

CROSSPORT *InnerView*

October 2019

**Volume 35
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Crossport Schedule of Events

The Monthly Schedule of Events for Crossport for October and November are as follows:

October Board meeting, Tue. Oct 1, 7:00 pm, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
 1st Friday Social Dinner, Fri. Oct 4, 7:00 pm, Tostados
 2nd Saturday Social Dinner, Sat. Oct 12, 7:00 pm, Boswell's
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Oct 14, 7:30 pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
 3rd Thursday Dinner, Thur. Oct 17, 7:00 pm, Rusty Bucket 2692 Madison Rd
Trans Reality 101 Tues Oct 22, 7:00 pm, Blue Ash Library
Halloween Party! Costumes Encouraged!
4th Saturday Night Out, Sat. Oct 26, 7:00 pm, Crazy Fox Saloon, Newport
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Oct 28, 7:30 pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church

1st Friday Social Dinner, Fri. Nov 1, 7:00 pm, Tostados
 November Board meeting, Tue. Nov 5, 7:00 pm, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
 2nd Saturday Social Dinner, Sat. Nov 9, 7:00 pm, Boswell's
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Nov 11, 7:30 pm, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
Transgender Day of Remembrance, Wed. Nov 22, 7:00 PM. Location TBD
 3rd Thursday Dinner, Thur. Nov 21 7:00 pm, The Rusty Bucket 2692 Madison Rd
 4th Saturday Night Out, Sat. Nov 23, 7:00 pm, TBD (see Facebook or website)
 Transgender Peer Support, Mon. Nov 25, 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.

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL HOLLIDAY PARTY, DEC 19, 7:00 pm, deSha's
 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: Please Check the CrossportCincy Facebook group for updates on Social Event locations, as they are subject to change

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

They?

In this issue I conducted an interview with Joy Ellison. Joy was, to say the least, a joy to work with. But I struggled a little writing the article. One of the problems I had was the fact that since Joy identifies as Non-Binary, and prefers the pronouns They, Them and Their. I don't have any problem with respecting their preference, or the fact that they identify as non-binary, or at least I thought so initially. My challenge was the language irregularities I encountered.

Even though I am an engineer by trade and training, I do try to write well. While I will never win a Pulitzer, I at least try to not slaughter the English language. Sure, I probably violate grammatical rules from time to time, and could probably improve my style. Some of the rules that I follow may even be out of date, as I try to follow the guidance I received in High School and College, circa 1983. Where the They-Them-Their issue rears its ugly head is in trying to match subject and object plurality while avoiding ambiguity. This proved to be particularly challenging when I had a sentence in which there were two original subjects, but then only one provided action later in the sentence. Using the word they tends to lead the reader to assume that both subjects were providing action. The approach to using They-Them-Their pronouns for both singular and plural subjects is gaining acceptance but is still debated academically. Notably, They-Them-Their has officially been added to the online Merriam Webster's Dictionary:

4.—used to refer to a single person whose [gender identity](#) is nonbinary (see [nonbinary sense c](#)) “I knew certain things about ... the person I was interviewing.... They had adopted their gender-neutral name a few years ago, when they began to consciously identify as nonbinary — that is, neither male nor female. They were in their late 20s, working as an event planner, applying to graduate school.”

I managed to go back through and update and correct any pronoun mistakes in the article. In doing so, it struck me that perhaps I am more biased toward presentation and binary than I was at first willing to admit. Every time I made the mistake, I used the same gendered pronoun. I did not mix He and She. Clearly, I have a perception of what He and She mean, and I have the notion that this will be almost impossible for me to change. My perception is deep rooted in my 55 years of experience and constant re-

inforcement. To some degree, even though I am conscious of the spectral experience of diverse gender identity, the binary paradigm is so entrenched in my psyche that not defaulting back isn't even a choice.

Further reflection on this had me examining other biases and perceptions that I hold. While this is not new, I have more experience now that colors the lens I see life through. Recently there have been a series of posts and debates on social media concerning both the perception and acceptance of this widening smear of gender identity. And I have to question my own identity as long as I am on this spectrum. Ironically, within our community there are many who are challenged by the notion of gender non-conformance, be it bi-gendered, non-gendered, or gender fluid.

