

# NAAFA NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION TO AID FAT AMERICANS, INC.

P.O. BOX 43 • BELLEROSE, NEW YORK 11426

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VOLUME VIII

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Editor: Rosalie I. Radcliffe

## THEY CAME TO CHICAGO!

After months of planning, preparation, and anticipation, NAAFA members from across the continental United States, the Virgin Islands and the West Indies found a warm welcome in Chicago. Among the numerous and varied greetings and accommodations awaiting weary travelers was a Proclamation from the local deputy mayor.

"I, Anthony D. Esposito, Deputy Mayor, Village of Rosemont [suburb of Chicago], hereby declare the Labor Day Weekend of August 29 to September 1 as Fat Americans Weekend.

"WHEREAS, eating is required; and

WHEREAS, fatness happens; and

WHEREAS, being flat and skinny is not virtue and goodness and beauty embodied; and

WHEREAS, beauty lies only in the eyes and hearts of the beholder; and

WHEREAS, the National Association to Aid Fat Americans has contributed mightily to the contentment of vast numbers of Americans; and

WHEREAS, the association has given dignity and stature to an oft-maligned segment of our population; and

WHEREAS, girth bespeaks happiness and enjoyment;

Therefore, The Village Board of Trustees and I, . . . do proclaim Fat Americans Weekend and shout the following from the rooftops: 'Enjoy.'

And enjoy they did! The greatest number of members in NAAFA's eleven-year history converged on the "Windy City." For the first time since the beginning of our organization, the Annual Convention was held in the Midwest and, perhaps, was the reason that the 1980 event was noted for the many first-time attendees. Both novices and veterans enjoyed four event-filled days of sharing and learning, playing and celebrating.

"Attending a NAAFA Convention is like nothing else you will ever do," claims Audrey Smith, Chairperson of the Chicago-land Chapter of NAAFA and Vice Chairperson of the Convention Committee. "For



one beautiful, long weekend you are part of a happy, loving family. The [important] word is part. . . . you are not alone, you are not different; going to a [NAAFA] convention is like going home. You know that no matter what else happens you will always be welcomed there, cared for and loved for yourself."

The following pages will help tell the story of the 1980 Convention. For many, this pictorial essay and the accompanying text will convey happy memories; for many others perhaps it will provide the resolve to begin planning now to attend the next Annual NAAFA Convention.

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### WINNERS OF 1980 RAFFLE ANNOUNCED

Winners of the 1980 fund-raising raffle were chosen and announced on Sunday afternoon at the Convention. Nearly \$700 was raised for NAAFA's treasury and a variety of prizes were awarded. For the second year, Sheila Goodman (New York) sold the most tickets (110!) and received a \$25 prize for this achievement. A big, fat thank you, also, to everyone else who sold tickets.

(Continued on Page 2)

This issue of the Newsletter is the last with my name on the masthead. I am resigning from the position of Editor to concentrate on North Carolina Chapter responsibilities, schooling, and other areas of my life. Some facets of the work will be missed very much; other parts are being surrendered quite willingly. It has been a tremendous task for someone with little training for this kind of work.

During the two years since my appointment as Editor, I have learned a great deal about NAAFA, its operation, and our membership. I also have gained valued knowledge of the many, many steps necessary before sketchy ideas and/or hand-written drafts become printed pages. It is with deep regret, however, that I admit defeat in being able to learn enough to produce a regular Newsletter. Certainly no one has complained louder than I about this long-overdue need.

For their endurance and encouragement, I thank Bill Fabrey; Liz Fisher; Publications Committee members, Rhea Bardin, Sheila Goodman, and Marvin Grosswirth; as well as friends scattered throughout NAAFAland. At this time my successor has not been appointed. When a decision is made, I hope members will support the new editor, also. S/he will be assuming a rewarding, but awesome, responsibility.

--RIR

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RAFFLE WINNERS (Continued from Page 1)

Winners of the many prizes are:

GRAND PRIZE; \$691.00 (one-half raffle proceeds) won by member Joan Bardy (Michigan), ticket sold by member Pat Kent (Michigan) who received \$25 prize.

FIRST PRIZE: NAAFA Life Membership won by member Cynthia Shuford (Illinois).

SECOND PRIZE: \$300 Lane Bryant gift certificate won by member Arleen Hambach (Illinois).

THIRD PRIZES: Watches donated by Dianne Rubinstein (New York) won by member Hannah Tonkel (North Carolina) and Pearl Derman (ticket sold by member Elyse Derman, New York).

ADDITIONAL PRIZES:

Latch hook wall hanging made and donated by Lisbeth Fisher won by Howie Zimberg (ticket sold by member Diane Raphael, New York).

Original oil painting donated by Dianne Rubinstein won by member Donna Ryan (Illinois).

