

NAAFA

Newsletter

Volume XVIII
Issue No. 4

December 1989

Convention '89!

The 20th Anniversary National Convention, held in Los Angeles in August, was the biggest, and some say the best convention in NAAFA history. The Los Angeles Airport Marriott was our home for six days of acceptance, learning, fun, and activism.

NAAFA was welcomed to California by Governor George Deukmejian in a letter of congratulations to our convention.

Highlights of the event included a 20th Anniversary Celebration, performances by the Fatimas and the Fat Lip Readers Theatre, and the annual activism rally featuring the presentation of the Big Image and Small Mind Awards. There were over 25 workshops and discussion groups on topics such as employment, health, insurance, entrepreneurs, and teens; and still plenty of time for fun and socializing.

Convention Photo Diary

Tuesday, August 7

Sightseeing in Los Angeles, a national Board of Directors meeting, and registration were followed by parties in the hospitality suite and pool.



The tropical setting of the Marriott's pool area was a popular meeting place.



Sharon and Dan Davis (CA) hard at work in the registration booth welcoming newcomers.

L.A. Host Committee



Debbie Brunson (CA) and Eileen Perez (CA) dressed for the fiesta;

and Lana Pajula (CA) (right), who welcomes Vivian Canal (NY) to the bus tour.



Treasurer Dan Davis (CA), and the three Board members-elect: Lynn Meletiche (NY), William J. Fabrey (VA), and Frances M. White (CA) took their oath of office. Vice President Paula M. Dachis (MD) looks on.

continued...

Convention Photo Diary

Wednesday, August 8

Welcoming speeches and ice-breaking games were the program of the opening breakfast. NAAFA leaders then gathered for a day-long seminar on leadership issues, while workshops were held on the emotional impact of size discrimination. A dinner cruise was held in the evening.



The dinner cruise was a time for fun and conversation. Sylvia Hananel, George Kapoulas, Maryanne Bodolay, and Anne Kehrein (all CA).

Far left — Susan Ziman (PA) led ice-breaking exercises.

Chairman Conrad H. Blickenstorfer (NY) addresses the gathering.

Thursday, August 9

Workshops, a fashion show and trunk sale, a town meeting, and the 20th Anniversary Celebration were the activities of the day.



Dierdra Davey (CA)

Patricia Jones (MI)



Laurie Shellorne (CA) in fashions by Making It Big.

The Fashion Show



Anita Mashman (CA) in a Big Stitches by Jan swimsuit.



Idrea (CA) moderated the fashion show, which was followed by a trunk sale.

Exercise for the larger person, a workshop by Idrea, was just one of the many workshops held during the week.





Lynn McAfee (PA) and Frances M. White (CA) at the Town Meeting where members asked questions of the Board.



Co-Founders Susan Blowers (CA), and Eileen M. Lefebure (NY), and charter member Neil Osbourn (CT).

Below:
Lynn Meletiche (NY) poses next to the anniversary collage (created by Maryanne Bodolay).

NAAFA Newsletter

NEWSLETTER STAFF

MANAGING EDITOR
Nancy Summer

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Bill Fabrey

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Ira Cohen
George Kapoulas
James C. Mills
Randi Hertz Suriano
Frances M. White

©1989 by NAAFA, Inc., Box 188620, Sacramento, CA 95818. Nothing may be reprinted without permission except for non-commercial purposes, providing suitable credit is given.

The NAAFA Newsletter is published monthly for the members of The National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance, Inc.

Articles in this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official policies of NAAFA, Inc., unless specifically noted. Please contact the NAAFA office about specific NAAFA policies. Commentaries in this Newsletter, unless otherwise noted, were prepared by a member of the editorial staff or the Executive Director. ♡

NAAFA: The National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt educational, human rights organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for fat people.

NAAFA is not a diet group, but seeks alternate ways to enrich the lives of its members and large people everywhere through public education, research, advocacy and support.

Regular membership in NAAFA is \$35 per year. Other membership categories are available. For more information, contact the Membership Services office:

NAAFA
PO Box 188620
Sacramento, CA 95818
or call (916) 443-0303.

20th Anniversary Celebration

The 20th Anniversary party began with speeches from NAAFA's Founder, Co-Founders, and several charter members: Ira Cohen, Ray Simpson, Neil Osbourn, and Peggy Williams. The highlight of the evening was the Fatimas, a troupe of large sized belly dancers.



Ronda Wood, Dee Davey, and Jo Al Byrne of the Fatimas.



Loryn Lyn Longbrake (CA) was just one of the brave NAAFANS who tried belly dancing during the show.



Claudia Teixeira (CT) and David Craig (CA)



Victoria Reed (CT) enjoys a hospitality suite party.

Louise Wolfe and daughter Lydia (CA), and Russell F. Williams (MD) after a long day at Disneyland.

