

Volume 1, Issue 3

December 2006

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- Book & Movie Reviews & Recommendations
- Transitioning in Ohio: The Legal Process
- Local & National Resources
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## TransOhio.Org Continues to Grow

This past month has been busy for TransOhio. In November, we met with other leaders of the Ohio transgender community. Groups represented and in attendance were members of The Crystal Club, the Central Ohio CD Support group and Meral Crane from the Central Ohio Gender Dysphoria Program of Central Ohio.

Unfortunately, other group leaders were not able to join us for our first meeting, but plan to be in attendance for the next one. We discussed the current state of the transgender community in Ohio; what's lacking, what's needed and how to go about acquiring resources to bridge the gaps that exist within the GLBTQI community. Additionally, we talked about the resources we feel would be needed to make Ohio a better place for the transgender community.

We also talked with the other groups about combining leadership resources within the Ohio community and what would be involved in forming a 501(c)3 organization. We discussed the pros and cons and decided to do some additional brainstorming (mission statement, goals, etc.) over the next month and meet again after the holidays to discuss the next steps (including creating a Board of Directors and incorporating).

TransOhio also sponsored a 6-week Self-Defense Workshop geared to the GLBTQI community. Techniques we covered include: the attacker's vulnerable points, effective strikes, kicks and blocks, falling safely, escapes

from pins and grabs, assertive body language, verbal self-defense, and relaxation and centering skills that will help you stay relaxed and functional under pressure.

The workshop was held every Monday for 2 hours, from mid-October through Mid-November and hosted on average 13 people. Feedback from the attendees has been fantastic and we've begun to plan for another workshop to begin sometime after the first of the year. So if you didn't get to attend this first workshop, make sure you get involved in the next one. We'll send out details as soon as we have the dates and location set.

When we first began our journey to create an organization to serve the Ohio transgender community, we anticipated that we'd have a decent level of response. What we've seen over the last 3 months has been quite amazing. The community response and interest in TransOhio.Org has actually been overwhelming. What makes it even more special to us is that not only have we had local response from the GLBTQI community, we're also getting amazing interest from SOFFA's and national transgender communities.


With that, enjoy the December issue of the TransOhio.Org newsletter. Have a happy and safe holiday season and a fantastic new year.

In community,  
Staff at TransOhio.Org

## New 6wk GLBTQI Self-Defense Workshop Begins Soon!

Save these dates!

Beginning Saturday, January 20, 2007, the second 6-week GLBTQI Self-Defense Workshop begins! Check back soon for more details! Workshop is every Saturday, January 20 through February 24, 2007. Location details TBA. For information email [transohio@wowway.com](mailto:transohio@wowway.com).



*The AIDS Memorial Quilt is Coming to Columbus...*

The Columbus Regional Advisory Group for HIV Prevention is bringing the AIDS Memorial Quilt to Columbus, Ohio  
Come see this amazing piece of Social History and Folk Art!

Where: Columbus Public Health 2<sup>nd</sup> floor auditorium  
240 Parsons Avenue

When:

Mon 11/27	Tues 11/28	Wed 11/29	Thurs 11/30	Fri 12/1
9 a.m. to 8 p.m.	1 to 7:30 p.m.	9 a.m. to 12 p.m. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.	9 a.m. to 12 p.m. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.	10 a.m to 3 p.m. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. World AIDS Day Evening Vigil

*Admission and Parking are Free!*

♿ To schedule a group tour contact Sue Villilo at Columbus Public Health at 614-645-6847 or [svillilo@columbus.gov](mailto:svillilo@columbus.gov)

♿ To learn more about the AIDS Quilt and the NAMES Project go to [www.aidsquilt.org](http://www.aidsquilt.org)

*Many Thanks to the Ohio Department of Health for Supporting the Display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt.*

We are not living with AIDS/HIV but I know many who are. We cherish each of them wholeheartedly. Days like World AIDS Day are symbolic in that we can show the community and the world our unity in finding new treatments, educating others about AIDS/HIV and one day, finding a cure.

