Pretty TGirls Magazine is a production of the Pretty TGirls Group and is intended as a free resource for the Transgendered community. Articles and advertisements may be submitted for consideration to the editor, Rachel Williston, at rachelwilliston@yahoo.com. It is our hope that our magazine will increase the understanding of the TG world and better acceptance of TGirls in our society. To that end, any articles are appreciated and welcomed for review.
Welcome to the November 2009 issue … Take pride and joy with being a TGirl!

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Magazine courtesy of the Pretty TGirls Group at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/prettytgirls

Pretty TGirls Magazine – November 2009
Our Miss November 2009  Cover Girl!

How about joining us? We’re a tasteful, fun group of girls and we love new friends!

Just go to … http://groups.yahoo.com/group/prettytgirls
Our Miss 2009 Cover Girls!

Melissa Honey
Pretty TGGirls’ Miss 2009

Jeanette Johnson
Pretty TGGirls’ Miss 2009
Question: When did you first start crossdressing?

Heidi: I remember my older sisters dressing me up when I was maybe four. I liked it and would sometimes dress my action figures in my sister’s Barbies’ dresses “to be funny”. Probably around age 8 I would lock myself in the bathroom and try on things left there after baths.

Question: At what age did you start using make-up and wearing wigs? How did you learn how to apply make up? Any tips for other TGirls? Brand of make up you use?

Heidi: I started playing with my mom’s makeup when I was about 15 faking sick so I could stay home from school all alone. I didn’t really get my own or start to learn much about how to do it right until after I was married. My wife got me a book my Kevin Aucoin called Making Faces that has a lot of good makeup techniques.

Question: If you had your choice, what do like wearing the most when being a girl?

Heidi: I usually go for classy and very feminine dresses and skirts, cocktail dresses, miniskirts, etc. but lately I’ve been trying to dress more mainstream and casual.

Question: Now a bit of personal information ... What is your marital status? A sensitive area for some girls, but ... how old are you now? Does anyone know you are a TGirl? What country do you live in?

Heidi: Married; 39; only my wife knows now but I was caught a couple times when I was younger and able to talk my way out of it.
Question: Do you have a website and/or email you’d like to share with us?

Heidi: I am most active at my flickr site:
http://www.flickr.com/photos/15418706@N03/

Question: Have you ever gone out as a girl? If so, tell us what the first time is like and how you feel being out in the world as a girl.

Heidi: I’ve only been out in public in a very limited basis. The first time was pretty late at night, I drove thru the McDonalds drive-thru and although the cashier girls were very professional (with a little smirking) there was a kid “mopping” near the window who kept craning his neck to get a better look so I knew the had seen me coming. I got a little flustered but not enough to pack it in. I drove over and parked in the Walmart parking lot and got half way up to the door when some people exited and started walking toward me. Despite the fact that I was loving hearing my heels clicking on the pavement, I lost my nerve and walked back to the car. As I was pulling out of the parking lot I had to wait for several young men to cross in front of me. A couple gave me a glance but didn’t act unusual so that made me feel a little better. The only other couple of times that I’ve been out have been very discreet to snap a few quick pictures. I did walk through a closed outdoor mall after closing one night and had to avoid some security guards. That was about as far as I’ve gotten…so far.
Question: Have you ever gone through a purge of your female clothing? If so, can you tell us why? How did it make you feel? How long before you went back to being a girl?

Heidi: I’ve purged many times. Always I had sworn off and was hopeful I could go a long time without dressing and the desire would fade away. I don’t think it ever lasted a year.

Question: What percentage of time do you spend as a girl?

Heidi: I only dress a few times a year so the percentage would be less that 1.

Question: Have you ever considered moving towards becoming more of a girl physically with options like hormones, feminisation surgery, breast enhancements, or SRS?

Heidi: Fantasized about it but never seriously.
Question: Do you feel more like a boy or a girl now and why?

Heidi: Boy. Almost always. Crossdressing for me is more of a fun hobby. A temporary escape from the world.

Question: Have you ever dated or wanted to date another TG girl or a man?

Heidi: no
Question: Do you have any advice for other TGirls, especially ones that have yet to venture out as a girl?

Heidi: Do what you are comfortable with. Don’t let anyone pressure you into doing something. Crossdressing serves a different purpose for everyone any. Also, keep in mind the big picture and don’t endanger something that’s more important for a quick thrill.
Question: How is your life now as a TGirl? What’s gone well and not so well?

Heidi: After some rocky times regarding this topic with my wife we’ve found a balance that we are both comfortable with. I think I tried to push it too far too fast when she started to become more accepting but now we have fun browsing the ladies sections together.
Heidi Phox
(continued)
Hi Everyone!

If you have any articles for me to put into the next issue, please send them to rachelwilliston@yahoo.com

Please don’t forget that we are lucky enough to have 4 advice columnists (1 married couple, and 2 TGirls). Please use them as the valuable resources they are … I don’t want to lose them!

Personal Website: http://rachelwilliston.com

Our January 2010 Issue – Relationships With TGirls

Coming up for our January issue, I hope to do another relationships-with-a-TGirl issue. We did this early this year and it was a big hit. It helped many couples (TGirl and GG) have a better understanding and I received many, many articles and stories which I hope everyone out there will do again! This is your chance to be famous (well, a little famous) … just email me your article with photos at rachelwilliston@yahoo.com . Who knows, maybe you will be on the cover like Michelle Williams was!!!
Hi Amy and Nan,

Just over 17 months ago I finally decided to face my desire to dress head on and see just what was driving me to do it. I initially thought that I was just a simple crossdresser but through experience, help from others, resources like PTG Magazine and finally through the guidance of my therapist Dr Sandra Samons, I have come to realize that I am in fact a transsexual woman and my desire is nothing more than trying to express on the outside who I am on the inside.

Having finally accepted who I am and having that fact confirmed by others, I came to the conclusion that I just could not keep Lorraine in the closet any longer and, just over a month ago, I came out to my wife. Needless to say she was totally devastated. We have been married over 42 years and now at age 63 (she is 65), I'm asking her to completely change her perspective of who I am and try and accept the real me.

