

CROSSPORT *InnerView*

April 2019

**Volume 35
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Crossport Schedule of Events

The Monthly Schedule of Events for Crossport for April and May are as follows:

- April Board meeting, Tue. Apr 2, 7:00 pm, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
 First Friday Karaoke, Fri. Apr 5, 9:00 pm, Tostados
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Apr 8, 7:30 pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
SWAP NIGHT, Fri Apr 12, 7:00 pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
 Second Saturday, Sat. Apr 13, 7:00 pm, Boswell's
 Thursday Dinner, Apr 18, 7:00 pm, Mokka in Newport then Social at The Crazy Fox
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Apr 22, 7:30pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
 Saturday Night Out, Sat. Apr 27, 7:00 pm, TBD (see Facebook or website)
- First Friday Karaoke, Fri. May 3, 9:00pm, Tostados
 May Board meeting, Tue. May 7, 7:00 pm, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
 Second Saturday, Sat. May 11, 7:00 pm, Boswell's
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. May 13, 7:30 pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
 Thursday Dinner, Thur. May 16, 7:00 pm, Mokka in Newport then Social at The Crazy Fox
 Saturday Night Out, Sat. May 25, 7:00 pm, TBD (see Facebook or website)
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. May 27, 7:30 pm, 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 Spring, my favorite time of the year. Maybe its based on upbringing, or maybe it's based on experience and observation, but I always enjoy that feeling of new life bursting forth. With that excitement of new life comes new hope for the future. After the cold and dreary winter, where lifelessness and despair reside, spring often dispels that funk and negative outlook. Of course, even the bleak period is important and serves a purpose. At the least, it gives us an appreciation for the better days, at the most, it helps ground us and identify the areas we need to let go.

In keeping with the transition from winter to spring, I have been musing on something new. While Crossport was started primarily as a social structure for Crossdressers, it has evolved to be more inclusive. Crossport serves a greater segment of the entire transgender spectrum, from those that just like to dress as an alternate gender to those that need to bring their physical being in alignment of their self perception. Originally, the group consisted of originally male at birth identified individuals (or MTF). Since those days, as both the organization and society has changed and become more aware, Crossport also serves FTM, although not quite as frequently.

This is an intriguing evolution, and from my perspective as newsletter editor, an underserved constituency. While the FTM portion of the population may have additional resources and groups available to them, I believe that Crossport could do a better job of supporting them. I understand that some individuals need a more core centric group to identify with, and that the commonality of specific experience and expression can be more conducive participation and openness. On the other hand, there may be some significant insights shared between FTM and MTF individuals. After all, the common experience of having an affinity to the "opposite" gender can be analogous.

In looking back at numerous articles, blogs and discussion posts that I have read over the years, I have seen again and again a thirst to understand what it means to be the opposite gender. I couldn't begin to count the articles on presentation, beauty,

voice, and deportment that I've read. Some of the best and most revered have been articles where Cis-women have provided insights to those that want to emulate both their appearance and behavior. How often has this piece of advice been given "If you want to appear as a women, study what they wear and how they act"? But what about our FTM brothers? Do we offer them some value?

I spent over 50 years living within the general identification as male. Sure, I have characteristics and habits that are non-stereotypical and non-gender normative, but for the most part I have a huge amount of experience in what it takes to pass as a guy. If sharing that experience can help another individual find their own expression, then why shouldn't I pass that along? Even though I really enjoy my "alternate" side, I have been unquestionably successful in a male presentation. In fact, there are lots of stereotypical male characteristics that I enjoy under the right circumstances. One of the lessons that MTF people learn with time (hopefully), is to not try too hard. Don't be a caricature of who you are trying to be. The same is true for FTM people.

So what can Crossport do to welcome our brothers, and help them feel at home. First of all, we need to recognize them. I've heard the expression that the golden rule shouldn't be "treat others as you would have them treat you", but rather "treat others as they want to be treated". Don't assume since they started out life identifying a female, that they want to discuss topics like nail polish and foundation. Alternatively, don't assume they want to spend endless hours discussing how to gut a deer or drop a big block. Maybe they do, maybe they don't. Just ask! The other way to welcome them is to give them a forum. In keeping with this though, I invite articles and letters for inclusion in this newsletter. Beside helping our brothers feel welcome, we all might learn a thing or two about who we are.

Your Editor,
Meghan Fournoit

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**A BIG THANK YOU TO
ERIK D.
For Becoming a
GOLD Level Voting Member!!!**

Dancing at the Redmoor

-Lorie Watson

There was something liberating about saying “yes” when Stacy, a transitioned transgender woman friend from our Crossport support group, asked if anyone wanted to go dancing with her. I was on a peak of confidence for some reason, feeling the comfort of being with the group of 8 gurls at dinner where she asked the question. After months of occasional “socials” with my crossdressers support group, I was growing more comfortable with expressing my woman in public within the protected and safe environment of my sisters and brothers. It just felt like it was time to see what it’s like to be in public without the safety in numbers.

