



LIPSTICK & LACE

Masquerade

Volume 7, Issue 2

June & July 2004

This
issue's
cover
girl...
Ardra!

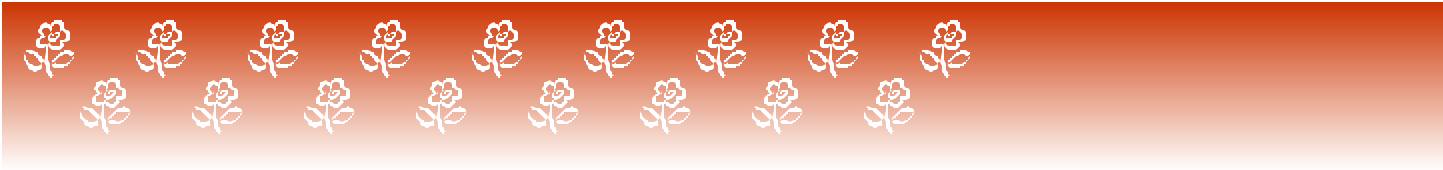


Special points of interest:

- Photos of events and get togethers!
- Upcoming things to be involved in!
- And more!!

Inside this issue:

Presidentially Speaking	2
7 Secrets of Successful Crossdressing	3
A.I.S. Some Ideas	4
Shandi's Special Day!	5
Keycon 21	6
Nail Tips	7
Fill out your bra!	9



Presidentially Speaking

After the events of our last meeting day, the winter weather, I hope I can say now that spring is finally here! It will seem short, since summer will soon be upon us. With a new spring and a new summer comes new beginnings and new possibilities for each and every one of us. Many of us spent most of our lives with no where to go, no one to talk to about our feminine side. Being a part of Masquerade means for each of us that we can express ourselves without that worry of "What will people think?" Other than about the odd "fashion boo boo!" that is!

Recently. After I had been writing to Paula, whom I've known for a few years now, she asked me a question that made me recognize the single most important way that Masquerade makes our members feel so very special.

As an aside in her e-mail she asked "Wait, now here is a stupid question. What is your male name?" Masquerade gives us a place to let our girl-selves come out to play. So much so that our guy self seems to get forgotten about!

Perhaps that is why so many of our members find a tremendous comfort level when going "out and

about" with the group, without the worry of "Who will find out?". The feeling of freedom to set "him" aside for a while and let your girl side come to life, be it at a club meeting, an outing to one of the night clubs, to the movies, to dining out and shopping in Winnipeg! Now after Paula's question, after 3 years she still had to ask! What this really does is go to show that our girl selves are a very real part of our being. Because so many people with whom we've made friends who know our girl sides very well, yet have no idea

With a new spring and a new summer comes new beginnings and new possibilities for each and every one of us.

who "he" is!! I think that is so special! As the summer unfolds there will be events for our members to get out



Madame President! Sabrina Markes!

and enjoy life being girls.



There will be the Pride Parade on June 13, and the Snowy Owl Monarchist Society Coronation on July 17. Plus of course our monthly meetings and maybe even some movie nights and shopping trips!

So make some plans, leave "HIM" behind, and let the "GIRL" inside of you come out join in the fun.



7 Secrets of Successful Crossdressing

This is by far the most positive book I have ever read on dressing. It is full of positive experiences, thoughts, and plain common sense. I have learned much of what Lacey writes about on my own, and it's so nice to see another person in another part of the world who has a stronger positive outlook than me!!!! I should write a book! But I haven't had the experiences that she has had... yet!

Lacey's experiences and how she has dealt with them make for a wonderful read. Her advice will not only inspire those who are trapped in their closets, but serve as a confirmation to those who have ventured into the world that they are doing the right thing. Open crossdressing says to the world that "I am this comfortable with myself, you should be so lucky!"

This is by far the most positive book I have ever read on dressing.

There is good solid advice for all aspects of life contained within her 7 Secrets. She wants us to turn perceptions inside out, by dealing with our own fears, attitudes, honesty and relationships. All of which will serve to make each one of us happier in our lives. In my opinion, and I'm sure she would agree, it's the people who know themselves the best, that make the best people. (Ooooh, I think I should copyright that!!)