Some “trans” people have emphatically stated that either you're a guy or a girl, and that they are put off by those who either seem to switch or are caught between. Usually they preface their statement by saying “I'm not judging anyone but.....”. Guess what? They ARE judging. Judging and bias are really difficult to avoid, so I will cut them some slack, but at least realize that it exists.

In an interview with Katie Couric for the National Geographic special Gender Revolution, Rene Richards was confronted with the question about gender non-binary. She had a hard time understanding it. Like many of us, she views gender as being one or the other. She wondered why anyone would transition if they didn't feel a compelling affinity to the stereotypical presentations. I understand this view point, but at the same time I myself am predominantly a crossdresser. I guess puts me in both the fluid and non-binary camp. On the other hand, I really enjoy many of the stereotypical gender characteristics.

What is hurtful and unhelpful is when others, including Trans folks, dismiss that existence as something less, perverted, fetishy, or delusional. While these are possible traits, they are not the only traits. And my identification while dressed (and some other times) reflect an affinity to the gender I am performing. At that moment in time, I feel that is who I am, and not so much a role I am pretending to be. To be clear, any external expression is a performance. A baseball player playing the game is performing. A

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Paid advertisements or Letters to the editor or Crossport organization in the Innerview are not an endorsement by Crossport.

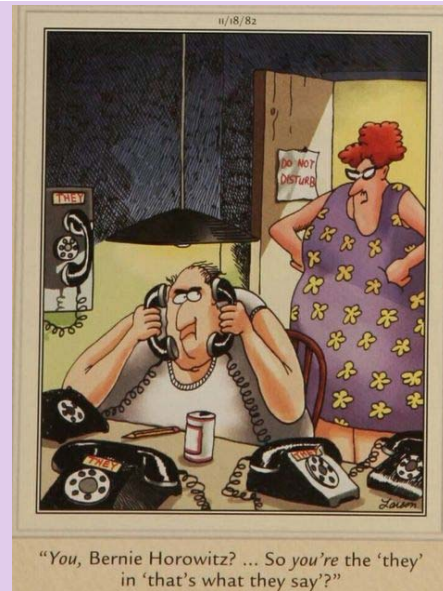
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dad teaching his son to chop wood is performing. A mom teaching her son to cook is performing.

What I think is important to keep in mind is that our perceptions are limited by our experience, and what we see is not always the full reality. That's why stage magic works so well. I admit that there are certain presentations that I find viscerally challenging, like people in rubber masks, or clearly masculine shapes with body hair and full beards wearing tutu's and kabuki-esque makeup. But I am trying to understand better. And actually, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence aren't horrible people. In fact most of them are kind and funny.

Your Editor,
Meghan Fournoit



Garry Larson 11/18/1982

Welcome our newest Board Member: Gina Marie

-Meghan Fournoit

If you have been paying attention to your E-mail or FB, you probably have read the notice that we have a new Board member for Crossport. Gina Marie was voted in that the September 3 board meeting. While some of you know Gina, not everyone has had the pleasure to meet her, or spend that much time getting to know her. Gina granted the Innerview an Interview. Held over a relaxed lunch of Thai food on a hot day, Gina was certainly relaxed and candid.

Gina has been a member of Crossport for about two years. She joined at about the same time as she embarked on her transition and HRT. Both HRT and joining Crossport were not an instant on decision, and Gina struggled at first. She had self-doubts. As she put it, "I felt like a poser, not really sure who I was or what I was doing." Overtime and with support from her medical professionals, Crossport and many people in her work environment, Gina feels far more comfortable in her skin now.



Like many of us, Gina learned about Crossport through the internet. She came across the webpage while searching for information on like minded people. She didn't call right away but built up her courage. Gina called the hot line listed on line and spoke with the attendant for some time. She also got Vickie's card and figured out how and where to meet. Her first event was a support meeting. Gina chose this because the support meetings have limited exposure and can feel safer than the public social meetings.

