 votes, 3 no, 8 abstentions

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In Memoriam

By Cathy Allison

I recently saw the movie *Bohemian Rhapsody*, and while I really recommend it, this article is not really about the movie, but more how it ended. It ends with the death of Freddy Mercury in November 1991 from complications due to AIDS. It reminded me that in January 1992, I wrote an article for the *InnerView* because Crossport had just lost its first member to the same disease.

So this article is in remembrance of Billie Isaacs who passed away December 22, 1991 at the age of 32 from pneumonia and meningitis due to AIDS. Billie was two years younger than I at the time of her death. She was the first person I had known who had been diagnosed with either HIV or AIDS.

Originally people believed that only certain people were at risk for HIV. When the first few cases of AIDS emerged, people believed the disease was only contracted by men who had sex with men. Even the CDC originally called this infection GRID, or **gay-related immunodeficiency syndrome**. Shortly thereafter, the CDC published a case definition calling the infection AIDS.

The media named those at highest risk to get AIDS the "four-H club":

- **hemophiliacs**, who received contaminated blood transfusions
- **homosexual men**, who reported higher incidences of the disease
- **heroin users**, and people who used drugs via injection
- **Haitians** or people of Haitian origin, many cases

of AIDS were reported in Haiti

Although the first treatment for HIV was developed in 1987, azidothymidine, also known as zidovudine, was not highly effective. By 1995, complications arising from AIDS was the leading cause of death for adults 25 to 44 years old. About 50,000 Americans died of AIDS-related causes. African-Americans made up 49 percent of AIDS-related deaths.

In 1997, highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) became the new treatment standard. It resulted in a 47 percent decline in death rates.

In July 2012, the FDA approved pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). PrEP is a medication shown to lower the risk of contracting HIV from sexual activity or needle use by 90%. The treatment requires taking the medication on a daily basis. Doctors recommend PrEP for people who are in a relationship with someone who has HIV.

Others who may benefit from PrEP include:

- people who are in a relationship with someone who has HIV.
- people in a non-monogamous relationship with a partner who is HIV-negative (PrEP reduces the risk of transmitting HIV to a partner)
- people who have had anal sex without a condom or who have contracted a sexually transmitted disease (STD) in the past six months
- people who have sex with men and women
- people who have injected drugs, have been in drug treatment, or shared needles in the past six months
- people who regularly have different sexual part-

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ners of unknown HIV status, especially if they inject drugs

So how does all this "ancient history" relate to the transgender community today? According to the CDC:

- From 2009 to 2014, 2,351 transgender people were diagnosed with HIV in the United States.
- Eighty-four percent (1,974) were transgender women, 15% (361) were transgender men, and less than 1% (16) had another gender identity.
- Around half of transgender people (43% [844] of transgender women; 54% [193] of transgender men) who received an HIV diagnosis from 2009 to 2014 lived in the South.
- According to current estimates, around a quarter (22-28%) of transgender women are living with HIV, and more than half (an estimated 56%) of black/African American transgender women are living with HIV.
- Among the 3 million HIV testing events reported to CDC in 2015, the percentage of transgender people who received a new HIV diagnosis was more than 3 times the national average.
- Nearly two thirds of transgender women and men surveyed by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveil-

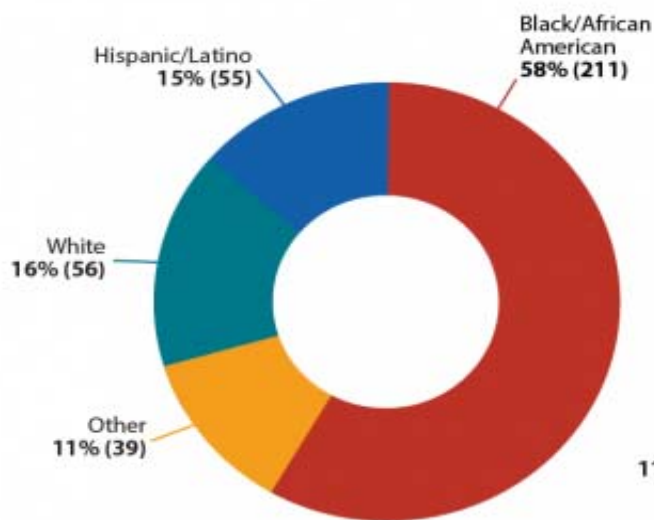
lance System (BRFSS) in 2014 and 2015 from 28 jurisdictions reported never testing for HIV.