Fortunately for me, the venue was familiar, and I was also familiar with the band that was playing; Soulpocket. Knowing it was a R&B band, I felt a little safer knowing there would be some diversity in the crowd, as well.

Wearing a short, black, corduroy skirt, with purple leggings and a purple bojo top and ballet slippers, I boldly stepped from the car and began my sashay to the entrance. The spring thunderstorm had passed through the area in the last hour, leaving a shine on the sidewalks reflecting the neon lights of the city square; tires hissing as cars pass by; restaurant couples walking to their cars cradling their boxes of leftovers.

Stacy wasn’t there yet, so I tried to find a spot that wouldn’t draw attention to myself while I texted Stacy that “I’m out front.” True in more ways than one, lol. Eventually Stacy arrived and led the way into the concert hall; The Redmoor. At the entrance, I looked the bouncer in the eye and he looked away. The gentleman taking the cover charge seemed uninterested in my status.

As I walked through the lobby/bar area, it took on the surreal sensation of a movie camera being carried along, turning from side to side, from face to face, looking for the slightest reaction. I felt like an observer behind a mask, behind a cardboard cutout.

Stacy said, “Do you want to dance? I’d like to get down on the dance floor.” I said, “If I can get rid of this coat, yeah.” All the chairs were taken (the venue was cabaret style), so it didn’t seem like any good “coat racks” handy. Then I looked back at the entrance and saw an actual coat rack, where I walked (as a lady) to hang up my coat, put my purse across my body, take a deep breath, and walk confidently back to Stacy sans coat.

“Well that was quick!” she remarked. I wasn’t sure if she was referring to the coat or my conversion from wallflower to dancing queen. “Are you ready?”

That was a loaded question; NO! Yes! I don’t know! Yet I found myself following Stacy down the walkway, past patrons who seemed to notice us, and splitting through the packed dance floor close to the stage. As self-conscious as I was, I couldn’t tell if people were clocking me or not.

Ach! Arriving at the dance floor, now it was time to find my dancing body! And in girl mode, at that!

I kept myself facing the stage because I didn’t want to look directly into anyone’s face, but it became clear that I didn’t “pass.” The group of women in front of us were noticing me, and as each was tapped on the shoulder by her friend to get her to turn around and look at the crossdresser, all 6’ 1” of her, wig swinging around her neck, I tried to maintain my composure and live my own life independent of their reactions.

Though I’ve been told I’m a good dancer, I’ve always been very self-conscious when it comes to my dancing. People would say, “The funny thing about wondering what people are thinking about you is that they’re not.” But in this case, they were.

Looking back as I write this, I am shocked that I didn’t run from the Redmoor in an anxiety attack. For some reason, I was feeling my full Lorie, not in a defiant way, but more as that observer, as an experiment, maybe to see what happens next.

One of the 6 women in the group in front of us decided to be the “daring one” and turns to me and starts dancing “with” me, in her sexiest style. Now, this was an attractive woman. Slender, cute, wearing a see-through black top. So, this was a moment where, as Lorie, I was experiencing the lesbian within. Though I’m transgender, my sexual orientation is that I’m attracted to women. Period. So as shocking as this moment was for me - even though the idea of attracting a potential relationship in this atmosphere seemed ridiculously remote – the concept of a potential relationship was toying with me. Not that I was going to act on it.

I continued to dance with her, matching her moves almost as a mirror, which was a relief to feel myself being Lorie without apology. This lovely woman eventually tired of the game with “the crossdresser” and after a couple songs, the group’s attention to the trans women in their midst seemed to wear off. At first they seemed to ignore us, but not really. Actually, they seemed to include us in the sisterhood, to a degree. Or maybe it was a little of both. And maybe it was different for each one.

After several songs working up a dance sweat, Stacy and I walked up to the bar for a drink, finding chairs over to the side. Renee, one of the gurls, arrived, and I assumed that we would have our own little isolated group in the midst of the cis world. I could see

the looks from people; seeming curiosity from the women, maybe discomfort for the men? Stacy loves to take pictures when we're out at social events, so she approached one of the uncomfortable men and asked him to take our picture, lol.

A couple of women came up to the chair next to me at the bar, apparently to pay their bill, but as soon as they approached one of them began a conversation with me about her hair, asking me what I thought of her hair extensions. What?! But it was an extended, animated conversation, one in which I was able to be my full feminine self with my sisters. After they left, another woman came and asked if she could sit here while she waited for her friend, who was not ready to go home or stop dancing. As a matter of fact, said friend came up to the bar from the dance floor to bring Stacy back to the dance floor for more dancing!