While her first meeting was a success, it still took her a little while to warm up to being out with others as Gina. Social events eventually followed as she gained confidence in herself and the group.

When asked about the positive experiences she's had, Gina responded that the empathy and love that members regularly expressed have made her feel welcome. "Crossport has a huge diversity of people in the TG community. From Crossdressers to Transwomen and even Transmen, there are so many identities represented. But even with that wide variety, there is acceptance across the spectrum. I am amazed at the

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Crossport Board Meeting Minutes

3 September 2019

Cathy was meeting facilitator

Board members present: Cathy, Callie, Joni, Laura Ann (via cell phone), Stacy (Jill had resigned the previous month).

Board members absent: Wendy

Guests: Brittany, Gina Marie, Jessie Hart (JJ), Robin

Meeting called to order: 19:02 (7:02 PM)

Old Business:

Installation of a New Board Member: The Board had accepted Jill's resignation after the previous meeting and thanked her for her service to the organization. They accepted her continuance as Crossport's Librarian. Cathy announced that there was an open Board position to the voting membership and asked for volunteers to fill the remainder of Jill's term. Gina and Jessie (JJ) expressed interest in becoming Board members and attended the September meeting to make their case for Board membership to the five Board members present. After their brief presentations a vote was taken, the outcome of which was that Gina was elected to the Board by a closed vote of 3-2.

Minutes: Cathy and Laura Ann submitted the Minutes from the 6 August 2019 meeting. Stacy moved, and Callie seconded, that the Minutes be accepted in toto. They were accepted unanimously.

Transgender Day of Remembrance: Crossport will continue our support for the TDoR and once again be a sponsor for the event in conjunction with the other local trans support groups. Recommendations for other supporting organizations were suggested and will be passed on to TAC at future meetings. Cathy suggested Crossport contribute \$125 to TAC as part of our support. The Board voted in unanimous support. Stacy and Jessie (JJ) both offered to work with TAC in the planning of the event.

Library Transgender Community Conversation: Cathy and Marissa Gene worked with the Downtown Library possible dates. Finalized date is Tuesday, October 22 at the Blue Ash library. Library requested group moderators from Crossport and other trans support groups to facilitate respectful discussion.

Christmas Party Planning: Party set for Thursday December 19 at De Sha's at Harper's Point (same as last year's party). Stacy will gather a committee at a future date for planning and preparation. Cathy offered to make the flyer for this year's party.

New Business:

Deleted thread at Crossportcincy: A thread on the Crossport Facebook page became political, and then devolved to insults and threats of physical violence. Cathy deleted the worst parts of the thread. Those involved have been reprimanded as the board found appropriate. Joni suggested a reminder posting on Crossportcincy that no politics are to be discussed or posted unless directly trans-related. Cathy agreed to make the posting, also adding a link to Crossport's Code of Behavior for clarification.

Halloween Party at Crazy Fox: Stacy submitted that the Halloween Party (the next big social event) will be held at the Crazy Fox Saloon in Newport, KY on Saturday October 26.

Monthly Reports:

PO box: Stacy submitted a report to the Board that only junk mail was received.

Hotline phone: Stacy submitted a report to the Board of multiple robo-calls and one call about our social events.

Membership: Cathy submitted a report to the Board that Crossport currently has 40 paid members (includes two new).

Finances: Cathy submitted a report to the Board that Crossport currently has \$1426.34 in their checking account as of 31 August 2019. Stacy added that she had in her possession two membership dues checks totaling \$60 that she would deposit the following day.

Website and Social Media: Cathy submitted a report to the Board that the Crossportcincy Facebook page has 323 followers, 303 total page likes, 213 members, and 55 posts. Crossport.org had over 500 individual sessions with 343 users, over 1100 distinct page views at 3.2 pages viewed per session.

Email Correspondence: Cathy submitted a report to the Board. Seven emails were received; of note

--One email asking about providers for trans people in the Hamilton area (Cathy responded with several different providers).

--One email from UC Health looking to talk to people interested in trans health care in the Cincinnati area. Cathy forwarded it to the Board and Laura Ann agreed to speak with them.