I feel so blessed as she, with the help of her own therapist (who thankfully has had some experience with transgenders), is trying very hard to make our new relationship work. I'm trying to help her relate what she knows of me to my female person and I've tried to show her how much more attentive, forgiving, thoughtful and loving I've become towards her as I have been able to release my true personality.
With her blessing I have installed a wardrobe in the basement (with a lock on the door) and this week moved my things into it. I've been looking for any sign of discomfort but so far, so good. She has surprised me as she has actually "outed" me to a couple of her friends and they have been accepting so far, advising her that "things could be worse". One of her friends, a former neighbor, saw my picture and she thinks I'm beautiful!

So far one of the problems we seem to be having revolves around my going out. I eventually hope to attend a weekly trans support group which is mainly a therapy type group and also attend a social group meeting on a monthly basis. We have discussed it and she appears to be all for it but I've been holding off as I'm afraid that she might be doing this just because she wants to please me and make me happy rather than from a position of acceptance.

I know that communication is the key to success and we actually have become closer together (and more intimate) with my coming out to her.

How can I keep moving forward (even at the snail's pace advocated by our therapists) and be sure that I'm not leaving my wife too far behind? Are there any activities or particular discussions we can have to help pave the way?

Is there a point where a wife can become totally accepting or am I destined to always be "the other woman" in our marriage?

I (we) would appreciate any help and advice you can give, especially from your own experience.

Thanks,
Lorraine
Hi Loraine,

Self-acceptance is possibly our greatest accomplishment. Many, if not most, of us start our journey not knowing what we are or where we are heading. We begin by cross-dressing and over a period of years evolve to a point on the gender continuum where we are comfortable.

Congratulations on opening up to your spouse. That is not an easy thing, but it is an important step, one of many toward being able to express your true self.

It sounds like you have made great beginnings. The fact that your wife has discussed this with friends speaks volumes about her comfort level. And yes you are very blessed to have such a loving and accepting spouse.

To have any hope of a successful transition in a relationship, you have to keep in mind that it is not just you that is in transition. It is also your spouse and your relationship. Moving at a pace your spouse is comfortable with is critical. If you move too fast she will feel threatened. Remember, you have turned her world upside down and the life she had come to feel comfortable, secure, and stable in now feels unstable and unsure.

The most important piece of advice I can give you is, be completely open and honest. Hide nothing from her and discuss everything. It is very common for a spouse to feel hurt because we concealed this from them. If we have concealed this, what else might we have concealed? Can we be trusted? You will need to rebuild that trust and believe me, that open honest relationship will give you a real feeling of serenity and inner peace.

Until your spouse is comfortable, a support group can be good or bad. If you can find a group with couples so your spouse has her own peer group that she can talk with that can be good. If possible, find another couple in transition you can spend time with.
As far as going out, again, take it slow and keep your spouse involved. Try the social group a couple of times. When the time is right to move beyond that environment, you will know it.

I can’t speak for your spouse, but yes, a spouse can be totally accepting. Nan and I have been deeply in love for 27 years, and we only get closer each day. In our marriage, I am not “the other woman”; I am “the woman” in her life.

Nan would be happy to correspond with your spouse if she would like someone to talk to that has “been there”.

Best of luck,

Amy and Nan
Cocktails with Nicole
Perspectives and advice
from a TGirl
(email me at nkmorgin@yahoo.com)

Please feel free to email Nicole with your questions!
Dear Abby L
Advice from a TGirl’s perspective
(email me at Al2sjcm@aol.com)

Please feel free to email Abby with your questions!
Rachel’s TG Crossword
(answers at the end of this issue … don’t peek first!)

This is a reprint of one of my earlier crosswords. The information is based on a survey of over 1000 Tgirls.

A Look At The Average TGGirl #1
by Rachel Williston

ACROSS

2 state where most TGGirls live according to the survey
5 when first wearing lingerie, the average TGGirl got the lingerie from whom?
8 this percentage of TGGirls have fantasized about having a date with a guy while dressed
10 this percentage of TGGirls find other TGGirls attractive
12 about half of TGGirls said this was their sexual orientation

DOWN

1 average marital status of a TGGirl
3 do most TGGirls smoke?
4 most TGGirls had a better relationship with which parent?
6 what clothing did the average TGGirl first wear?
7 average age a TGGirl first starts dressing as a girl
9 do most TGGirls have children?
11 the average TGGirl feels more like a man or a woman?
Hello, ladies! Welcome to November, the month of veterans, votes and turkey! I hope your Halloween was as good as mine, because I had a blast. I was once again Supergirl, and had a great time taking kids trick-or-treating and then going out for more adult fun. This year we tried the trick-or-treating at the local mall, and it met with universal approval.

As always, I have tips and tricks and ideas to help you look and feel your feminine best. And also as always, any ideas you have for me are welcome. Please send them to me at mlatjnadhmelly@gmail.com, and I’ll make sure they get included in my next column.
TGirl Tips by MellissaLynn (continued)

Here’s a nifty trick for looking wide awake even though you may not be. Take a white eyeliner and run it along the inner rims of your eyes, then blend it into the inner and outer corners. Use a black liner as contrast; apply it thinly against the white, as close as possible to the top and bottom lashes. Lastly, use a tinted mascara to make your eyes pop.

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To get softer lips, take a soft toothbrush and exfoliate your lips. This clears away the dead skin that causes flakes and chapped lips, and leaves them soft and silky smooth.

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Did you know that lipstick is a mood enhancer? It’s true! A recent survey that I read says that roughly four-fifths of the women surveyed felt better by putting on lipstick. The survey also says that buying a new shade of lipstick is a pick-me-up. For those who can’t openly wear lipstick all the time, there are several shades that are nearly invisible against your skin.

+++ 

Here are a few tips for taking care of your coats. We spend massive amounts to keep warm; it would be a shame to let that investment be wasted due to lack of proper care.

Let a wool coat ‘rest’ every so often. Wool will bend and eventually break; by not wearing a wool coat for a day or so, it will return to the shape it’s intended to have and will last longer.

Use or make a padded hanger for your coat. If you don’t have a padded hanger, use bubble wrap or cloth and make one from a regular hanger. By doing this, you protect the coat from the ‘slouchy shoulder syndrome’.

If you spill on your coat, use a damp cloth or sponge to remove the spill. Dry the coat immediately afterward with a soft cloth.

