

NAAFA NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION TO AID FAT AMERICANS, INC.

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SPECIAL CONVENTION DOUBLE ISSUE

VOLUME IX

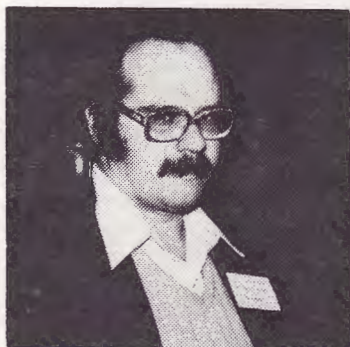
JANUARY-APRIL 1982

ISSUE #2

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12TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION
WORLD INTERNATIONAL HOTEL
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY
OCTOBER 9-12, 1981

FRIDAY OCTOBER 9

1 PM-MIDNIGHT REGISTRATION in Carlton Lounge
9 PM-MIDNIGHT COCKTAIL PARTY in Terrace Room
FIFTY-FIFTY RAFFLE to benefit
Member Line of Naomi Shadowitz
Fund

SATURDAY OCTOBER 10

8 AM-11 AM Open Seating Breakfast
10 AM-NOON FIRST SESSION WORKSHOPS
WOMEN'S RAP SESSION in Terrace
Room I, led by Florane Sclar
(Board Member and NAAFA VP)-
Women Only
MEN'S RAP SESSION in Terrace
Room II, led by William
Fabrey (Chair of Board)-
Men Only
1 PM-2:30 PM Luncheon to Honor Volunteers
3 PM-5PM SECOND SESSION WORKSHOPS
HEALTH RAP SESSION in Terrace
Room I, led by Joyce Maloney
(Board Member, 1979 & 1980
Convention Chairperson)
FAT CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING RAP
in Terrace Room II, led by
Barbara Donahue (Recording
Secretary to NAAFA Board of
Directors)





6 PM-7 PM

MAKE UP WORKSHOP in Ante-Room,
led by Kimm Bonner (Chair-
person N.E. Chapter)

8 PM-9:30 PM

DINNER in Main Dining Room

10 PM-2 AM

BACCARAT BALL

SUNDAY OCTOBER 11

8 AM-11 AM

Open Seating Breakfast

10 AM-NOON

THIRD SESSION WORKSHOPS

"FAT ACTIVISM" led by Louise
Wolfe (Chapter Chatter Editor)

1 PM-2 PM

ANNUAL MEETING in Main Dining
Room

INTRODUCTIONS by Mistress of
Ceremonies Florane Sclar
(Vice-Chairperson of both
NAAFA and the Convention
Committee)

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS by Sheila
Goodman (NAAFA President and
Chairperson of the Convention
Committee)

STATE OF NAAFA ADDRESS by Wil-
liam J. Fabrey, Founder and
Chair of the Board

2 PM-3 PM

ANNUAL LUNCHEON in Main Dining
Room

3 PM-4:30 PM

PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD to the New
York Times

GUEST SPEAKER Albert J. Stunk-
ard, M.D.

PRESENTATION OF ADDITIONAL DIS-
TINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT
AWARDS by Dianne Rubinstein,
NAAFA Treasurer, Awards Com-
mittee Chairperson and Con-
vention Committee Vice Chair-
person.

PRESENTATION OF NAOMI SHADOWITZ
MEMORIAL AWARD





4:30 PM-5:30 PM ANNUAL FASHION SHOW coordinated and conducted by Dale Silverberg

6 PM DRAWING FOR NATIONAL FUND RAISING RAFFLE

9 PM-MIDNIGHT VIDEO TAPE SHOWINGS in the Terrace Room by Mark Jablonski (Chicago Chapter)

MONDAY OCTOBER 12

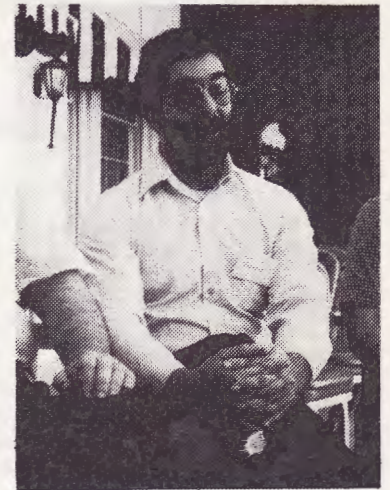
8 AM-11 AM Open Seating Breakfast

10 AM-NOON FOURTH SESSION WORKSHOPS

CHAPTER OFFICERS MEETING in Terrace Room, led by Rosalie Radcliffe, Chairperson, Local Chapters Committee

1 PM-2 PM FAREWELL LUNCHEON in Main Dining Room to Honor Chapter Chairpeople

2:30 PM-3 PM QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION with NAAFA Board of Directors



WHO'S WHO

- P.1 From upper left counter clockwise: Mel Tanditash (NY); Elaine Wine (MI); Sharlene Smilow (IL); Sherry Kessler (MI) and Ruth Swider (NJ); Ira Cohen (NY); Anna Cannizzaro (NY) and Lila Moses (MD).
- P.2 From upper left corner counter clockwise: John and Davea Fisher (Can.); Bernard Raboni (NY); Christina Kaye (WV); Jim See (CA) and Peggy Williams (MD); Rosalie Radcliffe (NC); Jeri Carmichael (OH); Elyse Derman (NY); Reanne Fagan (CA); Mark Jablonski (WI); Steve Mydlarz (MI); and Liz Fisher (NY).
- P.3 From upper left, counter clockwise: Louise Wolfe (CA); Donna Marie Ryan (IL); Janice Potter (OR); Lynne Royster (PA); Neil Dachis (MD); and Betty Cordell (MD).