We talked for a while, laughing at the fact that my name is Lorie, her name is Laurie (pronounced the same), lol. We slipped into talking about the rainstorm, which led to churches, which led to a person we both know at my church, which she visits with said friend, which led to talking about me speaking at said church in a couple weeks. She said she would come to see me, and I said, you might not recognize me

there, lol.

The point is, I don't know if she, or anyone, is talking to me because of the novelty of a trans person, or the curiosity, or the trophy of being the daring one, or an attraction, or even a sexual turn on. I believe that there was an element of kindness, acceptance, encouragement, and most of all, friendship from the majority of the women who saw me and talked to me. It seems like the women are willing to honor my desire, and my attempt, to be the woman that I am inside, the woman who is willing to risk the consequences that might arise.

I have no illusions that I passed when I was dancing at the Redmoor. The amount of attention I received was not anything like what I experience as a male. And yet, I drove home that night feeling elated that I had risen to the occasion, and that there was kindness and sisterhood awaiting me out in the real world.

P.S. For those who are saying, "I could never do that!" Even in this moment my knees are shaking at the thought. I don't know where my courage and vulnerability came from, but I know I've stretched my comfort zone, and it will continue to reach into that green growth zone where my authentic self lies.

Eye Cosmetic Safety

Note from the editor: I have recently seen a new product on the market, Magnetic Eyeliner. This eyeliner is purported to allow magnetic eyelashes to adhere to the eyelid lash line directly. Product claims to be FDA approved have been published, but knowing that magnetic paints contain pulverized iron, I thought it might be interesting to verify the veracity of these claims. I have not yet found specific information on this product YET. During my search however, I found this informative article on the FDA website:

<https://www.fda.gov/cosmetics/productsingredients/products/ucm137241.htm>

The article is from 2001, and updated in 2006

-Meghan Fournoit

Most eye cosmetics are safe when used properly. However, it's important to be careful about the risk of infection, injury from the applicator, and use of unapproved color additives.

Keep it clean!

Eye cosmetics are usually safe when you buy them, but misusing them can allow dangerous bacteria or fungi to grow in them. Then, when applied to the eye area, a cosmetic can cause an infection. In rare cases, women have been temporarily or permanently blinded by an infection from an eye cosmetic. See the Safety Checklist below for tips on keeping your eye cosmetics clean and protecting against infections.

Occasionally, contamination can be a problem for some eye cosmetics even when they are new. FDA has an Import Alert in effect for cosmetics -- including eye cosmetics -- contaminated with harmful microorganisms.

Don't share! Don't swap!

Don't share or swap eye cosmetics -- not even with your best friend. Another person's germs may be hazardous to you. The risk of contamination may be even greater with "testers" at retail stores, where a number of people are using the same sample product. If you feel you must sample cosmetics at a store, make sure they are applied with single-use applicators, such as clean cotton swabs.

Hold still!

It may seem like efficient use of your time to apply makeup in the car or on the bus, but resist that temptation, even if you're not in the driver's seat. If you hit a bump, come to a sudden stop, or are hit by another vehicle, you risk injuring your eye (scratching your cornea, for example) with a mascara wand or other applicator. Even a slight scratch can result in a serious infection.

What's in it?

As with any cosmetic product sold on a retail basis to consumers, eye cosmetics are required to

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CrossPort Board Meeting Minutes

March 5th, 2019

Cathy was the meeting Facilitator.

Board members present: Cathy, Stacy, Jill, Laura Ann, Wendy, Callie

Board members absent: Jean

Guests present: Brittney, Sarah

The meeting was called to order at 7:08pm.

Old Business:

Cathy submitted the Minutes from the February 5th meeting. They were accepted.

Annual Outreach Calendar:

Transgender Day of Visibility will be on Sunday, March 31st. This will be a joint effort between major transgender groups. Crossport has no printed brochures. The board has authorized Cathy to have 100 printed using the existing design. Callie will be media point person for Crossport.

Clothing Swap joint event with Heartland Transgender Wellness will be on Friday, April 12th. Using Signup Genius was discussed to seek volunteers to assist in clothing swap. Jill and Brittany volunteered to assist setup.

TransOhio Symposium will be on April 26-28. Discussed CrossPort potentially having a seminar on Ageing in the Transgender Community. Callie will consult with several psych resources to potentially bring in a professional voice.

CrossPort Picnic will be on July 27. Discussed potential activities and a more "family friendly" celebration with the inclusion of Heartland.

New Business:

Northern KY Pride: Northern Kentucky Pride will be Sunday, June 9th from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Monthly Reports:

PO Box: Stacy submitted a report to the board. There was one membership renewal and a confirmation letter from the Parks board regarding the reservation for the picnic.