Per the bylaws, Cathy sent an email to all Crossport voting members advising them about the open Board seat vacated by Jill.

--Cathy sent emails to both Gina and Jessie (JJ) re-

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minding them of the Board meeting on 3 September and providing the procedure for filling an open Board seat.

CD/TS Peer Support Group: Stacy submitted a report to the Board that the meetings continue to be very well attended. The conversations are so dynamic that there has been no need to even suggest topics of discussion. Combined attendance was 32 with two new memberships!! Welcome to Sandy and Melissa!!

First Friday Social: Stacy submitted a report to the Board that in August 12 friends attended.

Third Thursday Social: Stacy submitted a report to the Board that although Bar Louie was again tried for our dinner event, it was still far too noisy for our purposes. As such, we will be moving to The Rusty Bucket in Rookwood for September's social.

Saturday Night Out: Stacy submitted a report to the Board that six friends went to Boswell's. Stacy apologized for the slight miscommunication about the event venue that resulted in some confusion and stated that she would post earlier about the event location in the future.

Library: Jill submitted a report to the Board that there was no new activity this month.

Newsletter: Cathy submitted a report to the Board.

--The August issue of the InnerView was emailed to 337 addresses. There were three bounces, one hard, two soft, and one unsubscribe. 129 unique emails had been opened (38.3%) and increase of 15 from the previous report, and 90 had clicked through to access the InnerView (26.7%), an increase of 12 from the previous report. Zero had clicked through to the Crossport Cincinnati Facebook page, and zero had clicked through to Crossport.org. The August issue was the most-read issue of the InnerView ever!!

--The September issue was emailed to 343 addresses. There were three bounces, one hard, two soft, and zero unsubscribes. 95 unique emails had been opened (28.0%) and 64 had clicked through to access the InnerView (18.9%). One had clicked through to the Crossport Cincinnati Facebook page, and zero had clicked through to Crossport.org

--Between August 2nd and September 2nd five more emails were added making the total number of subscribers 343. Two subscribed themselves through the Crossport Cincinnati Facebook page, and three were added through email requests.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:03 (8:03 PM).

The Board agreed that Cathy would facilitate the next meeting. Joni will submit minutes for this meeting.

Challenges of Being a Trans-Man

-McKinsey "Mick" Spivey

Someone asked me about the challenges of being a trans man. Where do I even begin? Binders? Packing? Taking T? The truth is a lot of the challenges aren't gender specific. We all face similar obstacles, just from different points of view. For example, trans girls want breasts, where trans guys want to get rid of theirs. I'm trying to grow a beard, while my female friend is trying to hide hers. I often joke about trading body parts. If only it were that simple.

The biggest challenge that most of us face is dating. When you're trans, your dating pool is the size of a kiddie pool in the neighbor's back yard. As a straight trans man, I was too manly for lesbians, too feminine for straight girls, and the bisexuals aren't even sure what they want in my experience. Add in the fact that I was pre-transition when I started dating, and that left me looking for a unicorn. That one individual who could accept me as a man even though my body is that of a woman's. It took some time, but I found her. Well actually she found me. So there's hope.

The easiest way to meet people when you are trans, outside of community support groups, is online

dating. "OK Cupid" is a very trans friendly site. It actually gives you the option of listing your sex as transgender. My suggestion is to write a brutally honest dating profile explaining who you are, and what you're looking for. Include recent pictures of how you look now. Be very upfront that you are trans. As much as we want to blend in as our identifying gender, we have the burden of sharing that we were born a different gender. That way you know the person reading and responding to your profile knows, and is seemingly open to the idea of dating someone who is trans.

Be prepared for the people who are merely curious, and the ones who I call collectors. They want to experience being with someone trans. Like a notch on the belt sort of thing. Never meet someone for the first time in a private setting. Always make it a public place in case the person isn't who they say they are. Safety is no joke when it comes to these things. Especially because we are trans.

As I come to a close, I'd like to remind all of you to never lose hope. We are all worthy of happy, healthy relationships. It may just take a little longer to find someone worth waiting for.

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love, camaraderie and ability to open up that I've witnessed."

