

NAAFA NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION TO AID FAT AMERICANS, INC.

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Volume VI

JUNE-JULY 1977

Issue No. 2

Co-Editors this issue: William J. Fabrey and Lisbeth Fisher

NAAFA-DANCE

On Saturday, October 22, 1977, NAAFA will hold a fund-raising dance in the New York Metropolitan area. Details will be forthcoming as soon as possible. In the meantime, we are advising you of the date well in advance so that you can reserve it on your busy calendars.

CLIPPING CAMPAIGN SUCCESSFUL

In the March-April 1977 issue of the Newsletter, the editors asked NAAFA members to send clippings of interest to the NAAFA office for possible publication in the Newsletter. Members submitting five or more articles used in subsequent Newsletters will receive a free one-year extension of their NAAFA membership. Naturally, the first person to submit an article will be the one to receive the credit for same. Please remember to include name and date of publication!

We are pleased to announce that we have been inundated with articles of interest to NAAFA. Some of them are printed below, and more will be printed in the future, space allowing. We want to thank all of you who have submitted articles so far, and hope that all NAAFA members will keep their eyes peeled for such information and send it to us. Even if we don't use it in the Newsletter, everything is retained in the NAAFA library, and some lead to eventual publicity for NAAFA, while others advise us of new research on obesity of which we were unaware. Please remember to include name and date of publication!

BLAME YOUR MOTHER OR THE CHAIR

[The following two articles were submitted by Wayne Gehres of Ohio. The first is from FAMILY WEEKLY, 5/1/77.]

"Feeling guilty about those 10 pounds you just put on? Blame it on your mother.

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GREAT BIG BEAUTIFUL DOLL

Reviewed by Dianne Rubinstein

GREAT BIG BEAUTIFUL DOLL by Stella Jolles Reichman [E. P. Dutton, 1977] is an out-of-the-ordinary book. When I was a teenager, I would often take beauty and fashion books out of the library, as did most of my friends. The difference for me was that I could never get past the books' first commandment--If you are fat, lose weight! All they ever told me was not to be myself, but rather to turn myself into a stereotyped thin creature. Mrs. Reichman has changed all this. At last, a beauty book, fashion book and self-improvement book all rolled into one, and specifically written for the fat woman.

The author attacks the "T.T.T. (Think Thin Trauma)" inflicted upon us by society, and advocates that fat women are beautiful, sensual and spiritual. As she puts it, "Too many women grow up under the restricting influences of the T.T.T. ...they need to learn a new, happy awareness of themselves since they were thwarted from coming to it naturally." And Stella Reichman is excellent in showing how to come to this awareness. Lessons

(continued on Page 4)

REPORT ON LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGN

As you all know, on May 27, President Carter boarded and navigated the Submarine Los Angeles. Prior to his arrival, five "overweight" crewmen were assigned to another ship so as not to offend the President.

The incident was reported on television, radio and in newspapers across the nation, and NAAFA immediately launched a letter-writing campaign to President Carter, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Commander of the Los Angeles, protesting this reprehensible action by the submarine's Commander.

At press time, the only reply any NAAFA member or official has had is a very unsatisfactory letter from the Department of the Navy. At its meeting on June 17, the Board of Directors decided that it did not wish to wait until its next meeting in September to take further action, if necessary. Therefore, Lisbeth Fisher and Dianne Rubinstein were authorized to coordinate any action to be taken this summer. Mrs. Fisher has been in touch with the White House Liaison. Unless NAAFA receives satisfaction by an as-yet-to-be-specified date, some form of picketing will be set up, and the entire NAAFA membership will be informed of the plans.

On June 18, the night following the Board meeting, the New York Chapter voted to donate \$100 towards picketing expenses, should it be necessary. It will be the first time NAAFA has held a demonstration, and it is the hope of the Board that the members will support and participate in whatever action is taken to protest this abominable discrimination. President Carter recently signed a bill for the handicapped, and it is believed that his alleged support for human rights should include the fat human.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

William J. Fabrey

NAAFA'S BOARD: A DIVERSITY OF PEOPLE

The recent election, with more NAAFA members voting than ever before, shows that an increasing number of you are becoming interested in the Board, in NAAFA's political affairs, and in the future of the organization.