(Continued on Page 4)

1. After months of preparation, the 1981 NAAFA Convention opened in Chicago with Joyce Maloney, Chairperson of the Conventions Committee ready to answer questions as she greeted members at registration.

2. Many people pitched in to help where needed including first-time attenders, Michael and Margaret Thomas from Chicago who helped with registration.

3. With name tags in place and packets in hand, members gathered in the Hospitality Suite to catch up on news, meet new acquaintances, and renew old friendships.

4. Lisbeth Fisher, NAAFA's Executive Secretary, wearing a tee-shirt supporting her favorite candidate, sold items at the Bountiful Boutique and Book Baazar.

5. To help raise funds for their activities, local chapters were invited to have tables with items to sell. Sanda Kielbon and other Chicago members sold coffee mugs as convention souvenirs.

6. Activities in the Hospitality Suite overflowed into the adjoining room for the evening Cocktail Party -- where Gail Gold and Janet Judson joined Bob Arons at the piano for an informal songfest.

7. Smiles like Linda Avery's indicated the happy mood of the first evening as conversation and music mingled until midnight.

8. On Saturday morning, Christina Kaye and Lynne Royster were among the many persons who discovered that Chicago was a great place to visit while on the bus tour by the On The Scene travel agency.

9. Before the buses left, however, Gari Ford and other members visited the Hospitality Suite to see the Fatabilia Display.

10. But the buses finally departed, with Sherry Kessler and a majority of the other members aboard, to see the sights Chicago had to offer.

11. From the Sears Tower to a shopping spree at Sizes Unlimited, members including Janet Judson, Suzy Folsom, Ira Cohen, Marianne Gluck, Louise Wolfe & Annette Paffen, wound their way through Chicago in spite of threatening rain.

12. A long day of touring did not daunt members' spirits, however, as they prepared for the dinner-dance that evening. Laughter and conversation continued as Wilma Kuns, Barbara Novack, Gari Ford, an unidentified member, and JoAnne Callahan gathered in the lobby.

Due to production delays, this issue is not being mailed until early April, 1981.



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PICTURE CREDITS - We thank Nancy Bierlin, Ira Cohen, Fred Frey, Rosalie Radcliffe, and Dianne Rubinstein for a pictorial record of the events of the Convention.

\$25 Women's World gift Certificate won by member Patricia Herrick (California).

\$25 Lovely Large Lady gift certificate won by member Mary Beth Fuehrer (New York).

Wind chimes, handmade by William Burns, won by Joe Reilly (ticket sold by member Sara Kerber, New York).

Cuddles Bath Products won by members Carol Metz (Virginia), Marcia Koslo (Illinois), Peg Murphy (New Jersey), Olaf Jorgensen (West Indies), Frances Graves (Washington), Julia Schaltenbrand (West Virginia), Louise Wolfe (California), and Barbara Ryan (ticket sold by member Gloria Kohlhauf (Missouri)).

\$10 Nortan's Men's Wear gift certificates won by members Donna Ryan and BuWayna Daniels (Ohio).

Books: SUCH A PRETTY FACE won by member Arnold Greenberg (New York), FAT AND THIN won by member Cynthia Shuford, ALIVE AND FAT AND THINNING IN AMERICA won by member Patricia Herrick, FIRST FAT LIBERATOR won by Patricia Blue (ticket sold by member Douglas Corwin, New York), GARFIELD AT LARGE won by member Lola Doe (Wisconsin), BRONX DIET won by member Suzy Folsom (California).

NAAFA wishes to express sincere appreciation to Lane Bryant, Lovely Large Lady, Nortan's Men's Wear, and Women's World for their gift certificates, and to Indalo International Industries (manufacturers of Cuddles Bath Products) for donations to the 1980 Raffle.

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ATTENTION CONVENTIONEERS And Other Interested Persons: NAAFA just received an additional shipment of STERN Magazine covering the 1980 Convention. Will send a copy, postpaid, with an English translation, in return for tax deductible \$5 donation to NAAFA. Send request and donation to NAAFA, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, NY 11426.



**ELECTION NOTICE**

The 1981 Election Committee reports that the following NAAFA members have accepted the nomination to run in the upcoming annual election to fill five seats on the Board: Barbara Donahue, William Fabrey, Sheila Goodman, Sherry Kessler, Joyce Maloney, Karl Niedershuh, Nancy Summer, Elizabeth Williams.

NAAFA members wishing to run as "petition candidates" must present to the Chairperson of the Election Committee a petition for his or her candidacy signed by at least twenty-five (25) members of NAAFA; and the petition, together with all of the items listed in III.B. of the Election Rules and Manual, must be postmarked no later than May 1. A copy of the rules are available from the office on request.

13. When the doors opened, Karl Niedershuh and Nancy Bierlin were among the guests who enjoyed the roast beef dinner in the elegant Hall of Kings.