As a result of finding this acceptance, Gina's confidence has been bolstered. She feels that her life as Transwoman is blossoming. Gina takes what she has learned with her Crossport experience and applies it to other facets of her life. For example, a friend from work has confided in her about a younger sibling that has transition from Male to Female. By being open and accepting, Gina provided the opportunity for this lady to share what would often be a guarded part of her life. Gina also related a couple of stories about her interaction with customers which resulted in participating with charitable organizations and providing people information on resources for loved ones exploring their gender reality.

Gina decided to volunteer for the Board to give back to a community she feels has been warm, welcoming and beneficial. She said it felt natural. As she grew up and over the years, she had observed service in her family with church and scouts and had participated in those types of service herself. Gina provided attendance for the Crossport booth for a couple of Pride events in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. She was incredibly impressed with the engagement that the public had with Crossport. There was genuine interest, and perhaps even more compelling was the number of families that would stop by. Many parents asked about resources, or shared stories about their own children and how they could support them. A long cry from the days of disowning them.

When Gina volunteered to be on the board, she did not have a specific plan or job she wanted to do. For now, she wants to pitch in where she can, and feels that a working in the trenches role is important and well suited for her. Gina said she felt that an area Crossport could grow is in supporting TAC (Transgender Advocacy Council). By strengthening bonds with other resource groups, all the groups could benefit. Awareness of the other groups is a huge aide to people trying to navigate their lives. Gina sees that personal relationships and word of mouth are an important part of building this network.

On a more personal level, Gina shared a bit of her background. She first started feeling a gender otherness early on, probably around 6 or 8 years old. Not really being able to put a finger on it, she just knew she was different, and didn't quite feel like she

belonged in with groups, including other boys, but even within family groups. Later she discovered Crossdressing, which she did of an on before she was married in 1986. After she got married, she buried these feelings and activities, as so many of us do. After her first divorce, she picked up on crossdressing again, mostly at home but occasionally she would go to a drag bar somewhere near Toledo. She confided in her second wife, but alas both had too much baggage, and that marriage was short lived.

Gina eventually got back together with her first wife but did not fully reveal her feelings. Not able to keep every part of her internal identity contained, Gina picked up some habits, like shaving her body. These did not go well with her wife and sent a caution flag out to Gina. Eventually, the couple realized that the marriage was beyond resurrection and parted ways again. That parting marked a change in Gina's future. Soon after, Gina met with doctors and got a prescription for HRT. Gina had finally discovered that she is a Transwoman and decided to do something about it.

Gina has been on HRT close to three and a half years and shows the effects in her body and face. She has grown her hair out (nicely), has pierced ears, and wears feminine cloths more often than not. She still goes by Bill at work, although many people are aware of her transitioning. Gina take getting misgendered in stride, understanding how difficult it is for people to dispose of preconceived notions. And even though she still wears that "Bill" badge, she gets Ma'amed a lot. Her immediate family knows and supports her. She is still working out details of how she is addressed by her grandchildren. Gina's daughter has been astute and suspected something was different with her for about 20 years!

Gina has only revealed her nature fully to the family recently. In June, when she got home from viewing Leelah's Highway, she discovered that her apartment flooded. Dressed for the event, Gina had no choice but to interact with the landlord, neighbors and her oldest daughter. Her Ex-wife is still not aware, even though she's seen Gina's earrings and hair. This is a temporary situation, however, as Gina is scheduled for Gender Conformation Surgery this December.

When asked about advice she would give to others that are early in their journey of discovery, Gina said "You may feel like you are alone. But you're not. There are many of us out here."

Ode to Joy!

-Meghan Fournoit

A few months back, Cathy Allison had been contacted by Joy Ellison who was looking for people to participate in a study they were conducting on Transgender Activism between the years of 1950 and 2000. Joy had put a call out to interview participants that had been involved during these years. Looking for Crossport members made perfect sense, given our history and longevity. While I was not involved in the subject years, I was certainly intrigued by the request. Joy granted me an interview, which is a happy irony of their efforts.