There are a couple of points that I somewhat disagree with her. The first is regarding short skirts and the image of femininity that society

"expects". She basically says that we should dress with some class so as not to promote the stereotypical crossdresser, and that I agree with. How we present ourselves to the world is important. Dressing appropriately is, well, appropriate! We should not dress like hookers!! But isn't it also stereotypical that girls with short skirts (etc.!) are looked at as being either objects or bimbos? Shouldn't we help *them* break that chain? I for one am always being complimented on my legs and my hair. I take the time to do a good presentation as Lacey recommends, and that involves accentuating the positive aspects of my appearance. At my age, the fact that I can look great in a mini does wonders for my ego! Many of my friends and acquaintances both male and female are continually impressed by my ability to look good,

and to walk in heels better than most women! And as with all of us, I tend to love compliments, so why should I disregard the things which help generate them? As long as I have the composure not to allow myself to be treated with anything less than the pleasant manner that I would treat anyone else with, it's all good!

Secondly she points out that all too often support groups and gay



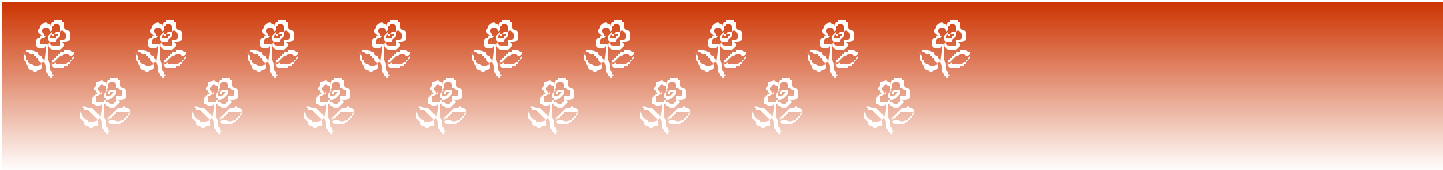
Our Editor, Shandi

bars are just extensions of our closets. I agree with her there too, to a point. If it's one thing I have learned throughout my life it's that attitude is 90% of accomplishment, the rest is ability. If you have the right attitude you can and will do anything you set your sights on. Support groups and friendly places to go like the gay bars, allow us to make friends and learn more about

interacting as the women we profess to be. If we have the attitude that we are just going there because it's okay, we aren't using these venues to their full potential. We simply must look at these places as steps to our own personal growth. If they are all you allow yourself to be and do, then that's all you will be. But if,

(Continued on page 4)





7 Secrets cont'd

(Continued from page 3)

you look at them as a way to gain experience and have fun, like we do here in Masquerade, the sky's the limit! Making friends, forming relationships and growing as people are necessary aspects of civilized life. How you go about it and the experiences you have on the journey shape the person you are, and will be in the future, no matter what gender you are.

One of my favorite stories is how when I joined Masquerade, I came to my first meeting with my sweetie, shaking. I overcame that. I didn't

want to be involved in running the club, I just wanted to have fun. I overcame that too, and still had fun. I was afraid to go out in public, I overcame that. I didn't want to be involved in the community, I overcame that. And so on, and so on! So that basically says "if you tell yourself that you can't/won't/shouldn't, it can not and will not happen." But life goes on. A favorite line of mine from a movie goes "is this all that I am, is there nothing more?" That is a question everyone should ask themselves, every single day. Complacency kills the spirit!

So everyone, dresser or not, should read Lacey's book. The positivity will show you that the only thing you have to fear is yourself. The ability to physically pass is nowhere near as important as the ability to believe in yourself, know yourself, and enjoy yourself.

Her book 7 Secrets of Successful Crossdressing is available on CD rom in our club library, (it was donated by her!) or can be purchased via Lacey's website , www.laceyleigh.com .

I highly recommend everyone read it!

Androgen insensitivity syndrome (AIS).

Intersexuals are leading scientists and society to reconsider long-held ideas of what it means to be male or female. "Having my daughter born with AIS - ambiguous genitalia," "forces you to learn that because you have testicles doesn't mean you **ARE** a male, or if you don't, you are **LESS** a male."

Dr. Metzger says medicine is starting to understand a complex interplay between chromosomes, gonads and hormones that affects a child's anatomy. He cautions that the biologically perfect male or female may be an illusion. We all have little mistakes in our bodies, suggesting that subtle forms of intersex and other abnormalities are widespread, and often undetected. A misshapen uterus may go unnoticed until a woman finds she can't get pregnant;

the biologically perfect male or female may be an illusion

an infertile male may discover he has an ovum. Dr. Metzger contends that sexuality is a continuum, with many people falling somewhere between the poles of "pure" female and "pure" male, and with intersexuals in the middle.

