

NAAFA NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION TO AID FAT AMERICANS, INC.

P.O. BOX 745

WESTBURY, N.Y. 11590

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Acting Editor: Joyce Fabrey



CONVENTION '73

by
Natalie & Howard Clist

Take two people, one a husband, father and manager in a direct mail concern, the other a housewife and mother. Mix them with a very busy and happy home life, membership in many organizations, and 1½ years active NAAFA membership, and you have the recipe for a "couple" that NAAFA felt qualified to be co-chairmen of its fourth annual convention.

We gratefully accepted the position, and went to work. After much hunting, we found the Americana-City Squire Motor Inn to be a most suitable place to have our convention. October 14th was the big day.

Many ideas were considered in looking for an appropriate program, but after much thought, many phone calls and a final okay by the Board of Directors, a group discussion was decided upon. It featured Ethel Weiss-Shed, Ph.D., psychologist, and Rhea Bardin, school nurse-teacher.

We were also fortunate in having Natalie Allon, Ph.D. come and give us a short talk on the results of her paper which had been presented at the National Institute of Health's Conference on Obesity in Bethesda, Maryland, recently.

After a dinner befitting the occasion, we were treated to a fabulous fashion show, organized by our V-P, Eileen Lefebure, and assisted by Liz Coleman. Their ever-lovely models did a fine job.

Master of ceremonies Joseph Protovin also did justice to the proceedings, adding humor from time to time with the quips for which he has become well known.

It was, as anyone who has been chairman of anything will agree, a long tedious job, but after it was all over we felt gratified by the results.

[ED: Speaking for many of us who attended the convention, we would like to thank Natalie and Howard for the many hours they spent on planning the convention. It was a job well done!]

ADMIT ONE
NAAFA'S FOURTH ANNUAL
Convention - Banquet
SUNDAY — OCTOBER 14, 1973 — 1:00 P.M.
AMERICANA CITY SQUIRE MOTOR INN
790 7th AVE. — BET. 51st & 52nd STS.
NEW YORK CITY



Rosalind Zemsky registering with Eva Cohen at entrance



Joe Protovin, master of ceremonies



Joyce & Bill Fabrey



Mike Witty selling raffle tickets—
photo by Thomas Gumba



Dinner at table 4 with Karen Jones and Peggy Greensfelder



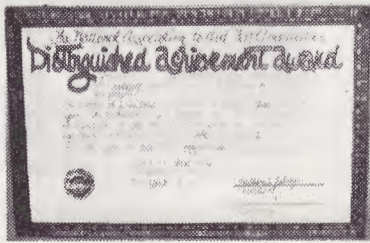
Some of the models were: Ellen Dobson, Karen Jones, Minette Skloot, and Liz Coleman

SOME THOUGHTS ON THE '73 CONVENTION

William J. Fabrey, President

It's not easy to compress my thoughts into the inch and a half of space that I have been provided. However, I would like to say that in my opinion, the fashion show was the highlight of the convention. (Excluding my speech, of course!) Now, I realize that physical appearance is, in the eyes of many, about the last thing that NAAFA should be concerned about. We should be fighting discrimination, having group therapy meetings, and boycotting the phone company. All of which, I agree with. But in the eyes of one somewhat liberated ex-male-chauvinist peeg, there are few activities more pleasant than viewing the NAAFA female (like in the pictures above) showing the fashion industry how clothing should really be modeled! Any NAAFA man who missed the convention has my condolences.

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS GIVEN AT CONVENTION



12"x18" award designed and made by Cathy McLain of the Connecticut chapter

The 1973 Convention was the scene of the conferring of NAAFA's first awards. Four Distinguished Achievement Awards were given, "for outstanding contribution to the advancement of self-respect, dignity and a better life for fat people". The Los Angeles chapter received one for its regular and innovative newsletter. The Rochester chapter received one for its proposing and administrating the Pen Pal Project. The Friday Foster newspaper feature, for its having improved the image of the well-endowed woman in America (The acceptance speech of Jim Lawrence, the creator/writer of the Friday Foster strip, was read at the convention). And finally, the New York City chapter received an award for creative programming.

INTERIM REPORT ON THE PEN PAL PROJECT

submitted by
Karen and Ira Cohen
Rochester, N.Y. chapter



exactly as ordered will still be more enjoyable than none at all.

For many participants, this project has been a success. It has opened up friendships between members that would not have otherwise occurred; it has given an opportunity to many NAAFans to communicate with fellow human beings who understand their problems, even in cities or rural areas with no local chapters. It is even the cause of an upcoming marriage, but that's another story!