CENTERFOLD

All Photos Left To Right

1-Harvey Parker (NY), Marianne Gluck (NY), Kimm Bonner (MA); 2-Bill Fabrey being interviewed by Paris-Match reporter; 3-Russell Williams (MD), Davea Fisher (Can.), Peggy Williams (MD); 4-Florane Sclar (NY) and Jane Goetz (NY); 5-Judith and Victor Riegel (Can.); 6-Bunny Peckham, Harvey Parker and Susan Hoey (all NY); 7-Rachelle Mapp, Carol Berardi, Debby Kurtz; 8-Anna Cannizzaro (NY), Jim See (CA) and Annette Paffen (NY); 9-Russel Williams, Barbara Novack, Marie Limmer (all from MD) and Janice Potter (OR); 10-Ira Cohen (NY), Rosalie Radcliffe (NC), Wilma Kuns (CA) and media person; 11-Elyse Derman (NY), Sharlene Smilow (IL), Dale Silverberg (PA), Elaine Wine (MI), Joyce Maloney (NY), Marcia Koslow (IL); 12-Chris Kaye (WV); Barbara Novack (MD), Peggy Williams (MD); 13-Judith and Victor Riegel (Can.), Linda Balckmon (VA), Suzanne Alfaro (VA), Barbara Donahue (NY); 14-Ann Marie Budano, Sheila Goodman (NY), Bernie Sherman (PA), Bill Lowe (); 15-Annette Paffen (NY) and Steve Mydlarz (MI); 16-unidentified woman, Gail Gold (NY), Mark Jablonski (WI); 17-Sheila Goodman (NY); 18-Peggy Williams (MD) and Dr. Stunkard; 19-Neil Dachis and Paula Johnson (MD) behind Debbie Reid (PA), Fletcher Pence (V.I.); 20-Debbie Reid, Bernie and Linda Sherman (all from PA).

from the editor



Renee Lachman (NY); Marianne Gluck (NY) (editor of the Newsletter); and Barbara Donahue (NY).

Well, here's the Convention Issue you've all been waiting for, and we at the Newsletter are pretty excited about it. We've tried to cover some of the events as they happened, with photos, as well as extremely well-written articles from a group of talented volunteers:

Dale Silverberg of Philadelphia and Program Chairperson who jumped in at the last minute and suffered many setbacks organizing and coordinating the fashion show, was wonderful to work with in that capacity. (yes, your Editor was a model in the show!), as well as in putting together her article for the Newsletter.

Louise Wolfe is the Editor of Chapter Chatter as well as Chair of the San Francisco Bay Chapter of NAAFA. She wrote an excellent article about the central theme and various projects and plans of the Fat Activist in NAAFA, as discussed at her workshop. I don't know how she found the time to write for the Newsletter with all her other NAAFA responsibilities, but she did come through, and I'm grateful for it, as you will be too, when you read her article.

We also have a charming and factual report on the Raffle Committee by Nancy Summer, member of NAAFA's Board of Directors and Chairperson of the Long Island Chapter. You'll also understand after reading Nancy's article why she may never want to see another stuffed animal as long as she lives! Dianne Rubinstein is a member of the Newsletter staff, and the writer of the "Financial Statements" column. I must commend her on her report from the Awards Committee, of which she was a member. Her article will remind you how many wonderful volunteers NAAFA has in its ranks.

As usual, we have enclosed Board Minutes for you to peruse. They're a new feature of the NAAFA Newsletter, and the reactions and comments have been very positive.

And...we have pictures, pictures, pictures. They'll bring back happy memories as well as a smile, or we hope, make you feel you were a part of the Convention even if you couldn't come to Atlantic City. Thank you Ira Cohen, Russell Williams, Lynn Royster, Anna Cannizzaro, Marie Limmer, Sherry Kessler, Ann Burleson, and Dianne Rubinstein for the use of your photos.

Last, but not least, I want to thank my staff: Claire Roan, Martha Shideler, Dianne Rubinstein, and Eddy Diaz for their constant support and assistance.

Marianne



FAT ACTIVIST WORKSHOP



Louise Wolfe, Workshop Leader

The central theme of the workshop was that all NAAFAhs can be (and most already are) fat activists. If a fat person has ever told a rude stranger to mind his/her own business, ever asked a salesperson why a dress or skirt doesn't come in a larger size, or ever written a size-related complaint letter, then s/he is a fat activist. Those attending participated in a brainstorming session by sharing past activist projects, future realistic plans, and their wildest fat fantasies. Discussion focused primarily on anthropometrics (seating), legislation, and re-education through publicity. This article is a summary of major ideas presented by the entire group attending the workshop.

ANTHROPOMETRICS (SEATING)

Often even the most militant fat activists remain silent when faced with uncomfortable seating, since it seems so permanent. (After all, we don't expect them to tear out the old seats just for us, do we?) But complaints about present conditions can serve many purposes. First, they increase the awareness of the manager or owner, who may build other properties or remodel in the future. Second, other seating options may be explored with the management. Some-

times seats come in various sizes (a movie theatre with fan-shaped seating area and even-ended rows, for example). Seating may also be requested in the disabled section. (Most felt comfortable with this alternative so long as they were not depriving another person of a seat. Some felt it is the management's responsibility to provide adequate seating for both groups.) A third alternative is to ask for your money back, since you have paid for enjoyment, not misery.

Prevention is the best policy, and NAAFA chapters should try to get involved if they hear about a new public theatre being built. In order to do this, NAAFA's Anthropometrics Committee needs to establish very specific guidelines. Should all seats be bigger or just some? What percentage? Should the larger seats be more expensive? Exactly how large should the seats be? The disabled have set an excellent example in this area, and we need to work with them and other size-groups to share information and present a united front.

Individuals can collect information for the anthropometrics committee and their local chapters. Few people even know what size seating they need to be comfortable. One person uses his arm to measure the approximate width of the seat, but a tape measure fits easily into a pocket or purse and provides more accurate information. Eventually, seat measurements should be readily available and signs similar to the handicapped logo would indicate seating facilities suitable for large people.

Most agreed that the worst and most embarrassing situation is overlapping into someone else's "space" on a bus or plane. Always try to board early and make the best of it. Be friendly, do what you can to make the other person comfortable, but do not apologize. Remember that the manufacturer is at fault for not providing sufficient room to accommodate human diversity.

LOBBYING AND LEGISLATION

Which politicians should NAAFans contact and when? They are most vulnerable when up for re-election, so approach them and try to get promises made in public. Approach: the fattest politician, the one with the fattest wife, the most liberal or humanistic, or the one from your chapter's area. The more potential votes you can deliver, the more clout you will have. Try circulating petitions, since most people sign them without many questions. The fantasy was to find a single charismatic politician to back our cause. (Alan Alda wouldn't hurt either.)