Multiple factors put transgender people at risk for HIV infection and transmission, including multiple sexual partners, anal or vaginal sex without condoms or medicines to prevent HIV, injecting hormones or drugs with shared syringes and other drug paraphernalia, commercial sex work, mental health issues, incarceration, homelessness, unemployment, and high levels of substance misuse compared to the general population, as well as violence and lack of family support.

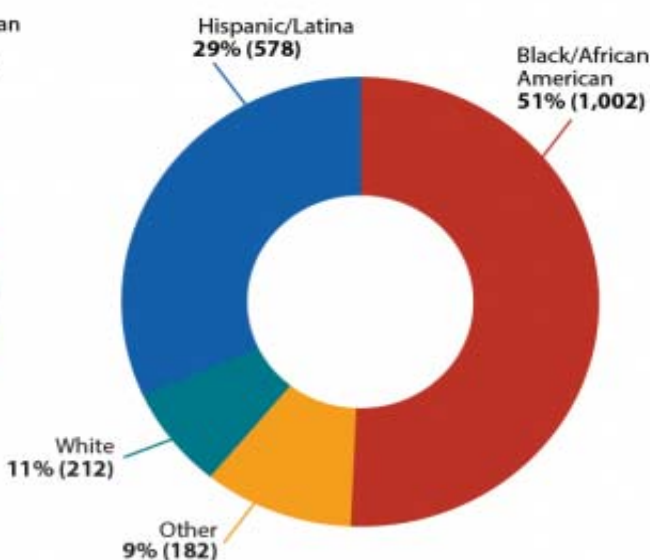
Even if you don't have regular access to health care, there are 14 places within 10 miles of downtown Cincinnati (4 of those in Northern Kentucky) where you can get a free HIV screening. Simply go to <https://gettested.cdc.gov> and enter your zip code to find a location near to you.

You can also get more information about preventing and the treatment of HIV and AIDS at the Greater Than AIDS website at <https://www.greaterthan.org>.

RIP Billie.



Transgender Men
(N=361)



Transgender Women
(N=1,974)

Source: Clark H, Babu AS, Wiewel EW, Opoku J, Crepaz N. Diagnosed HIV Infection in Transgender Adults and Adolescents: Results from the National HIV Surveillance System, 2009-2014

A Call for Conversation

-Meghan Fournoit

So here is where the newsletter can be at it's best, by canvassing the membership (THAT'S YOU!) for ideas for content and conversation. We will list some topics of discussion here that may resonate with you, or even spark other ideas. Because there is so much change going on in the organization, this months list of ideas may be longer than future publications. However the more response we get, the more articles we may end up adding to the newsletter.

Remembering Leelah Alcorn. Its been three years since Leelah took her own life. Being so close to home, and such a tragic and sad situation, many of us were deeply affected in many ways. We are considering an article on her, and how her situation has affected our own lives. Your thoughts and feelings may be helpful in expressing both the grief of the tragedy as well as the hopefulness in learning to move forward.

Best Venues for Saturday Night GNO. Smokey Bars? Country Line Dancing? Drag Shows? Dancing? Darts and Pool? Tour of a Brewery? What sounds fun to you?

While Crossport has traditionally met at about a handful of places that are LBGT friendly, there are more out there that we have not frequented as often. It might be nice to change it up, and meet in different neighborhoods. Also in today's atmosphere, the acceptance of LBGT is expanded. Keep in mind, however, that the comfort level for newer, more private members is very important.

Opinion Pieces. There is a lot of news about Transgender from social to political issues. Do opinion pieces give you an outlet, or help to be better informed. Is there something out there that is just begging to be discussed? Write a letter to the editor!

Medical News. For those in transition, this can be a vital topic. Interested in the latest information about HRT or procedures? What about hair loss? Maybe you want some of it lost and other hairs back (ewww, not ON the back). With the state of advancement of medicine, especially in areas around stem cells, there may be important new information out there.