How fortunate we are in having on the Board so many different types of people. Fat or thin, liberal or conservative, male or female, local to New York or distant-- such members have always made for a balance in most of NAAFA's decisions.

NAAFA's Directors are certainly not infallible. However, you can be certain that any important decision has resulted only after considerable discussion and debate, in the presence of the diversity of people you have elected to the Board!

DOCTORS

In the last issue of the Newsletter, I once again asked the NAAFA membership to share the names and addresses of physicians whom they felt were sympathetic to the obese patient or at least did not "bug" you about your weight. The aim of this quest has for years been to publish a directory of such doctors as a service to NAAFA members. To date, only three members have contacted us with such information, and I wish to thank these very helpful people. However, three names do not a directory make. I hope that more of you will cooperate and help your fellow NAAFans.

PUBLICITY

Many members have requested that we let you know in advance when there will be publicity for NAAFA. However, much of our opportunity for publicity is given us at the last minute, and we frequently find ourselves scrambling to find someone to appear on a radio or television show the very next day! However, when we can, we shall try to advise you in advance, via the Newsletter, or at least report what publicity we have received, when space permits.

Bouquets to Deloris Staley of Newton, Illinois, whose efforts have obtained us long-sought-after publicity from the Lane Bryant mail order division. Lane Bryant publishes a brochure entitled HAPPY TALK, which is sent to anyone placing an order with their mail order division. An excellent article has been written about NAAFA for the next issue of HAPPY TALK, which will include photographs of some of our own models from this year's convention. Anyone placing an order from the upcoming Lane Bryant Fall catalog will probably receive a copy of this particular issue of HAPPY TALK.

BYPASS OPERATION

Much information has been received by us on the pros and cons of this surgical procedure. We wish to thank the many members who have supplied us with the many articles and letters on the subject, and we intend to devote much space to it in an upcoming issue of the Newsletter.

GROUP INSURANCE

NAAFA has been trying, unsuccessfully, for many years to obtain group medical and life insurance for our members. If anyone has information about a company that might consider such coverage, please let us know.

1977 ELECTION RESULTS

On June 17, the ballots were counted for the 1977 election at an open Board meeting. 153 ballots were returned, and several members favorably commented on the circular ballot that was used this year. The Board of Directors would like to have your comments, pro or con, on the circular ballot, in order to aid next year's Election Committee.

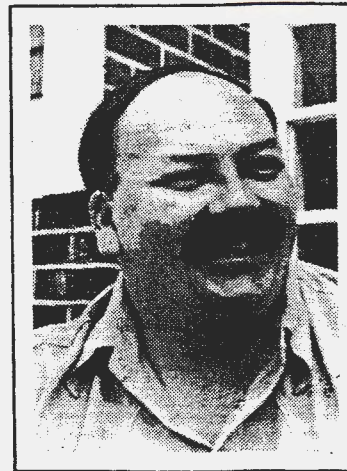
The six candidates received the following number of votes:

Peggy Greensfelder	89
Michael Simpson	87
Matthew Madigan	78
Ernest Harff	72
Dianne Rubinstein	69
Howard Clist	53

Since there were three seats to be filled on the Board, Greensfelder, Simpson and Madigan will begin their 3-year terms at the September 1977 Board meeting.



**FAT
CAN BE
BEAUTIFUL**



NEW CHAPTERS COORDINATOR APPOINTED

At its meeting on June 10, the Board of Directors confirmed President Fabrey's appointment of Michael Simpson as NAAFA's new Chapters Coordinator. Elected to the Board in June, Mike's experience as Chairperson of the Greater New York Chapter for two years well qualifies him for this position. As a long-time employee of a major non-profit organization, he is familiar with guidelines for and establishment of local chapters.

As the new Chapters Coordinator, Mike has requested that anyone who is interested in starting a chapters in his or her area should contact him care of the NAAFA office. Also, he will soon be in touch with the Chairpeople of existing chapters, if they have not already heard from him by the time they receive this Newsletter. Applications to form chapters in Florida, Kentucky and Texas have been received, and they will be acted upon at the September Board meeting.