14. Following dinner, members took to the dance floor for a long evening of tripping the light fantastic.

15. As the music of the six-piece Continentals band played on, members danced and danced and danced.

16. And no one enjoyed themselves more than Russell Williams and Wilma Kuns as they swung into the mood of the evening.

17. For a Sunday morning panel discussion, "Is Dieting Hazardous to Your Health?", Karl Niedershuh, Chairperson of the Health Committee, and Drs. Wayne & Susan Wooley, NAAFA Advisors, shared information and answered questions from the floor concerning the emotional and physical effects of dieting.

18. Ira Cohen, Linda and Bernie Sherman, Bill and Elise Lowe, and most other members appreciated the breaks between sessions to get better acquainted with new friends.

19. Members donned their dress-up clothes for Sunday's Luncheon and Annual Meeting. Linda Blackmon was among the group that enjoyed the baked chicken and conversation in the Kings Court.

20. By this time everyone was feeling relaxed with each other. Even first-time-attenders like Bruce McElney were finding it easy to participate in both group discussions and informal conversations.

21. Much of the activity Sunday afternoon centered around the head table and Lisbeth Fisher, Executive Secretary; Monique Clesca, guest speaker; William Fabrey, President; and Joyce Maloney, Chairperson of the Conventions Committee.

22. The Membership Report and President's Message helped make everyone aware that, in reality, it is the individual members from throughout the United States and Canada, such as Andrea and Mary Beth Fuehrer, that make NAAFA's continued existence possible.

23. Karl Niedershuh was among the twenty persons who received one of the handsome Fletcher Pence Service Awards for outstanding service to the organization.

24. Another item on the agenda of the Annual Meeting was the installation of Florane Sclar as a member of NAAFA's Board of Directors.



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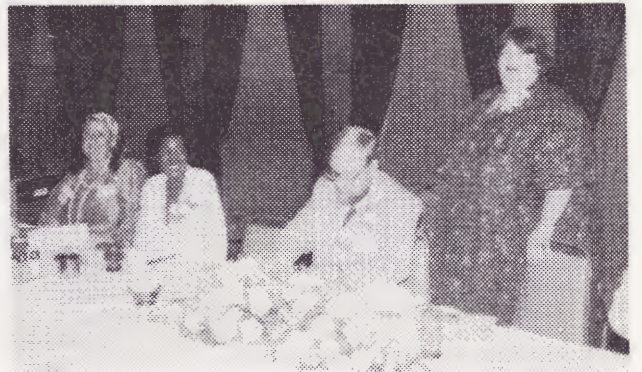
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FLETCHER PENCE SERVICE AWARDS

Fletcher Pence is founder and project director of the St. Croix LEAP (Life and Environmental Arts Project), Inc. in the Virgin Islands. He is also a woodworker who shapes St. Croix mahogany into marvelous things. This is the second year that Fletcher has used his skills to create a number of awards for outstanding NAAFA members.

In honor of their service to the organization, the following persons received awards at the 1980 Convention: Diane Bagchi (Ohio), Ira Cohen (New York), Betty Cordell (Maryland), Judy Forlines (New York), Wayne Gehres (Ohio), Sheila Goodman (New York), Ernest Harff & Mike Simpson (New York), Mark Jablonski (Wisconsin), Marcia Koslo (Illinois), Wilma Kuns (California), Karl Niedershuh (Virginia), Diane Raphael (New York), Dianne Rubinstein (New York), Donna Ryan (Illinois), Audrey Smith (Illinois), Davea Wallis (New Jersey), Louise Wolfe (California), Peggy & Russell Williams (Maryland).

On behalf of both 1979 and 1980 recipients, NAAFA thanks you, Fletcher Pence!

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NOTE OF APPRECIATION

My Dear Friends of NAAFA:

Please allow me to take this opportunity to thank you more fully for the award I received at the NAAFA Convention. At the time I received it, I was so astonished that it gave the photographers an opportunity to take a rare documentation for the NAAFA files . . . a picture of me with my mouth shut.

Please thank all those who had anything to do with my receiving the award for their kindness and thoughts of me. The clock occupies a prominent place in my quarters, where it is a constant reminder of the happy hours I have spent in the company of NAAFANS.

Wayne Gehres

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CONVENTION PICTURE COMMENTARY

25. Bridal gowns by Alfred Angelo were a lovely addition to this year's fashion show. Donna Ryan, co-ordinator for the show, and the other members who modeled performed like pros.

26. Beautiful evening wear worn by Elaine Wine and Sharlene Smilow commanded everyone's attention.

27. Fred Ihrt, photographer for STERN Magazine, kept his camera clicking all weekend. Sharlene Smilow, on her way down the runway in a swiny cape for cold, winter days, was one of the many persons caught by his lens.