*Light a candle and show your support, and your love. Wear a red ribbon and show you care. Light to unite. Show the symbolism of standing strong in unity. Be heard. Get involved. And Get Tested!*

In recognition of World AIDS Day, there are several events taking place in and around Columbus:

- Friday, December 1, CATF will offer free HIV testing from 12pm - 3pm at the CATF office located at 1751 E. Long Street.
- Name Project AIDS Quilt, Columbus Public Health building, 250 Parsons Avenue, on display Thursday, November 30 from 9am-12pm and 2pm-5pm. Friday, December 1, from 10am-3pm.
- A candlelight vigil, Friday, December 1 at 5pm at the Columbus Public Health Building. Names of people who have died from AIDS related illnesses will be read during the vigil. If you have the name of an individual that you want to be recognized at the vigil, please call 614-340-6731.

*Light a candle and show your support, and your love. Wear a red ribbon and show you care. Light to unite. Show the symbolism in standing strong in unity. Be heard. Get involved. And Get Tested!*

We're getting tested - Are you?

# Local & National Calendar of Events



**Report to the Community:**  
The State of Violence in Ohio  
**DECEMBER 3, 2006**  
Time: 3:30PM—6:00PM

Please Be BRAVO's Guest as we:

- Celebrate our first 10 years
- Honor our Volunteers
- Share a preview of the future


**The Staff of BRAVO**  
would like to Thank You for your support.  
You're  
the reason we've been around for  
**A Decade!**

**BRUERE REGION AIDS-VIOLENCE ORGANIZATION**  
223 North Front Street  
Columbus, OH 43215  
Phone: 614-294-STOP (7867)  
www.bravo-ohio.org

Come get a sneak peak at Columbus' newest Club!  
**The SCORE Bar** (formerly Club 202)  
202 E. Long Street  
Enjoy Live Music @ our new  
CASHBAR

*Come Celebrate BRAVO !!!*

To RSVP Contact the BRAVO Office :  
**614-294-STOP**



**Local AIDS/HIV Resources**

Columbus AIDS Task Force  
[www.catf.net](http://www.catf.net)

Ohio AIDS Coalition  
[www.ohioaidscoalition.org](http://www.ohioaidscoalition.org)

**Call for Writers & Artists**


TransOhio.Org wants your work!

- poetry
- short stories (fiction & non-fiction)
- opinion essays
- coming out letters to family & friends
- photos, artwork (drawings, paintings, etc.)

Submit your work to [transohio@wowway.com](mailto:transohio@wowway.com)

**Thanks for VOTING!**

**Your vote has been a catalyst  
for change in Ohio!**



## December 2006

- World AIDS Day, December 1, 2006. For more information, visit <http://www.worldaidscampaign.info>
- Report to the Community: The State of Violence in Ohio, BRAVO, December 3, 2006, 3:30pm-6pm, The SCORE Bar, 202 E. Long Street, Columbus. To RSVP, contact BRAVO at 614-294-STOP.
- Indy Boyz. December 9, 2006. 3pm-5pm. For more information, visit <http://www.indyboyz.org>

## January 2007

- GLBTQI 6-week Self-Defense Workshop begins on Saturday, January 20, 2007 at 12pm. Location details TBA.

## March 2007

- The FORGE Forward 2007 Conference, March 29 – April 1, 2007, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.  
<http://www.forge-forward.org/conference/>

## July 2007

- CampOUT, July 26 - 29, 2007, Lothlorien Nature Sanctuary, Bloomington, IN. [http://www.lagarou.org/campout\\_2007](http://www.lagarou.org/campout_2007)

## September 2007

- Southern Comfort Conference, September 11-16, 2007, Atlanta, GA. <http://www.scatl.org>

*Would you like to add your event to our calendar? Email event information to [transohio@wowway.com](mailto:transohio@wowway.com)*

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## The SOFFA Corner facilitated by TransOhio SOFFA's

### A Significant Other's View

Terms and pronouns quickly become confusing when talking about relationships between individuals that have gender-identities in transition. For ease of reading, we'll be use "T" to refer to both MtFs and FtMs, and pronouns that correspond to the identified gender (i.e., she for MtF and he for FtM). Therefore, my MtF spouse is my Twife. Similarly, we'll use "SO" for the partner/significant other to the transgender individual. Thus, I am her SOwife.

I'm Chris, SOwife of Monica, and mother of Sophie, our 3 year old darling daughter. Prior to our marriage in 1996, Monica shared with me what she understood, at that time, about herself. In July 2004, things changed dramatically. Monica decided to try hormone treatments. Once she began, she never turned back. Monica's been living as full-time as female since early 2006 and will be going for GRS sometime in 2007. We're still very much in love. Together, the three of us are a family unit. We're grateful to have one another and such a lovely little girl to raise.