Mike reports that there are many areas in NAAFA now that have enough members to form local chapters. If you desire any chapter information, simply send your request to Michael Simpson, at the NAAFA office.

OPEN BOARD MEETING DATE

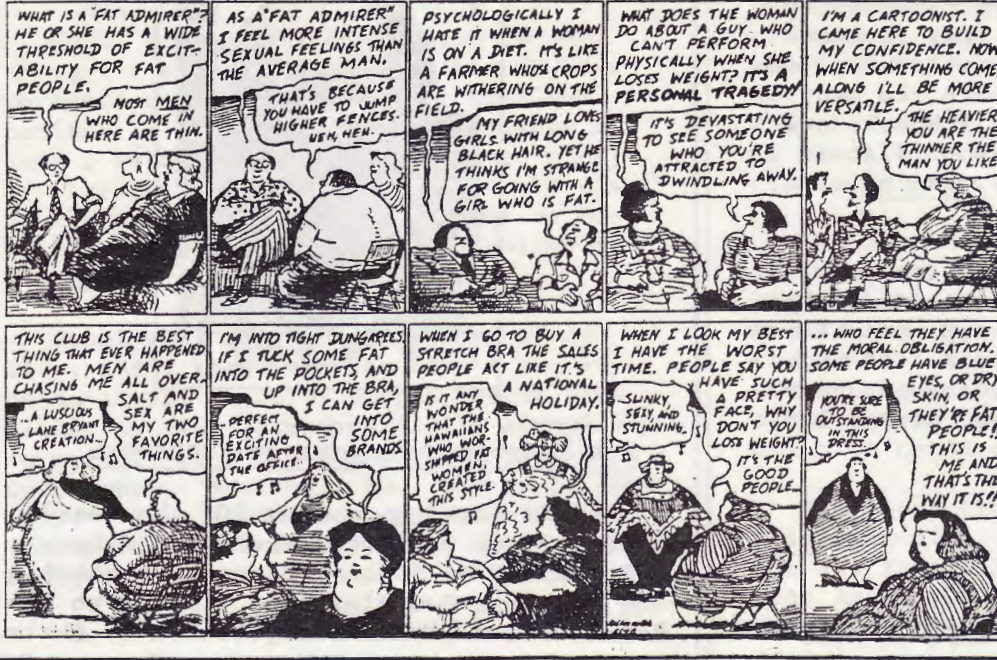
The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Friday, September 16. All NAAFA members are invited to attend this meeting. Please call 212 877-4441 or 914 941-8808 a day or two before to confirm the date and ascertain the time and place.

STAN MACK'S REAL LIFE FUNNIES

Guarantee: All Dialogue Is Reported Verbatim

Heavy Doings

All the National Association to Aid Fat Americans



© VILLAGE VOICE 7/6/77

This cartoon by Stan Mack has been reprinted with the permission of the VILLAGE VOICE. Mr. Mack was present at our convention, and the Newsletter editors believe that members who do not have the opportunity to purchase the VOICE, should see via this Newsletter, what was printed. We have had mixed reactions to the cartoon, and Mr. Mack has invited any NAAFA members to write letters to NAAFA, pro or con, some of which the VOICE may print.

(continued from Page 1)

range from grooming, to hair care, to clothing, to exercise, and what to cook for an intimate dinner for two. Each subject is handled enjoyably, expertly and in a manner geared to the special and specific needs of fat women.

There are a few sentences, however, that bothered me very much. On Page 12, Mrs. Reichman states, "Big is Beautiful-- provided you are not dangerously overweight... These extreme cases might do well to get advice from a doctor." The author might do well to remember that, at 199 pounds, she would be medically classified as obese herself. Furthermore, since she is a special consultant to Lane Bryant, it is especially dangerous for her to take the attitude that it's all right to be fat, as long as you are no fatter than she is.

Putting these objections aside, this is still a very worthwhile book. I do not think there are any of us who cannot profit from it, even if only for the encouragement and entertainment it provides.