Celebrate your Sisters! We have some awesome and interesting members. Some of us have been at this a long time and have an interesting perspective on how things have changed over time. Others of us have had interesting experiences (Appalachian Trail?). Maybe a monthly member highlight? Also we should celebrate the milestones of our lives; Birthdays, Births, Passages.

Book and Movie Reviews. Crossport has an amazing library, but how often have you taken advantage of it? The list is so long, it is hard to know where to start. Not every article or book is going to fit the bill for what you are looking for. It might be nice to have a synopsis before making the effort to borrow that book or movie! Plus, there are always new movies, articles and books coming out that may not yet be in the library. Who knows, if you found one to be poignant, perhaps someone else may be interested too.

Humor and Entertainment. Who doesn't like a good joke? Laughter is important to keeping life bearable. Have any good jokes, cartoons, or stories that give you a good warm fuzzy? Would you like to see some?

Fashion and Makeup Tips. OK, so it's cliché, but lets face it, in this spectrum, looking good is a big part of the territory. Not all of us have seen all the tricks of the trade, and what works for one girl might not for the next. We aren't all trained cosmetologists, and I for one struggle with the fact that 50 years of follicle challenges has not prepared me to be an expert at setting a stunning Coiffure (yeah, that spec doo!)

Off Topic. We all have incredibly diverse lives. Many of us have interesting hobbies, jobs, skills. Maybe an article about brewing, or backpacking. Not everything has to be pink and Barbie. There is a great ad campaign about Run like a Girl, Throw like a Girl, Hit like a Girl. Girls can get down and dirty too, how about you? And there are lots of other reviews of local interest that might be fun to share.

Cooking and Recipes. It's a thought, and some of us are pretty good at it. Could be anything from Divinity to Dumpcake. Brisket to Beer-cheese. Mmmm, I'm getting hungry now.

As you can see, this newsletter can go in any direction that you want. What the Board wants is to provide you, the membership, with a relevant forum to share and enhance your experience. You can provide feedback through the Facebook Page Crossport Cincinnati (@crossportcincy), or by e-mail to crossportcincy@yahoo.com or to Meghan mbh2ist@yahoo.com

Note, This article is a reprint from The Innerview January 2018 Volume 34, Issue 1. Consider providing us with feedback on what you want to see in future editions of the Innerview. Or consider letting us know if you had a favorite article over the last year.

Crossport Board Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2018

Cathy was the meeting Facilitator.

Board members present: Cathy, Stacy, Jean, Jill, Laura Ann, Vicky

Board members absent: Tina

Guests present: Callie, Wendy

The meeting was called to order at 7:18pm.

Old Business:

Cathy submitted the Minutes from the November 6th meeting. They were accepted.

Holiday Party Planning: Stacy submitted a report. Nineteen people have paid to date, Nine others have said their payment is on the way. Stacy will buy two sets of tickets for the raffle and "split the pot".

Vicky and Tina will check people in. Cathy will do the Gift Exchange, Raffle and will get the cake. Stacy will sell extra raffle tickets. Callie will sell "split the pot" tickets. Vicky and Stacy will acquire and wrap the raffle prizes.

PayPal Transfer: Vicky reported that the Paypal has been updated with the EIN, completing the transfer.

Board Elections for 2019: Cathy submitted a report. Balloting is being done electronically for the first time through surveymonkey which both eliminates overvoting and insures anonymous results. As of December 4, 22 ballots have been completed, so quorum has been met and the results can be accepted. Vicky, Stacy and Cathy will validate the balloting on December 18.

Bringing Crossport into Legal Compliance: Vicky filed the Name Registration Form 534A with the state of Ohio. An annual meeting of the members will need to be scheduled after the first of the year.

Annual Outreach Calendar: Laura Ann reported that there are three major events that need to be planned each year.

- The annual picnic which should be started in January (Burnet Woods chosen for 2019).
- Cincinnati Pride on June 22, 2019 which should be started in February.
- The annual Holiday party which should be started in August.

New Business:

Stacy brought up who are the MAPC contacts for scheduling rooms. Jean responded that Debbie

Ramey is scheduler (office@MtAuburnPresby.org) and Dan Davidson is the caretaker (DanoDave@gmail.com , 206-495-8481).