Significant Other's come in many forms: a married spouse, a partner, a girlfriend, a boyfriend, etc. We arrive in each other's lives at many points in time: before, during, or after transition. Just like the transgender individual in our life, we each have unique stories and paths as to how we arrived where we are today.

And yet, I think SO's share many common feelings and experiences on that path. So, I wanted to get a space in the TransOhio.Org newsletter for us to share, both with each other and with the people we love.

"As an SO," someone once told me, "All you have to do is be supportive. You don't have to change a thing, just support your spouse. She's doing all of the changing." To which I responded, "I, too, am doing a lot of changing." At first, I was a little angry this SO said such a thing. But then realized I was very fortunate that she actually *did* express her thoughts out loud. I wonder how many others think the same thing and just don't say it aloud because they are too polite to say it?

What changes have you made?

– Chris Dunlap

We'd like to hear from a variety of Significant Others. Please share your thoughts and comments with us in the next TransOhio.Org newsletter!

Please email your responses to [transohio@wowway.com](mailto:transohio@wowway.com)

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## Ramblings 47 Rev.1 Deck the Halls by Laura Karen H.

### My Journey to Christmas Present

Deck the halls with boughs of holly; Joy to the world; Peace on earth and good will toward men; God and sinners reconciled. I love Christmas. I love Jesus, I love the romance and the magic this holiday brings, but why is it that for so many years I felt like an outsider. Does this day, does its promise include people like me?

As a young child my family would gather on Christmas Eve with all my aunts, uncles and cousins in attendance. My Granny would spoil us with her cakes, fudges and southern fried chicken. We would exchange gifts, eat too much food, sing songs, followed by the kids and their nativity play, all to be capped with Mid-Night Mass. Such was the innocence of youth that it was still difficult to get to sleep as our heads were filled with what Santa might bring in the morning. I loved the hope, the joy, and the family getting together. Sadly at the end of Christmas day I would always feel a tinge of regret, a sadness I could not explain, and a fading hope of ever finding an answer to the question, I did not even know how to formulate.

Days went into months and months into years and I had children of my own with old traditions to teach and new traditions to begin. On Christmas day the tinge of regret grew into an emptiness I could not fill, as the unformulated question had become alarmingly clear. I wanted what any other woman had. I wanted what they wanted. I wanted to feel like they felt, I wanted... This was wrong wasn't it? A guy isn't supposed to feel this way. Please God take this feeling away, are you there?

I did not see it coming, but on August 31, 1987 my world as I had once known it came to an abrupt end. You would think waking up in a strange hospital bed four days later would be alarming, but not for me. I woke in a child like state. I didn't like all of those tubes sticking out of me and pulled them out every chance I got, which did not make my nurses very happy. My family surrounded me with love and I talked to them but I really didn't know who they were.

(cont'd on page 7)

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## Trans-Legal Corner

### The Name Change Process in Ohio

Welcome to the first “Trans-Legal Corner.” In future issues, I hope to respond to questions related to legal issues faced by the transgender community - issues brought to my attention by you – the reader. So, let’s get started. I’ll do my best to educate you about your rights under the law. Send your “legal” questions to [transohio@wowway.com](mailto:transohio@wowway.com)!

Since TransOhio.Org hasn’t previously received any legal question, I’ve taken it upon myself to provide the first subject – one near and dear to many hearts: the name change process in Ohio. I say “in Ohio” because the law related to changing your name is *state* law, meaning that it varies from state-to-state. So, in this case, my comments will reflect *Ohio’s* law on this matter.

Ohio laws are “codified” (i.e., logically organized by topic) in the “Ohio Revised Code.” Section 2717.01 of the Ohio Revised Code controls this process and is entitled “Proceedings to change name of person.” Yeah, I know, it’s not very creative, but at least it’s clear. Anyway, the pertinent part states:

“A person desiring a change of name may file an application in the probate court of the county in which the person resides. The application shall set forth that the applicant has been a bona fide resident of that county for at least one year prior to the filing of the application, the cause for which the change of name is sought, and the requested new name.