A soft garment brush is usually all that’s needed to clean dirt from your coat. You shouldn’t use a sweater shaver; they can actually tear the coat. A lint brush is another good way to clean

Remember, the better you treat your coat, the longer it will last and the warmer you’ll be.
Here’s a quick tip to protect your hose. Roll them up and stick them inside an empty toilet paper roll. This will keep them from getting snags.

+++ 

In this season of the H1N1 flu and the common cold, boosting your immunity is a must. The easiest thing to do to protect yourself is to make sure you wash your hands thoroughly after handling anything that could cause an infection or a contamination. Ten seconds is usually enough time to kill any bacteria.

+++ 

If you have sensitive skin and dread plucking your eyebrows, nose hairs, etc., try this: take a very hot shower first. Your pores will open up and hairs will come loose less painfully.

+++ 

We’re entering the season of cold, harsh winds; these are the winds that can cause painfully chapped lips. The sort of makeup you use can actually prevent chapped lips. Use or switch to glossy lipstick, as matte has no moisturizers (and can actually dry out your lips on its own).

+++ 

Another use for cardboard! You can use a few old paper towel rolls as boot shapers; they’re already paid for and will work as well as any expensive forms.

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So you’re trying to get ready to go out, but you need to shave and apply your makeup before you can go. Unfortunately, your mirror is all fogged up! Well, take a dollop of that shaving cream and wipe down your mirror with it. The result will be mirrors that won’t fog for awhile. Repeat as often as necessary.
If you’re fortunate enough to have long hair (as I do), then flyaway strands are most likely a problem for you. Try using a shine mist. This will keep flyaways to a minimum and has the benefit of adding shine to your tresses.

+++ 

I found the niftiest thing recently. It’s a eye makeup eraser. This gadget is small enough to let you fix small mistakes without having to redo large portions of your war paint. Highly recommended!

+++ 

I’ve recently discovered the joys of consignment shops. Normally, I’m a thrift store kind of girl, but when you need something a little bit higher-end, try a consignment shop. They can be intimidating for the girl who’s not so used to going out, but if you can get past that, you’ll find some fabulous stuff!

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Remember that I mentioned shine mist a little bit earlier in this article? Well, here’s another use for it: spritz a little bit onto a brow brush or a toothbrush and run it across your eyebrows. You’ll neaten your brows, as well as give them a touch of shine. This has the effect of brightening your eyes.

+++ 

Here’s a way to speed up removing your mascara after a night out. When doing your makeup, apply a coat of regular mascara to start, then top it with a coat of waterproof mascara. The waterproof does its job as usual, but as the regular is what’s on your lashes, it comes off very quickly.
Are you confused by the different types of makeup brushes out there? Here’s a short tutorial on the subject. I found it quite informative; I hope you do the same.

There are lots of makeup brush sets out there to choose from. Your basic kit should include the following: powder, blush, eyeshadow (large), eyeshadow (small) and lip.

Powder brushes are large and fluffy for application of loose or translucent powder all over the face. You can also use a powder brush to apply bronzer or other finishing powders.

Your blush brush should be smaller than the powder brush, but large enough to cover a good area of your cheek. This brush can be either domed (rounded) or angled.

A large eyeshadow brush is used to apply color all over the eyelid. Choose one that has a domed shape for blending.

The small eyeshadow brush is used for a concentration of color, usually either on the outer "V" of the eye (closest to the outer edge) or in the crease. You can also use the small eyeshadow brush to highlight under the brow or in the inner corner of the eye.
A lip brush provides neat, precise application of lipstick. Look for one with a pointed, round shape and preferably is made out of synthetic or taklon bristles, which is better for cream makeup. You can use your lip brush to mix lipstick colors, or to dab a little bit of shimmery lipgloss to your bottom lip to make your lips appear fuller.

Another great use for a taklon lip brush is to apply concealer for spot blemishes. Just make sure to use this brush for one or the other, not both!

Since many brush manufacturers produce brushes for both art and cosmetic lines, there are certain brushes that you can pick up at the art supply store. Look for small synthetic or taklon brushes, as well as sable hair brushes, which are generally cheaper at the art store. Make sure the bristles are soft, since your canvas will be a face and not actual canvas! Also, remember that art brushes generally have longer handles than their cosmetic counterparts. Loew-Cornell Comfort Art brushes, however, are a line of taklon brushes with shorter handles.

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You should wash your makeup and your hair brushes at least once a month. Baby shampoo or a gentle liquid soap are great for brush cleaning. Simply squeeze a small amount into your hand, wet the brush and gently swirl the brush into your palm. Rinse thoroughly and let them air dry.
Well, ladies, this is where I’m gonna wrap up for the month. I hope you all remember to vote and keep the wheels of democracy turning, that you remember to give a good thought to our veterans, and that you all enjoy your turkey! I plan to do all three.

Once again, if you have any questions, comments, ideas, suggestions, or constructive criticism, I’m always willing to listen. My e-mail address is mlatnadhmelly@gmail.com. I’ll always answer anything I receive. Have a great November!
Earrings

Many ladies, after seeing my picture, or meeting me in public, ask me if I have pierced ears. The answer is "No!!!"

The second question is: "Then why do your ears look pierced?"

It's actually very easy to create the pierced ear illusion, with the assistance of actual pierced earrings.

I usually wear various hoop-style earrings and at more formal times, I will create the double pierced look. More on that in a minute.

To create the pierced look, I buy pierced earrings with posts and clasps. The clasps will come in handy to keep the earring on your lobe. I take the earring post and cut it with a wire clipper about \( \frac{1}{8} \) inch from the end, then blunt the remainder of the post with a metal file to eliminate the sharp point and create a dull post. The post will press into my earlobe and the clasp will secure the earring to the back of my ear. If you do it right, the earring will never fall off your ear.

For the double pierced look, I buy stud earrings and cut the entire post off the back and again file the post down to a blunt end. To secure the stud to my ear, about a half inch or so above my pierced earring, I will apply a small drop of Super Glue and with a pair of tweezers, press the stud on to my ear. After 10 seconds, the glue should set and the stud will hold until you are ready to take it off. Super Glue cleanup is easy. Just pick off the residue with your nail at the end of the night.

Give it a try. I have been using both procedures for years.

If you have a recommendation for "Tricks of the Trade" please e-mail me at: carollynolson@yahoo.com.
It has been a while since I have written last and I hope that everyone is doing well. I do apologize for my absence but much has changed in my life since my last writing. Several family members have been stricken with ill health and I needed to focus on things at home. I do appreciate all the mail and concern and thank you all for that. I am working hard to keep things on track and thank you all again.