Although new applicants are coming in all the time, at last count (July) there were 63 participants, with 19 applications pending. Of the 63, 42 are women, and 21 are men. In this group there have been a total of 119 matches; the most matches given to any one person was 10. Everyone was matched somehow, on the theory that a match which is not

So far, there have been no special problems; after six months, no one has written to squawk about their matches, except for one who complained that her match was not as ordered. That was because her order was too restrictive; we gave her as close as we could.

Is the work rewarding? Well, we enjoyed very much being able to "meet" all the NAAFans who told about themselves in their applications. We feel that we know a lot of members now. The actual writing of the letters is drudgery, and it takes about six weeks to process an application. However, we're kind of pleased with the Pen Pal Project. NAAFA members who would like to see an application are welcome to write to us at the Rochester chapter of NAAFA, P.O. Box 3242, Federal Station, Rochester, N.Y. 14614. We have a feeling that more members would enjoy participating in the program!

NAAFA NOTES

** HOLIDAY NOTICE **

'Tis the Season to be jolly,
So we're having a Holiday Party
And you're all invited!

December 29, 1973 8:30 PM

This is a joint chapter party sponsored by the Westchester, Connecticut, and NYC chapters.

Call for further information:

- Natalie or Howard Clist - (516) 764-0156
- Pat Coles - (914) 232-5882
- Karen Jones - (203) 742-9412
- Joe Protovin - (201) 589-0490

NAAFA ACHIEVES TAX-EXEMPT STATUS

Three years of planning and months of filling out forms paid off, recently, when NAAFA was finally declared a tax-exempt organization by the Internal Revenue Service. On July 13, it became official that contributions to NAAFA can be listed as deductions at income-tax time, just like donations to churches, charities, and medical foundations.

It also makes certain other things possible, like the obtaining of a "non-profit" mailing permit from the U.S. Post Office. Large donations from benefactors become less difficult to get. Support from public and private foundations is more possible.

Michael Witty, NAAFA Board member and accountant for the Association, stresses that NAAFA has always been a non-profit organization, in the eyes of New York State. "We have always filed an annual report with the state, and been recognized as a non-profit charitable and educational organization. We've never paid state sales taxes. However, the new federal ruling in our favor means that NAAFA members who want to help keep us going financially, can make a donation and save on taxes at the same time, no matter what state they live in."

NOVEMBER RENEWALS
FIRST TO RECEIVE MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Renewal notices are now being sent out at the beginning of each month. Because of the paper shortage and increasing postage costs, we have abandoned our usual second (follow-up) notice. It's hard to believe but -- as an acknowledgement for your renewal you will receive NAAFA's newly printed membership card.

NAAFA ADVISOR PRESENTS TALK
AT GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE ON "OBESITY"

A warm reception was given to NAAFA advisor Natalie Allon, Ph.D., when she recently presented her talk and her paper at the National Institute of Health's conference in Bethesda, Maryland. Her paper, which dealt with the subject through the eyes of a NAAFA-oriented sociologist, is to be reprinted shortly, and will be available on request. Dr. Allon is working on an article for an upcoming Newsletter, telling about her experiences. Resulting publicity included a piece by U.P.I.

PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS

A photo contest was held at the recent convention; film was made available to anyone who cared to enter by taking pictures at the convention. Although there were 9 requests for film, only two photographers sent their results for judging.

FIRST PRIZE goes to Ira Cohen. Ira is responsible for all of the photos in this Newsletter except for one. He will receive a free one-year membership in NAAFA, and a '74 HILDA calendar.

SECOND PRIZE has been awarded to Thomas Gumbs, for that picture of Mike Witty selling raffle tickets. He will receive a '74 HILDA calendar.

--- NOTICE ---

The January 18 meeting of the Board of Directors will be an open meeting for NAAFA members only. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8:30 PM at the Clists' home in Oceanside, L.I.s., N.Y. Any NAAFA member who would like to attend should reserve a seat by calling Natalie or Howard Clist at (516) 764-0156. One major topic open for discussion will be the 1974 Convention.

THE "OVERWEIGHT" TEENAGER

Rhea Bardin, a school nurse-teacher, and a member of NAAFA's Board of Directors, has used her extensive experience with "overweight" teenagers to help compile the information used in the free pamphlet, For the "Overweight" Teenager. The publication has been very favorably reviewed in the Journal of School Health (9/73), and has been requested by more than 500 schools, colleges, and municipal health departments throughout the United States and Canada.

So far, the NAAFA office mailed about 3000 copies of the brochure; those interested in receiving a copy should address their request to NAAFA's Education Committee, Dept. Y, Box 745, Westbury, N.Y. 11590.

