

The Joneses

Planning ahead is the ticket

How often have you noticed that certain people appear to be comfortable no matter where they are? Place them in almost any situation and they seem to adapt as easily as a chameleon adjusts its protective coloring.

The late Amy Vanderbilt attributed such ease to knowledge of how the game is played — the rules, she called them. It is that certain knack for adaptation, she said, which allows some of us to glide through life in comfort while others seem eternally destined to stumble through a variety of uncomfortable moments. "It's the way in which we do things," she insisted. "I believe that knowledge of the rules of living in our society makes us more comfortable."

By JEANNE WHITTAKER

During one recent four week period the Ernest Joneses, of Bloomfield Hills, traveled virtually non-stop from New York, to Pebble Beach, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Palm Springs and finally Chicago.

During the same period their daughter Chrystine Hogan traveled to Melbourne, Australia and back in time to attend the gala Lundi Gras and begin packing for another business trip, this time to Manitoba. Meanwhile, her husband Kemp Hogan, an attorney, was jetting to and from appointments in New York and Washington, D.C.

What do the Joneses, their daughter and son-in-law have in common? Each one has an ability to move across oceans and continents with what appears to be effortless ease.

TRAVELING WITH her husband, the international chairman of D'Arcy McManus & Masius, Marian Jones says, is something of a challenge. They might be traveling to Israel with Frank Sinatra, or Honolulu in an attempt to bring the Super Bowl to the Silverdome. Wherever they are headed, what she tucks into her luggage must require a minimum of upkeep while offering a maximum of variety.

Daughter Chrys, an internationally recognized course designer for the world's leading horse shows, also travels for pleasure and business with her husband. She knows that what she carries with her must include clothing that will take her from stables to banquets and the theater with minimal fuss.

The Joneses not only accomplish seemingly impossible travel requirements, but they do so with considerable

panache. What might appear to be great luxury is actually rigorous simplicity. A natural comfort comes when all elements of life are put in perfect balance.

Whether at home or on the road the family works to keep everything under control. It is no wonder therefore that when they arrive at their destination they look fit, at ease and fashionable.

"If I err when packing," said Mrs. Jones, "It's either jewelry or accessories. Most often it's jewelry. I try to plan everything around one color for day and evening. The same things that travel well work well at home, too."

What works well for the Joneses and others like them is what fashion is all about. Whether it be at home or abroad, on the job or at play, the ability to make fashion work for you is what creates that look of ease that so often draws envious glances.

For Marian Jones, planning a working wardrobe begins at the point of purchase.

"I've found that the things you pick up along the way seldom appear as exciting once you get them home," she said.

Instead, she relies on a collection of locally bought designer daytime and evening wear that is remarkable for its versatility. Among her favorites, Alfred Fiandaca's two piece black suit piped in matching ultra suede, a street length pleated chiffon by Albert Nippon, a creamy rose dress and coat by Missoni, a Chanel walking skirt and matching stole, and Fiandaca's hand-etched point champagne waltz length gown for evening.

"The first thing I do is lay out everything on the bed," she said. "If there is an outfit that requires all its own accessories I discard that one."

One by one, as she makes her selections, she hangs them on a traveling clothes rack. The same process is used for selecting blouses, shoes, bags, gloves and other accessories. The same process works well for at home wear, she added.

"If you coordinate your colors right down through your lipstick and nail polish, you will save yourself a lot of time. I also see to it that I set out on a trip with a good hair cut. It's fairly easy to find someone to wash it along the way, but a good cut to begin with makes things far less complicated."

WHILE HIS WIFE makes her selections, Ernest Jones is doing much the same. Just as she selects daytime and evening blouses to carry her Fiandaca

suit from daytime travel and sightseeing into the cocktail hour, he selects an assortment of shirts, ties, ascots and slacks that give variety to his basic wardrobe of suits, slacks and blazers.

A favorite Ralph Lauren camel suit assumes a double life when he adds a burnt orange shirt and contrasting ascot or a pair of slacks he purchased on London's Saville Row.

"You don't want to take too much," she said, "but, you don't want to take too little either, because it isn't always possible to get laundry done."

An indispensable companion, she said, is a bottle of liquid Woolite, plus a pair of rubber gloves for hotel room use.

The Joneses have a variety of tips, all of which are just as useful at home as during their travels. None is more important, however, said Marian, than knowing how to hang clothes properly. Her own personal choice is a pair of canvas val packs, because, she said, you can stuff so many things into corners.

"Since I generally know in advance the itinerary," she said, "I hang things in the pack according to how soon I will wear them. Ernie does the same."

"I find that when you are dealing with good fabrics they hang out fairly quickly. The first thing Ernie does when he gets to the hotel is to hang his suits in the bathroom with the shower on."

Pretty and blond, Marian Jones finds that champagne and black are both flattering colors for her. She also finds that the same accessories complement both colors. She knows the value of timeless clothing and is not intimidated by fashion's constant ins and outs.

"Quite often I take a little black leather bag that I can use at night but which is also good during the day. I know hundreds of people have them, but the Louis Vuitton handbag goes with everything."

Another favorite is Emilio Pucci, the Italian designer who was a meteor several years ago, but who is less popular these days.

"His designs are forever," she said. "Especially after dark."

Her personal observation, she concluded, is that ultra suede is always a good traveling companion, especially if it is unlined.

"The Europeans don't have that much ultra suede," she said, "so they find it very exciting. That and a good silk raincoat and you have solved so many problems."



When Ernest and Marian Jones travel across the world, the challenge of their multiple purpose trips is eased considerably by planning wardrobes that are also multiple purpose. Marian can mix and match her

Chanel two piece outfit with a brown velvet blazer or a navy skirt, all from Jacobson's. Ernie's navy blazer and grey flannels work well from morning to night. From Bob Gwynn.



The versatility of the Jones' wardrobes is evident in her Alfred Fiandaca suit and his separates. Marian's suit, black piped with matching ultra suede, can be worn with an assortment of casual blouses for day.

His camel blazer is really part of a three piece suit, teamed here with a burnt orange shirt, ascot and tone on tone trousers from Saville Row. Her suit, Jacobson's. His outfit, Bob Gwynn.



Same couple, same clothes, but a different look for evening and social engagements. She teams her Fiandaca suit with a flowing chiffon print blouse with peplum, and adds strippy sandals. His three-piece suit in camel is by Ralph Lauren.

Photos by Stephen Cantrell