But that middle ground can be a terrifying place in a society that still has contempt for sexual ambiguity. Atwood spent 15 years hiding her AIS. "I was so consumed with fear someone would find out," she says. The 34-year-old singer has XY (male) chromosomes, but developed external female genitalia because of a genetic defect that prevented her body from responding to the male hormones produced by her testes hidden in her abdomen. In AIS individuals, the gene that makes

androgen receptors is either missing or broken. At birth, Atwood looked like a normal baby girl. And the attractive singer, a former soap-opera actress, looks and feels totally female. "In my younger years, I got a lot of male attention," she says. "I have a normal sexual response." But, as a teen, the secret shame of being different, knowing she would never menstruate or bear a child because she lacked a uterus, took its toll. "It made me a neurotic wreck. My self esteem was in the gutter."

Last fall, Atwood decided to come out. "I lived under the shroud of secrecy for so long. But then I got angry."

Dr. Daniel Metzger is a pediatric endocrinologist at British Columbia's Children's Hospital in Vancouver.

A Special Day!

Well, another year, another darn birthday! But for "25" I do all right! (Tee Hee!) My sweetie and I had originally hoped to be going to see Aerosmith and Cheap Trick in concert, but our hoped for free tickets fell through. So it came down to deciding what to do. Our backup plan was to go to see the movie "Connie & Carla" with Sabrina and Michelle, but since the only show that evening was at 6:30 and there was no way we could get pretty and be there in time. Michelle had to work at 4:00 AM the next day, so she didn't want to stay out late, so it was just the three of us. We decided to go and see a "chick flick" (of course!), and "13 Going on 30" starring Jennifer Garner was the choice. It was a fun and touching movie, which reminded me of my own "inner child".

My sweetie gave me two gifts, a cool new pair of high heeled boots and a mesh sleeved top. So I had to rethink what I was going to wear! Needless to say, there were clothes all over the place! The boots looked really good with a short black skirt, but I settled for something a little more elegant.



Sabrina and I in the theatre! I'm so glad she remembered her camera!

totally enjoying myself, just being a girl going to the movies!

They really came in handy though, as there was still snow from a recent snowstorm all around!

Sabrina offered to drive, since it was my birthday, she picked us up in her van and we headed to Silver City Polo Park, after my nails were dry enough! We got there and had a little time to get our snacks and get our seats. Needless to say it was nice to be able to walk in amongst the patrons in my new boots and outfit, totally enjoying myself, just being a girl going to the movies! I'm loving it!



Me in my new boots!
They are so cute!

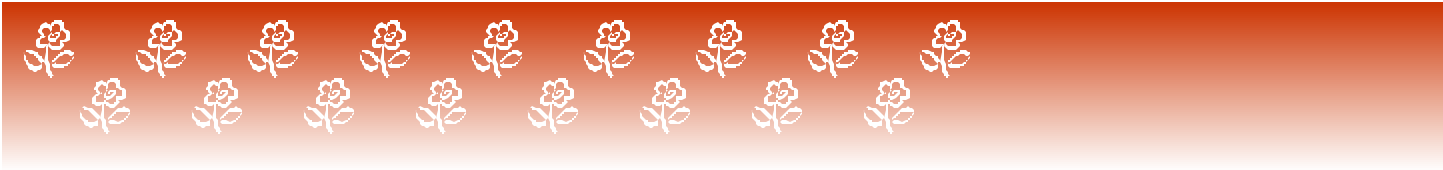
We handed in our tickets and got our seats and settled in to enjoy the experience. Afterwards we snapped a couple of photos and went on our way. My sweetie had to make a stop at the restroom, so Sabrina and I just stood chatting in the hall. While people walked by, to and from the theatres. We stopped for a couple of photos in the parking lot, as in my haste to do my nails, I had forgotten to get a picture with my new boots! Luckily Sabrina brought her camera too, as I forgot mine! Now that's a first! I must be getting old!



My Sweetie and I at Club 200

So what next? Well there was an SOMS show going on at Club 200, and even though it was a Country Theme, we decided to head over to see if any of our friends were there. For a while we even followed a white limo, which we suspect had some of the band members heading back to their hotel! We arrived at the club, got our drinks and good seats and watched the performances. There were some really funny ones from Urethra Franklin and Penelope Vanderloon! Stephanie (after being informed by my sweetie) wished me a Happy Birthday and teased me a bit about my age! But being a good sport, I'll get her on her birthday!

