

the Society for the Second Self, inc.



Tri-Ess Administrative Services
Samantha Kathleen Walls, Director

Please address correspondence to:
Ms. Samantha Walls, Treasurer
The Society for the Second Self, Inc.
8880 Bellaire Boulevard, B2, Suite 104
Houston, TX 77036-4621

November 29, 1996

Ms. Dallas Denny
1898 Chisolm Court
Tucker, GA 30084

Dear Dallas,

I have been notified that Donna Martin recently sent you the Tri-Ess standard renewal letter which mentions that we encourage supporters to join local Chapters. Let me join others in thanking you for your support of The Society.

I have been asked to help clarify the Tri-Ess position on Chapter membership. As with all gender support groups, whether Tri-Ess affiliated or unaffiliated, the local Tri-Ess Chapter membership is extended by invitation only.

The orientation/screening process is designed to help insure that the applicant will truly receive benefit from her Chapter membership, and that she understands and agrees to reasonable standards of Chapter conduct.

The successful applicant should also be someone who will enjoy Chapter membership and be able contribute to the group, in a positive way. The application process, and any policies for the rejection of applicants, or the removal of a Chapter member, is intended solely for the protection of the security, stability and general welfare of the Chapter and its members. All organizations have similar policies. Few are always as effective as originally intended.

Our Atlanta based, Sigma Epsilon Chapter has apparently suffered some unpleasantness at the hands of those who would undermine its focus and disrupt its peaceful operation. Sig Ep needs a conflict-free period in which it can heal any emotional wounds and have fun again in its outreach and member activities. Therefore, the Sigma Epsilon Chapter has determined that it will not extend an invitation for local Chapter membership and participation to you.

We encourage our Chapters to welcome all friends of Tri-Ess. However, Sigma Epsilon Chapter has found your history of interference unacceptable to good order. Our national policy is to support the decisions of our local Chapter leadership.

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I understand that you and Jane Ellen Fairfax, Chair of the Tri-Ess Board, had a pleasant, productive discussion in Atlanta during the Southern Comfort event. My hope is that our organizations can collaborate often on some aspects of our services to the transgendered. Certainly, both organizations have similar goals in our outreach efforts and our desire to serve. In some cases, our target audiences may overlap. I believe it is in the best interests of those we seek to serve that all of the organizations within the 'gender community' demonstrate mutual respect and cooperation.

I also hope that you can understand and will respect the Sigma Epsilon Chapter's position with regard to your chapter affiliation. Perhaps a time will come when the issue of your local participation can be revisited.

Tri-Ess is changing. However, our 'changes' are purposely cautious and within the context of our continuing focus on the needs of the Crossdresser, her spouse and family. The principles that have served us well for almost thirty-five years continue to do so. Our increasing numbers of supporters obviously appreciate our consistent special focus. Others find other organizations that more clearly meet their particular needs.

Some time ago, I allowed my support of your organization to lapse. Enclosed is my renewal of that support. Please use the mailing name and address as

Ms. S. Walls
701 Hyde Park Blvd.
Cleburne, TX 76031-4543

Again, thank you for all you do for everyone and especially for your continued support of Tri-Ess. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

THE SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF, INC



Samantha Walls, Treasurer

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Enclosures: