

# Finding Aid to Susan Laird Papers

(#2022-02)

**Repository:** Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society

**Collection Title:** Susan Laird papers

**Collection Number:** 2022-02

**Physical Description:** 3.75 linear feet (three cartons)

**Creator:** Susan Laird, Educational TV Channel, TransGender San Francisco

**Date (inclusive):** Circa 1960s-2004 (bulk 1990s)

**Language of Material:** English

**Abstract:** TransGender San Francisco (TGSF) is a longstanding organization which provides peer support for transgender and gender nonconforming people, as well as educating the public about trans issues. It was founded in 1982 as a safe meeting place for people who identified as crossdressers or transvestites, which was reflected in its punning original name, Educational TV Channel. The collection contains the photograph archive and library of TransGender San Francisco/Educational TV Channel, with most materials dating to the ETVC era. Materials have been arranged into two series, Photographs and Publications.

**Preferred Citation:**

[Identification of item], Susan Laird papers (#2022-02), The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society.

**Conditions Governing Access:**

Collection is open for research.

**Publication Rights:**

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**Acquisition Information:**

The collection was donated to the GLBT Historical Society by Susan Laird in September 2021.

**Processing Information:**

Finding Aid created by Isaac Fellman in 2022.

This finding aid uses terminology for LGBTQ people that was in current use at the time of its creation. Descriptive language for queer identities evolves quickly and some of these terms may now be dated or even offensive. Finding aids are themselves historical documents; they reflect the moment in which they were written and often reflect the terms that subjects used for themselves. Please contact the GLBT Historical Society Archivist with questions or comments.

**Biographical/Organizational History Note:** TransGender San Francisco (TGSF) is a longstanding organization which provides peer support for transgender and gender nonconforming people, as well as educating the public about trans issues. It was founded in 1982 as a safe meeting place for people who identified as crossdressers or transvestites, which was reflected in its punning original name, Educational TV Channel. At first, members met in various homes; later, they began holding more formal monthly restaurant socials and theme parties. The group established its bylaws in 1983, and throughout the eighties it became increasingly organized – establishing a leadership structure, a group for couples, a small library, and a publications wing which put out informational pamphlets. Membership grew to over 400 during this time. In the nineties, the group continued to expand its mission, receiving nonprofit status in 1994. ETVC changed its name to TransGender San Francisco in 1998 to reflect its ambition to serve the entire trans community.

**Scope and Content:** The collection contains the photograph archive and library of TransGender San Francisco/Educational TV Channel, with most materials dating to the ETVC era. Materials have been arranged into two series, Photographs and Publications. The Photographs series depicts club events, ranging from ordinary meetings to elaborate theme parties, yearly cotillions (including the annual crowning of Mr. and Miss ETVC), participation in conventions, and fashion shows. Most photographs appear to depict transfeminine people, but transmasculine/gender nonconforming members such as Francis Vavra are also shown. The Publications series contains materials from the ETVC/TGSF library, including small publications collecting trans people's stories and offering advice on cross-dressing and transition.

**Indexing Terms:**

Transgender people

Trans women

Trans men

Gender nonconformity

**Container Listing**

**Series I:** Photographs

**Physical Description:** 2.5 linear feet (two cartons, one legal-size folder)

**Scope and Content:** The Photographs series depicts club events, ranging from ordinary meetings to elaborate theme parties, yearly cotillions (including the annual crowning of Mr. and Miss ETVC), participation in conventions, and fashion shows. Most photographs appear to depict transfeminine people, but transmasculine/gender nonconforming members are also shown.

**Arrangement:** Most of these photographs were placed in binder albums by ETVC/TGSF's members; the album pages were removed from their binders and refoldered, with their original order and (where present) original titles preserved; binders split into two folders are indicated by "1 of 2" and "2 of 2." Some albums have been preserved whole because the pages were nonremovable.

- 1:1 10<sup>th</sup> annual cotillion, 1 of 2, 1994
- 1:2 10<sup>th</sup> annual cotillion, 2 of 2, 1994
- 1:3 Cotillion, 1990
- 1:4 Cotillion, 1991
- 1:5 ETVC cotillion, 1992
- 1:6 ETVC cotillion, 1993
- 1:7 Event photographs, 1 of 2, circa 1980s
- 1:8 Event photographs, 2 of 2, circa 1980s
- 1:9 IFGE convention, 1989
- 1:10 Photograph album, circa 1990s
- 1:11 Photograph album, circa 1990s
- 1:12 Photographs, circa 1980s-1990s
- 1:13 Photographs, 1 of 2, 1986-1987
- 1:14 Photographs, 2 of 2, 1987
  
- 2:1 Photographs, 1 of 2, 1988
- 2:2 Photographs, 2 of 2, 1988
- 2:3 Photographs, circa 1990s
- 2:4 Photographs, circa 1990s
- 2:5 Photographs, 1 of 2, 1991
- 2:6 Photographs, 2 of 2, 1991-1992
- 2:7 Photographs, 1 of 2, 1994
- 2:8 Photographs, 2 of 2, 1994
- 2:9 TGSF picture album, 1 of 2, 1997-1998
- 2:10 TGSF picture album, 2 of 2, 1999-2000
  
- 3:18 Cotillion, 1998

## **Series II: Publications**

**Physical Description:** 1.25 linear feet (1 carton, with a few folders in carton 2)

**Scope and Content:** The Publications series contains materials from the ETVC/TGSF library, including small publications collecting trans people's stories and offering advice on cross-dressing and transition.

**Arrangement:** Small publications have been collected into folders, with a few distinct themes grouped and labeled; loose materials, such as printouts and newspapers, are grouped by format. Some materials were collected into photo albums, which have been unbound and refolded, as with the Photographs series. A few bound books are also included.

- 2:11 Cotillion programs, 1991-2004
- 2:12 Cotillion programs, 1991-2003
- 2:13 Cotillion programs, 1998-2004
- 2:14 ETVC articles, 1 of 2, 1989-1990
- 2:15 ETVC articles, 2 of 2, 1990-1991
- 2:16 *Letters from Female Impersonators* publication, circa 1960s
- 2:17 Logos, circa 1998
  
- 3:1 News articles, 1994-1997
- 3:2 News articles, 1995-1997
- 3:2b Newspaper article library volume 2, 1 of 2, 1984-1986
- 3:3 Newspaper article library volume 2, 2 of 2, 1986-1987
- 3:4 Newspaper article library volume 3, 1 of 2, 1986-1988, undated
- 3:5 Newspaper article library volume 3, 2 of 2, 1989-1991, undated
- 3:6 Newspaper articles, 2001
- 3:7 Photocopied articles, circa 1980s-1990s
- 3:8 Photocopied articles, circa 1980s-1990s
- 3:9 Printed and copied articles, 2002, undated
- 3:10 Publications, 1981-2000, undated
- 3:11 Publications, 1984-2003
- 3:12 Publications 1991-1994, undated
- 3:13 Publications, 1990-2000
- 3:14 Publications, 1991-1993
- 3:15 *Transvestia* and other Virginia Prince publications, 1966-1973
- 3:16 *Transvestia*, 1962-1966
- 3:17 *Transvestia*, 1962-1963

*Conundrum* by Jan Morris

*Brain Sex: The Real Difference Between Men and Women* by Anne Moir and David Jessel

*Transformations: Crossdressers and Those Who Love Them* by Mariette Pathy Allen