The show was done and we headed home! Another special day with special people to make a special memory!



Visiting KeyCon 21

May 22, 2004, I visited KeyCon 19 & 20 the past few years and have always had such a great time. So when KeyCon 21 was set for May 21 to 23, 2004, at the Radisson Hotel in Winnipeg, I had to add the event to my list of places to go and have some fun! Like the previous years, I stopped in during the day Saturday and bought my day pass, then took a break before "getting pretty".

This year I wore my black leather mini skirt, boots and a brown print top with flowing sleeves!



My daughter and I

After a few delays during the day, I was finally ready by about 9:45 PM and parked in the parkade of the Radisson Hotel. The weather was a little cooler than normal for this time of year and it was such a wonderful experience walking through the parkade feeling the cool night air under my mini skirt! After leaving the parkade elevator I walked through the Radisson Hotel lobby to the main elevators and had a few guys stop their conversations to watch me walk by and you can bet I did that with a big smile on my face!

On the 12th floor I made my way to the Masquerade Social and met up with my daughter and her friends Danny & Sarah. There wasn't too much time to talk since a good song started playing and they headed for the dance floor and Danny headed up to host their Con Suite on the 15th! Well, there was dancing, so I quickly joined my



He didn't make me do it!

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

daughter and Sarah on the dance floor! Not too long after that my ex and her husband, who were off busy taking care of things with



Leamber and I

KeyCon, joined us all on the dance floor! The evening I met up with my friends Sherry and Leamber, and Sherry's friend who

was dressed as "The Devil. Of course there just had to be pictures taken. It was a great evening meeting up with people I met at last year's KeyCon, and having others remember me from the previous year kinda made me feel like a celebrity! What is so special though, is having places to go out and do real things as Sabrina!



My daughter, my ex and !!! Whoda

up with people I met at last year's KeyCon, and having others remember me from the previous year kinda made me feel like a celebrity! What is so special though, is having places to go out and do real things as Sabrina!

Sabrina



Sherry and I

Visit the KeyCon web site at <http://www.keycon.org> for info on KeyCon 22 in 2005 !



The Cabaret on Sunday, June 13th is a *Pride exclusive* evening at the Empire*

"Shaharazad, Tales of a Bathhouse Queer"

Date: Sunday, June 13

Time: Doors open at 7:00 p.m.; Show starts at 8:00 p.m.

Location: The Empire Cabaret

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Tickets on sale at Gio's, Happenings, Club 200, Club Desire, McNally Robinson Booksellers and The Rainbow Resource Centre.

Drench yourself in exotic perfumes and oils; drape silken finery about yourself and prepare for an evening of splendid loveliness worthy of Arabian Nights or Bollywood North with this year's Cabaret theme of Shaharazad, the exotic storytelling lady.

Besides oriental exotica, there is also a bathhouse/queer sub-theme, so gentlemen and others may come as fops, dandies, and Beau Brummell wannabes, according to producer Miniely. "Finery of all kinds is welcome and there will be prizes for the best costumes," she says. "Every year I notice that the quality of costumes is going up. People love to be creative and dress up."

Producer Patrice Miniely is especially pleased with the lineup for the two-hour show, including talented performers such as Desert Caravan, Easily Amused, Tea Cup, Maddy the 100 year old Lesbian, Tyra Boiks, and Cat Jahnke. Prepare yourselves for a two-hour show of breathtaking imagination and stories to make your blood run hot and also cold.

Live entertainment and dancing, with a frisky twist! Hosted by Clare Lawlor and dancing with DJ Lo.

CORONATION V



H.M.I.S.M. EMPEROR IV
TONY BARR-LANE



H.M.I.S.M. EMPRESS IV
STEPHANIE LANE-BARR

Crown Jewels & Silver Swords

An Evening of Imperial Pageantry & Celebration
July 17, 2004
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Masonic Memorial Temple - 420 Corydon Avenue 5:30 P.
M.

Reserved Seating \$35.00/General Seating \$25.00

Awards will be presented for Best Group/or Court (In Theme), Best Male & Female (In Theme)

Greetings from the Emperor & Empress! Emperor IV Tony Barr-Lane & Empress IV Stephanie Lane-Barr, along with the 4th Imperial Sovereign House of Dignity, Inspiration & Vision for Excellence, would like to send greetings from the Kingdom of Manitoba! We wish you all great success and look forward to meeting you. We extend our personal invitation to join us for CORONATION V and we look forward to showing you a "Taste of Manitoba Hospitality".