Stacy also brought up a question on how to deal with issues of individuals members doing outreach without informing the board. The decision was made that in this situation, the member should be invited to a board meeting to present their outreach to the board for an official decision.

Jean brought up that the Jewish Federation President, Shep Englander, would like to make a presentation to the board at a regular meeting on learning, gender and the Torah. The board advised Jean to invite him to the first board meeting that coincides with his schedule.

Monthly Reports:

P.O Box Vicky reported the PO Box contained two payments for tickets to the Holiday Party.

Hotline Phone. Stacy submitted a report to the board. No new phone yet. She will convert her old phone to the Crossport phone if she gets a new one.

Membership. Vicky submitted a report to the board. As of this Board Meeting, CrossPort currently has 31 voting members for 2018.

Finances. Vicky submitted a report to the board. CrossPort currently has \$1924.22. Of that, \$1269 is committed to cover the minimum charge at DeSha's.

Crossport Website and Social Media. Jean submitted charts showing the number of active members on CrossportCincy averaging 72/day meaning over 35% of the 197 members are active on a given day.

Crossport.org attracts an average of 12 unique visitors per day.

Email Correspondence. Cathy submitted a report to the board.

- There were six requests for information about the peer group events or socials. Cathy resolved them.
- Email request for places to get a makeover in Cincinnati. Stacy handled it.
- There was one email from Transilient asking for people to interview when they are in Cincinnati on November 7. Cathy posted it on CrossportCincy.
- One TG newsletter was received, from Chicago Gender Society.
- Confirmation email from Ohio Business Gateway to allow filing of name registration.

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- Eight emails about payment made for the Holiday Party.
- Email from Proctor and Gamble with link asking for feedback on their GABLE event. Cathy responded.
- Email sent to all voting members with six months membership asking if they would like to run for board. Callie responded yes and emailed in her bio/campaign statement.
- Email sent to all voting members that they would be receiving a link to the board member ballot.
- Email received with questions about ballot. Cathy answered it.
- Email received stating happy with the quality of candidates.
- Email from Xavier student who made contact at TDoR who is doing his thesis on being transgender. Forwarded to Stacy.
- Email from Namecheap that credit card is expiring November 2018. Forwarded to Vicky.
- Email sent to all voting members reminding them to fill out their ballot.
- Email received stating December InnerView was excellent. Forwarded it to Meghan.

CD/TS Peer Support Group. Stacy submitted a report to the board. She reported that attendance has been about 14. Lorie has offered to teach/advise both Crossport and Heartland on how to facilitate group meetings. Callie volunteered to work with Stacy at meetings to keep conversation moving. Has previous experience with facilitating.

First Friday Social. Stacy submitted a report to the board. She reported that Tostados attracted 14 in October.

Second Saturday Social. Stacy submitted a report to the board. She reported there was no Second Saturday because it was the next day after First Friday.

Thursday Night Social. Stacy submitted a report to the board. She would like to move to a venue that

does not shut down as early.

Saturday Night Out. Stacy submitted a report to the board. She reported that there was no Saturday Night Out this month. The board advised Stacy that she should look to recruit a backup event person for those nights she is unable to attend.

Library. Jill reported the book that was checked out was returned. Cathy donated three books and Monica donated a bag of books to the library.

Outreach. Cathy submitted a report to the board. She is working to get a checking account set up for the new 501(c)(3) group but is having trouble scheduling a time with the treasurer of that group. Cathy was involved with members of the 501(c)(3) working group to organize a TDoR protest at the Washington Park gazebo before the TDoR ceremony. About 60 people attended. Cathy was contacted directly by a professor at UC who is interested in having someone from Crossport address her students sometime after the spring semester starts.

Newsletter. Cathy submitted a report to the board. The November newsletter was emailed to 314 email addresses on November 1. One bounced and none unsubscribed.

- As of December 3, 119 unique emails had been opened (38%) and 90 had clicked through to the InnerView (28.89%).
- The December newsletter was emailed to 318 email addresses on November 29. It also included a link to purchase Holiday Party tickets. One bounced and one unsubscribed.
- As of December 3, 86 unique emails had been opened (27.1%) and 55 had clicked through to the InnerView (17.7%).
- Between November 1 and November 30, seven more email addresses were added.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03pm. The board agreed that the January meeting should be moved from Tuesday, January 1 to Wednesday, January 2. Cathy will verify with MAPB that a room is available that date. She will also facilitate the January meeting.