Notice of the application shall be given once by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least thirty days before the hearing on the application. The notice shall set forth the court in which the application was filed, the case number, and the date and time of the hearing.

Upon proof that proper notice was given and that the facts set forth in the application show reasonable and proper cause for changing the name of the applicant, the court may order the change of name.”

Ok, that’s what the law *literally* says, but what does all that mean? Well, first, notice that the last sentence states that the court “*may order* the change of name.” It’s discretionary. That means the court doesn’t have to order the name change. I’ll get back to this in a few minutes.

Second, notice that in Ohio, this entire process is handled by

county probate courts. In most instances, the probate court has developed step-by-step instructions and “fill-in-the-blank” forms to help you through the process. For the most part, the process consists of:

1. Completing and submitting an application to the court for changing your name
2. Advertising your application in a local newspaper at least 30 days before the hearing on your application
3. A hearing where, after some questions to ensure you’ve complied with the process, the judge officially orders your named changed to your new name.

The specific instructions (and the forms) should be available through your local county probate court. For example, in Franklin County, Ohio, these instructions and forms are posted on the probate court’s website:

[www.franklincountyohio.gov/probate/departments/name\\_change.cfm](http://www.franklincountyohio.gov/probate/departments/name_change.cfm)

This website is very helpful, but I can’t guarantee that every county’s probate court has done this. In some of the less populated counties, the probate courts have far less resources to set up and maintain such helpful websites. In such a case, you should take time to call the probate court clerk and ask for guidance and assistance through the process. Keep in mind, in order to successfully change your name; you must follow all the court’s rules *exactly*. Anything short of that and you could be denied your name change.

Let’s continue. What about the “discretionary” thing? How do they decide when to grant the name change and when not to?

Well...let’s see if I can shed a little light on this subject. Along with the *statutory law* (that is, the textual law – statutes passed by the Ohio General Assembly, signed into law, and codified in the Ohio Revised Code), there is *case law*, which is law that is formed by the process of the courts interpreting and implementing the statutory law. In Ohio, the highest court is The Supreme Court of Ohio. Cases decided by *that court* are binding on *all other state courts* in Ohio. This means that if The Supreme Court of Ohio declared that the law in Ohio is to be interpreted and applied in a certain way, then all Ohio courts *must* interpret and apply the law in that same manner.

In the case of name changes, The Supreme Court of Ohio has said two things that are particularly relevant to the transgender community when seeking to change their name in Ohio.

(*cont’d on page 6*)

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## Trans-Legal Corner

(cont'd from page 5)

First, because changing a name through judicial decree implies an official consideration and endorsement of the new name (i.e., the **State** is doing this), the Supreme Court of Ohio had to develop a standard to guide other courts in deciding when to grant (and when not to grant) a name change. In Ohio, the standard for deciding whether to permit a “legal” name change is proof that the facts set forth in the application show “reasonable and proper cause” for changing the name (this was decided by The Ohio Supreme Court in the case of *In re Willbite* (1999), 85 Ohio St.3d 28, 1999 Ohio 201, 706 N.E.2d 778). So, as long as you have a “reasonable and proper cause” for changing your name, the court should grant the name change.

I know, what the heck does “reasonable and proper cause” mean? First, you *can't* change your name in an attempt to commit fraud on someone (e.g., to hide from creditors, to skip out on child support, etc.). Those would be improper causes. Secondly, that brings me to the second relevant case.

In the case of *In re Maloney* (2001), 96 Ohio St.3d 307, 2002 Ohio 4214, 774 N.E.2d 239, The Supreme Court of Ohio overruled a lower court ruling, and permitted a transsexual male to change his name from Richard to Susan as part of his sex reassignment therapy. What significance does that have? Well, courts are bound to follow precedent, and in this particular case, The Supreme Court of Ohio permitted a transsexual male to change his name from a man's name to a woman's name. So, if The Supreme Court of Ohio has already decided that that constitutes a “reasonable and proper cause” for changing a name, other courts can't turn around now and say that it's not a “reasonable and proper cause” for changing a name.

Why is the case law important to your process? In Ohio, judges are elected, and not everybody who becomes a judge has ever come across a name change case. Normally, lawyers guide you through the process, and in doing so, they normally do this kind of research “legwork” for the court (which is normally submitted to the court in the form of motions and briefs).

However, few in the transgender community can afford an attorney for a process that has, for the most part, become “self-serve.”