This year because we are expecting a larger Coronation, we are offering **Reserved Seating \$35.00** which you can purchase in advance by sending your Certified Cheque or money order to: Coronation Tickets, c/o The Snowy Owl Monarchist Society Inc., P. O. Box 26053, 116 Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 4K9. They will



silver siren lounge

with host **tyra boinks**

...this ain't your grandma's karaoke



every **monday** at 10pm

karaoke | games | prizes | drinks | drag | more...

happenings social club

274 sherbrook street | www.happenings.ca
happenings is a private members' club, members and guests welcome



Pride Sunday: Rally, March and Festival

Date: Sunday June 13

Location: Legislative Grounds (Broadway Ave. and Memorial Blvd.)

Admission: Free!

Here's how the Big Day unfolds...

Rally at the Legislature

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Before you march in the Pride Parade, you need to get pumped up. Join us for the Pride Rally on the steps of the Manitoba Legislative Building for motivational speakers and music to raise your spirits.

Emcee Marianne Cerilli believes that those of us interested in humanity, peace, dignity and compassion must support glbt inclusion. Marianne supported Glen Murray and Svend Robinson in their respective bids for office, not because of orientation but because of political leanings. While filling the role of Youth Critic and Workplace Safety And Health Critic as the NDP MLA for Raddisson, she became very aware of difficulties facing glbt youth.

Mae Lousie-Campbell will open the ceremonies with a blessing. She is an aboriginal elder who works with street-involved aboriginal women. She is also the proud parent of two gay children who she has always supported publicly and personally.

Jan Guenther Braun is a local writer and spoken-word performer who will showcase her fierce and insightful style at the microphone. She is one half of Tea Cup, a duo that combines poetry and music in powerful live performances.

We all march to the beat of our own drum, but this year we will receive inspiration from The Two-Spirited Drum Group. This drumming circle will pound out the rhythm of Pride and lead us into the streets.

Parade through Historic Downtown Winnipeg

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Calling all FLOATS! Truckers, trykers, bikers, bladers and marchers - rev up for this year's PARADE. Prizes for Best Floats and Costumes!

Tykes on bikes will lead off the parade for the second year. This is open to all children 13 and under, they may decorate their bikes and prizes will be awarded

Lady Godiva Boutique Lingerie - Breast Forms
Wigs - Shoes & Boots
832 Corydon Ave. Winnipeg, Manitoba Foundation Garments

2 week

"Spring Sale"

Starts June 5, 2004

**832 Corydon Avenue,
Winnipeg, Manitoba
PH (204) 452-1100**

Tell them "The Girls of Masquerade" sent you!



Nail Tips by Rhaina

A Soft Natural Eyebrow

If you normally use a brown or brown/black eyebrow pencil to feather your brows, try something different. Eyeshadows come in more natural browns, smoky grays and soft blacks. Select a shadow close to your natural colour and use your short diagonal-cut eye shadow brush to fill in your brow. Pick up a small amount of powder on the brush, shake off the excess and glide the powder over the brow. As with a pencil, feather, fill in gaps and extend short brows. The look is so soft and subtle. Now throw out those pencils!



Opening small eyes

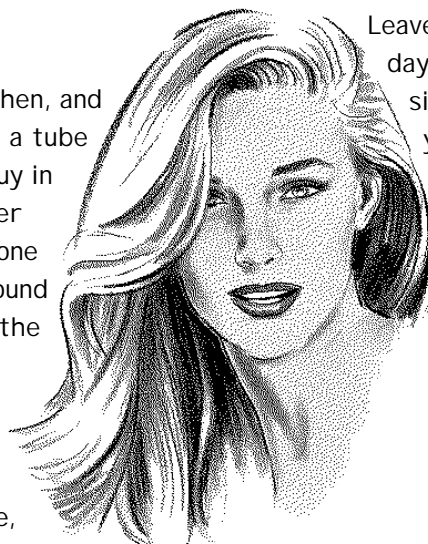
Before applying your eyeliner, rim the eye with white eye pencil. This technique will help to extend the whites of the eyes. Always use a magnifying mirror. First soften the tip of the eye pencil by drawing a few lines on the back of your hand. To apply, pull the lower eyelid away from the eye and draw a line along the inner eye rim. Repeat for the upper eyelid.