[We, too, have read this marvelous and uplifting book. Combining history and beauty and fashion tips, the author gives much support for her belief that being a Cadillac is more fun and beautiful than

being a Volkswagen. The many photographs by Cris Alexander throughout the book are, by themselves, worth the price of the book.

--Ed.]

ACTRESS LIKES FAT MEN

[The following quote is reprinted from the SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE, 5/12/77, and was part of a column entitled "Hollywood Inside" by John Austin. This article was submitted by Ken Mayer of California.]

"Quote of the Week from Dyan Cannon: 'Fat men turn me on sexually.'"

The National Association to Aid Fat Americans Inc.

Distinguished Achievement Award

for outstanding contribution to the advancement of self-respect, dignity, and a better life for fat people.

Given this day May 25, 1977 at the seventh annual convention of the Association, to PLAYBOY ROBERT FORDHAM in recognition of his play, "THE TRANSFORMATION OF WENDY BEYONCE" which portrays in a sympathetic manner the loneliness, despair, and tragic life of a fat man living in a thin society.

William J. Falvey
President

Executive Secretary



1977 CONVENTION REPORT

by Sheila Goodman

Well, this year's Convention is over and here I sit, alone, with very mixed feelings. I'm torn between being happy that it is all over and my work is done, and the feeling of loss at the end of two very, very happy days.

After much soul-searching, I again volunteered to Chair this year's Convention. I didn't know what we were going to do, but I knew that we should have a two-day "affair." I think the decision was a good one.

On Saturday night, May 27, 1977, our Seventh Annual Convention commenced. The ladies looked gorgeous as they came off the elevator into the lovely accommodations of the Dancing Oasis, where they were greeted by terrific music (thanks to the good ear and steady hand of Nick Tolliver), and tempting wine and cheese selected by Naomi Shadowitz. At about 11:00, we had our first (and I hope not last) all-NAAFA Talent Show. Bill Fabrey, Liz Fisher, Gail Gold, Ernie Harff, Dianne Rubinstein, Naomi Shadowitz and Mike Simpson all performed admirably and were HITS.

We had a raffle after that, with the first prize being half of the money we collected. The winner, Naomi Bushman, was stunned, but recovered in time to donate back to NAAFA her entire purse (just shows how terrific people are and how much NAAFA must mean to so many of us!).

The wine flowed, the cheese disappeared, and the music continued. We said our last goodbyes at 4 a.m.

Bright and early (well, maybe not so bright after the late night before) Sunday morning, our rap sessions began. Being at the front desk greeting people, unfortunately I wasn't able to attend; but from the size of the crowds, I know they, too, were successful.

Our luncheon started at 1:30 p.m. (pretty much on schedule, too). After speeches of welcome and the buffet luncheon were finished, Bill Fabrey presented the Distinguished Achievement Awards to our members, Lisbeth Fisher and Wilma Kuns; to James Coco and Albert Innaurato for their contributions via the play, MONSTERS; and to Clairol for their Balsam commercial for "big, fat beautiful hair." Dr. James E. Nelson, a noted psychologist, gave a wonderful, inspiring speech on the subject of "Feeling Good About Yourself." I know that I certainly felt better about myself after hearing him. Bill Fabrey then let the assemblage know what was happening with NAAFA in his State of the Organization Address. We all felt good knowing the inroads that NAAFA is making with the public in general and with NAAFans in particular.

Our now-famous NAAFA Fashion Show ended the official activities at this year's Convention. Not only did we have fashions by our own Dianne Rubinstein and Barbara Stevens, but Lane Bryant provided stunning outfits for our beautiful models. As someone who participated in the show, I know how exciting it was and how lovely we all felt. We also had a first for the Fashion Show this year. Mike Simpson modelled magnificent male fashions made by NAAFAN Beth Stewart.

Officially, the Convention ended about 5:30, but we didn't close the doors to the Dancing Oasis until after 7. I guess that would indicate that people had a good time and didn't want to leave!

In many ways I think this was the most successful Convention NAAFA ever held. We received a great deal of press coverage (which is always good news), a lot of news was disseminated to NAAFans, a great many NAAFans had a chance to meet and talk with other NAAFans, ideas were exchanged and, hopefully, a few problems were solved.