Hotline Phone. Stacy submitted a report to the board. 4 calls were received in the last month resulting in two new individuals attending support group meeting. The Phone is in Stacy's name c/o CrossPort, and monthly payments will be drawn from the CrossPort account.

Membership. Cathy submitted a report to the board. Cathy sent reminders to the February expiring members and also posted a request for memberships on CrossPortCincy. As of this Board Meeting, CrossPort has 35 members, 14 of who are carryovers from 2018.

Finances. Cathy submitted a report to the board. CrossPort currently has \$1958.22.

CrossPort Website and Social Media. There was no report this month.

Email Correspondence. Cathy submitted a report to the board.

- There were 3 confirmation emails:
 - Cinci Pride Booth Registration
 - Drake Park Shelter Reservation
 - Namechimp.com cancellation of server package
- There was one request to be added to the newsletter.
- There was one request for a friend to dress with.
- One request for running an ad in the newsletter; replied with rates and sizes.
- One email requesting CrossPort pass on sale information to members; sender invited to return to being an advertiser in the newsletter.
- One email from the USPS reminding that additional services paperwork had not yet been turned in
- One email about meeting dates and to report not having received the newsletter.
- One request for a UC student to sit in on a support group meeting. The student was told yes.
- One email regarding CrossPort name tags for members.

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- Reminders to the three CrossPort members whose membership expires in March and had not yet renewed were sent out.
- 2 notifications of paid membership fees through PayPal

CD/TS Peer Support Group. Stacy submitted a report to the board. 2 good sized meetings of 17 and 12 individuals with productive, engaging conversations and many returning members.

First Friday Social. Stacy submitted a report to the board. 12 individuals attended the event, down 1 from the previous month.

Second Saturday Social. Stacy submitted a report to the board. Organized by Cathy; 14 individuals attended the event.

Thursday Night Social. Stacy submitted a report to the board. 17 individuals attended the event.

Saturday Night Out. Stacy submitted a report to the board. There was no Saturday night out as it occurred on the same week as the Thursday Night social. It was discussed about changing the format of this monthly event to be a social dinner.

Library. Jill submitted a report. One movie is out on loan.

Outreach. Cathy submitted a report to the board.

- Heartland agreed to co-host spring and autumn clothing swaps with CrossPort.
- Heartland has begun having their web address forward to their Facebook page.
- A Bathroom incident reported by an individual regarding MVG was investigated. HR manager was contacted via LinkedIn. The manager opened an investigation and surveillance footage from the

timeframe reported was reviewed, but no incident was found.

- Living with Change is restructuring to narrow their focus and mission. Invitation extended to CrossPort for mutual discussions in several weeks.

501 ©(3) Status. No progress in setting up account for 501(c)(3), as Heartland representative has had other obligations.

Newsletter. Cathy submitted a report to the board.

- The February newsletter was emailed to 331 email addresses on Feb 1. One individual unsubscribed. Two bounced email addresses were adjusted to have a correct email address.
- 106 unique emails had been opened (32.3%) an increase of 18 from the previous report, and 88 had clicked through to access the InnerView (26.8%), an increase of 20 from the previous report. 0 had clicked through to the CrossPort Cincinnati FB page, 0 had clicked through to CrossPort.org.
- On March 1, 2019, a link was emailed to 334 email addresses. Mailchimp reported that as of March 3, 2019:
- 105 unique emails had been opened (31.4%), and 70 had clicked through to access the InnerView (21%). 0 had clicked through to the CrossPort Cincinnati FB page, 0 had clicked through to CrossPort.org.
- Between February 1 and February 28, four more emails were added to the list increasing current the number of subscribers to 334. Three subscribed themselves through the CrossPort Cincinnati FB page, one was added through an email request. All were subsequently sent a link to the latest issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm. The board agreed that Cathy would facilitate the April meeting.

Happy Birthday!

Darlene L. Melinda R. Erik D.
 Kathy L. Christine B. Jenn M.
 Charlene D. Nancy 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.

SWAP NIGHT REMINDER

Friday April 12th Crossport and Heartland Trans Wellness will be co-hosting a Clothing Swap Night. Located at the Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church, the meeting will start at 7:00pm. All clothing is donated by members, free for the taking. This is a wonderful way to support the community and have a little fun in the process. Donations may be made ahead of time.

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have an ingredient declaration on the label, according to regulations implemented under the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act, or FPLA -- an important consumer protection law. If you wish to avoid certain ingredients or compare the ingredients in different brands, you can check the ingredient declaration.

If a cosmetic sold on a retail basis to consumers does not have an ingredient declaration, it is considered misbranded and is illegal in interstate commerce. Very small packages in tightly compartmented display racks may have copies of the ingredient declaration available on tear-off sheets accompanying the display. If neither the package nor the display rack provides the ingredient declaration, you aren't getting the information you're entitled to. Don't hesitate to ask the store manager or the manufacturer why not.