During the process, if you find yourself, alone, in front of a judge who is unfamiliar with your particular situation, *courteously* bring the referenced cases to attention of the court. It might save you another trip back to the court, while the judge gives himself time to do the research that I've just given to you.

So, now you know what to do or at least how to go about doing it (i.e., finding all the forms and instructions for changing your name). More importantly, if in the process of changing your name you run into a judge that is unfamiliar with this area of the law, you can help him. Remember; *always* be courteous and respectful towards the judge!

I hope this helps.

Last, but not least, I highly encourage each of you to do this with the help of a licensed attorney. The law changes with each newly decided case; and attorney can make sure that the cases that I've written about here are the most current. You can fill out all the forms and give your attorney this research; it should cut down significantly on the bill. Keep in mind, changing your name is very important to your transition process - so do it right!

Good luck.

This column is being donated by Todd Allison, Esq., who is an Ohio licensed attorney. He's kindly agreed to provide this pro bono service to the community and TransOhio.Org.

Please submit your trans-related legal questions to [transohio@wowway.com](mailto:transohio@wowway.com).



**Stop AIDS:  
Keep the Promise**



**COLUMBUS  
AIDS  
TASK  
FORCE**

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## Ramblings 47 Rev.1 Deck the Halls by Laura Karen H.

My family surrounded me with love and I talked to them but I really didn't know who they were. It would be months before I could fully comprehend the injury caused from falling 20ft, head-first onto a concrete floor. It would take the rest of my life to fully understand what it meant to be a survivor of a Traumatic Brain Injury. It was during my recovery I finally understood what it meant to be transsexual.

I could never figure out why I lived. Miraculously, I did survive and returned to work. People I would meet would gush about how lucky I was and how God must have saved me for something very special, but I didn't feel lucky. At times, I thought my family and I would have been better off if I had not survived.

The transsexual thing did not go away; in fact it was stronger than ever. I learned that when we are faced with these types of struggles we form coping mechanisms to get by. You get tired of complaining and you want to be considered normal so it is just another thing to hide with this transsexual thing.

God was there in my life but he was fading away. Christmas's came went and the emptiness remained only to be compounded by the New Years holiday, which I hated. I didn't feel like celebrating. To me it meant that the magic of Christmas was gone only to be replaced with the reality of another year.

I am sitting at my desk and praying to God in desperation. My third chance at life is not going much better than the first two. This disability thing was not going as I was told or expected. My employer begged me to stop working, which was echoed by my family and my friends. After all, my claim for disability benefits seemed assured with my medical history, wrong!

Still sitting at my desk it was as if someone spoke, but didn't. I was to read the scriptures my friend Adam gave to me. Normally this would not be a problem but Adam gave me those scriptures four years before, when I was starting my last project. I clearly remembered the day he handed me a slip of paper saying, "I felt God told me to give you these scriptures". I thanked him and stuck them into my planner. A month later I noticed them and was ashamed I did not read them, I promised myself, that I would read them that night. Well six months later I found them again as I was cleaning up and now felt awful that I never read them. So I got out my bible and took a look. Nothing! They did not speak to me at all. Feeling a bit guilty, I slipped the little piece of paper back into my planner.

I am quickly rummaging through all of the file boxes I packed up when I retired. Finding my planner, I looked for the slip of paper, which was of course missing. I suddenly remembered throwing it away. But wait I remembered writing them down and after leafing through my planner pages, there they were. The first verse was Jeremiah 19:11-12.

"For I know the plans that I have for you, declares the lord, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope". "Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you."

Tears started to run down my face. I looked up to heaven and stated quite simply, "you know what I need, I need something to be approved, and I need an income." No sooner was I finished that the phone rang. It was Social Security, telling me that I was approved and they needed some information. What was amazing was that I had not yet refilled my new paper work for the changed diagnoses. The claim was on hold. It turns out that their doctor's opinion was enough.

It would be fitting to say the story ended there but it doesn't. I posted those scriptures on my wall so I saw them every day as I awoke, to remind me that I was not alone. I needed them as I faced another two years of one struggle after another, and yet another moment of crises. The TBI thing was getting clearer but not yet solved and this transsexual thing still had to be dealt with.