An Inexpensive way to "Fill out" your bra!

For those on a budget, who can't afford real breastforms.

Take some plastic wrap from the kitchen, and set it into each cup of your bra. Take a tube of silicone sealer, (the kind you can buy in any home improvement store for under \$4.00) and starting in the center of one cup, in a circular motion keep going round in a circle till the cup is full, then do the other side.

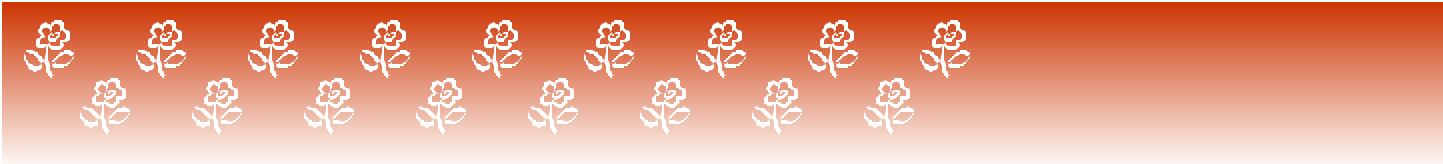
Those girls who have large cup sizes may require two tubes. I personally had lots left over from the first tube, as with my build, a small cup size looks more natural.



Leave the silicone to dry overnight. Next day the plastic wrap will peel right off the silicone. One thing, though, make sure you wrap your new breastform in something (I used the feet from an old pair of pantyhose) as the silicone may irritate your skin where it touches your body.

This gives you a realistic fill for your bra, and also some weight.

Kelly Garrett



Event Photos!



Liz, Natalie, Chantal, and Vanessa among the guests at Shandi & Charms' Candle Party



Sherry & Shandi, buds!



Shandi & Natalie



Sabrina & Sherry, also buds!



Beej, from Saskatchewan!



Shandi & Beej



Shandi & Sabrina with our new friend Beej!

We were happy to make a new friend and show her our hospitality!



Sabrina & Beej



Krystal & Vanessa



More event photos!



Charm & Joe at the Comedy Bowl
as Kermit & Miss Piggy!



Shandi and her pal CJ!



Group surfing at the May meeting!



Vanessa & CJ!

**Masquerade,
where it's fun to
be a girl!**



Natalie has a wig for sale!



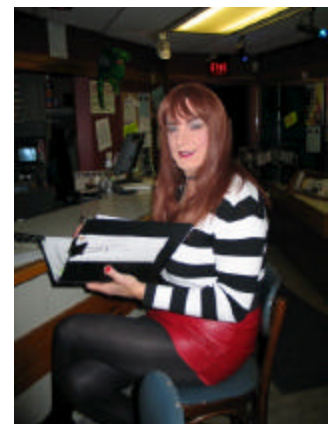
Vanessa and Chantal



The group photo from April's Photo night!



Shandi as photographed by Sabrina!



Sabrina doing the president thing!

Masquerade

c/o Lady Godiva Boutique
832 Corydon Ave.
Winnipeg, MB
R3M0Y2

Phone: 204-452-1100
email: girlstuff@masquerade.ca

www.masquerade.ca



For the girl inside us all!

*We are a social and support group for cross-dressers,
transvestites, and transsexuals.*

Our purpose is for people with like/common interests to associate and socialize.

It is not for the purpose of soliciting or engaging in sexual activities.

*All gender gifted individuals, who are 18 years of age or older,
and are prepared to respect our bi-laws, are welcome.*

*Spouses and significant others are encouraged and welcome
to attend meetings and functions and join if they wish.*

We regularly meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Club Happenings.

The meetings begin around 7:30 p.m. and go until 9 or 10.

Followed by dancing and socializing.

Refreshments, but no alcohol, are served until the formal meeting is finished.

*A \$3.00 due is charged to help cover costs of the tea & coffee, etc. that are
provided.*

We endeavour to maintain a very friendly, laid-back atmosphere.

*We are all there for the same reasons,
a place to go to that is accepting, private and relaxing.*

Change facilities are available.

Dressing for the first meeting or two is not required, but encouraged!

Birthdays Girls!

Martina

Kira

Rhiannon

Rhaina



June 14

July 5

July 27

July 31