What's that shade you're wearing?

In the United States, the use of color additives is strictly regulated. A number of color additives approved for cosmetic use in general are not approved for use in the area of the eye. An import alert for cosmetics containing illegal colors lists several eye cosmetics.

Keep away from kohl -- and keep kohl away from kids!

One color additive of particular concern is kohl. Also known as al-kahl, kajal, or surma, kohl is used in some parts of the world to enhance the appearance of the eyes, but is unapproved for cosmetic use in the United States. Kohl consists of salts of heavy metals, such as antimony and lead. It may be tempting to think that because kohl has been used traditionally as an eye cosmetic in some parts of the world, it must be safe. However, there have been reports linking the use of kohl to lead poisoning in children.*

An FDA Import Alert cites three main reasons for detaining imports of kohl:

1. For containing an unsafe color additive, which makes the product adulterated.
2. For labeling that describes the product falsely as "FDA Approved."
3. For lack of an ingredient declaration.

Some eye cosmetics may be labeled with the word "kohl" only to indicate the shade, not because they contain true kohl. If the product is properly labeled, you can check to see whether the color additives declared on the label are in FDA's list of color additives approved for use in cosmetics, then make sure they are listed as approved for use in the area of the eye.

Dying to dye your eyelashes?

Permanent eyelash and eyebrow tints and dyes have been known to cause serious eye injuries, including blindness. There are no color additives approved by FDA for permanent dyeing or tinting of eyelashes and eyebrows. FDA has an Import Alert in effect for eyelash and eyebrow dyes containing coal tar colors.

Thinking of false eyelashes or extensions?

FDA considers false eyelashes, eyelash extensions, and their adhesives to be cosmetic products, and as such they must adhere to the safety and labeling requirements for cosmetics. False eyelashes and eyelash extensions require adhesives to hold them in place. Remember that the eyelids are delicate, and an allergic reaction, irritation, or other injury in the eye area can be particularly troublesome. Check the ingredients before using these adhesives.

Bad Reaction?

If you have a bad reaction to eye cosmetics, first contact your healthcare provider. FDA also encourages consumers to report any adverse reactions to cosmetics. See *Bad Reaction to Cosmetics? Tell FDA.*

Safety Checklist

If you use eye cosmetics, FDA urges you to follow these safety tips:

- If any eye cosmetic causes irritation, stop using it immediately. If irritation persists, see a doctor.
- Avoid using eye cosmetics if you have an eye infection or the skin around the eye is inflamed. Wait until the area is healed. Discard any eye cosmetics you were using when you got the infection.
- Be aware that there are bacteria on your hands that, if placed in the eye, could cause infections. Wash your hands before applying eye cosmetics.
- Make sure that any instrument you place in the eye area is clean.
- Don't share your cosmetics. Another person's bacteria may be hazardous to you.
- Don't allow cosmetics to become covered with dust or contaminated with dirt or soil. Keep containers clean.
- Don't use old containers of eye cosmetics. Manufacturers usually recommend discarding mascara two to four months after purchase.
- Discard dried-up mascara. Don't add saliva or

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TREASURES REPORT

Below is the Treasures Report as reported in the March board meeting.

Crossport Monthly Income/Expense - February 2018

2/1/2019 through 2/28/2019

Beginning Balance - 01/31/2019			\$ 1,549.22
INCOME			
Other Income			
..... Miscellaneous	\$ 2.00		
..... InnerView:Advertising	\$ 75.60		
TOTAL Other Income		\$ 77.60	
Membership			
..... Bronze Level	\$ 150.00		
..... Gold Level	\$ 400.00		
..... Standard Level	\$ 120.00		
TOTAL Membership		\$ 670.00	
TOTAL INCOME			<u>\$ 747.60</u>
EXPENSES			
Bills & Utilities			
..... Mobile Phone	\$ 107.33		
TOTAL Bills & Utilities		\$ 107.33	
Fees & Charges			
..... Bank Fees (Checks)	\$ 24.06		
..... PayPal Fees	\$ 6.02		
..... Square Fees	\$ 0.03		
TOTAL Fees & Charges		\$ 30.11	
Misc. Expense			
..... Domain Name (crossport.org)	\$ 15.16		
TOTAL Misc. Expense		\$ 15.16	
Outreach			
..... Cincinnati Pride	\$ 86.00		
..... Summer Picnic	\$ 100.00		
TOTAL Outreach		\$ 186.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES			<u>\$ 338.60</u>
OVERALL TOTAL			<u>\$ 409.00</u>
Ending Balance - 02/28/2019			<u>\$ 1,958.22</u>

Conference Mania!