28. To help ease tension, models Hannah Tonkel, Ann Walker, and Sharlene Smilow hammed it up in the hallway before showing some of the lingerie available for full figures.

29. Sunday evening's Splash Party brought out a parade of gorgeous bathing suits as members relaxed in and out of the pool during one of the weekend's favorite activities.

30. Officers of local chapters shared problems and successes with each other Monday morning in a rap session led by Michael Simpson and Ernest Harff, Co-Chairpersons of the Local Chapters Committee.

31. Wayne Gehres, Cliff Folsom, Eileen Lemke-Meconi and other chapter officers discovered that problems didn't seem as large when shared and that no group was hassle-free.

32. All too soon the weekend was suddenly coming to an end. But Donald and Cynthia Shuford and other members were too busy reassuring each other that they would see everyone again at next year's convention to be very sad.

33. At the Farewell Luncheon hugs and tears and promises to keep in touch with new and old friends completely upstaged the food and formal farewells. For Donna Ryan, Audrey Smith, and Marcia Koslo, Chicago members of the 1980 Convention Committee, however, it was the first chance in many days to sit down and relax for a few minutes.

34. Although some members remained in Chicago for extended vacations, there was a continual exodus to parking lots and the airport on Monday afternoon. Karl Niedershuh and Russell Williams were among the crowd of weary, but happy persons who left for home with renewed enthusiasm for responsibilities in local chapters--and plans already begun for attending next year's convention in Atlantic City over Columbus Day weekend.



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PERSONAL ADS

Young male, good looking, active, energetic, 170 lbs., 6', muscular. Homesteading 1400 wooded acres, longing for kind, understanding open-hearted, sensuous, giving/taking voluptuously fat young lady to share it with. Please write and send pictures to Neal, Rt. 3, Box 191B, Natchez, MS 39120.

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Big, beautiful woman wishes to meet gentleman from Michigan or nearby area. P.O. Box 05229, Detroit, MI 48205.

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Tall, lean, gentleman, 27, seeks correspondence from large, compassionate ladies, 18-30. Reply to Dept. 124, NAAFA, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, NY 11426.

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Chubby, Black, female executive secretary, 45, well-read, college grad, career minded, seeks ambitious Black gentleman, 42-52, talkative, good-natured and wants someone to appreciate these qualities. New York City, Long Island area. Call Janice (212) 599-2550.

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Caucasian, 41-year-old, fat and foxy female says: Good things don't always come in small packages. I enjoy singing, writing poetry, good conversation. Would like to meet gentleman between 35-49 for sincere relationship. Reply to Dept. 126, NAAFA, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, NY 11426.

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Large model-pretty lady, 30, 5'5½", intelligent, creative, seeking big, good-natured, single Southern California guy, 28-35, over 5'10", 250-350 lbs., nonsmoker, social drinker, educated, imaginative, varying interests, family oriented. Reply Dept. 127, NAAFA, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, NY 11426.

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Attractive, white, Pa. female, 27, 5'1", 105 lbs. would enjoy correspondence with an intelligent, honest, attractive, fat, male NAAFAn (250 lbs. and up) 27-35, Reply to Dept. 128, NAAFA, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, NY 11426.

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Warm, intelligent, 25-year-old female would like to correspond with nice, warm, intelligent male. Reply to Dept. 129, NAAFA, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, NY 11426.

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Need to be met at deplaning for next

NAAFA Convention in exchange for donation to NAAFA National, your local chapter, or best offer. Wilma Kuns, 1112 Larkin, Apt. 503, San Francisco, CA 94109.

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Single, attractive woman would like to meet a nice guy for a serious relationship. I live in N.J. Reply to Dept. 131, NAAFA, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, NY 11426.

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Attractive, Illinois female, 40, 5'5", would like to meet a white male NAAFAn who is warm and affectionate, enjoys movies, TV and theatre. Reply to Josephine Tierney, P.O. Box 1975, Bridgeview, IL 60454.

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Unemployed woman needs clothing (especially for church/social events). Sizes: pantsuits/dresses 28½ (sometimes 26½); sweaters/tops 48, 50, XL; pants/jeans 44; coat 50-52; bras 42-B; panties (cotton, elastic legband) 48; shoes (low heels or flats) 9-B. Mail postage paid to: J. L. Smith, 156 Brehl Ave., Columbus OH 43222. Additional information: (614) 279-7940.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED: Artists' drawings for possible NAAFA notecards and Christmas cards. Send to NAAFA, P.O. Box 43, Bellerose, NY 11426. Your reward? The satisfaction of helping NAAFA raise needed funds. A free set of cards to person submitting selected drawing(s).

CLASSIFIED AD RATES

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

Non-Commercial Ads: 25 cents/word, 10-word minimum. Department number available at \$5/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.

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