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Buffalo Belles Newsletters

Madeline Davis Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,  
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### February 1997

Buffalo Belles

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# BUFFALO BELLES



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NU PHI CHI

FEBUARY, 1997

SISTERS IN CHARGE:

JEAN  
PATTI  
KATHY

## Feb

As you may have remembered, our January meeting was deemed to be dress up night. And dress up night it was! Wow! I

have never seen so many pretty girls at our meeting before. The girls went all out to follow the theme. All except our own Kathy ■

(our regular editor). She claimed that she had a very hard day at work and didn't have a gown to match the grease under her finger nails. She did make it to the parking lot though, but after seeing all the pretty ladies she thought she would be out of place. Doesn't she know that at our place that no one is out of place? We all

belong. Oh well maybe we will see her at our next meeting. That meeting will be country line dancing. (more on that latter) If she wears her boots and jeans, a little grease on her hands just means she had just gotten off the ranch after fixing the fences. Seriously though everyone looked great. It's nice to see our member have fun with our themes.



We had a special surprise at our meeting. Anegella who is a professional photographer came in with her equipment. After unpacking and setting up her equipment, she

commenced to take photos of the girls at their best. By the amount of the equipment she brought in, I don't see how anyone will be disappointed with the shoot. She seemed to have the equipment, knowledge, and demeanor to bring out the best in us. After all the shots were taken, and the night came to an end it was time to pack up

## ATTENDEES

PATTI  
ANGELLA  
CAMILLE  
CRYSTAL  
JEAN  
JANICE  
DENISE  
HOLLY  
DANA

RENE ■  
SUSAN ■  
SHARON ■  
COLLEEN (COULD NOT STAY.  
IT WAS NICE OF HER TO SAY HI!)



Wear black with navy. Trust us! Both of them also go with...  
\* cream \* white \* beige \* brown  
...and the combinations are timelessly elegant.

Don't wear too many colors at once.

If you find an inexpensive, basic item that fits well, buy it in several colors.

#### 10 Must-Haves For Fall (To Buy or Dig Out from Your Closet)

1. White blouse
2. One perfect dress
3. A pleated or A-line skirt
4. Boots--tall or short
5. A mohair sweater--yes, they're back
6. Anything plaid
7. A pea coat in navy or black
8. A short, fitted blazer or a long, tailored style
9. Tapered trousers
10. Pretty pastels--a jacket, sweater, skirt or all of the above

#### Dressing Up

- \* Do wear black for an evening affair if the event is black tie.
- \* Do keep dyed shoes in the closet with the bridesmaid dress.
- \* Do take advantage of the "Bring 'em back--shoes, that is--we'll dye 'em black" policy. Don't, however, wear dyed shoes if there's any chance of snow or rain. The color is likely to bleed.
- \* Do carry a small evening bag and don't overstuff it.
- \* Do sew Velcro on strapless bras and on your dress to keep everything in place.
- \* Don't wear a casual watch with very dressy clothes.
- \* Don't wear a casual jacket over a fancy dress.
- \* Don't wear anything too tight, too sexy or too see-through.
- \* Don't wear uncomfortable shoes.
- \* Don't upstage the bride in something that's too attention getting.

#### Classics

#### Dos

- \* Pearls. Need we say anything more?

realize that if your favorite charity was not selected this time, at the next discussions of our meeting bring it up again. We will do every thing we can to meet your wishes.

Well with all the activity going on, the night went by rather fast. We don't always to get a chance to talk to all that come. But we do enjoy you being there. The night was over and a large group of girls went out on the town again, down to the Stage Door to cap off the evening. Seems like things keep getting better and better. Come join us and make things even better.

Don't forget our next meeting will be country line dance night! Tye of the Catus



Kickers will be there to teach us girls who have two left feet a line dance or two. Even if your not a dancer, won't it be fun finding that perfect country girl outfit? Grab your denim and boots and join us.

Please, Please, Please, remember that we must maintain our security. As you may remember, one of the things that brought you out and took the nervousness away when you decided to join our group is our confidentiality. We pride our selves on the fact that we have no need to have any details about your family and working place. We don't even need to know your real name. So please be extremely cautious about giving your telephone number, address or work place to anyone. Accidents do happen and sometimes we can put someone in an

embarrassing situation. If you do exchange numbers and information, please keep in mind everyone that you are calling in the household may not know about us. Do not call in a male voice and give your femm name. In person or on an answering machine without knowing who is listening. And certainly do not drop in at a members house dressed without being invited! Please use discretion about our contacts. We have a tough enough time being ourselves without having added fear of being exposed without our permission.

Once again we must remind you that you dues are due! Please submit them as



soon as you can so that we can plan for the future. If you have a hardship, tell us maybe we can work something out. We need your support to

make our group an interesting and fun group. If you had already paid you should see a --pd-- on your newsletter envelope. If you do need to pay, pay the amount that is shown. You may pay by check made out to the Buffalo Belles, or bring the cash to the next meeting. Sorry no credit cards.