-Meghan Fournoit

Conferences have been a mainstay for the CD and TG community for years. From humble beginnings as a chance to get together with other like-minded individuals and small groups like Tri-Ess, an entire culture has grown. There are plenty of opportunities to participate in gatherings of all types. Many of these gatherings have become annual events. Some have grown and evolved, and some have passed into history. There are different types of gatherings for different purposes. Some conferences are highly focused on health, education and activism, while others are all about the party, and still others fall somewhere in-between. These gatherings can last from a few hours to an entire week. There are opportunities in abundance across the US, Canada and many other countries.

Most of these gatherings are fairly well orchestrated. They allow for participants to enjoy the company of others and express themselves in a safe and secure atmosphere. For those that don't "get out" much, this can be a rare and important opportuni-

ty. Typically these conferences have several scheduled events, such as workshops and lectures, as well as social events, meals and public outings. Organizers are typically very in tune to the needs of "Newbies" and even offer opportunities for significant others.

One of the premier events of the year, the Keystone Conference, has just passed. Our social butterfly and ambassador, Stacy Lynne, was in attendance this year. Stacy had the opportunity to meet with several of our distant cousins from all around the nation. If asked, I am sure she would gladly fill you in with what Keystone has to offer, and tips for enjoying a successful trip.

One excellent resource that the good folks at Keystone have provided is a listing on their website of many other opportunities throughout the year and in numerous locations. As previously mentioned, some of these are more socially oriented, and some more "academically" oriented. I have provided their list here, but if you go to the webpage, the site provides hyperlinks to aid you in figuring out where you might like to go!

<http://www.keystone-conference.org/M1.cfm?page=about-otherconferences.cfm>

Future Conferences

Divas Las Vegas	Las Vegas, NV	Mar 30, 2019 to Apr 4, 2019
South Bay Trans Day of Visibility	San Jose, CA	Mar 30, 2019
The Northeast LGBT Conference	Newark, NJ	Apr 1, 2019
TransOhio Transgender & Ally Conference	Columbus, OH	Apr 26, 2019 to Apr 28, 2019
Transgender Lives: Intersect. of Health and Law	Farmington, CT	Apr 27, 2019
2019 LGBT Health Workforce Conference	New York, NY	May 3, 2019 to May 4, 2019
Esprit 2019	Port Angeles, WA	May 12, 2019 to May 19, 2019
Texas Transgender Nondiscrimination Summit	Houston, TX	Jun 28, 2019
Sparkle Weekend	Manchester, UK	Jul 12, 2019 to Jul 14, 2019
TG Detroit - Detroit Trans-Fusion	Detroit, MI	Jul 17, 2019 to Jul 20, 2019
Philadelphia Trans Wellness Conference	Philadelphia, PA	Jul 27, 2019
Gender Odyssey - San Diego	San Diego, CA	Aug 1, 2019
2019 Annual Lavender Law Conf. & Career Fair	Philadelphia, PA	Aug 7, 2019 to Aug 9, 2019
Southern Comfort Conference (New SCC)	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Aug 15, 2019 to Aug 17, 2019
Transforming Care - Conf. on LGBTQ Health...	Columbus, OH	Oct 17, 2019 to Oct 18, 2019
Fantasia Fair	Provincetown, RI	Oct 20, 2019 to Oct 27, 2019
TG Detroit - Detroit Invasion MK	Detroit, MI	Oct 24, 2019 to Oct 26, 2019
New York Coming Out	New York, NY	Oct 30, 2019 to Nov 3, 2019
Canadian Professional Assn. for Trans. Health	Montreal, QC	Nov 1, 2019 to Nov 3, 2019