Since my last writing I did attend the Chicago Be All. The Be All is probably the second largest of the big transgender conferences. Their website is [www.be-all.org](http://www.be-all.org). I love the Be All in part because I know so many in the Chicago community and I am a proud member of the Island Girls. I love those Southside girls!
One of the highlights for me at the Be All was running into so many friends and acquaintances. One of those folks is Kay Gould who I believe to be one of the founders of the Be All. Kay is a transwoman and a journalist who now resides in California. Kay has been stricken with Parkinson’s disease and is confined to a wheelchair. When I first met Kay I was not only impressed with the body of work she has done for our community, but also with her traveling to Chicago from the West Coast to attend the Be All. At that first meeting Kay and her partner Karen took great pride in showing me photos of Kay from her younger days sans wheelchair. I remember teasing her that some of the photos were in lingerie and a little risqué, which solicited a laugh from all. They also talked about the work she had done in earlier years which helped pave the way for girls like us. I recall thanking her sincerely for her courage and she had started to choke back a tear, which in turn caused me to do the same. It was a genuine moment that I will never forget.

When I saw Kay this year I ran over to say hello. She was without her wheelchair and now had a little scooter chair. Her disease had progressed since our last meeting and it was sad for me to see, although her spirit seemed to not be dampened. I spent some time chatting with her and telling her how great she looked. I recall fussing with her hair and telling her how much I loved the beautiful red highlights. Karen was with her and took some nice photos of us. I applaud her courageousness as a pioneer in our community and greatly admire her strength.
After saying goodbye to Kay and Karen I had remarked to my friend Kris how inspirational I thought Kay was. Kris then asked, “What will be Candice’s legacy?” I laughed and said, “What do you mean?” After all, I have never thought what might be my legacy. Kris then added, “You’re well thought of and you like to write. So what will be your legacy?” “I just want to help others where I can,” I said. I think we should all help when we can. Being a tgirl is not always easy.

Another highlight at the Be All was my first ever makeover. It was a treat from my very good friend Bridgett for my birthday. Bridgett is a good friend of Amanda Richards and often uses her services so it was to her vendor space we went. Amanda is a truly talented makeup artist from Pennsylvania. It is often said that you can’t shoeshine a tennis shoe but I’m told Amanda can. I loved how well she made me look. Her website is www.truecolors.com. Look her up at any of the major conferences or at her shop. You won’t be disappointed.
The next big event for me was the Carnival in Provincetown, MA. We have so much fun in Provincetown and our boat is a fixture there every year for Carnival. This year’s theme was the “Summer of Love.” My lovely wife took great care in making sure we were dressed in cute tie-dye blouses and peace sign earrings. My wife created the blouses herself and we received many compliments on them. After a busy day of walking and shopping we went back to the boat for dinner and a change of clothing. Our nighttime attire consisted of some beautiful short skirts and halter-tops. We called for a pick up in the launch and headed out for some nightlife and dancing. I ran into some of my Crowne Jewels from the Crowne Plaza and we decided to go to the Atlantic House to dance. It was great fun. At the end of the night we headed back to the dock where the launch was awaiting. As we boarded the launch for the ride back to our boat I teased the night skipper and asked him if he knew which boat was ours. He laughed and without hesitation stated the name of our boat. He claimed there was something distinctive about the name and something distinctive about us. I am still wondering what that might be?
I also had opportunity to attend the Imageout Film Festival in upstate NY. Their website is www.imageout.org. The highlight for me was an indie film called “Showgirls”-Provincetown, MA. The film was about a weekly contest in Provincetown at the Crown & Anchor hosted by Ryan Landry. Contestants compete for a cash prize and the chance for being named Showgirl of the Year at the end of the summer. I would call the feature a comedic documentary. The film did a great job of capturing the uniqueness of Provincetown while portraying the zany and colorful contestants who frequent the Monday night show. The camera follows the “showgirls” throughout most of the 2007 season right up to the coronation. Some of the cast of characters included Dina Martina, Deborah Downer, Della Catessen (Showgirl of the Year 2006 and according to the film is quick to remind everyone), Sharon Needles, Steamy Brown, Olive Another, Penny Champayne, and a cameo appearance by Randy Roberts. Let’s just say the movie was great.
After the film most of the audience stayed for a chance to ask questions of the film’s producer C. Fitz. Immediately following the question and answer session I was invited by Jessica Wilkie, Programming Co-Chair, up on stage and introduced to Fitz. Fitz is a charming young lady and very personable. Originally a Massachusetts native, Fitz and I started to chat like old schoolgirl friends as we both traded our thoughts on the film and our love for Provincetown. Some of the behind the scenes anecdotes were even more insightful. It is a great film if you get the chance to see it. You can view a trailer on Fitz’s website and the URL is www.monumenttelevisionandfilm.com.

Now it was back to Provincetown for Fantasia Fair, which is the longest running transgender event in the world. Their website is www.fantasafair.org. Although I was not able to attend the Fair itself, my wife and I went to Provincetown to meet with friends from the trans community. We had dinner at Napis, which bills itself as Provincetown’s most unusual restaurant. Dinner was very enjoyable and included an appetizer of beluga caviar and oysters. Love those! You can find them at www.napis-restaurant.com.
Now it was back to Provincetown for Fantasia Fair, which is the longest running transgender event in the world. Their website is www.fantasiafair.org. Although I was not able to attend the Fair itself, my wife and I went to Provincetown to meet with friends from the trans community. We had dinner at Napis, which bills itself as Provincetown’s most unusual restaurant. Dinner was very enjoyable and included an appetizer of beluga caviar and oysters. Love those! You can find them at www.napis-restaurant.com.

After dinner we headed to Michael Shay’s where the Fan Fair closing banquet was being held and ran into some from friends from Canada. It was good to catch up with them. From here we went to Jimmy’s Hideaway, which is almost hidden under Bayside Betsy’s on Commercial Street. On the way into the Hideaway I ran into Della Catessen from the movie. I stopped to say hello and mentioned that I just saw the movie and she was quick to respond that she was Showgirl of the Year for 2006. Some things never change! Some more on Fan Fair next month.