Convention Photo Diary

Friday, August 10

The annual Activism Rally, covered in the October Newsletter, was a highlight of the day's program. But first we attended the Chapter and SIG Rally where we were treated to music, news, and presentations from all over the country. The day ended with a Fiesta dinner dance.



Michele and Laura Zarife represented the New Jersey Chapter.



Donna Marie Ryan (IL), Co-Chair of the Local Chapters Committee, moderated the rally.



Nickia Myers (NE) talked about the Heartland Chapter.



Right: The Inland Empire Chapter (CA) sang their version of "California Girls." Marla Leventhal, Jean Soncrant, Gordon Bailey and Sheila Dobbs.

Chapter/SIG Rally



Grand finale: The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter treated us to their presentation of "Don't Diet, Be Happy."



Left: Cherilyn Schultz of the Chicago Chapter invited everyone to the convention in Chicago next year.



Left: Christine Cook Applegate gave us the news from Arizona.



Below: Carrie Hemenway (MA) (behind the lectern) spoke about the Feminist Caucus. In front of banner, Laura Eljaiek (CA) and Miriam Berg (NY) (right).

Award-winning photographer Patricia Schwarz (CA) wowed viewers of her slide presentation with photographs of fat women.



Dave Dingfelder and Randi Hertz Suriano (NJ)

Right: Bob and Linda Sponaugle (NJ) take a break from activism to don Mexican hats and join the fun.



Below: President Nancy Summer (VA) and Executive Director Sally E. Smith (CA) in a relaxed moment.



Yvonne Parker (AZ)

Fiesta!

Check Here:

- Do I want to compare Leg & Headroom of new cars on the USA market?
- Do I want to see what's made for me in Big & Tall, not just what I have to pick from the local B & T store?
- Do I want more choice in what I wear?
- Do I want the latest reports on health for extra-size men?
- Do I want a fitness program designed for me?
- Do I want articles that I can identify with as a MAGNAsized guy?

BUY a subscription to

MAGNA

A Quarterly

Your Big & Tall Fashion & Lifestyle Magazine for Men!

Send your check or money order for \$12.00 (for one year) to: MAGNA, Dept. N, PO Box 286 Cabin John, MD 20818.

Or call: **1-800-336-7666**

to charge your subscription to Visa, Choice or Mastercard (except in West Va.).

SUBSCRIBE!

RADIANCE is an upbeat, positive quarterly magazine for women all sizes of large, of all ages, lifestyles and ethnic groups. It's a dynamic resource linking large women with the products, services and fashions just for them.

Each issue features articles on health, media, and fashion along with compelling profiles of successful large women from all walks of life. Poetry and art decorate each issue as RADIANCE encourages and supports its readers to live fully now, whatever their size.



■ \$12/1 year
■ \$20/2 years

RADIANCE
P.O. Box
31703
Oakland, CA
94604
(415)
482-0680

Welcome!

to one new chapter and four new area facilitators:

Southern Florida Chapter
Linda Diskin, Chairperson Pro Tem

Area Facilitators:

Barbara Cinotti for Northern Florida

Sue Smith for the Florida Panhandle

Jill Fuller for Colorado

Betty Dialynas for Louisiana

If you would like information about these groups, other chapters, or Special Interest Groups, contact the NAAFA office.

We would also like to apologize to Marie (Mimi) Oltmanns, Chairperson Pro Tem of the Stroudsburg, PA Chapter for incorrectly identifying her in our last issue.

Convention Photo Diary

Saturday, August 11

Workshops, a special performance of Fat Lip Readers Theatre, and the Awards Luncheon made up Saturday's schedule. The keynote speaker was Sharon Russell, the nursing student who successfully sued the school that dismissed her for being too fat. The day ended with the Grand Ball dinner dance.



Fat Lip Readers Theatre was a highlight of the convention.



Keynote speaker Sharon Russell (FL) and Founder William J. Fabrey (VA).



Trish Barder (PA), Jim Mills (NY), Nina Hoffman (CA), and Ronnie Arden (CT).



Alan and Linda Diskin (FL)

Service Awards Presented to 26 NAAFAnS

Service awards for 1989 were presented to 26 NAAFAnS at the national convention in Los Angeles in August.

Pence Service Awards

The following NAAFAnS received Pence Service Awards or endorsements for continued committee service, usually one hundred hours or more during the past 12 months:

- Maryanne Bodolay (CA)**
— for volunteer service at the NAAFA office.
- Jim Brown (NJ)** — for graphic design and production work.
- Debbi Brunson (CA)**
— Fashion show producer at the 1989 convention.
- Lisbeth Fisher Burns (NY)**
— Chair of the Membership committee.
- Mary Jo Hoxworth (OH)**
— for coordinating the 4th of July Jamboree.
- Bunny Peckham (NY)**
— Chair of the Special (fundraising) Events sub-committee.
- Eileen Perez (CA)**
— Co-chair of the 1989 Convention Host committee.
- Randi Hertz Suriano (NJ)**
— Chair of the Marketing and Advertising committee.
- Nancy Summer (VA)** — Managing Editor of the Newsletter
— Chair of the Convention Steering committee.