Before getting into Joy's work, it is helpful to understand their background and motivation. Joy has been connected to the Trans community for over 10 years. They identify as Gender Non-Binary, and prefer the pronouns They, Them and Their. Joy has also been an advocate for feminism and is very interested in studying the sense of where the two intersect. They are also intrigued in the differences in approaches to activism that differing groups have employed. Joy is working on their Phd in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. They hope to complete the program, including defending their dissertation within two years.

Joy's long-range goal is to produce a commercially available book that would be published upon the completion of their doctoral program. In addition to the eventual book, they intend on using portions of it for their dissertation as well as a scholarly article published about the Transvestite/Transsexual Legal Committee. Joy also appreciates the relative expense of a limited printed book and said that the articles and eventual book will also be available through Library resources. Joy has not settled on a title for the book and hopes to discover something that will entice people to read the tome. In the mean-time, the working title is pretty utilitarian: Transgender Political Movements in Mid-western America From 1950 to 2000. Joy considers the period to represent post World War II to the rise of the Internet.

By figuring out how trans people have organized politically, Joy hopes to illuminate the historical narrative with the understanding that Trans people have been in existence far longer and more substantially than common perceptions indicate. In support of this goal they are exploring past and current organizations of a variety of formats.

Most TV/TG organizations have been fairly guarded due to safety and security concerns. Formed privately, most of them had eschewed legal registrations such as 501(c)(3) Non-Profit status. Be-

cause of this, formal management, funding and operation has been uneven. Some of these organizations were more "secret" than others. Some of them have come and gone. Some have changed hands as the membership has moved on. Between the changes, obscurity and passage of time, archiving of history and communications has not been complete.

The study is not just constrained to reminiscing about Trans related groups, but rather looks at the type of support they have provided and received within the broader society, and how that has evolved over time. Joy intimated that the intersection of Trans activism and feminism are more closely entwined than what we hear today. The growth of the TERF (Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminist) movement is a relatively recent development, and quite contrary to earlier interrelationship between feminists and trans activists.

Joy hopes that their efforts will help to change the current conversation about Trans rights and acceptance. By adding to the collective efforts of other activists, they hope to cast a better light on the humanity and struggles for broader acceptance. Eventually, Joy hopes for the opportunity to teach a more compassionate and supportive history and identification in post-secondary education.

While Joy has done a large amount of research by searching archives of libraries, on-line resources and other organizations, a good bulk of her research has been informed by personal contact with people that were present and active in advocacy over the years. As of the time of this publishing, Joy had conducted interviews with over 50 participants. Joy happily reported that this has been an exceptionally rewarding experience.

As Joy expounded, "It is so cool to talk to the people that were involved in what I was reading about. Even though there were historic records, somehow that personal contact made it more real. Suddenly I had tangible proof and a more personal connection."

The personal contact certainly makes the drudgery of archival research bearable. Joy reflected that running into dead ends, and spending endless hours trying to find certain material can be frustrating. Sometimes the end of the side road just leads to a big pothole.

One of the observations that has surprised Joy is that Trans activism has such a rich and deep history in the midwestern region. Many perceive the coasts as being more progressive on social issues and make the assumption that this tracks to Trans

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related organization. Historically, however, this is a limited understanding. There is strong evidence illustrating a substantial movement in the mid west. Even though Virginia Prince, who published "Transvestia" magazine for years, was originally from California, many of the local organizations that were inspired or spawned from her efforts were located in the mid west. Also consider that even though alternative gender identity and sexuality are seen as progressive or liberal, many transgender people, including Prince, hold traditional and conservative beliefs in other social areas. Least we forget, one of the most influential studies in sexual and gender behavior was conducted by Alfred Kinsey out of Indiana University.

As we finished up our interview, Joy, always the researcher, asked me why I thought Crossport had such longevity. My response was that personal leadership over the years provided the organization with great strength. Coupled with that, Crossport has evolved with and adapted to the changing environment. We serve a wide part of the TG umbrella, from crossdressers to those that have transitioned. Crossport has also tried to stay relevant and change our approach to include social media for communications and participate in community outreach.