Well that’s my time for now. Remember every step of the journey IS the journey. Don’t go through your journey alone. Get out and enjoy the company of others.

Much love,
Candice
Candy can be contacted at sweetbostoncandy@yahoo.com or at URNA, http://profiles.urnotalone.com/76280
Barbara’s Recent Exploits
By Barbara Marie Davidson

Well, here it is the end of October and a lot of “water” has passed over the dam since I last put any words down on paper. September was a busy month as not only did we have our monthly meeting of Sig Eps (TriEss), but several weeks later was Southern Conference 2009. Sig Eps was fairly well represented with at least 10 members plus several spouses in attendance. The Sig Eps weekend began as usual with Phoebe, Heather and I meeting at the Hotel and going to Old Chamblee Bistro for lunch and some shopping. Heather had never been to Walley world or Target en femme so Phoebe made sure that she was introduced to both of them.

Later on, a wife plus a GG and 6 of us took off for 6 Flags for Pearl Night. There were Phoebe, Sarah, Jane, Valerie, Edie, myself and as well as Sandy and Julie in attendance. About half of the rides were closed as well as most of the eateries. However there was food and beverages (including 3 “watering holes where one could get alcohol) to be had. After riding a number of the roller coasters, as well as a drop from about 200 feet up in the air, we managed to sit down and enjoy a round of fry’s and burgers, washed down with either beer or soda. After the meal we found our way to a drag show that was quite entertaining. Our group was even recognized by the MC who had a few things to say about the straight people in “drag”. It was midnight when we returned to the hotel for the evening.
Saturday morning, we left the hotel and went to a deli near perimeter mall for lunch. There 12 of us including several wives that were there for lunch. After lunch, there was an afternoon of shopping or whatever before the evening activities began. Yours truly went to a gun show out in Norcross. Saturday Evening, It was dinner at the Spaghetti Factory. The manager remembers our group from a restaurant that he used to work at several years before and invited us back any time. Sunday after a delightful brunch with my brother at the Raxx on Cheshire Bridge road, I was headed back to Statesboro.

On the 23rd, I was headed back to Atlanta for SCC2009. I Arrived at the hotel just about noon and met some of the members of Pink Essence as a group of us were going to lunch at the Mall. In all about, 22 of us had lunch at an Italian restaurant. I already knew Chloe Prince from last year 2008, but met a number of the ladies in person that I only had e-mail address for. Wednesday night, it was off to Agatha’s Comedy Mystery Dinner Theater for an evening of fun coupled with an excellent meal. Phoebe had her usual speaking part while the rest of us were in a chorus. The rest of the week I was either proctoring a seminar or attending a seminar or just enjoying the fellowship that the conference offered. Friday morning I met the ladies from Pink Essence for breakfast before starting the day. Friday Afternoon a small group of us went bowling at the 300 lanes. Saturday night was the gala ball and all of us attended it in our finest ball gowns. I had a red backless floor length gown, which I purchased at a thrift shop in Augusta a few weeks before. Sunday, found me on my way back to the Boro.

The first week in October, I was contacted by one of the professors at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro. She had been at SCC2009 and Jacklyn had given her my card. She was the Faculty advisor for the GLBT and Gay straight alliance group at the school. She asked me to participate in a forum on campus for the national coming out day, which I accepted. There were 1 gay student, 1 gay professor, 1 lesbian, 1 F2M and 1 heterosexual cross-dresser (yours truly). We were asked a series of questions which we answered one at time. The floor was then opened to questions from the students in attendance at the meeting. It went well and I was asked to participate in the activities being set up for the first weekend in November.
October the 15th found me back on the road for Atlanta for the October meeting of Sig Eps. Friday, Phoebe, Heather, and I went to Old Chamblee Bistro for lunch. There we met Teresa and a potential member, Judith, who was in her “bubba” mode. After lunch, we were off for an afternoon of shopping. Friday evening, we went to Applebee’s for supper, as it was Heather’s birthday. Unknown to her, her 2 daughters and Angel’s new husband would be coming there also as a surprise. About 10 minutes after we were seated they walked in carrying balloons. If Heather could have crawled under the table and dug a hole in the floor she would have. She did not think that her other daughter knew and her new son in law had never seen her before. After the shock everything settled down and the rest of the evening went well. On the 17th, we ate Mexican for lunch. A group of the ladies braved the weather and went to little 5 points for the afternoon. Yours truly went shopping to stay warm and dry. Saturday night found the group at Ted’s Montana Grill for supper. Our waiter worked at the Steak and Ale near Northlake and remembered us. Dinner was great. We had Sandy and Lauren (from Clinique) with us. Sunday, found me back on the road home.

On October 20th I made a decision about being out and about in the Boro. The only place I was still going in my “Bubba” mode was to the Lions Club and I am the secretary. I was tired of living the double life and having to run home to change for the evening. At the meeting there were 15 members and 8 already knew about me and had seen Barbara out and about in Statesboro. I was fairly certain that the other knew by word of mouth. Thus I bought the floor from the tail twister for about $10.00 and told my story complete with the picture, which I passed around, that I had taken at SCC2008 last year. There were no questions or comments. After the meeting several of the members came up and told me that it was a very brave thing I had done and they complimented me for it. Even several visitors came up and said the same thing. November the 3rd will be the day I find out how things will go. The 2 ladies we had in our club always dressed conservatively so that is what I plan to do.
Of interest is a thing I have done for the past 11 years. I went to Waycross every November with the SAMS (Scottish American Military Society unit) for a Kirking of the Tartan at the Presbyterian Church and played the bagpipes for them. This year I was uninvited by the church from participating in or attending the service as either Bill or Barbara. Now I know how the blacks must have felt 50 years ago when they were barred from attending the white churches. Now who cares? The other thing that has happened is that I went to the September meeting of the SAMS Post #7 in Savannah as Barbara and caught them off guard. Several members already knew through face book but most did not know. After a few positive comments, things returned to normal and the meeting occurred. I did get one very negative e-mail later on in the evening that really “shot me down” as a person and as a piper. It was from the fellow that I have been playing the pipes with for about 16 years since he came to Savannah. I sent him an email explaining what Transgender was all about and that I was not a drag queen as he calls me. Have yet to hear from him… Such is life… See every one in November and those who do not make it to the meeting – Happy Thanksgiving!!!
Pretty TGirl Members Then and Now
(Photos of how we looked when first dressing as a girl and how we look today)

MelissaLynn

Then                                   Today

This could be you here!