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In addition to the balloted nominees, two individuals received write-in votes, though neither received enough votes to bump one of the balloted nominees:

Sheila Young - 4 votes

Joni Andrews - 1 vote

The new board members will be seated at the January Board Meeting which will be held on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 (as Tuesday, January 1 is a holiday) and will serve through December 31, 2020.

The Baby in the Picture

-By Bethany A.

My first ever Crossport meeting!!!! Who doesn't like holiday parties?! But this party was the most anticipated one this season. Why, you ask? Because it meant I would be entering a reality that was held secret for twenty four years of my life, a reality that has been recently integrated with mine, a reality that I would be able to finally see for myself: the community Crossport has helped establish and continue to thrive. Being invited to this event would be a staple in my life. A staple that binds old and new chapters together. A staple that creates a new bond for my family.

From some of the stories I have heard of past outings, I knew these girls know how to have a good time! I also knew that public acceptance has been more popular than in the past, so going into the restaurant I was calm about the public eye, but honestly a part of me had my defenses up. Walking through the hallways and dining room, catching people's eyes as they curiously stare, smiling at them as we strutted by. Not a word was said, not a question was asked. Relief filled the air as we gathered in the room that was quickly replaced with laughter and cheer. Seeing everyone in their comfort zone; hair styled, makeup on, dressed to impress. Well it worked. I was impressed. So many lovely personalities went out of their way to meet me! I was engulfed in acceptance and I was honored to be so quickly welcomed to the group!

Hearing all of the stories, personal life struggles and successes, the ups and downs; I was blessed to be included and share my own stories and experiences. We celebrated birthdays and overcoming obstacles in personal relationships; toasted to Wendy's first Christmas with her own Christmas presents under the tree. Sitting at the table with my little family and my new Crossport family, there was so much to be thankful for this holiday season, and there was no place I'd rather be.

The room soon swelled with flavors of beef, cinnamon apples, and spices, oh my! The dinner was so good that we went back for seconds, and after dinner came the raffles! With my luck, I never win anything but to my surprise my name was actually pulled—twice!! The first prize was a gorgeous set of Adrienne Vittadini lip glosses and the second was a beautiful pair of gold and pearl earrings! Such amazing mementos to adore and epitomize such a wonderful event! The most joyous part of it all was not what I won, but seeing all of the excitement of everyone else! Being in a room full of cheering, laughter, "ooos" and "awes," every moment was truly magical.

As the evening came to a close, people intermingled and I was able to converse with those I made sure to not miss! So many times I was referred to as "the baby in the photo" from a picture taken in 1993 that was shared by my lovely Cathy for all to see the love that we share. Now twenty five years old, I stood tall in my conversations. Not because I was wearing my black leather four and a half inch boots, but because of my confidence. I may not have understood the concept of Cathy when I was a baby, I just knew I was loved, and I loved my parents unconditionally. Cathy, my Mother, and I still share that unconditional love to this day. I came from "the baby in the picture" to a loving supporter, an activist, and a proud daughter in the room. Thank you all for including me in your community, your stories, and your love. I wish each and every one of you happiness, good health, and peace for the New Year and always.

Editors Note: *A huge thank you to Bethany for sharing her impressions from the holiday party. We all know that acceptance in this world takes courage and an open mind. Bethany was not only kind enough to embrace Cathy and the Crossport community, but also took on the role of photographer for the evening!*

Miss Spain Makes History as First Transgender Miss Universe Contestant

Her talent, charisma, and activism captured the hearts of people the world over.

BY SOPHIE SAINT THOMAS

<https://www.allure.com/story/miss-universe-angela-ponce-spain-transgender-contestant>

DECEMBER 17, 2018



Spain's Angela Ponce just made history as the first openly [transgender woman](#) to compete in the [Miss Universe pageant](#). While she didn't win the title, her talent, charisma, and activism caught the attention of many, and her inclusion in the competition is a watershed moment in LGBTQ history.