I anticipated a lot—and I wasn't disappointed at all. I had a terrific time and want to thank everyone who was able to be present. I missed everyone who wasn't there and hope next year we'll be able to meet and know each other.

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



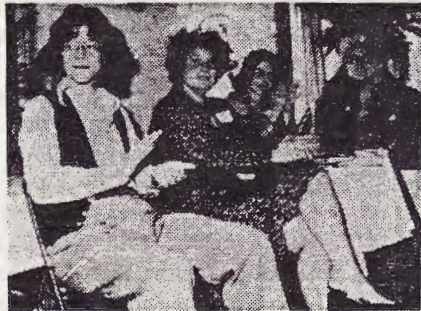
James E. Nelson, Ph.D., delivers his address.



Bill Fabrey presents Distinguished Achievement Award to Donald E. Karlson, Group Product Manager, on behalf of Clairol.



Ernest Harff accepts Distinguished Achievement Award on Wilma Kuns' behalf.



Ned Sonntag, Marcia Millman, Natalie Allon and Aldebaran applaud the festivities.



Liz Fisher accepts her Distinguished Achievement Award.



(Clockwise from left) Dianne Rubinstein, Marcia Millman (all the way from California!), Naomi Bushman and Liz Fisher enjoy party Saturday night.



Some of the guests enjoying the Sunday program.



Bill Fabrey, Liz Fisher and Ernie Harff enjoy Dr. Nelson's speech.

Photos by Ken Mayer and Allan Arthur

FASHION SHOW



Barry Williams and Joyce Maloney enjoy Saturday's party.



Sheila Goodman



Barbara Stevens



Joyce Maloney



Ellen Dobson relaxes after fashion show.



Lisbeth Fisher



Diane Raphael



Sheila Goodman



Matt Madigan poses for our photographer.



Ellen Dobson



Michael Simpson



Barbara Stevens

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Research conducted by a husband-and-wife team, Dr. Mervyn Susser and Dr. Zena Stein, at the Columbia University School of Public Health, suggests that heavyweights may be doomed to obesity by a food shortage during the first six months in the womb. The physicians based their study on the weights of 94,000 men born during the Holland famine of World War II. However, the study also showed that a baby poorly nourished during the last three months of pregnancy and the first few months of its life tends to become a skinny adult."

[The following article is reprinted from the COLUMBUS (Ohio) DISPATCH, 3/13/77.]

"Myrtle went to a neighborhood appliance store to establish a line of credit.

'Have a seat,' said the manager, rolling a chair-on-casters in her direction. Myrtle made a try at sitting down, but the chair slid out from under her and she hit the floor with a thud.

She sued the store, charging that the chair was unsafe. However, the company proved that the chair was in proper working order.

Denying Myrtle's claim, the court pointed out that she was well aware of the casters at the time she sat down.

'The law of gravity,' added the court, 'is a matter of such common knowledge that all persons of ordinary intelligence are required to take notice of it.'

Faulty design [however] may result in liability. Thus:

A woman examining ribbons at a counter perched on the edge of a curved tubular chair. It tilted forward, dumping her on the floor.

In due course a judge decided the company was liable because the chair was 'designed more to please the eye than to provide the stability one expects when reposing the anatomy upon a chair in a place of business.'

Did it matter that the woman weighed 200 pounds? Not at all, said the judge.

'A large woman,' he said, 'is as much entitled to a safe chair as a small one and is much more in need of it.'"

BYPASS OPERATION LAWSUIT

[The following article is reprinted from the NEW YORK TIMES, 6/21/77, was an Associated Press Release, and was submitted by Kenneth Wachtel of New York.]

"PITTSBURGH, June 20 (AP)--A woman who underwent surgery to lose weight and nearly lost her life has accepted \$350,000 in the first major medical malpractice case settled under a new state law.

Marlene Baumiller, 28 years old, of suburban Overbrook, has been forced to live on a diet of baby food, chicken and mashed potatoes since complications virtually destroyed her stomach, said Clyde T. MacVay, her lawyer. 'She won't ever be able to resume regular meal eating.'