Two kinds of legislation are desired--job discrimination (hiring the most competent) and a Truth-in-Dieting Act (similar to the one proposed in Maryland). I would also like to get Ralph Nader's groups involved in fat consumerism.

Preliminary legislative work includes getting other groups (churches, clubs, etc.) to publicly support fat rights.

Russell Williams got the Maryland teachers Association to pass a size discrimination platform. Later it was adopted as official policy by the state's dept. of education. Such actions indicate widespread community support and serve as models for future legislation. NAAFans especially need to get the ACLU to support us. To avoid a confrontation with the AMA, it is important to keep medical issues separate from the civil rights issues.

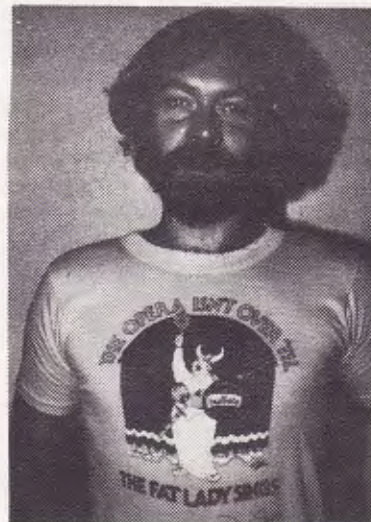
RE-EDUCATION/PUBLICITY

To gain the grass roots support needed to pass national legislation, constant community education must occur. Speakers should start slowly with ideas most people can accept--for example, fat people do exist; fat people have a right to jobs. Use concrete examples. Since bigotry develops very easily, we need to concentrate on the young. Challenge daily assumptions about size and dieting. Since publicity builds on itself, numerous resources were discussed: health fairs, suburban papers, community access tv, Chamber of Commerce listings, billboards, radio public service messages and tv free speech messages, NAAFA business cards, and more members with NAAFA brochures. A long-range goal was for a NAAFA representative to go on a national speaking tour--especially to visit various chapters.

FAR-OUT FANTASIES

To provide a little "comic relief," the session closed with people's wildest fantasies. These included "decking" a well known diet author and tv personality, publishing a Playboy-type magazine of "tasteful" fat pornography, forming a human chain of Weight Watchers drop-outs surrounding their international headquarters, a sit-in where fat people bring their own folding chairs into the theatre, and starting our own commune or a separate country.

As reported by Louise Wolfe,



Nick Tolliver in one of our favorite T-shirts.

SPEAKERS HEARD



From left to right: Sheila Goodman (President); Jack Rosenthal of the New York Times accepting the Distinguished Achievement Award from Dianne Rubinstein (Treasurer); and William Fabrey (Chair of Board).

NAAFA's President, Sheila Goodman, spoke to a large and appreciative audience on Sunday October 11 at the Atlantic City Convention. The annual meeting and luncheon in the main dining room was attended by nearly everyone at the Convention, and Ms. Goodman's topic, "NAAFA--What's In a Name?" proved enlightening and entertaining as well. Her humorous analysis of the various defects and problems in the name "National Association to Aid Fat Americans" made obvious her deep and abiding affection for NAAFA and its goals. It was Goodman's first major speech since becoming President in January 1981.

A more serious tone was taken by Founder and Chair of the Board William Fabrey, who challenged the organization and its members to solve its internal and financial problems, while progressing in areas for which the organization was formed. His talk entitled "The Years Ahead--NAAFA's Role in the 1980's" concluded that a larger role will probably be played in the future by local chapters providing help and services to members on a local level. Fabrey, whose annual speech has become a tradition at conventions, surprised some when he announced his intention to retire as Chair at the end of his next term, or his present term if the Board chooses, and devote his energies to other aspects of NAAFA, and to his engineering career.

A highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of a Distinguished Achievement Award to the New York Times, and its acceptance by Jack Rosenthal, Deputy Editor of the Editorial Page. Mr. Rosenthal expressed his gratitude on the newspaper's behalf, praised NAAFA for its public stance on issues affecting fat people everywhere, and stated that

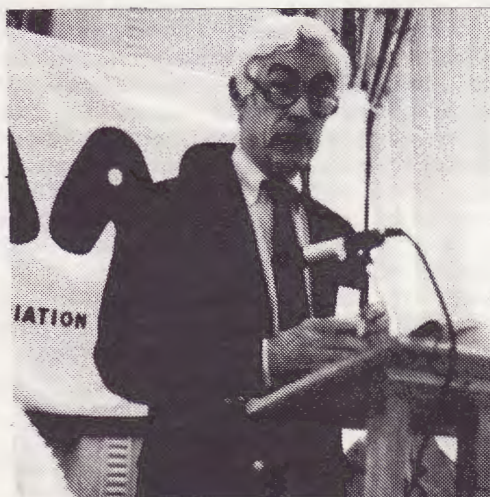
they had received mail from many fat people after their editorial appeared. Rosenthal mentioned one letter in particular, from a clergyman who related how he had not been advanced in the church hierarchy for the stated reason that he was too fat to be respected by parishioners. The TIMES concluded that their defense of fat people had been long overdue.



Jack Rosenthal of the New York Times, left, and W. Fabrey, right.

Finally, the guest speaker of the afternoon, Albert J. Stunkard, M.D., of the University of Pennsylvania, himself a pioneer in obesity studies and a NAAFA member as well, gave a talk in which he highlighted several recent avenues of research, and how developments may or may not have any relevance to NAAFAns. Most of his remarks emphasized that while there are some promising areas of increased understanding of the mechanism of obesity, "cures" or permanent weight loss remains elusive for the majority of fat people, and will continue to be for some time.

Stunkard also referred to some popular surgical weight-loss methods as "experimental" and not very promising for most fat people, and he concluded with the comment that "NAAFA is doing as much to help fat people as is any other organization in the world."



Dr. Albert Stunkard, guest speaker.

pence service awards



From left to right: Sheila Goodman, Ann Marie Budano and Dianne Rubinstein.

Fletcher Pence of the Virgin Islands is a very talented woodworker who creates beautiful objects made of St. Croix mahogany.

Due to his generosity this year, as well as the last 2 years, we were fortunate to be able to honor some of NAAFA's outstanding volunteers with something more tangible than a thank-you-very-much. The recipients of this year's Pence awards were announced at luncheons to honor volunteers.