Then                                   Today

We are always looking for photo’s of our members from when they first started dressing and now. Please post them in the group. We would love to put them in our magazine.
Mrs. Miller's Ginger Cake

A tasty and easy-to-make dessert

1/2 cup shortening (I like Zero Trans Fat Crisco)
1 egg or 1/4 cup egg substitute beaten
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup molasses
1/2 cup sour milk or buttermilk
1 tsp. baking soda
1/4 tsp. baking powder
1/8 tsp. salt
1 tsp. ginger
1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour

Cream together shortening and sugar. Add beaten egg, sour milk and molasses. Mix well. Sift together flour, soda, baking powder and ginger. Add to shortening and sugar mixture. Place in an 8” square, nonstick baking pan or in a greased 8” square pan lined with greased, waxed paper.

Bake in a 350° F oven about 30 minutes.

Makes 8 to 9 servings. Bon appétit!
Transgender People Are Born That Way
(by Brianna Austin)

If in fact being transgender is a biological trait, like having blue eyes or blond hair, does that relieve us of this heavy load?
What if it came to light that you really weren’t a woman in spirit? That none of this transgender life is about “being” a woman in a man’s body, but rather just thinking you were?
And what if that thought (of being and feeling female) was biologically “hard wired” into your brain? How would that make you feel? Are you happy that this can no longer be considered an action of choice, or does it make you sad knowing that “being wired biologically” means it is likely something you will never be able to change?

Most of us have spent our entire lives wondering, “What’s wrong with me?” And then after decades of purge and repeat behaviour, mixing shame, guilt and the need to search our soul for the truth of these internal feelings of self identity, some of us have slowly learned to accept in ourselves that which society often mocks, or worse, condemns. If in fact being transgender is a biological trait, like having blue eyes or blond hair, does that relieve us of this heavy load?
Transsexuals, prior to Gender Re-assignment Surgery (GRS), have often described themselves as woman trapped in the body of a man. And although I feel the same way -- and used that explanation as the best analogy to explain what being transgender felt like -- I still could never reconcile what that really meant beyond theory in my own mind. When we say, “I am a woman,” are we referring to the current essence of our soul? Or perhaps we have the memories from a previous female life existence? Or is our (societies) notion of life and existence simply wrong, and gender expression merely another form of experience as I have previously explored.

Abstract thoughts like these fascinate me, and I actively participate in “what if” scenarios all the time. But beyond the rhetoric of the conversation, what does any of it mean in the practical sense?

I have friends that have transitioned and currently live the fulltime lives of the woman they have become. But were they woman all along? Some say yes, while others say no. Transsexuals (often thought of as those that have graduated transgender camp) are split in two on the issue and have drawn a line in the sand. There are two common positions that have been recited to me repeatedly:

1. Some say that they were transgender woman when they were women living in a man’s body, but post-op no longer are, suggesting that now they are simply women, no different than any other biological woman, and therefore, no longer trans.

2. Others identify as women, but recognize that the mere fact that they were born into a male body makes them different from a biologically born female.

For the sake of this article let’s refer to them both by the acronym “WODO” (Woman of a different origin).
Transgender People Are Born That Way

(continued)