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Black Trans Advocacy Conference	Dallas, TX	(Status Unknown)
The Oregon Queer Youth Summit	Portland, OR	Jan 4, 2018
Transforming Gender Conference	Boulder, CO	Mar 8, 2018 to Mar 10, 2018
Fenway Health's 7th annual LGBT Elders...	Boston, MA	Mar 16, 2018
Moving Trans History Forward	Victoria, BC	Mar 22, 2018 to Mar 25, 2018
The Louisiana Queer Conference	Baton Rouge, LA	(Status Unknown)
2018 NJ Trans Youth Forum	New Brunswick, NJ	Apr 21, 2018
2018 RI Trans Health Conference	Providence, RI	Apr 28, 2018
Trans Health and Wellness Conference	Kingston, JA,	May 21, 2018
Gal's Spring Fling	Gananoque, QC	May 24, 2018 to May 27, 2018
Allied Media Conference	Detroit, MI	Jun 14, 2018 to Jun 17, 2018
The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance	San Francisco, CA	Jul 26, 2018 to Jul 29, 2018
Pride Youth Theater Alliance	Boston, MA	Jul 26, 2018 to Jul 29, 2018
Gender Odyssey – Seattle	Seattle, WA	Aug 9, 2018 to Aug 12, 2018
Queerness and Games Conference	Montréal, QC	Aug 18, 2018
GenderFest 2018	Las Vegas, NV	Sep 6, 2018 to Sep 8, 2018
OUT on the Hill Black LGBT Leadership Summit	Washington, DC	Sep 13, 2018 to Sep 16, 2018
Pinkfest Chicago	Chicago, IL	Sep 25, 2018 to Sep 30, 2018
Gender Infinity Conference	Houston, TX	Oct 5, 2018 to Oct 6, 2018
River City Sparkle 2018	Sacramento, CA	Oct 6, 2018
Because 2018	St. Paul, MN	Oct 12, 2018 to Oct 14, 2018
Improving Outcomes	Sacramento, CA	Oct 19, 2018 to Oct 20, 2018
Virginia Ties	Richmond, VA	Oct 20, 2018
Heartland Transgender Fall Party	Oklahoma City, OK	Nov 1, 2018 to Nov 4, 2018
Mid-Atlantic LGBTQA Conference	Bloomsburg, PA	Nov 2, 2018 to Nov 4, 2018
Translating Identity Conference	Burlington, VT	Nov 3, 2018
Transgender Spectrum Conference	St. Louis, MO	Nov 9, 2018 to Nov 10, 2018
Genderevolution	Salt Lake City, UT	Nov 10, 2018
Lake Erie Gala	Erie, PA	Nov 14, 2018 to Nov 18, 2018
Out in Science, Tech, Engineering, and Math...	Houston, TX	Nov 15, 2018 to Nov 18, 2018
International LGBTQ Leaders Conference	Washington, DC	Dec 5, 2018 to Dec 8, 2018
The 2019 Q Christian Conference	Chicago, IL	Jan 10, 2019 to Jan 13, 2019
FemmeFever Weekend at Rainbow Mtn. Resort	East Stroudsburg, PA	Jan 11, 2019 to Jan 13, 2019
SoCal LGBTQIA Health Conference	Los Angeles, CA	Jan 20, 2019
Creating Change Conference	Detroit, MI	Jan 23, 2019 to Jan 27, 2019
First Event	Waltham, MA	Jan 30, 2019 to Feb 3, 2019
Time to Thrive	Anaheim, CA	Feb 15, 2019 to Feb 17, 2019
GEMS 2019	Atlanta, GA	Feb 17, 2019 to Feb 19, 2019
TG Detroit - Detroit Invasion	Detroit, MI	Feb 21, 2019 to Feb 23, 2019
2019 Transgender Mental Health Symposium	New York, NY	Mar 1, 2019
Five College Queer Gender and Sexuality Conf.	Amherst, MA	Mar 1, 2019 to Mar 2, 2019
Southern Trans Health and Wellness Conference	Winston Salem, NC	Mar 7, 2019 to Mar 9, 2019
TransCon Miami	Miami Shores, FL	Mar 9, 2019 to Mar 10, 2019
Out to Innovate	Atlanta, GA	Mar 16, 2019 to Mar 17, 2019
Keystone Conference	Harrisburg, PA	Mar 20, 2019 to Mar 24, 2019

Detransing

By Paula Ison, MSW

I first heard the term, "detransing", only a month ago when a friend sent me an article asking if detransing applied to my current situation. After reading the article I replied, "Yes, it does". Detransing is a newer term used to describe both surgical and non-surgical transgender folks who transitioned to their preferred gender only to later revert to their birth gender.

In a study published in 2018 WPATH (World Professional Association of Transgender Health) the 45 GRS surgeons polled reported that only 65 of 22,500 surgical patients (.03% - three tenths of one percent) later asked them for detransing surgery. To this we must add an unknown number of surgical detransers who went straight to a new surgeon and then add all of the non-surgical detransers. Even using a ten-fold number for these last two groups, the total number of detransers grows to perhaps only 3% of the entire transgender population.

The article gave three reasons for detransing (1) unemployment or under-employment. (2) family and societal pressure and (3) medical complications because of one's inability to adequately process synthetic estrogen or testosterone. I was surprised another reason to detrans wasn't mentioned. What about older transgender people who have a life changing serious illness with only a few years of quality life remaining to live? Reasonably, those persons would consider how best to use their remaining time which may cause them to detrans. This would include those diagnosed with a heart attack, stroke or other debilitating illness such as cancer.

In my case, in May 2016 I was diagnosed with "mild Parkinson's", "mild" meaning I'm not yet as bad off as one might first think". In fact, for the first 18 months after my diagnosis I remained high functioning, teaching social work classes at UC and NKU and in early December 2017 I ran a 5K race in 31 minutes, hardly a record but pretty decent for a 69 year-old with Parkinson's.