See Ya Soon,

Jean ■

A dear friend gave me a Christmas card that was very pretty and gave practical advice that can be used all year round. Here it is. Do you agree?  
Jean ■

## A LIST OF DO'S AND DON'TS

*Don't ever stop dreaming your dreams;  
they're a very essential part of you.*

*Do whatever you can to make them  
a reality by the course you take,  
the plans you make,  
and all you do...*

*Don't dwell on the past mistakes; leave  
yesterday behind you ~ along with any  
of it's problems, worries and doubts.*

*Do realize you can't change the past,  
but just ahead is the future ~ and  
you can do something about that.*

*Don't try to accomplish everything at  
once; life can be difficult enough ~  
without adding frustration to the list.*

*Do travel one step at a time, and reach  
for one goal at a time. That's the way  
to find out what real accomplishment is.*

*Don't forget that there are so many  
things that are wonderful, rare,  
and unique about you.*

*And Do remember that if you can search  
within and find a smile... that smile  
will always be a reflection  
of the way people feel... about you.*

Author: Colin McCarty

Source: Blue Mountain Arts (Christmas Card)

## The latest dressing tips

Here are dress-for-success tips from "New Women's Dress for Success," by John T. Molloy:

1. Dress to fit in with your co-workers.

2. Be one of the more traditional and conservative dressers in your group.

3. Spend comparatively as much on your casual business wardrobe as you do on your traditional wardrobe.

4. If your boss is a man, be as traditional as possible. If your boss is a woman, mirror her style without copying her outfits.

5. Stick to colors and color combinations found in traditional men's sportswear.

6. The best business casual clothing is made of natural fi-

bers — cotton, wool, silk. But to avoid anything that wrinkles easily choose natural fibers that have been woven or treated to resist wrinkling or blends that look like natural fibers.

7. Wear serious footwear — no boots, sneakers, sandals, spiked heels or open-toed party pumps — and unless you are tall, don't wear flats.

8. Keep a navy jacket handy in case of an emergency.

9. Wear pants only if you need them to look like a member of the team or to perform tasks that require them.

10. If you do wear pants, they should be tailored to de-emphasize your feminine figure. A full-cut pair of slacks with pleats in a conservative color would be ideal.

### Wear a suit

The conservative business suit remains a staple in most businesswomen's wardrobes. "In fact, the suit made a resurgence in its popularity when Hillary Rodham Clinton became the first professional career woman to become first lady," Molloy says. He now identifies five categories of dress-for-success suits.

The traditional skirted suit, which imitates the colors and basic style of a man's suit — except that the jacket may come without lapels. These are high-authority suits.

The "aggressive feminine" suit, which comes in strong colors (purple, red, raspberry) or bold patterns (checks, plaids, herringbones). These suits send a message that is both feminine and assertive.

The "stylish professional" suit, which generally has a jacket designed to be worn without a blouse. These make a woman appear softer — but still serious.

The "soft feminine" suit, which usually comes in a pastel color, may have feminine detailing such as a velvet or lace collar, and may be in a knit fabric. These suits work best in warm, Southern states, and for women who already have established their professionalism.

The "conservative feminine" suit, which Molloy says is the favorite of most powerful women. "It has a conservative cut and color, but the color is one that would be found only in a woman's suit — for example, mahogany, dark plum, deep maroon. These suits send the message that most women want to send: They are feminine and powerful."

### Choose your colors with care

Molloy is at odds with the "color me beautiful" school, which advises women to wear only those colors that flatter her complexion.

"Think in terms of being effective as well as attractive," Molloy advises. "Remember, the colors you wear announce your success, background, status, authority, personality and more."

In general, bright colors draw attention to you, dark colors make you an authority figure, upper-class colors (rich yet subtle) give you dignity and power, and earth tones make you appear approachable, sympathetic and persuasive.

### Think twice about wearing a dress

Seventy-two percent of business people today think that a woman in a dress can be effective, Molloy's research indicates. However, 93 percent think she would be more effective if she wore a jacket with the dress.

"Today, because the jacket outfit is an almost universally recognized uniform for businesswomen, any woman who does not wear one ... puts herself at a real disadvantage," Molloy says.

However, if a woman prefers to wear a dress to work (and many Southern women do, Molloy says), she should choose a style that is tailored, dark and conservative.

when she removes her jacket.

He suggests that the best winter coat is a camel-colored, wrap-around — or, if you are heavy, a chesterfield style. The best raincoat is a belted model in beige, tan, navy or black. Your coat should never look tight or skimpy and should be long enough to cover whatever you wear under it.