At the last minute, just in time, and at a now or never moment in my life, I was introduced to a Neuro-psychologist who put all of the pieces of my life and problems together. Why God waits to the last minute to answer a prayer drives me crazy. Who would have imagined, that the underling reason we are transsexual or why we TBI survivors have problems could be so similar, and I never would have guessed that the reason that TBI patients are likely to be incorrectly judged as mentally disturbed and the reason that transsexuals are so unfairly treated by the medical community, the religious community and the government would be the same.

It feels so good to know you are not crazy. I found out that all of my TBI symptoms were not unusual and rare, as my doctors had said but typical for multiple frontal lobe injuries. I now have strategies that work. I have had to deal with being transsexual as it is critical as a TBI survivor to remove all stress. As far as being a transsexual and having a female patterned brain, no wonder life as a male made no sense and was so difficult. My reactions to my environment, were neither sinful nor strange, I reacted as any other person with a feminine brain would. I am now making adjustments based on the truth of whom I am and not on others ill-founded or prejudicial opinion. I am open and honest about whom I am. I set my own expectations so no one should be surprised. Oh yes, organic problems are not sin, so I do not leave my Christianity at the door.

*(cont'd on page 8)*

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## Ramblings 47 Rev.1 Deck the Halls by Laura Karen H.

*(cont'd from page 7)*

on others ill-founded or prejudicial opinion. I am open and honest about whom I am. I set my own expectations so no one should be surprised. Oh yes, organic problems are not sin, so I do not leave my Christianity at the door.

Finally last August, I stood in my yard and took in the smell of fresh cut grass and felt totally relaxed. Tears started running down my cheeks as I suddenly realized I was happy. I felt an inner confidence that was totally new to me. I felt so good. If the feeling of joy was not enough, it was as if a cloud had been lifted. Suddenly I could see how every event that had transpired since the day I read that scripture and how every chance meeting, every obstacle, and each new discovery had led me to this point, as God gently wove and fabricated his plans for my new future. He listened.

The person looking forward to this Christmas season is very different from the one person who celebrated them in the past. This person is kind of new. Thanks to several wonderful women, she is just now starting to emerge from the shadows to take her long awaited place in the Christmas snow.

It is time for her to relearn some of her old Christmas traditions and start some new ones. Life for a time will still be difficult. There will be tears to be shed and trials to be faced but I am still happy, confident and secure. I am also ready to face the New Year with anticipation.

Merry Christmas

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## Open Mic @ TransOhio

unfold  
My body is a reluctant failure.  
I've bitten  
bled  
sliced  
drugged  
drank  
beaten  
torn  
raced  
shaved  
powdered  
flowered  
and dolled it into submission.  
The span of one short lifetime  
spent trying to agree with the untruth of my body.  
You'll excuse me from trying to convince you otherwise.  
These things don't happen quickly.  
Now I'm a reptile unfolding from a beached egg  
And I know you're repulsion because I feel it everyday.  
I hear myself between the ears and know  
that my voice doesn't match the one in my head.  
My hands are stronger than this  
and I will use them to build myself so that you can finally see me.

– Ben Shaffer

TransOhio.Org

We Want You!

- √ Get involved in your community
- √ Get connected
- √ Build bridges to other communities
- √ Break-down old community silos
- √ Educate
- √ Mentor

Would you like to be a part of TransOhio.Org?

Email  
[transohio@wowway.com](mailto:transohio@wowway.com)

## Open Mic @ TransOhio

### Genevieve Begins

The lady below  
powders a pink face  
in a mirror of chrome.  
In basement cloisters,  
with walls licked satin blue  
from muted infomercials,  
she conceals the shadow that grew  
cactus rough, dark as dusk  
over an austere face  
during the frowning hours  
and she studies her eyes  
becoming glassy blue bulbs.

She pouts with coral lips  
that form O's round as onions.  
Reflecting,  
"who made this stranger and why does she look at me so?"  
Not a lash to be plucked  
and wished upon,  
but hope faintly sparkling  
in a beaming eye  
makes the tear form and fall.  
Not even God could know her.

3 am.

Ascending creaking stairs,  
long lacquered nails  
caress the handrail-  
the lady below  
breaks the threshold  
of her basement cell  
in which she knew  
like her tomb.  
Shoulders hunched,  
skirt bunched,  
two heels high  
with a head through  
the asylum ceiling,  
she smiles for the first time  
since creating her own image,  
and accepts the peace  
afforded by the finished side of the door,  
that better complements  
her new grace.  
She blends with the world.