Mrs. Baumiller is to get \$100,000 from Dr. Robert Cassella, \$25,000 from Pittsburgh Podiatry Hospital and \$225,000 from the state's Medical Professional Liability Catastrophe Loss Fund.

The surgeon's share, which is covered by a private insurance company, is the maximum individual liability provided under Pennsylvania's malpractice law that went into effect in January 1976. The fund is an \$11-million pool created by a 10 percent surcharge on malpractice insurance premiums and covers liability exceeding individual and institutional limits.

Mrs. Baumiller weighed 176 pounds in March 1976 when she entered the hospital for an intestinal bypass operation aimed at reducing her food intake. But Dr. Cassella accidentally cut a hole in her spleen, making it necessary to remove the organ in a second operation, according to documents filed in the case. A massive infection set in after the organ's removal and four more operations were required."

[No, 176 pounds is not a misprint! This was Mrs. Baumiller's weight reported by the Associated Press. Few doctors would have performed this surgical procedure on a patient of this weight, since the rule of thumb recognized by most surgeons is not to even consider someone for this operation unless he or she weighs at least 300 pounds.

--Ed.]

IN MEMORIAM

On June 14, 1977, NAAFA Board Member and Parliamentarian, Naomi Shadowitz, who had suffered for some time from the disease lupus, passed away. Her untimely death inspired a service on June 21, that was attended by many NAAFA members. This memorial to Naomi was overwhelmingly attended, and the people who were closest to her gave some very moving accounts of their fortunate friendships with her.

Several people have written about her here for the Newsletter, and the editors believe that Naomi more than earned the space that is hereby devoted to her.

My friend, Naomi Shadowitz, died and my life is diminished because of it. She was so much more than a fellow-NAAFAN, New York Chapter member, Board member--she was, in many ways, our conscience. Nothing was too much for her, whether it was helping plan the BONY weekend, co-editing three issues of the Newsletter, or teaching the Board about ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER. I was among the lucky ones. I had a relationship with Na outside of NAAFA. We wine and dined together, planned the future of our lives, spent hours talking about men and life and love. We laughed and cried together, and looked forward to always knowing each other. We shared so much. I thank God that I was lucky enough to know Naomi, but I am also very angry with Him for taking her so soon. She had so much life. I miss Na very much. I want to talk with her so badly. I'll remember her for the rest of my life and will always be grateful that we were friends.

--Sheila Goodman

Naomi and I met when both of us happened to attend a NAAFA Board meeting as guests. My first impression was what an outrageous lady she seemed to be. However, it took no more than a few minutes before Naomi joined in the discussion, and it was quite apparent that here was a rather unique human being.

It did not take long for us to become not only fellow chapter and Board members, but also good

friends. We met socially quite frequently, and Naomi always seemed to be the life of the party. She made friends easily and left her mark on everyone with whom she came in contact.

She was a devoted NAAFAN, and during her too short time on the Board, she contributed in many ways to the business of the Board. She had very definite opinions which were formed not only with her intelligence, but also with an infinite sense of compassion and understanding of the problems of fat people.

Although she was not a well person, she never complained about the pain her illness must have caused her. On the contrary, she was always ready to help others who needed it.

Yes, Naomi Shadowitz was an extraordinary human being, whom I will sorely miss for a long time.

--Ernest Harff

I met Naomi about three years ago, and we became very good friends. One of the things that linked us together was our love for cooking. Naomi made the best cheesecake I have ever tasted. I loved her fried chicken and fondly remember the time when we were rehearsing for FATLING IN THE CELLAR. She cooked chicken for the cast in my kitchen. It took

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NAOMI SHADOWITZ MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Naomi Shadowitz, a NAAFA memorial fund has been set up in her name. It will be a separate fund, and the monies will be used only for something special that the administrators of the fund know Naomi would have approved of. The fund will benefit NAAFA, and quite a few donations have already been received. The New York Chapter has voted to donate \$50 to the fund. If you wish to make a donation, please make your check payable to NAAFA, and mail it to: Naomi Shadowitz Memorial Fund, NAAFA, P. O. Box 132, Ossining, New York 10562. All donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged on behalf of NAAFA and Naomi's family.

me weeks to clean up afterwards, but that was Naomi, and the chicken was delicious!

Naomi was an avid competitor in anything she set out to do, whether it be a personal goal she had set, or as a competitor in a game of Scrabble (always a Funk & Wagnall's Dictionary at her side) or charades, both of which she would play at the drop of a hat. She taught me how to play charades and, with it, helped me rid myself of all inhibitions.

Naomi will always be the love of my life, and I know that whenever I see anything in any shade of purple, be it plum, violet or even lavender--I will always say to myself, as I did today while passing a dress shop, "Must call Na. She would love this." Then I remembered that this I no longer can do as I would have liked to do always. Oh! How we all will miss her.

--Michael Simpson

I knew Naomi Shadowitz through the organization she served, first as Parliamentarian and later as a Board member, as well. Exposed to her talents, abilities and energy for two or three years, I cannot now comprehend that she has left us.

She was remarkable in a variety of ways. Known for her well-thought-out arguments and strong convictions in organizational debate, she was also a warm and friendly person, capable of tact, sympathy and kindness.

I photographed Naomi on two occasions--once at a Board meeting and once in preparation for election literature in which she appeared as a candidate. In comparing the different poses, I remember being amazed at the wide variety of expressions of which she was capable. It was almost as if she was many women inside one woman. She was truly a complex and many-sided person, indeed--an extraordinary, but very human individual.

Naomi's effect on the organization and on the lives of everyone who knew her was remarkable. Few of us are unaffected by having known her. I know that personally my life will never be the same. We had a unique relationship, she and I--sometimes, in debate, we became adversaries, but always with an enormous respect for each other's opinion. I know that she changed mine many times.

Naomi applied respectful, but persistent pressure in favor of change, of improvement. The concept of a full-time NAAFA office was Naomi's dream. Were it not for her, it would not have happened. I'm glad she lived to see it happen--but we are all devastated that she can participate no more...

The most honest and meaningful way in which we can honor her memory is as follows: Let's run our lives and meetings as if Naomi were there, in a sense. I know that I and many others will, almost without conscious effort of any kind, be often asking the question, "How would Naomi have handled this situation?".

I believe that Naomi would have handled this situation--that of losing her--without any fuss, with a minimum of grief, if that is possible; and to rededicate ourselves to the living of life and to our cause!

--William J. Fabrey

Dear Naomi,

I'll never regret having met you.

I'll never regret discovering what a brilliant mind you had, yet how kind and understanding you could be.

I'll never regret the rare opportunities I had to "rap" with you.

I'll never regret the thoughtfully-worded way you had of settling many heated arguments at Board meetings.

I'll never regret that you had the courage to badger us into opening a formal NAAFA office--a dream I'd had for years but was too timid to bring up.

I'll always regret that I never had enough time to get to know you better. I am very envious of the many for whom you found so much time for closeness. I wish I'd made the time. You had so much to offer, and the world is much poorer by your loss. I miss you!

--Liz
(Lisbeth Fisher)

NANCY AUSTIN'S MAKING PATTERNS FOR QUEEN-SIZED WOMAN!



Way back in our March-April 1971 (Volume 1, Issue 5) Newsletter, we reported to you that comedienne Nancy Austin had been voted an honorary life member of NAAFA. We also reported that she and her husband, David London, had recently opened a unique boutique, Nancy Austin Originals. Since then, she has emerged as "America's First Lady of Large and Half Size Fashion." After wearing her own original designs as a comedy star on a 13-week Carol Burnett summer replacement show, Nancy was deluged with mail from large women all over the nation asking where they could obtain the attractive outfits worn by her.

Since then, Nancy's business has grown by leaps and bounds, and she is now also offering patterns for some of the outfits she sells in her stores and mail order division. Pictured at the left on adorable model, Nancy herself, is a sample of what can be made from her "miracle all-purpose style," first pattern. It can be made as a blouse, street or house dress, lounge or sleepwear, beach coverup, evening gown, or even bridal gown, depending on the material used. It comes in sizes Petite (38-40, 16 1/2-20 1/2, or 16-20), Coquette (42-44 or 22 1/2-24 1/2), Mademoiselle (46-48 or 26 1/2-28 1/2), or Duchess (50 and over or 30 1/2-32 1/2).