The following three volunteers were honored for their continued support and advise over a period of many years: Natalie Allon, Marvin Grosswirth, and John Trapani, Esq.

The next group of volunteers have worked very hard for NAAFA, but for a lesser amount of time: Ann Marie Budano, David Coleman (son of Liz Fisher), Barbara Donahue, Don Levy, Joyce Maloney, Bunny Peckham, Nancy Summers, Louise Wolfe, and Drs. Susan and Wayne Wooley.

Awards were also given to people who have been very active in their local chapters: Sherry Kessler (Michigan Chapter), Patricia Coles (Westchester Chapter), the Ohio Chapter for their efforts in working towards fat discrimination legislation, and the Chicago Chapter for excellence in their Chapter publication.

A distinguished Achievement Award was given to the New York Times for their Editorial Policy. Jack Rosenthal, the Deputy Editor of the Editorial Page was present to accept the award from Dianne Rubinstein.

ELECTION NOTICE

The 1982 Election Committee (consisting of W. Fabrey, S. Goodman, F. Sclar, N. Summer, M. Tanditash, and E. Williams) reports that the following NAAFANS have been nominated to run in the upcoming annual election to fill three seats on the Board: Neil Dachis, Erich Goode, Paula Johnson, Joyce Maloney, and Dale Silverberg.

WEST COAST REGIONAL CONVENTION

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of NAAFA will host the first West Coast Regional Convention July 2-5, 1982. Members from the Sacramento, Washington, and Los Angeles chapters will be assisting in the planning, and all NAAFANS are welcome.

In addition to the traditional social activities (cocktail party, fashion show, dance, etc.) emphasis will be placed on numerous talks, workshops, and discussions for newcomers to fat liberation and for experienced activists. Suggestions for specific topics and volunteers to lead events are welcomed.

For those who want to plan a whole vacation, several sight-seeing options will be offered before and after the convention (Thursday night bay cruise, tours, wine tasting, etc.).

The location is the Grosvenor Hotel in South San Francisco. Free buss transportation from the San Francisco Airport is provided. The hotel is about twenty minutes from downtown San Francisco and direct bus service is available. Special room rates of \$39 (single or double) apply for a full week before and after the convention.

NAAFANS who are considering attending should send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Bay Area Chapter of NAAFA, c/o A Central Place, 477 15th Street, Oakland, CA 94612. Call 415/839/3880 for further information.

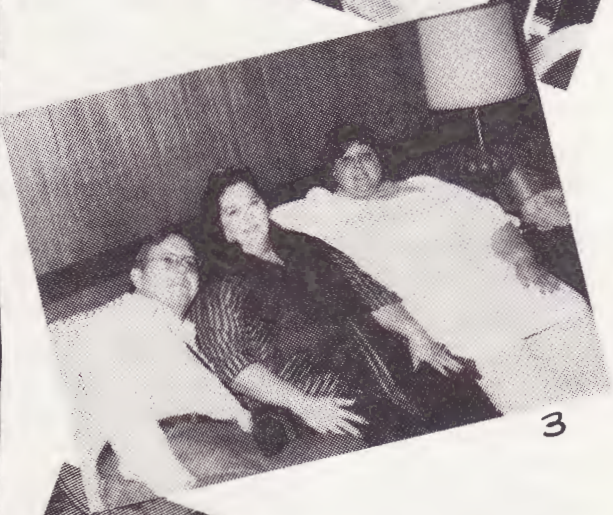
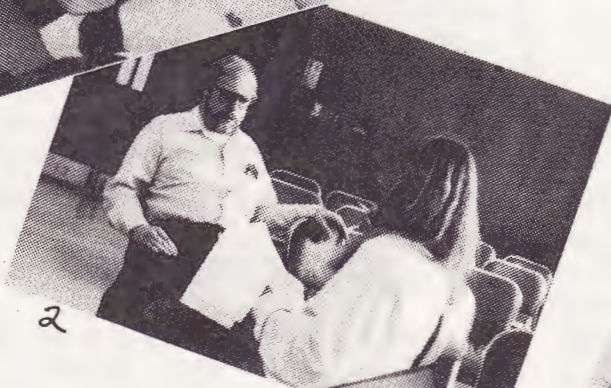
Louise Wolfe,
Convention Chair



Dianne Rubinstein (left), presenting a Pence Award to Barbara Donahue, NAAFA's Recording Secretary

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CONVENTION '01





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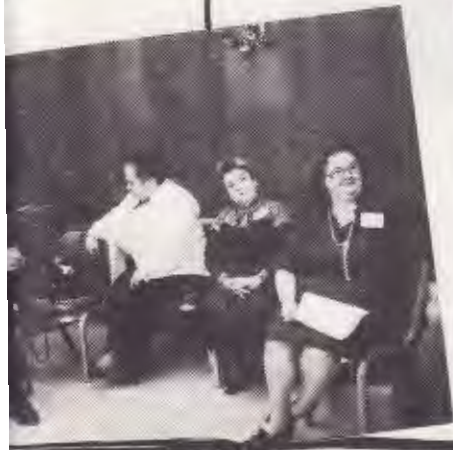
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The Fashion Show



Paula Johnson modeling one of her own designs.

No 1981 Convention! That was the disturbing rumor and we were very upset. This was to have been our second convention, and the first had been so marvelous that we couldn't wait. So Bonnie Baskin, Lynne Royster, and I nervously agreed to volunteer our services to the Convention Committee. I called Sheila Goodman, Convention Chairperson, and offered our help. We were very relieved to learn that there would be a gathering and Sheila was pleased to accept our offer. She asked me if I would take care of the fashion show and I agreed.