Magnetic Eyes Revisited

-Meghan Fournoit

Some of you may recall an article run in Spring of 2018 where a recent fashion accessory had become available and the promise it held. Magnetic attachment lashes were being touted as a great advance over the traditional glue on false lashes. Experiencing the challenges of applying the glue-ons, I was excited to try them out. Unfortunately, my experience was not that stellar. I followed up with the experiment at last year's holiday party. While having my hair cut at the Black Rabbit Salon, I asked the ladies there if they could help with my lashes. We were able to get them to work on one eye but not the other. We even tried to cut them in half to do a section at a time, but to no avail. I ended up using the old tried and true glue-ons.

The problem with the magnetics is that you must manipulate the upper and lower lash at the same time, while not allowing them to jump together at the wrong time. Early this year, a new product began appearing on Facebook Feeds and other fashion communication; the magnetic eyeliner. The concept

is that painting on an iron rich material along the lash edge, magnetic lens' could then be easily attached. The first round of this invention was commercially available through on-line mail order, and only a couple of companies had it to offer. Because I prefer to purchase items like this in a store, I filed the product in the "Try Later" folder.

One of my first concerns was safety and biocompatibility. Not knowing the effect of such a material, I wondered. While I was not able to find much material about the safety of the product, there were no big warnings. It did inspire another article on cosmetic safety. A second concern was how easy would it be to apply. Some eyeliners applicators can be challenging. I am not a fan of big racoon eyes with my liner. Naturally, my third concern was how effective they would be. The literature available on application appeared compelling, but everything looks easy with a professional and editing. Finally, while the price of the internet available material wasn't outlandish, it was a bit more than I would hope to pay for in-store. I also figured that if the product was as good as advertised, it would soon be in stores.

Just recently I found that Sally Beauty is carrying this product, which is now being produced by one of the largest false eyelash brands, Ardell. Excited, I stopped in my Local Sally's and asked about it. Just like the previous year, the store was selling it, but ran out within a day of restocking. They sell just



the liner and a kit with both liner and magnetic lashes. The liner is under \$10, and the kits are around \$15. The young lady working there said that she liked it a lot, and that they were so light weight, she could forget she had them on. Their truck comes in on Thursdays, and this was Monday evening.

Wednesday was wax day for me, which I did over lunch. A couple of doors away from my wax place is Ulta. I had an online coupon, so I figured I would stop in and see if they carries the new liner. Previously Ulta had been limited in eyelashes and had started to carry magnetics after Sally's. I decided to look anyway. After looking around a bit, I found the kit with the gel liner and eyelashes (from Ardell), but not the liner by itself. The price was similar, and as great fortune had it, Ulta also carried an applicator made just for magnetic lashes for \$2.00. With the additional \$5.00 off, how could I pass this deal up?

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Community Conversation: Trans Reality 101

Join us for a community conversation focusing on trans reality in the Greater Cincinnati area. When biological sex and gender are considered inseparable and immutable (including in religion and politics), coupled with the continued killing of trans women of color around the US, how can we effectively challenge misinformation and stereotyping of what it is to be transgender? Every voice matters in a safe and respectful environment. Share your stories and experiences, and learn from others. For more information, please call 513.269.6919

Tuesday, October 22, 2019, 7-8:30pm

**Blue Ash Branch Library
4911 Cooper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45242**



Happy Birthday!

Alessa	Stacy D,	Jean H.
Toni C.	Michelle J.	Gina W.
Stacy Lynn M.	Brittney A.	Patty C.
Scott K.	Tina O.	Michelle L.
Michael C.	Cindy R.	Debbie C
Becca Ann D.	Lydia B,	Susan B.
	Laura Ann W.	

If you would like to be added to our list, please send

SAVE THE DATE:

Transgender Day of Remembrance

**Wednesday, November 20
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**

Location To Be Announced

Time to get Crazy at the Fox

SATURDAY OCT. 26 8:00PM to 2:30AM

Join Crossport at

The Crazy Fox Saloon, Newport KY

For the annual Halloween Bash!

Costumes, Hors d'oeuvre, Music, Billiards and loads of fun. No cover.