Honorable Mention Awards

- Ira Cohen (NY)** — for research for the Resource Development committee's planned giving program.
- Avery Ray Colter (CA)**
— for special activism and marketing projects.
- Christine Cook Applegate (AZ)**
— Co-chair of the Minimum Standards committee.
- Neil Dachis, Esq. (MD)**
— Chair of the Legal and Legislative committee
— Co-chair of the Minimum Standards committee.
- Sharon Davis (CA)** — for coordinating registration at the 1989 convention and tabulating ballots for the 1989 election.
- Shelley Frye (CA)**
— for volunteer service in the NAAFA office.
- Mary-Jane Grace-Brown (NJ)**
— for graphic design and production work.
- Carrie Hemenway (MA)** — Chair of the Workbook committee and for leading numerous workshops.
- Rosamond Hyatt (CA)**
— for volunteer service in the NAAFA office.
- George Kapoulas (CA)**
— for producing the Big Image/Small Mind Awards video.
- Lynn Meletiche (NY)** — Chair of the Health committee.
- Harry Minot (CT)**
— for preparation of NAAFA's public service announcements.
- Lana Pajula (CA)**
— Co-chair of the 1989 Convention Host committee.
- Jennifer Rose (MI)**
— Eastern Regional Chapter Coordinator.
- Donna Marie Ryan (IL)**
— Western Regional Chapter Coordinator.
- Elisabeth Williams (NY)** — Chair of the Pen Pal committee.
- Russell F. Williams (MD)**
— Co-chair of the Activism committee. ♡



Jean Soncrant and L.A. Chapter Chair Noreen Henry (both CA).



Sheila Dobbs (CA)



Myra Kelly (NJ) and George Kapoulas (CA).

1990 Election

22 Nominated; New Seat Created

The 1990 Election Committee met on November 4 and 5 to discuss possible election rules changes and to nominate candidates for the annual election in May. As previously announced, members wishing to be considered for nomination were asked to write the committee. Two such letters were received. The 22 individuals who were nominated are:

Deborah Albright (OR)
 Alice Ansfield (CA)
 Conrad H. Blickenstorfer, Ph.D. (NY)
 Rosezella Canty-Letsome (MD)
 Jerilyn Carmichael (OH)
 Leslie Colburn (NH)
 Barbara Colgin-Vance (GA)
 Laura Eljaiek (CA)
 Bonnie S. Kraft (MA)
 Pat Lyons (CA)
 Lynn McAfee (PA)
 Janet Meyers (PA)
 Noel Nyman (WA)
 Nancy Roberts (NY)
 Donna Marie Ryan (IL)
 Carolyn Schmidt (IL)
 Marlene Solomon (MD)
 Nancy Summer (VA)
 Randi Hertz Suriano (NJ)
 Charles Van Dyke (CA)
 Sue P. Waller (MD)
 Louise E. Wolfe (CA)

The Grand Ball



Regina Guy (MD) and Fred McClinton (CA).



Linda Grimm dances with Jim Grant (both OH).



NAAFA's staff:
 Sally E. Smith and
 Tina Pierce (both CA).

The election will be filling four seats on the Board of Directors. (Board members whose terms are expiring are Blickenstorfer, McAfee, and Summer. The fourth seat was opened this year.) Since the nominees have until January 15th to declare their intentions, it is not known at this time who will choose to run.

Sunday, August 12

The Farewell Luncheon featured an announcement about a new project: a memorial dedicated to those people who have died from weight loss surgery, dieting, and eating disorders. An important feature of the luncheon was the personal comments and testimonials offered by many members.



Ira Cohen (NY) and Dan Davis (CA).
 Ira and Dan...or is it Dan and Ira?



Avery Ray Colter (CA) shares his thoughts about the convention. Donna Marie Ryan (IL) is seated to his right.

There is a procedure for running as a petition candidate which calls for submission of a petition signed by 5% of the membership as of June 30, 1989—91 signatures this year, according to NAAFA's Executive Director. It is very important that anyone who wishes to run as a petition candidate call the NAAFA office for full instructions prior to collecting signatures. Completed petitions must be mailed to the office no later than January 15, 1990.