It's one thing to arrange a fashion show in Philadelphia to be given in Philadelphia, and quite another situation when it's scheduled for Atlantic City. The first store I contacted was more than willing to take care of everything for us, for a mere \$250. It would have been very nice, I'm sure; but we try to make money for NAAFA at the convention and there is simply no budget at all for the fashion show. Quite a few other stores refused. After some negotiation, a major national chain agreed to do the entire production--music, models, fashions, commentator, and even a lovely stage set. Too good to be true? You guessed, they withdrew a little less than a month before the convention. Fortunately all was not lost; I had been in touch with a small New York store whose owners were most anxious to take over. Two weeks before the big day, they, too, withdrew. It seems that they specialized in the lower end of the large size range and felt their selections would be too small for us. "Don't worry, Sheila," I said, "we'll have a fashion show." I didn't want Sheila to worry but I was getting a little nervous myself by this time. Thank God for two local women who

came to the rescue--Alice Fisher, of Perfect Choice, and Laurie Friel, of Anne Donahue. They are both owners-designers-manufacturers getting established in the large size field. Alice and her sister Joan not only supplied their stunning dresses, but also modeled them. Both firms were also kind enough to offer a substantial discount to everyone present at the fashion show. Laurie, who also modeled for us brought along most of her personal wardrobe, as well as her complete line, when she heard about my predicament. She stayed up most of Saturday night helping with the organization of the show. I felt that, although their clothes were fabulous, we needed more outfits. I'm afraid that just about everyone I ran into in Atlantic City those first frantic hours had to show me at least their two favorite outfits and was asked to model. Only the need for an audience prevented me from recruiting the few I missed.

My room mate, Louise Wolfe, said that I worked half the convention and slept the other half. Not quite true. I did work hard, but it was really fun. I think I had an even better time this year than last and that's going some. One of the fringe benefits was modeling for a famous French fashion magazine Elle. Yes, those glamorous women you may have seen being photographed on the boardwalk, the beach, and in one of the casinos were your fashion show models and their commentator--me. We were also immortalized by New Jersey Public TV and a television documentary producer from Pittsburgh.



Susan Hoey wearing the beautiful bridesmaid's gown from the wedding of Nancy Summer and William Fabrey.

Gambling at a casino on house money is one of life's great fantasies come true, as long as you lose, of course. One of our models, Jane, hit the jackpot on the slot machines but, unfortunately, couldn't keep her winnings. She was a better sport than I would have been. Fortunately for the casino, I lost as usual. We all agreed that modeling wasn't as easy as it looked,

but we certainly had fun trying it for one exciting weekend. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone connected with the fashion show. Though good intentions turned into cancellations in some cases, it all worked out for the best. Doing the show on our own, without the help of any store, was not what we had hoped for, nor would it have been our choice; yet it turned out to be more fun that way.

Bonnie Baskin and Lynne Royster were the crack team in charge of keeping everything and everyone moving behind the scenes. Joanne Preissler, who runs a modeling agency was kind enough to take a busman's holiday and provided me with much useful information as well as her great looks and terrific sense of humor. Joanne didn't even flinch when I introduced her as Bunny (another absolute doll who modeled a negligee for us). Lila

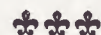


From left to right: Bunny Peckham (NY); Debbie Reid (PA); Pat Foley (?); Joanne Preissler (NY); Lila Moses (MD) and Marianne Gluck (NY).

Moses, from the Baltimore area, not only modeled, but also lent us some of her stunning wardrobe which Marianne Gluck looked so well in. Sharlene Smilow, Elaine Wine, and Lillian Neilsen were the Chicago chapter stunners who were willing to wear anything I suggested and looked so well in everything. Beautiful Paula Johnson wore some of her own terrific creations. Alyssa, the stunning nurse from North Jersey, and Kimm from Boston were both fun to work with and looked fabulous. Debbie Reid, from Philadelphia, knocked everyone out with her dramatic creations designed for her by her mother. Pat Foley was almost too tiny to wear some of our designer things but she carried it off with style. Jeri Carmichael was our bikini model who braved the waves for the photographers in the crisp October breeze. Jane, from Long Island, told me that she had always wanted to be in a fashion show,

and she was really good in ours. Special thanks to Nancy Summer for bringing her beautiful wedding dress and Susan Hoey who modeled the bridesmaid dress worn at Nancy and Bill's wedding. I hope I didn't forget anyone but my notes are long gone. I really thought you were all terrific and want to thank you again. Sheila, thanks for the opportunity.

by Dale Silverberg, Coordinator of the 1981 Convention Fashion Show, Philadelphia Chapter Program Chairperson



We are constantly looking for writers and reporters to cover various items and newsworthy articles for the NAAFA Newsletter. If you'd like to volunteer your time and talents, please contact the Editor, NAAFA Newsletter, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, N.Y. 11426.

1981 RAFFLE SUCCESS

The winners of the 1981 Raffle were chosen and announced on Sunday afternoon at the Convention. Over \$1500 were raised for NAAFA's treasury, more than double that of last year's raffle.

The Raffle Committee (Nancy Summer-Chairperson, Susan Hoey, and Joanne Preissler) wants to thank everyone who bought or sold tickets for making this year's raffle so successful.

Once again Sheila Goodman (NAAFA President) sold the most tickets and won the \$25 cash bonus prize. Sheila sold 261 tickets!

Diane Raphael (NY) won the \$25 prize for selling the Grand Prize winning ticket to non-member Henry Ovrut of Long Island, NY, who was quite excited to receive a Panasonic color television, AM-FM clock radio and pocket calculator (a \$500 value).

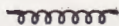
Other prize winners were: First Prize: \$300 Lane Bryant Gift Certificate won by Sheila Goodman (NY); Second Prize: Hand-crafted latch hook rug/wall hanging won by member Lola Doe (Wisc); Third Prize: Lingerie Package by Formfit Rogers "A Cut Above" went to Lisbeth Fisher (NY); Fourth Prize: Life-sized stuffed animals won by members Anita Troise (NY), Bill Lowe (MD), Rita Montana (NY), and non-member Edward Nowak (ticket sold by L. Page-NY).