The lady below  
was here ten minutes ago  
divorcing herself  
when she saw God in chrome.

- Glenn Gronowski

### The Gender Identity Project at the LGBT Center in NYC

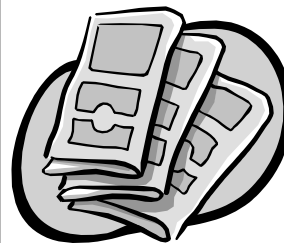
presents:

*Trans Family Support: A group for family members of transgender people*

When: Wednesday, October 4th, 2006, 6-7:30pm  
Wednesday, November 8th, 2006, 6-7:30pm  
Wednesday, December 6th, 2006, 6-7:30pm

Where: The NYC LGBT Community Center  
208 West 13th Street (between 7th and 8th avenues)

For More info: call (212) 620-7310, ext. 254 or email:  
ray@gaycenter.org



Have an event  
you'd like to have  
included in the  
TransOhio.Org  
newsletter?

Email [transohio@wowway.com](mailto:transohio@wowway.com) with all the necessary information: (what, when, where, who, etc.) and we'll take care of the rest!

*TransOhio.Org*  
*Bringing Together the Ohio GLBTQI Community*

## Local Resources

- EqualityOhio.Org: [www.equalityohio.org](http://www.equalityohio.org)
- BRAVO (Buckeye Regional Anti-Violence Organization): [www.bravo-ohio.org](http://www.bravo-ohio.org)
- TransFamily of Cleveland: [www.transfamily.org](http://www.transfamily.org)
- Central Ohio CD Support:: [www.crossohio.org](http://www.crossohio.org)
- The Crystal Club: [www.thecrystalclub.org](http://www.thecrystalclub.org)
- Stonewall Columbus: [www.stonewallcolumbus.org](http://www.stonewallcolumbus.org)
- Outlook News: [www.outlooknews.com](http://www.outlooknews.com)
- Gay People's Chronicle: [www.gaypeopleschronicle](http://www.gaypeopleschronicle)
- Gender Dysphoria Program of Central Ohio: [www.genderprogram.com](http://www.genderprogram.com)



## National Resources

- PFLAG's Transgender Network: [www.pflag.org/tnet.html](http://www.pflag.org/tnet.html)
- Hudson's FTM Resource Guide: [www.ftmguide.org](http://www.ftmguide.org)
- Transster.com: [www.transster.com](http://www.transster.com)
- Tgcrossroads: [www.tgcrossroads.org](http://www.tgcrossroads.org)
- Human Rights Campaign: [www.hrc.org](http://www.hrc.org)
- FTM International: [www.ftmi.org](http://www.ftmi.org)



## Local Trans-Friendly Shopping & Services

**Private Desires**  
Lingerie & Erotic Boutique  
1018 W. Main - Zanesville, Oh.  
(just 2 blocks west of the Y-bridge)  
**Adult Lingerie, Video,  
Novelties and Accessories.**  
Open Mon-Sat: Noon-Midnight  
Sun: Noon-8pm  
*Stuff To Spice Up Your Love Life!*  
[www.yourprivatedesires.com](http://www.yourprivatedesires.com)

Dr. Timothy E. Moats, D.D.S  
Family Practice

656 High Street  
Worthington, Ohio 43085  
Tel: (614) 885-6698  
Fax: (614) 433-7952

## Classifieds

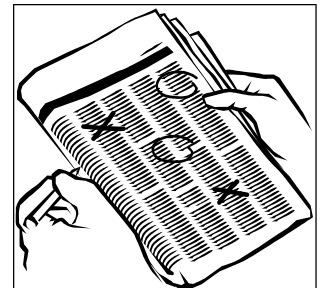
### For Sale

FTMs: Gently worn binder-shirts, under armor tanks and muscle shirts, etc. Email [qtheory@wowway.com](mailto:qtheory@wowway.com) for info (Columbus).

Employment  
Roommates

Help Wanted  
Networking

TransOhio.Org is not a dating service and will not print ads that contain sexual-based services, personals or ads containing nudity or sexually explicit content.



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Please submit your classified ads by email to [transohio@wowway.com](mailto:transohio@wowway.com).