The Election Committee is made up of those Board members whose terms are not expiring this year. Frances M. White was elected by the committee to serve as election chair. Other committee members include Paula M. Dachis, William J. Fabrey, Mary-Jane Grace-Brown, Lynn Meletiche, and Russell F. Williams. ∞

Events

New Year's Holiday Happening

La Guardia Marriott, New York
December 29 - January 1
Call (516) 665-6525 for information.

Queens Chapter Dance

♥♥♥ February 17, 1990 ♥♥♥
For information, call 718 830-5089

Convention '90 Chicago

Date in August 1990 to be
announced by 12/23/89.
If you must make early travel plans,
call the office for information.

Classified Ads

AVAILABLE BY MAIL

2X - 12X T-SHIRTS, Tank Tops,
Batwing Shirts, Sweatsuits, Fanny
Wrappers, Nightshirts, plain or im-
printed. **FREE** mail order brochure.

Full Bloom

185 So. Pearl Street, Dept. N-4
Denver, CO 80209

Business & Career Apparel Brochure
Send \$2-refundable on 1st order to:
Women Size 18 to 70 Shop
319 N. 2nd St., Suite One
Clarksville, TN 37040

INSURANCE HASSLES?
Your "WEIGHT" is over!

Major Medical, Disability Income, Life
Insurance, I.R.A.'s, Mutual Funds.

Send inquiries to: Alan Diskin
Dept. 356, (in care of NAAFA)
Please include name, address & phone #.
All inquiries will be kept confidential.
Or call (305) 920-5375 or 429-8464.

We wish to retract statements made re-
garding Dave King which were pub-
lished in the NAAFA Newsletter, Vol.
XVII Issue # 2, April 1989.

Letter Forwarding Service

Want to write to a fellow NAAFA?

NAAFA's mailing list is strictly confi-
dential, but we can forward mail for a
\$5 forwarding fee per letter.

Enclose your letter in an unstamped,
sealed envelope with addressee's
name on front. Mail to NAAFA in
larger envelope with \$5 fee.

NAAFA, Box 188620, Sacramento, CA 95818.

Big Lady with Big Ideas

Marketing consultant and top-notch copy-
writer seeking f/p position, PA/NJ/NY
areas, or free lance assignments anywhere.
Write Dept. 400, c/o NAAFA office.

PREHISTORIC FAT GODDESSES

The Venus of Willendorf

Two inch ceramic statuette—\$35.00
One inch silver pendant—\$100.00
One dozen Chocolates—\$9.00
Free shipping.

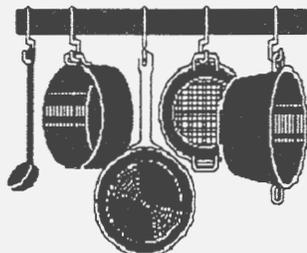
MC/VISA/AMEX or check accepted.

LYRICON DESIGNS

831/2 Partition Street, Dept NN
Saugerties, NY 12477
914 246-7992

San Francisco - Bay Area NAAFA Presents

OPPULENT OFFERINGS



It's THE Cookbook of the Season

For yourself or a loved one this holiday,
send your name, mailing address and a check for \$5 + \$3 postage for each cookbook to
Gina Gershwin-Varney, P.O. Box 3336, Fairfield CA 94533-3336.

Make checks payable to Bay Area NAAFA

NAAFA Newsletter Advertising Policy

Ads received by the following dates will be
printed in the next issue available: **UP-
COMING DEADLINES:** Jan. 1 for the
February issue, Feb. 1 for the March issue,
and so forth.

AD PAYMENTS

Discounts: Deduct 20% for identical ads in
three consecutive issues.

Payment: Must be included with order.
VISA or Mastercard okay for charges of \$15
or more. We need card type, number, and
expiration date; amount charged; name and
address of card holder; and your signature.

Foreign members: Send U.S. funds; int'l
money order; or VISA/Mastercard.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Non-Member ads: \$.75/word, 20 word min.
Member ads: \$.50/word, 20 word min.
Capitalized boldface words: Count as two
words each.

DISPLAY ADS

Contact NAAFA office for ad rate card.

AD ACCEPTANCE POLICY

Publication of any ad in the Newslet-
ter, and/or mailing of any flyer by
NAAFA does not imply any endorse-
ment by us. However, we will not know-
ingly publish an ad or mail any flyer that has
false information, or which appears to be a
violation of NAAFA's purposes or code of

Minimum Standards. Ads or flyers for goods
or services for weight loss or gain will not be
accepted.

SEPARATE MAILING OF FLYERS

NAAFA occasionally mails promotional
flyers for non-NAAFA goods or services.
Such mailings either take place from our
office or from Board-approved mailing serv-
ices. Such mailings are completely paid for
by the promoters; we make such mailings for
informational purposes, and to help pay for
overhead expenses. Those NAAFA's who
choose not to receive such mailings can re-
quest it in writing. ◊◊