Additional Prizes: A silver and turquoise bracelet won by non-member S. Robertson (sold by N. Summer-NY); a Formfit Rogers "A Cut Above" peignoir set won by non-member M. Brownstein (sold by S. Goodman); 4 Formfit Rogers "A Cut Above" teddies (chemises) won by members H. Campbell (NY), J. Waters (MD), E. Williams (TX), and non-member G. Gamon (sold by S. Kessler-MICH); 16 Designer Liner Calligraphy Kits won by members P. Johnson (MD), N. Gregitis (PA), H. Calver (CT), G. McCleary (MD), J. Waters (MD), M.E. Ryan (NY), R. Williams (TX), and 2 by E. Alba (TX). Non-member winners included: D. Burleson (sold by A. Burleson-TX), F. Budano (sold by S. Goodman-NY), L. McCarron (sold by N. Summer-NY), A. Hoorla (sold by S. Kessler-MI), M. Danielson (sold by S. Kessler-MI), M. Tieman (sold by S. Kessler-MI), and P. Damian (sold by M. Koslo-IL). 10 pads of stationery by Pen Notes won by members: C. Tobin (DC), L. Tressler (FLA), B. Stewart (TX), C. Connelly (CT), and A. Budano (NY). Non-member winners included: B. Walker (ticket sold by A. Burleson-TX), C. O'Guin (ticket sold by M. Koslo-IL), A. Silverberg (ticket sold by D. Silverberg-PA), S. Siegel (ticket sold by L. Ingram-NY).
 Congratulations to all the winners!

Nancy Summer



Paula Johnson and Neil Dachis being interviewed by the media.



STERN 1980 CONVENTION ARTICLE

NAAFA still has available a number of copies of the article that appeared in STERN Magazine about NAAFA's 1980 Convention in Chicago. Will send a copy, post-paid, including an English translation, in return for a \$3.00 tax-deductible donation to NAAFA. Send request and \$3 donation to NAAFA, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, NY 11426.

special thanks

For the third consecutive year, we owe a big fat thank you to Lane Bryant for their donation of a \$300 gift certificate from their Retail Division. Lane Bryant's continuing support is greatly appreciated (especially by the lucky winner).

An assortment of beautiful lingerie was donated by Formfit Rogers "A Cut Above." Formfit's new line of peignoirs, slips, teddies and other lingerie is more than just beautiful. All the items are proportioned for NAAFA figures (sizes 38-48) and are feminine and sexy too!...definitely "A Cut Above" most other large-size lingerie.

Thank you to Dan Brechner & Co. of NY, for their donation of life-size stuffed animals. Many a ticket was sold at the convention to people wanting to win those huge lions and leopards.

Very special thanks to NAAFA's Executive Secretary Lisbeth Fisher who in her "spare time" hand-hooked a gorgeous rug/wall hanging especially for the raffle.

Additional thanks to Pen Notes, Inc., of Freeport, NY, for their donation of calligraphy kits and stationery.

Thank you also to Ann Burleson of Texas for her surprise donation of a stunning silver and turquoise bracelet.

If you have any items that are suitable as raffle prizes for next year's drawing, the Raffle Committee would love to hear from you!



Newlyweds William Fabrey and Nancy Summer.

One footnote (or should I say paw print..) Chairman of the Board, Bill Fabrey has had to do some strange things for NAAFA in the last 12 years, but one of the strangest had to be the transporting of 6 life-sized stuffed lions, leopards, and polar bears to the Convention in a tiny Datsun Hatchback!

The leopards and bears rode inside the car with us. The lions were tied to the roof, wrapped in clear plastic. Toll collectors laughed at us; fellow motorists

pointed at us; children waved to us; the cop writing a ticket dropped his pen and stared at us; and even after we sneaked into Atlantic City under the cover of darkness, the bell hop at the World International Hotel wasn't sure he wanted to unload our car. He kept looking for Candid Camera!

Was that the end of our Bill's association with the raffle's wild kingdom? Oh no...two animals had to be brought home for delivery to winners, and finally poor Bill had to take a leopard on the Long Island Railroad during the commuter crush. The leopard didn't even offer to pay for his own ticket!

Fortunately all the animals have arrived at their new homes. And Bill? While he never volunteered to be on the Raffle Committee. He married into it and was shanghaied by his wife. How about giant gorillas next year, Bill?

Nancy Summer

cold waters of the anti-fat world at the airport, the train station, or back home.

The recent NAAFA convention in Atlantic City was no exception, and I want to discuss three apparent contradictions: Sex at conventions, the cost of conventions, and, finally, the problem of distractions.

SEX AT CONVENTIONS

There, now that I have your attention again, let me explain the way in which sex can be a contradiction to some: It has been pointed out that NAAFA tries to promote dignity and self-respect for fat people, yet much of the social environment provided at conventions seems to be a "meat market" with much competitiveness between those searching for sexual partners, and an occasional "wild party" becoming legendary in its own time.

The question is inevitably raised: How does this help the dignity and self-esteem of fat people, and does such a sexual atmosphere belong at our convention? The answers are almost obvious: Sex at conventions? So what else is new. Isn't NAAFA saying that fat people and their admirers are no better and no worse than the rest of humanity? And, there is evidence that people who feel secure with their ability to attract sexual interest find it easier to maintain dignity and self-esteem as well.

Personally, I regret the "meat rack" element of the singles' social climate, but it was not created by NAAFA or by conventions, per se. It was created by human nature.

THE COST OF CONVENTIONS

We would like to make conventions accessible to all members, yet in today's economy, conventions, like everything else, are becoming more costly and an increasing number of NAAFANS are finding the price of a convention difficult to afford. Try as they might, our Conventions Committee cannot avoid increasing charges year after year, and even with tight financial planning to minimize costs, they cannot hope to keep transportation costs from rising.

Now, I know that full-scale pull-out-all-the-stops NAAFA conventions can generate important revenue for the organization, and it's very pleasant for many of us to meet again with NAAFA friends from all over the country. However, to lower travel costs, it would be possible to hold more regional "gatherings" to make them accessible and affordable to more members. An example of this is the Regional Convention being held in San Francisco in July. Other organizations report similar success with their regional "gatherings".

COB's CORNER



W. Fabrey in front of the beautiful banner designed by Nancy Hamlin for NAAFA's new office.

OUR CONTRADICTIONARY CONVENTIONS

If you have ever attended any NAAFA conventions in the past (in New York, Chicago, or Washington, DC) you probably noticed the presence of a number of contradictions. For example, for many, our conventions represent the best of times and the worst of times simultaneously: they can also provide a setting for a series of intensely rewarding experiences in only three or four days, to be followed by the shock of immersion into the

DISTRACTIONS

There are many other contradictory forces at work at conventions, but I will conclude with one: When a convention is held at a location that offers many distractions from the convention itself, it seems to me that the best aspect of the convention, that of immersing yourself totally in the personalities and lives of other NAAFANS whom you will see only once or twice a year, is sabotaged. At Atlantic City it was gambling that provided one such distraction; many NAAFANS spent their free time at the tables, thus depriving themselves and others of their mutual company and support. But I'm afraid that I'm in the minority - I've only spoken to a few people who agreed with me about the effect of gambling at the Atlantic City convention.