As the [New York Post reports](#), Ponce is the first openly transgender woman to compete in the Miss Universe contest in the 66 years that it has been running. The ban against transgender contestants was officially lifted in 2012, but Miss Spain is the first contestant to compete since the lift.

Previously, the Miss Universe competition was owned by Donald Trump. From Trump's attempt to [ban trans people](#) from joining the military to his administration's efforts to further marginalize and set back the trans community by asking the CDC to [ban the word "transgender"](#) from official documents, Trump has made his prejudice towards transgender folks obvious through his politics.

Miss Spain said [in an interview with Glamour](#) that she would love an opportunity to have an in-person discussion with President Trump. "I really don't know what might cross his mind...but I would like to have a conversation one human being to another and try to explain to him that the rights I am fighting for are simply the rights of every human being," she says. "I would try to make him feel in his heart the importance of understanding other people. And I would try to help him understand with the position that he's in, he could help save lives."

Miss Spain may not have won the pageant, but her words, bravery, and actions have won the hearts of people across the world. Her activism also set the stage for more trans folks to openly compete in pageants.

Minding Your Ps and Qs (Pics and Quotes)

-Meghan Fournoit

So it seems like CDs and recent transitioning TG folks are as fond of posting selfies on Facebook as tweens and teenage girls. Ok, I admit it, if I have a decent shot, I am tickled pink to share it on my page too. But it really doesn't stop there, we as a community have a propensity to share lots of photos of ourselves and our friends. We are happy to spread the joy of being with others, and the excitement of nice outfits and good times. Sharing can be a healthy celebration of acceptance of ourselves and others.

But before you post that perfect pic of your pretty pal, consider a couple of things. First of all, not everyone WANTS to be portraited publicly. Some of us would prefer a certain anonymity. You should ask permission from those in your photos. Also consider where you post. Are you posting in a public space, on a private group with limited access? How secure is the posting area? Are you including tags or images that are more searchable? What are your privacy settings? What about others with access to your photos?

Also consider the content of the photo. Are you including others in the background that may be easily identified? How about clues? If you don't want your exact or even relative location revealed, are you standing next to a sign with the name and address of the venue? Is the background unmistakable? For

some people, this might represent a risk they would rather not expose. And speaking of Exposure, is the photo one that you would be embarrassed to show your loved ones? Just because you think the photo is secure, remember that things can live on the internet for years, and you have very little control over publicly posted information.

As long as we are on the topic of lack of control over internet content, I would also like to remind you that it goes both ways. Not only do many of us post our own content, but some of us like to repost other "borrowed" content. Again, there is a certain amount of propriety that should be exercised here. If the photo or content has not been posted in an open public forum, permission should be sought. Also reposting or using content from websites requires some care. A few years ago, Getty Images went on quite a campaign to sue people for copyright infringement.

Some things to consider when reusing content: Do not use content in commercially marketed media without explicit permission (i.e. sales literature or part of a work you are selling). If you use content for non-commercial or "Fair-Use" distribution, be sure to provide readable credit to the source. Do not claim credit for work that is not your own, and make claims about the content. And never seriously try to pass off that picture of Jennifer Aniston as your self!

Holiday Party Wrap Up!

-Meghan Fournoit

This year's holiday soiree was festive and fun. I'll admit that I lost count of how many people made it, but it was around 32 participants. This years venue was DeShey's in Montgomery, and was quite nice. The room they provided was just about the right size, so even with as many participants as we had, it was not overly crowded. The food was excellent, and this year, I could enjoy seconds as my corset wasn't as tight!

As in years past, some of the more special moments were sharing with our loved ones. This year had a couple of our offspring in attendance. Also Vicki announced her upcoming betrothal to her beau! Congratulations to the loving couple! And of course, as a

special favor, Bethany provided a keen eye for photographs of the event.



Please be on the lookout for feedback requests about the event. Let us know what you liked or didn't, so we can continue with a successful party next year.









"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

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2011/12 "Best Lawyer", CityBeat

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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 The Crazy Fox, Newport, 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 7:00pm*, 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.

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. Held at Boswell's in Cincinnati's Northside neighborhood, dinner is at 7:00.

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, dinner at 7:00pm and music at 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: PO Box 19936, Cincinnati, OH 45219

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? _____

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