(by Brianna Austin)

~~~~~~

A biological female has lived her whole life female. Beginning from early childhood she evolved through adolescence into adulthood. Many WODO’s on the other hand simply “become” woman midstream. Does this make a difference? Some WODO’s will argue that they have been women since birth, just trapped in a male body due to a cosmic mistake. Did being predominately male (even if they were just pretending and playing the part) have an impact on the woman they are to become?

Another position by some WODO’s is that they can never really be 100% woman (even though they have an almost exact replica of a female body to accompany their female mind and spirit), because they didn’t have the life experience of a woman. They certainly are no longer male and therefore, by default, are transsexual women. It has been theorized for some time that being transgender and/or homosexual, is something you are born with, not something you learn, or acquire a taste for (no pun intended.) Recently, scientific reports are emerging that support these theories, linking transsexualism to biological conditions that occur during the “hormone spray,” in the womb. In 1995 Dutch researchers discovered that a structural difference existed within the brains of men and (M>F) transsexuals. A small cluster of cells in the brain -- the bed nucleus of the stria terminalis (BST) – is smaller in transsexuals (as it is in women) than in men.

Researchers also announced links between certain genes and sexual orientation, which it says is also hard wired into the brain. Perhaps with the advances of medical sciences, we will come to know for sure the reason for our actions. So in the future when people say, “How come you are transgender, we can simply say, “Because I was just born that way.”

As always, be happy, be safe, and think pretty.

About the writer:
Brianna Austin is co-author of "I'd Do It Again," a free lance writer, and publisher of TG Life
I've been online sharing quality time with so many beautiful transladies, on and off since 2005. There's one thing that I have observed time and again, which seems to play a big factor for many of you. It seems like a lot of people in this community ascribe to some kind of trans-heirarchy, where it is deemed that those who are "more trans" are somehow better than those who are "less trans"... does this ring a bell for any of you?

It's like, full-time female is regarded higher than part-time female. Or the more surgeries, is some kind of merit badge compared to those who are non-op. Or the more passable transladies, are somehow better than the less passable... and I am sad to see that some of you even form little cliques around this notion. Some of you try to exclude others who don't live up to your standards of transness. Do you not realize you are all just varying degrees along the same spectrum?

I recently invited a few new members to GenderEvolve, and the first question I got from two of them, "well since I am only part-time, am I qualified to join?". I just want to make it clear to all of you, in my opinion, there is no "better than" or "less than" in this community. I don't regard a post-op transsexual woman as a higher form of human being than a part-time crossdresser. To me, you are all equal, you are all beautiful, it doesn't matter how you manifest your transness.
Trannier Than Thou?… continued
(by Michele Angelique)

It seems that some of you are ashamed to admit that you value your male side as much as your female side. It's like you worry that we think your male self is unworthy or repugnant. I'll tell you, for my part, I love males just about as much as I love females. There is nothing more appealing to me than a person who embodies both male and female, and is comfortable with this equation. To me, that shows far more inner balance than someone who rejects one or the other side of themself. I was born female, yet I have a strong male spirit inside of me, and I wouldn't trade him for the world. Embracing the two sides of me is what keeps me whole.

I'd love to see the ladies in this community drop the pretense, and come to embrace each other as equal sisters. To admit, you all have some male in you, no matter how far you try to run from it, or who you shun in the process, it is part of all of you, and it's ok.

I'd love to see this whole trans-heirarchy go by the wayside, and for you to recognize you have too much in common to ostracize one another based on superficial factors.

What do you think, my beautiful sisters?

Much love,
Michele
Transgendered Conferences and Getaways

Ok, you’re a TGirl and you want to go out as a girl and be part of the community. Here is a listing of some of the conferences and getaways available that are designed for TGirls! We take no responsibility regarding the places listed, but they are or have been known to be designed for and accepting of TGirls.

If you know of conferences/getaways that are TG-friendly, please let me know at rachelwilliston@yahoo.com Thanks!

• January: First Event
  Eastern, MA
  http://www.tcne.org

• January: TGSF Cotillion/Annual Debutante Ball
  San Francisco, CA
  http://www.tgsy.org/events/cotillion.html

• February: Colorado Gold Rush
  Denver, CO
  http://www.gicofcolo.org/cgr/

• April: Transgender
  Philadelphia, PA
  http://transeventsusa.org/ifge/index.shtml

• April: California Dreamin
  San Jose, CA
  http://www.california-dreamin.org/

• April: Diva Las Vegas
  Las Vegas, NV
  http://www.geekbabe.com/div/

• April: Eureka En-Femme Getaway
  Eureka Springs, AK
  http://www.femmegetaway.com/index.html

• May: Esprit
  Port Angeles, WA
  http://www.espritconf.com/index.php

• May: Be-All
  Chicago, IL
  http://www.be-all.org/

• June: Sparkle
  Manchester, UK
  http://www.sparkle.org.uk/

• September: Southern Comfort Conference
  Atlanta, GA
  http://www.scatl.org/
Transgendered Conferences and Getaways

Ok, you’re a TGGirl and you want to go out as a girl and be part of the community. Here is a listing of some of the conferences and getaways available that are designed for TGGirls! We take no responsibility regarding the places listed, but they are or have been known to be designed for and accepting of TGGirls.

If you know of conferences/getaways that are TG-friendly, please let me know at rachelwilliston@yahoo.com Thanks!

• October: Defying Gravity Conference Louisville, KY
  http://www.transfamilydefyinggravity.net/programming.htm

• October: Fantasia Fair Provincetown, MA
  http://www.fantasiafair.org

• October: GLBTIQ Conference Worcester, MA
  http://www.transcendingboundaries.org/

• November: Tri-Ess Holiday En-Femme Location Varies
  http://geocities.com/tri_ess_ne/

• November: Lake Erie Gala Erie, PA
  http://www.eriesisters.org/

• November: An Alluring Affair Canada
  http://www.alluringaffair.ca/

• November: Fall Harvest Omaha, NE
  http://fallharvest.net/
Advertisements and Opportunities

Want to advertise your TG-friendly store, service, club, group, or your own personal items here? There is NO charge for this … just email the editor rachelwilliston@yahoo.com.

Are you a web mistress?

Do you want to have your own website, but are really not quite sure how to go about operating one or concerned of the costs?

Look no further. CCNJHost.com has plans as low as $18 per year. We also have a special program called SiteBuilder that allows you to simply select a template and start typing. There’s no need to know web coding or graphical programs/design. Everything is done for you in front of your own eyes!

Check us out at http://www.ccnjhost.com and you’ll be quite pleased you did.

Act now and take an additional 30% off* our $5/month plans and up. Use coupon code ptg0309.

* Offer expires 03/31/2009 and applies to the initial order.

Brought to you by Jenny G.
Advertisements and Opportunities

Want to advertise your TG-friendly store, service, club, group, or your own personal items here? There is NO charge for this … just email the editor rachelwilliston@yahoo.com.

Spell Cosmetics

http://www.spellcosmetics.com/Home_Page.html

ABOUT US

Spell Cosmetics and Skin Care was developed by a duo from the fashion and cosmetics industry. Elle, Co-owner, and Gemma (Co-owner) have brought over 30 years of make-up artistry and marketing to bring the hottest trends in packaging and color techniques. Natural (Paraben/Phthalates free) skin care products round out the line perfectly and have Spell on course to becoming the "must do" without line of cosmetics and skin care.

Spell is based in Cleveland, Ohio and operates nationally. The products are designed, created and produced by us. Quality control, ingredient inspection, and customer service are key to our success. Every customer is treated as a new client and friend.