Another serious distraction at our conventions is the presence of the press--reporters, photographers, video camera crews, **sound** and lighting technicians, lights, cables, tripods, and so forth. Sometimes this can be handled with restraint, and results in valuable publicity, such as the 60 MINUTES episode three years ago. This year it all seemed to get out of hand. Conventions should be primarily for those who pay to attend, not for the convenience of aggressive reporters from foreign magazines of unknown value to us, or even local, unsyndicated TV programs that consume more than half an hour of NAAFA's time.

BOARD MEETING MINI-MINUTES

Note: Complete official minutes of NAAFA Board meetings are available for the cost of copying and mailing them. It is hoped that this column will be a good alternative.

--W. J. Fabrey, C.O.B.

October 23, 1981 West Side YMCA, New York, NY
Board members present: Bill Fabrey, Liz Fisher, Sheila Goodman, Dianne Rubinstein, Florane Sclar, Nancy Summer, Mel Tanditash
Board members absent: Elisabeth Williams
Guests: 14

Several motions were made and passed, resulting in establishing the next meeting place in Brooklyn, with Long Island a second choice if necessary.

A budget submitted by Treasurer Rubinstein for fiscal year 7/1/81-6/30/82 was passed subject to revision, in a motion made by Summer and seconded by Rubinstein. A motion made by Goodman to remove \$2300 from the Convention fund and use the money to pay general expenses was seconded by Rubinstein and passed with no opposition.

After reading a report on Local Chapters submitted by Coordinator Rosalie Radcliffe, Goodman moved to appoint the following Chairpersons Pro-

tem: Regina Delatte for Houston/Galveston (Texas), Linda Lyon for the State of Missouri, and Barbara Jo Morris for Santa Barbara/Ventura (California). The motion was passed unanimously.

Fisher moved that, subject to the approval of the Chapters Coordinator (Radcliffe), the names and addresses of members residing in Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island be sent to the Local Chapters in Manhattan and in Long Island. She also amended the motion to exclude Queens from the process if the Queens chapter survives. Goodman seconded both motion and amendment. Both passed with all in favor.

Rubinstein moved that an Office Move Committee be formed. The motion passed, and Fabrey, Fisher, Summer, and Tanditash, as well as Susan Hoey (Assistant Treasurer) agreed to serve on the committee. Vice-President Sclar appointed Summer to chair the committee; Goodman moved to accept the appointment; her motion passed.

Goodman moved to include the following in the next general mailing to members: the News-letter, the listings of the Book Bazaar and Bountiful Boutique, a form to be used by those who wish to request the majority/minority opinion of the Board regarding the Karl Niedershuh ruling, and a flyer from the Manhattan Chapter (to NY State members only), the latter expense to be absorbed by the Legal Research and Defense Fund (LRDF). Rubinstein seconded, all in favor.

Rubinstein moved to increase the initial NAAFA-Date fee from \$25 to \$35 for 25 matches or less in a year, starting 1/1/82. Goodman seconded. Five in favor, one abstention, motion passed. C.O.B. went on record as opposing a fee increase without further study.

Fisher moved to increase the charge for Dept. numbers in Newsletter ads to \$10 for a personal ad, and \$25 for a commercial ad. Rubinstein seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Rubinstein moved to increase the fee for the Pen Pal program from \$5 to \$10 per year, starting 1/1/82. Goodman seconded, motion passed with no opposition.

Goodman moved that at the termination of Fisher's employment, she be given two weeks paid vacation. Sclar seconded. Five were in favor, one abstained. Motion passed.

The October minutes were taken by Recording Secretary Barbara Donahue and transcribed by Pat Coles.

★★★★★★★★★★

November 20, 1981 Williams residence, Hempstead, NY.

Board members present: Bill Fabrey, Liz Fisher, Sheila Goodman, Nancy Summer, Mel Tanditash, Elisabeth Williams

Board members absent: Dianne Rubinstein, Florane Sclar

Guests: 5

Fabrey (C.O.B.), Goodman (Pres.), and Sclar (V-Pres), acting as a committee, appointed Joyce Maloney to fill the seat on the Board vacated by Ernest Harff, until the June elections. Fisher moved to confirm the appointment, Tanditash seconded, all in favor.

A motion passed to hold the next meeting in Brooklyn.

Goodman moved to accept use of the facilities offered by NAAFans Noel and Susan Nyman of Seattle regarding the computerization of the NAAFA mailing list, subject to an appropriate release to be signed by the Nymans. Summer seconded, all in favor.

Summer moved to rent new office facilities in Floral Park, NY, (near Bellrose) for \$450 per month, with a two or three year lease to begin on 12/1/81, but to keep the Bellerose facility until 1/31/82. Seconded by Tanditash, 3 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention, motion passed.

Summer moved to pay the initial Dec. rent with a \$450 loan from the Contingency account, to pay the deposit with a \$450 transfer from the Convention account, and to permit the general fund to advance a partial deposit against the above, if necessary. Tanditash seconded; 3 were in favor, 1 was opposed, and 1 abstained, motion passed.

Fisher moved to purchase 24 patterns from "Sew Elegant" for the Book Bazaar and Bountiful Boutique. Summer seconded, motion passed.

The November minutes were taken by Recording Secretary Barbara Donahue and transcribed by Pat Coles.

December 11, 1981 Pierce residence, Brooklyn, NY
Board members present: Bill Fabrey, Sheila Goodman, Joyce Maloney, Mel Tanditash, Dianne Rubinstein, Nancy Summer, Elisabeth Williams
Board members absent: Lisbeth Fisher, Florane Sclar
Guests: 4

Summer moved to hold the Jan. meeting in the new Floral Park (NY) office. 4 in favor, 2 abstentions, motion passed. Rubinstein moved to accept Fabrey's proposal to provide for counsel's fee (as amended). Goodman seconded. Passed unanimously.