Unfortunately, in late December 2017 I had a "mild" stroke on my left occipital lobe (back of my head) significantly reducing my right peripheral vision. Then in early 2018 I developed more Parkinson's symptoms and I was now up to 17 pills per day. As my situation had quickly deteriorated, it begged the question: "How much functional time do I have left and how best do I use it?"

As of early 2018 I had been married for 21 years and we had a 16 year-old daughter who would leave for college in just 18 months. After some serious pondering, I decided to retire Paula from any more personal appearances effective April 26, 2018. Now my wife has back the full-time husband she bargained for and my daughter has the full-time father she is entitled to, Please don't worry about me as I had 25 great years as Paula, achieving and doing far more than I ever dreamed possible. "I'll be just fine" I bravely told myself as I gave away all my female clothing and dramatically cut my hair as I detransed into who knows what version of maleness.

The good news is that nearly a year later I'm closer to my family and I've had no desire to re-appear as Paula. However, I occasionally feel "lost" as in, "Tell me again just exactly who I am; am I female, male, both or neither?" At least now I've had my "aha" moment and I finally have a name for just exactly who I am; I'm "detrans." Surely I'm a bit clinically depressed about my medical status but who hasn't been depressed at some point in their life?

One pleasant and totally unexpected surprise has been the re-appearance of Crossport in my life. Since late 2000 I hadn't attended any Crossport events but starting last November, with the encouragement of Stacy and Cathy, I've been to three Crossport dinner outings, attending in guy mode, and I've enjoyed renewing old friendships and making new ones. So for now I unilaterally declare my detransing a success and I'll continue spending more time with my family and re-acquainting myself with Crossport. Wish me luck on this new phase of my life!



The pictures are from my MSW graduation from the University of Kentucky in 2006, about to jump off the 850 foot high Stratosphere Hotel in Las Vegas in 2013 (Yes, I really did jump), bumping into Abe Lincoln at the Cincinnati Airport in 2016 and my impersonation of a guy in February 2019.

Pentagon to move forward on limits for transgender troops as final legal hurdle falls

By: Tara Copp March 26, 2019

Editors Note: This article can be found at:

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2019/03/27/final-legal-hurdle-falls-pentagon-to-move-forward-on-new-transgender-policy/>

The Pentagon’s new transgender policy cleared a final legal hurdle Tuesday, meaning new limits on whether troops who identify as other than their biological sex may serve may be implemented within weeks.

On Tuesday, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit removed the last of four court injunctions lower federal courts had issued on the new policy, which had until today kept the Defense Department from prohibiting forces from serving who experience gender dysphoria, which is a discomfort with one’s biological sex. Transgender personnel who are willing to serve according to their biological sex, or who have already completed their transition to their preferred sex and are stable would be allowed to remain in the military.

DoD had previously announced it would move forward with its new policy, but retracted that when it became clear the final injunction was still in place.

With Tuesday’s decision and removal of that last injunction, “at the moment, there is no legal barrier to the government’s intended plan to start enforcing the ban on April 12,” said Perry Sacks, a spokesman for the various attorneys representing transgender clients.

Shannon Minter, an attorney for the National Center for Lesbian Rights who represented clients in two of the four federal lawsuits, said they still have until Friday to seek a rehearing on this issue, but that rehearing request has no significance now that the final injunction has been lifted.

Those advocacy groups may still pursue other legal options, including seeking a new injunction through the Court of Appeals or other avenues, Minter said. “We are weighing all those options,” Minter said.

However, Thursday’s ruling in some respects seemed to be a chapter ending on a policy fight that began unexpectedly in summer 2017 with a tweet from President Donald Trump. In the more than year and a half since, the Pentagon has refined its transgender policy and seen some legal setbacks on the issue, which impacts approximately 9,000 service members.

Minter said that policy “is already wreaking havoc in the lives of dedicated transgender troops who must now face the grim choice of suppressing their identity or leaving military service, to the detriment of their fellow service members and national security.”



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(Continued from page 7)

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- Don't use any cosmetics near your eyes unless they are intended specifically for that use. For instance, don't use a lip liner as an eye liner. You may be exposing your eyes to contamination from your mouth, or to color additives that are not approved for use in the area of the eye.

- Avoid color additives that are not approved for use in the area of the eye, such as "permanent" eyelash tints and kohl. Be especially careful to keep kohl away from children, since reports have linked it to lead poisoning.

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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

Current Board (Jan 2109-Dec 2020)

Cathy Allison - Cathyallisonxp@gmail.com
 Jill Ambrose
 Jeanne Fine
 Wendy Le Cross - Satinwow@yahoo.com
 Callie Liskay
 Stacy Makin - 2stacylynn@gmail.com
 Laura Ann Weaver
 Crossport Website: <http://www.crossport.org>
 Message us through Facebook, either through the Crossport Cincinnati page or the Crossportcincy group.

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EVENTS ___ OTHER ___

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