Creative Director Elle, has created a line of mineral colors to match the current trends of our industry. We are a large supplier to professional make-up artists, salons, and end-users who desire unique mineral colors created personally. Spell uses our own formulated 3 tier balance system to create colors that you will find high quality in light reflection, pigmentation, long stay use, and necessary style. Our focus has been and continues to be the idea that cosmetics are a feeling, they are essential to our mood, our self confidence, and our technique. We strive to bring cosmetics and fashion together in their own unique relationship and build an overall new you.

WHY SPELL? We create our products, we quality control our products, and we are the growing trend in cosmetics. We strive to be the best in customer service and offer a no questions asked full return policy. "If you don't like it, you return it-No questions asked. In addition our skin care products are designed with Shea Butter traceable to the plant. Our agreement with OBN (Oil by Natural) allows our access to (Nasalide), a Shea Butter manufacturer in Ghana, founded by Eugenia Asante. They are one of only 5 companies chosen to participate in VMAH (USAID), sponsored programs designed to alleviate poverty in Africa. Our commitment to OBN and Nasalide insure that women who harvest this ingredient are provided fair wage and support women owned business and enterprises.

SEEKING A CAREER IN COSMETICS? Have what it takes? Drop us an email with your information. We are currently seeking ambitious people to add to our exciting sales staff. Email to careers@spellcosmetics.com for details nationwide.

Corporate Headquarters are located at 34208 Aurora Rd Ste 130 Cleveland, Ohio 44139

Phone: 1-216-759-6807 Fax: 1-888-804-0516 Email: cservice@spellcosmetics.com

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Advertisements and Opportunities

Want to advertise your TG-friendly store, service, club, group, or your own personal items here? There is NO charge for this … just email the editor rachelwilliston@yahoo.com.

EnFemme Boutique is a VERY CD and GLBT friendly Ebay store. Nan is the wife of a Transgendered person, and understands how difficult it can be for some to purchase items. She started this store for CD, TV, TS and TG’s that do not go shopping in public, need help with sizing, or finding certain items. It is a place where you can find items at reasonable prices and ask questions without worry. All listing are PRIVATE listings, so no one will see what you have purchased. Most are NEW With Tags and are 70 –90% OFF Retail Prices. This is Nan’s way of supporting her spouse Amy and the T-Community.

http://stores.ebay.com/enfemme-boutique?refid=store
Advertisements and Opportunities

Want to advertise your TG-friendly store, service, club, group, or your own personal items here?
There is NO charge for this … just email the editor rachelwilliston@yahoo.com.

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**The Glamour Boutique** is a terrific TG store. The original retail location is in Auburn, MA and now has a Las Vegas retail location! You can also order online. Can’t say enough about this lovely store! A discount is available to Pretty TG Girls members and to visitors of my personal website!

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**Crazy 4 Clipons** is a terrific online place to discreetly buy clip on earrings at a very reasonable price. They have a large variety to choose from and love to have TG customers! A discount is available to Pretty TG Girls members and to visitors of my personal website!

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**FemmeFever**

Karen has developed a wonderful site and TG resource! Along with coordinating many TG events in the lower NY area, she has a store full of shopping opportunities online.

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Pretty TG Girls Magazine – November 2009
Advertisements and Opportunities

Want to advertise your TG-friendly store, service, club, group, or your own personal items here? There is NO charge for this … just email the editor rachelwilliston@yahoo.com.

We're a transgender (GLBT, TG) friendly boutique. Our store is located in Las Vegas, NV, USA, where Amy and her staff provide products and personalized services to help you become "The Person You Always Wanted To Be". The Just You Family have years of experience transforming men into beautiful women.

Amy: Amy was the manager of GB2 and is now the owner. She is a GG and a wonderful supporter of TG girls of all varieties. She has a wealth of experience with amateurs and professionals and is a tremendous talent with makeup. She is one those special angels sent to help us. I will ask her if she would like to write an article for a future magazine.

Sheila: For my part I simply look after her website as the webmistress. Perhaps at some time I could also write an article (something I have done from time to time). I do want to say that you have done a wonderful job with the magazine and I look forward to reading the July issue.
Advertisements and Opportunities

Want to advertise your TG-friendly store, service, club, group, or your own personal items here? There is NO charge for this … just email the editor rachelwilliston@yahoo.com.

Welcome to crazydaizys
I carry a large selection of Sexy Shoes & Boots, Costume Footwear, Lingerie, Hosiery, Leather for Men & Women, & more!
Your 1 stop shop for all your Favorite things!!
I have Storewide FREE! combined Shipping!
Save @ Crazy Daizys!
Dont see what you are looking for? Contact me!
I am still in the process of stocking my store.
Thank you for your patience!

http://www.crazydaizys.com/servlet/StoreFront

Hide and Sleek is a wonderful online shop with 2 physical store locations in Scotland as well. Owned and run by Loraine (a gg) and also sponsors the Miss TV Scotland pageant every year.

http://dspace.dial.pipex.com/hide.sleek/hs_menu.htm
Advertisements and Opportunities

Want to advertise your TG-friendly store, service, club, group, or your own personal items here? There is NO charge for this … just email the editor rachelwilliston@yahoo.com.

Austin’s Angels … by Jamie Austin

I can’t say enough really terrific things about Jamie. Simply put, he works wonders. Careful though, he has done such a wonderful job that several girls have seen how wonderfully beautiful they can be that they have become full time girls! Jamie offers several different makeover packages … well worth every penny girls!

http://www.austinsangels.com

Countessa’s Closet

Femininity is an art, it’s a gentle form of power.

http://www.countessascloset.com

This is a fabulous place for GG’s and TGirls alike. Countessa is a GG, former model, and a terrific supporter of the Transgendered Community! There is an online store and a physical location in Studio City, California. More to follow about this great Lady and her offerings.
Advertisements and Opportunities

Want to advertise your TG-friendly store, service, club, group, or your own personal items here? There is NO charge for this … just email the editor rachelwilliston@yahoo.com.

http://www.clcrv.com/
Advertisements and Opportunities

Want to advertise your TG-friendly store, service, club, group, or your own personal items here? There is NO charge for this … just email the editor rachelwilliston@yahoo.com.

http://www.weaveofdreams.com

Weave of Dreams is a terrific new online TG store carrying many items for us TGirls. It is run by Carol Deanna. It is worth the visit!

AngelWings Designs by Mary Beth

You really should checkout Mary Beth’s products. She hand sews everything and has lovely lingerie items and dresses, plus she is a doll and very supportive of us TGirls!

http://www.angelwingsdesigns.com
A Look At The Average TG Girl #1
by Rachel Williston

Solution:

CALIFORNIA
MOTHER
SEVENTY
NINETY
DIE
TIE
WOMAN
HETEROSEXUAL
Pretty TGirls Group

2009 Cover Girl Calendar

Melissa Honey
Pretty TGirls’ Miss 2009

Jeanette Johnson
Pretty TGirls’ Miss 2009
# January 2009

Pretty TGirls Group 2009 Calendar... Enjoy Being A Girl!

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Cover Girl: Pretty TGirls' Miss January 2008

Tess Stenson

sand

Jeanette Johnson
## February 2009

Pretty TGirls Group 2009 Calendar... Enjoy Being A Girl!

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**Chantal Leah Delanoire**
Miss February 2008

**Tiffany Davis**
Miss February 2008

**Brandi Lynn Waters**
Miss February 2008
### April 2009

Pretty TGirls Group 2009 Calendar... Enjoy Being A Girl!

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**Notes:**
- April Fool's Day
- Daylight Savings Time Begins
Pretty TGirls Magazine

May 2009

Pretty TGirls Group 2009 Calendar... Enjoy Being A Girl!

Mother's Day

Memorial Day (Observed)

Armed Forces Day
September 2009

Pretty TGirls Group 2009 Calendar... Enjoy Being A Girl!

- Labor Day: 7th
- Autumn begins: 22nd
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December 2009

Pretty TGirls Group 2009 Calendar ... Enjoy Being A Girl!

Winter begins
Christmas
New Year's Eve