Tanditash moved to amend Art. 3, Sec. 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws to add the words, "except for those officers whose term expires Dec. 1981, in which case an expiration of March 1982 shall apply." Summer seconded. All in favor. This motion extended until March the date at which the Board must elect or re-elect its C.O.B. (currently Fabrey), its Executive Secretary (currently Fisher), its Treasurer (currently Rubinstein), and its Recording Secretary (currently Donahue), basically due to changes being caused by the office move.

Summer moved that the Fund Raising Committee (F. Sclar, Chp.) send a letter to the membership soliciting donations for the office move. Passed unan. Maloney moved to accept the Fund Raising Committee's proposal for the Valentine's day weekend in February, to be sponsored by the Long Island Chapter. All in favor.

Rubinstein moved that if the LI Chapter loses money on the Sunday events they are holding to benefit NAAFA, that they be reimbursed by NAAFA.

Tanditash seconded. Passed unanimously. (Note: The event went on to raise \$500 for NAAFA!)

Summer moved that NAAFA purchase 25-30 folding chairs at a maximum price of \$435. Maloney seconded. 5 in favor, 1 opposed, passed. (NAAFA later received a donation of 15 used chairs.) Summer also moved to purchase one lockable file cabinet. Passed. Summer also moved to purchase a cassette tape recorder for \$35 for office use. Passed.

Rubinstein moved to set up an Ethel Weiss-Shed Memorial Fund to support the Ethel Weiss-Shed Memorial Library. Second by Tanditash, all in favor. (The late Ethel Weiss-Shed was the Chairperson of NAAFA's Advisory Board.)

Goodman (as President) appointed Marianne Gluck as Editor of the Newsletter. Rubinstein moved to accept the appointment. Maloney seconded. Passed unan. (Gluck had been Acting Editor.)

Goodman (again as Pres.) appointed Nancy Summer Chairperson of the Monthly Mailing Committee. Maloney moved to accept, Tanditash seconded, Passed unanimously. (The MM committee was conceived several years ago as one that would try to publish material during the months that there is no Newsletter.)

Summer moved to amend the Rules for Local Chapters (#10), "to allow the names of members of NAAFA to be supplied to the Chapter Chairperson or other officer designated by the Chapter Chairperson provided the appropriate waiver is signed and the NAAFA Chapters Coordinator is immediately notified." Tanditash seconded. All in favor.

Summer moved to transfer the loan of \$450 to pay for the security on the new office from the Contingency account to the Legal Research and Defense Fund account. Goodman seconded, passed unanimously.

Rubinstein moved that, in the event that before the next Board meeting the general account cannot meet the payroll, money be borrowed from the following accounts leaving a minimum of \$5 in each account: First--LRDF; Second--Chapter Seed Fund; Third--Shadowitz Fund. In addition, up to \$670 may be borrowed solely to pay Jan. rents on office space (temporarily at two locations). Summer seconded. All in favor.

The December minutes were taken by Recording Secretary Barbara Donahue and transcribed by Pat Coles.

A NAAFA BABY

We are happy to announce the arrival of Matthew Evan, 6 lbs. 13 oz, on December 15, 1981. The happy parents are Karen Bramnick Syken and Anthony Syken of Brooklyn, NY.

AN OPEN INVITATION

Michigan Chapter of NAAFA invites everyone to "FUN AND FROLIC" on August 14th and 15th. Barbecue, Hot Tub Party, Rap Session ... and more. Send for info: Box 2513, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48106

PERSONAL ADS

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

Black, male, law student-weight lifter, 22, 5'10", 210 lbs., would like to correspond or meet single, very heavy-set females 18-30. Will answer all replies. Anthony Mickey, 175 West 87th Street, Apt. 27G, New York, NY 10024.



Attention Big Beautiful Women: Handsome 29-year-old, 6'2", 200 lb, muscular young Clint Eastwood type interested in meeting a husky, buxom woman between ages of 21 through 49. One who is sincere and honest--who likes cooking, movies, and dancing. Call BOBBY 212-259-5332.



Single white male 29, 5'8", wishes to meet very heavy woman (over 350 pounds) 20-30 for dates and long-term friendship. Write P.O. Box 4433, Union City, N.J. 07087.



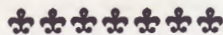
Warm, fun-loving, educated black female, desires to correspond and/or meet sensitive, warm, understanding, educated, single black males between 26-35 years old in the Md., D.C., Va., N.J., Pa. area for friendship or possibly more serious relationship. Box 16506, Baltimore, Md. 21217.



Attractive N.Y. male--48, white, tall, slim, would enjoy hearing from a very busty, warm, affectionate woman. Enjoy theatre, movies, dancing, interesting conversation. Photo, phone helpful, but not necessary. Will answer all. Reply to Dept. 137, NAAFA, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, N.Y. 11426.



Handsome, white, slim, well-built student age 24 from West Hempstead, LI, would like to hear from attractive women of any age and any weight. Will answer all including Manhattan and vicinity. Photo, phone helpful but not necessary. Greg Girgenti, 87 Elton St., West Hempstead, NY 11552.



CLASSIFIED AD

NAAFA writer needs your help with positive "fat book" about life experiences re: family, work, sex, relationships, diets, etc. Complete confidence. Reply to Stella Wirk, P.O. Box 19604, Seattle, WA 98110.

NAAFA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ADVERTISEMENTS IT DEEMS UNSUITABLE

Commercial Ads: 50 cents/word, 10-word minimum. Department number available at \$25/issue. (Contact NAAFA for display rates.)

Non-Commercial Ads: 25/cents/word, 10-word minimum. Department number available at \$10/issue.

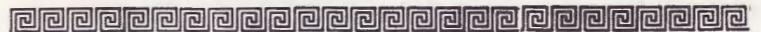
Non-members must pay commercial rates for personal ads.

All ads are accepted for publication provided they are not against NAAFA's purpose. They may include personals, wanted to sell or buy, employment notices, meeting announcements, and many other items.



PLEASE NOTE!

NAAFA will forward personal letters from any member to another member for a tax-deductible donation of \$5 per letter. Simply write the person's name on the envelope, apply the proper postage, and mail to NAAFA in another envelope together with your donation. Since NAAFA's mailing list is held strictly confidential, the only way to contact a member you might see or read about in the News=letter or elsewhere is via this method.



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*Convention '82
Columbus, Ohio
Labor Day Weekend
September 3-6, 1982*