NAAFA-DATE NOTICE

Due to the continued interest in the NAAFA-DATE experiment, the program is being continued beyond its original expiration date, at no extra cost to those who are already enrolled. Mrs Susan Blowers, the head of the NAAFA-DATE Committee, announced that there will be a change in the matching procedure, in that there will be no fixed cut-off deadline dates. Beginning shortly, all new applicants will be automatically matched within 4 to 6 weeks of the time they join NAAFA; old members will naturally be notified each time they receive a new match. Increased postage costs will be absorbed by the program.

Although the Blowers family have recently moved from New York to California, Mrs. Blowers has consented to continue the matching from their new location.

NAAFA INVOLVED IN NEW TEST CASE
BEING HEARD IN U.S. SUPREME COURT

NAAFA member Madeline Wolfe, who was summarily dismissed from her job in Dade County, Florida, due to weight standards, has taken the case to the Supreme Court. For details, see the Dec. Newsletter!

"HILDA"

Our curvaceous cutie is now available for 1974! A delightful way to keep track of the coming year... a great addition for any NAAFA-minded office or home. She's waiting to be mailed to you for \$2.25, postpaid.

--- GIFTS! ---
--- GIFTS! ---

Have you thought of giving a Gift Membership in NAAFA to someone on your holiday list? \$10.

Why not send a gift from our Book Service? Prior to December 10, all book orders will be shipped by us within 48 hours after they arrive.

With either of the above gifts, if you care to enclose a gift card with your order, we will forward it for you.

CLASSIFIED ADS

NON-COMMERCIAL ADS: \$.10/word, minimum 10 words; department number available for \$2/issue.

COMMERCIAL ADS: \$.25/word, minimum 10 words; department number available for \$4/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.

EMPLOYMENT - Small Manhattan-based company has occasional openings for clerical personnel. Light typing/filing/bookkeeping. Will train. Not prejudiced against "overweight" applicants. Reply to NAAFA, Dept. A.

WANTED - PEN PALS. NAAFA members only. Apply to Pen Pal Project, Rochester Chapter of NAAFA, Box 3242, Federal Station, Rochester, N.Y. 14614. Ask for application.

APARTMENTS - All-summer quaint Provincetown. NAAFA-member landlady. Reserve now for summer 1974. Helen Davis, Box 72, Provincetown, Mass. 02657. Phone evenings (617) 487-0507.

NOTICE - Do you have a new dress or suit that somehow you've never worn and now realize you never will? Why not advertise it?

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES MENTIONED IN THE NAAFA NEWSLETTER APPEAR FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY. NAAFA DOES NOT ENDORSE ANY PRODUCT OR SERVICE.

WANTS LARGER FASHION MODELS

Editor:

I think NAAFA is doing a great job and sometimes I can't believe what it has accomplished, especially with respect to the offensive TV commercials. But now I would like to see something else: Lane Bryant designing better styles for heavy women and at more reasonable prices.

Roaman's (Saddle Brook, N.J.) has the right idea about fashions, but the wrong models - all size eights! It is ridiculous to look through one of their catalogs. The very least they could do is to use size 18's or 20's. I suppose I should be writing the stores instead of telling NAAFA about it. I probably will. But anyhow, keep up the good work.

C.L. - Milwaukee, Wis.

[NAAFA has been trying to convince the above women's chain stores to use larger models. So far, Roaman's has a more flexible attitude, and may come to its senses before very long, on the subject of the size of its models. Roaman's gave its full support to our fashion show, using larger-than-average models, at our convention. Lane Bryant, on the other hand, has a very rigid and unreasonable attitude, and says that its customers will never buy clothes unless they are modeled by the usual size eights! They say that you don't want to be reminded of your actual size, but would prefer to see clothes modeled in the way you would like to appear in them: namely, skinny.

Look at the pictures of the models at NAAFA's fashion show. If you feel that the clothing industry is wrong in excluding larger ladies from modeling, then why don't you start by writing a letter to the following:

President, LANE BRYANT 1501 Broadway New York, N.Y. 10036	President, ROAMAN'S 419 Park Ave. S. New York, N.Y. 10016
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---ED.]

USED CLASSIFIED ADS

Editor:

February of this year marked the second month during which I had been searching for a steady job with no success. It got to the point where I was willing to do practically anything to make ends meet. At any rate, I suspected that one reason (if not the main reason) why I, in particular, was finding it so difficult was because of my weight. Then, I was glad to read about NAAFA in Glamour magazine.

They printed a letter from Pres. Fabrey that told me everything that I needed to hear. I suppose the mention of help in finding jobs was what spurred me on to write to the box number for more information. Soon after I joined NAAFA, I saw an ad in the Classified section of the Newsletter for a job that looked interesting, especially since it stressed that the company involved would not discriminate on the grounds of weight.

Well, I did get the job-thanks to NAAFA. And even though after a few months there I located a job closer to my home, I still appreciate the help I got through answering that classified ad.

Christina Hughes
Rosedale, N.Y.