### Pay attention to grooming

When Molloy did his original research in the early '70s, "there was no doubt that being feminine and alluring was not an asset" on the job. As a result, he advised women to wear little or no makeup and no nail polish.

But by the end of the '80s, "a more feminine approach by women in business was not only accepted, but often worked better than the masculine, serious approach that had worked several years before."

In his updated book, Molloy says that knowing how to apply makeup "is an essential business tool." He recommends an understated look — natural-colored lipsticks and eye shadows, carefully applied eyeliner and mascara, and either red or clear nail polish.

Hairstyles that work best for businesswomen are shoulder-length or shorter, and look managed and controlled but not masculine.

Like it or not, image is an effective tool in building a successful career, Molloy says. Prejudices still exist in the workplace — not so much against women in general but more against women who are sloppily or inappropriately dressed, poorly groomed, overweight or aging. This is not fair, he says, but it is fact.

If a woman accepts this premise, the advice he offers should help her overcome those prejudices — and open doors to success.

## 212 FASHION DOS AND DON'TS

Don't pull up your stockings in public.  
Do wear color near your face.  
Do soften the hard lines of a suit with a lace top underneath.  
Don't wear sweaters so long that they make you look short.  
Do borrow your husband's clothes.  
Don't wear acid-washed jeans.  
Cropped pants can make you look shorter.  
Do wear a hipster or minimizer under tight clothes.  
Do have a stash of basics on hand: T-shirts, leggings, black socks and tights.  
Patterned leggings can make legs look heavier.  
Monochromatic outfits are one of the best slimming secrets there is.  
Don't overaccessorize.

### Lies, Lies, Lies

- \* Nice girls don't wear white after Labor Day.
- \* You shouldn't wear suede shoes in summer or patent leather in winter.
- \* Handbags have to match your outfit.
- \* Black is boring.
- \* If you wear two pieces that are both navy, the colors have to match. (It's all but impossible.)

### Elements of Style

- Do...
- \* Try something that's "not you" once in a while.
  - \* Adapt trends so that they work for you--and adapt is the key word here. A plaid miniskirt isn't for everyone, for example. But if you love the look, try a longer plaid skirt.
  - \* Hold on to a few of your favorite outdated pieces. You never know!
  - \* Add a couple of stylish, inexpensive things to your wardrobe each season.

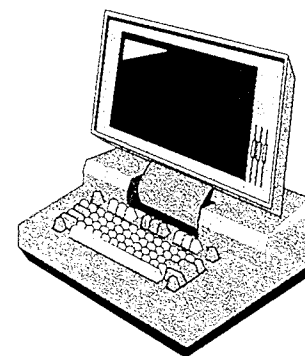
### Don't...

- \* Force yourself to wear something for somebody else.
- \* Dress like a teenager.
- \* Mix two seasons in one outfit.
- \* Wear really casual shorts or beach sandals on dress-down Fridays.

### Color

the things. There were a string of girls that seemed to go on for miles carrying out her equipment to the van. It kind of looked like ants going to a picnic, only difference is that they were going to a formal picnic dressed in their gowns. For that shot we needed a video recorder. I'm sure it would have made the local 6:00 news. Thanks Angela, I hope we can do that again.

As if that wasn't enough to keep us busy for the night, Tonya and Crystal brought in their lap top computer. I don't understand why it's called a lap top, it was never on



anybody lap. In any case they brought it in so we could investigate the Web pages. This was in follow up of the discussion

of our last meeting. We wanted to see how other groups write their addresses on the Web pages. We feel that this will be a good manner to reach people who may be interested in our group but don't have the information about our groups readily at hand. Wouldn't it be great to have an online directory to readily point people in the directions of groups in their vicinity? The speed of the internet, seems to have the ability to

do this in the near future. Thanks Tonya and Crystal for researching this option for us. I'm sure we will be able to come up with a page soon.

At our last meeting we discussed giving donations of money from our



treasury to different charitable groups. We never had the ability to do this before, but as we accumulate extra money it was

decided by our members that we should donate to certain groups. It's nice to have extra money. However this area of interest has brought up its own little problems. It has been brought to our attention that some members were disappointed that we did not give to the charity of their choice. Let me try to explain how that happened. There were a lot of suggestions as to who we should include on our groups we should donate to. However I'm sure you can realize that we don't have enough money to give to all charities that were suggested. So the officers had an executive meeting so we could decide which charities to give to. We thought that it is our duty to make that decision so we don't spend hours of our group meeting time with formal discussions. We hope you understand that this is your group. And your input is very valuable. But we need to leave some of the boring type work to the officers. Please



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MY WIFE LEFT ME  
BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T  
LIKE THE WAY I  
DRESSED

I SYMPATHIZE WITH  
YOU. MY WIFE LEFT  
ME FOR THE VERY  
SAME REASON