You're invited to a

Crossport Holiday Dinner

DECEMBER | 19 | 7 O'CLOCK

at DeSha's Restaurant
11320 Montgomery Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45249

Cost: \$40 per person
Tickets must be purchased in advance.
After December 5 ticket prices will increase
by \$10.

To get tickets, see a board member
or go to the calendar at
www.crossport.org

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Back at home that evening, I couldn't wait to try both methods out. I tried the applicator first. The new applicator looks very similar to other eyelash applicators, a variant of a tweezer with a set of large curved jaws. The jaws have a surface that holds the magnets of the lashes, both top and bottom. Instead of closing the tweezers to start, you keep them open, and position the jaws so they straddle your upper lash. When in position, you close the jaws and the top and bottom lash magnetically join as intended. It is a quick operation and was somewhat effective. I still had a bit of an issue because the set of lashes I tried them on had been previously cut in half. Four lashes were difficult to deal with, as a bump here or



there, and the lashes would jump together before I could get all of them lined up. But this technique feels very promising, as it did work well for halves.

I tried the liner second. The kit included a fine flat brush for applying the gel. The instructions suggested doing two coats and applying the lashes

before the gel dried. The gel would attract the magnets and act as a mild glue as well. I found that the brush and gel worked extremely well as an eyeliner, providing a sharp line that was easy to control, that looked good even without the lash. The lashes did stick but getting them placed perfectly will take some practice and probably an applicator. The tricky part is to get the base of the false lashes as close to the lid line as possible, so it is not obvious you have a second set of lashes. One caution about the gel is that the formula is very similar to waterproof eyeliner which takes a cleaner and some time to remove. Not helpful if you need to remove all traces at the end of the evening.

Given this experience, I think that I will be much more likely to use false lashes for a night out. Both methods seem very promising and are far less time consuming and messy as the old traditional glue method. If you use the liner, and want to reuse the lashes, you will have to clean the liner off a bit, but it is far simpler than removing glue. Because I only saw magnetic lashes two years ago, and now they are easy to find in most beauty stores, I imagine that they will quickly become the mainstay of the industry. I am not sure if the liner will win out over magnetics applied with the new applicator. There are advantages of each.



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

Scott E. Knox Attorney at Law

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(513)241-3800; scottknox.com; scott@scottknox.com

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SPECIAL ELECTION

Another important development in the Crossport Board membership occurred in September. The Open position that Jill Ambrose held was filled during the September 3rd Board Meeting. Gina has graciously volunteered to take that position, and the Board voted on and approved her designation as a Board member (as is witnessed in the meeting minutes. This issue of The Innerview contains an article introducing Gina Marie to our constituents.)

Your Crossport board members,
Callie, Cathy, Gina, Joni, Laura Ann, Stacy, Wendy

InnerView Advertising Rates and Formats

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To place an ad contact:

Mail: Crossport P.O. Box 19936 Cincinnati, OH 45201

Email: crossportcincy@yahoo.com

Crossport Social Meeting

The social is held on the *third Thursday of each month at 7:30pm* at a local restaurant (Bar Louie) and its purpose is to provide an opportunity for all transgender individuals to get out and socialize at a safe environment. Often following dinner, some members proceed to another location for social engagement.

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. (For more information call the Hotline Phone listed below.)

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

Joni Andrews

Wendy Le Cross - Satinwow@yahoo.com

Gina Marie

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.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

All membership information will be held in strict confidence.

Our goal is to better serve your needs!

PREFERRED NAME: _____

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

MAILING NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

*EMAIL: _____

NEWSLETTER: YES ___ NO ___

PHONE: _____ OK TO TEXT? ___

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

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

EVENTS ___ OTHER ___

*YOUR DATE OF BIRTH: ____/____/____

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

SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER'S NAME: _____

TODAY'S DATE: ____/____/____

HOW DID YOU FIND CROSSPORT? _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE: NEW ___ RENEWAL ___ INFO CHANGE

(\$30/YEAR, JAN-DEC)

TYPE OF PAYMENT: CHECK _____ CASH

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Or pay at any Crossport meeting or event

Or via the website: Crossport.org