All sizes are printed on one sheet with a cutting line for each size. Directions are on a separate sheet, which makes it a simple-to-sew, multi-size dress pattern.

The pattern can be ordered from Nancy Austin Fashion Pattern Company, P. O. Box 14158, Las Vegas, Nevada 89114. The cost is \$5.95, plus \$1.05 for mailing and handling. Be sure to mention you're a NAAFA member when ordering, and a FREE copy of "Fashion Tips for the Queen Sized Lady" by Nancy Austin, retailing for \$1.25, will be included.

PLAY REVIEW

by Dianne Rubinstein

[At NAAFA's Convention, member Susan Axelrod announced that she was very distressed by a play being presented at a community house at which Susan is employed, and she urged NAAFA members to be present at opening night, June 3. Several NAAFA members attended, and the following is a review of the play by one of those people.

--Ed.]

EATING, by H. N. Levitt, a play presented by the Inner Transit Theatre Company, Inc., at the Greenwich House Theatre in New York City, was a total disaster. Written as a comedy, it had no humor. Supposedly presented as an allegory on society, it made neither social comment nor, in fact, very much sense.

Set in a "weight reduction program held at night in a nursery school classroom," EATING tells the story of five extremely fat and compassionate people who are tortured (both physically and

mentally) into losing weight by their sadistic lecturer. The weight loss makes them thin, but also results in their losing their humanity. The story ends with the only competently-done scene in the play--the characters' symbolic longing to return to their old, fat, empathic lives.

As directed by Barbara Leslie Press, the play is violent, sick and boring. Perhaps the best explanation for its existence is this comment from the show's program about Ms. Press--"In her private life Barbara has a history of emotional disorders."

Although this play has very little redeeming value, it has been reviewed here because it is this Newsletter's policy to review all media events concerning fat. Happily, by the time this is printed, the show should have closed and started its way into oblivion.

[Our reviewer's hope has been fulfilled! The show closed recently, after a short run.

--Ed.]

FAT CHANCE

Prior to her untimely death, Naomi Shadowitz was planning to publish the first issue of FAT CHANCE in August. FAT CHANCE will still be published in August, and the first issue will be dedicated to Naomi, who described the publication as a "forum for discussion." Barbara Stevens has volunteered to edit the first issue, and several items have already been submitted to her. Anyone wishing to contribute poems, essays, photographs, drawings, stories, etc. for this first issue should submit them to the NAAFA office no later than August 5.

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

On Saturday, August 20, the Greater New York Chapter will hold a picnic and pool party at Mohansic State Park, as it has the past few years. There will be representatives to greet you in Parking Lot No. 5 as early as 9:30 a.m. and to reserve an area for the NAAFA group. Hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls and condiments will be provided, FREE of charge. It is requested that you bring a salad and your own beverage. The rain date is Sunday, August 21. For further information and travel directions, contact Gail Gold at 212 339-8394 or Sheila Goodman at 212 877-4441.

[Chapters please note: It is the intention of the editors of this Newsletter to announce as many Chapter activities as possible, for the benefit of all NAAFA members. Therefore, as soon as you have the date of any event, please advise the NAAFA office immediately, as there is a lot of time involved in preparing and mailing the Newsletter.]

**FAT
PRIDE**

PERSONAL ADS

In Memory of

NAOMI SHADOWITZ,

Irreplaceable friend, devoted NAAFA,
hard-working Board and Chapter member,
and outrageous lady.

--Sheila Goodman
Ernest Harff
Michael Simpson

Tender, loving man, would like to meet tender, loving woman of at least 400 pounds. Reply to Department 101, NAAFA, P. O. Box 132, Ossining, New York 10562.

COMMERCIAL ADS

Convention pictures or slides; Allan Arthur, 143-36 Barclay Avenue, Flushing, New York 11355.

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

Commercial Ads: 25 cents/word, 10-word minimum. Department number available at \$4/issue.

Non-Commercial Ads: 10 cents/word, 10-word minimum. Department number available at \$2/issue.

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 notices, and many other things.

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