

Searching for the right season

By Kathy Parrish
staff writer

Just call me Princess Summer-Fall-Winter-Spring.

Well, actually I'm either an autumn person or summer type — depending on which of three color analysts you consult.

That means my fair complexion and blonde hair give me a "fragile" look which is enhanced by shades based on blue (the color of faith and quietude).

And my clothes closet should be filled with pastels. Everything gold, rust and yellow green should go to Goodwill immediately.

Or I'm the "west of warmth" whose independence and strength mirrors the rich golden palette glowing around me.

That means wear earth tones like brown and gold, and stay away from pink, gray and all blues except teal, peacock and turquoise.

During three sessions — under lights and in front of picture windows — ana-

lysts examined the tones in my face, neck and palms to determine my color type.

Now I have three accordian folders full of color swatches tucked away in my purse.

And the dilemma whether to wear the soft baby colors my mom bought for me as a kid or to continue to don the more intense shades I prefer and my lifestyle demands.

MY FIRST COLOR consultation was in the windowless basement over Janet Varner, a Rochester specialty shop. Under fluorescent lights, Joan Ditch — who is also an acupuncturist — quickly declared me a "winter."

Her analysis was based on years of fashion experience and the fact that I have a few freckles ("spring and autumn often have freckles"), that I can wear mustard gold and when wrapped in rust my "skin livens up and eyes become vibrant."

Color Plus sent me off with a sheet outlining my color choices — "intense, clear or muted dusty colors with yellow undertones," Ditch provided 18 fabric swatches to guide me when I clothes shop and a guide of advice to get my blonde eyebrows tinted.

Pleased with the results, I bought a rust colored pair of slacks to go with a similar sweater I'd gotten for Christmas. And sure enough, the combination brought compliments.

She said she wanted to be a winter — that she is a "winter person," explained the Irvy resident. She was furious after being color analyzed.

"It works. It makes them feel better."

But occasionally someone doesn't like the results. Martin once informed a client she was a delicate spring — and found out that wasn't the right answer.

"She said she wanted to be a winter — that she is a 'winter person,'" explained the Irvy resident. "She was furious after being color analyzed."

After being color keyed, clients walk away with swatches showing which shades suits them ideally, they should only wear shades in their color palette.

But the pros admit that's just not possible, especially if one of the customer's goals in being color analyzed is to save money.

man," she said confidently, after learning I'd already been color analyzed.

Announcing to the group that I "own the pastels," she urged me to wear ultraviolet and sit in candlelight.

"What kind of wine would you recommend?" asked one of the women attending the morning coffee klatch.

Adding 28 more fabric swatches to my palette, I eagerly looked to Color Associates to break the tie.

But I admit to being totally unobjective. Being a summer would mean a whole new wardrobe — and maybe even another career. Summers just don't cover fires and carry around dripping link pens.

Sitting in a northern window because "it's the pastel lighting," Irene Bushaw pronounced my skin pink beige and eyes blue green.

"You're going to have a good time," said the Rochester resident, who trained 12 hours a day for eight days to perfect her skills which include a clarity test to determine how bright a person's colors should be.

HER ANALYSIS — which advises clients on fabric, jewelry, fur, shoes and makeup — determined I'm a genuine color type. In seasons, that means summer.

She gave me an accordian with 69 colors, which was placed in a suede folder in one of my shades.

So it's settled: two out of three color analysts agreed with my mother's best all along. Meanwhile, I'm back to buying whatever is functional — and getting whatever is functional.

Which may be the best way to operate this spring because most color consultants advise their clients to avoid black and white. Those shades just aren't flattering to most people, they say.

But it's all they're selling this year.

Bell choir in concert

Internationally known composer and conductor Donald Allured will appear with the Westminster Choir College Concert Bell Choir at 8 p.m. Friday in Faith Covenant Church, 34215 14 Mile.

Allured is known as the dean of English handbell music in the U.S. and has performed with his groups in every state in the country and several foreign countries. His several hundred compositions are performed throughout the world.

The Westminster Choir has distinguished itself as one of the outstanding bell choirs.

The group performs both secular and sacred concert literature and receives standing ovations wherever they perform.

The 10 ringers in the group ring more than 100 bells.

Concert tickets are available by calling the church, 661-5191. Tickets will be available at the door if the concert is not sold out. Ticket price is \$4 for adults or \$3 for students and seniors.

My colors please

Continued from Page 17

summer (cool, soft colors with blue undertones), autumn (strong colors with orange and gold undertones), and winter (clear, vivid or icy colors with blue undertones).

There are variations, like Color Charisma's moose, jewel, sunny, spicy, misty dawn or evening glow. Color One breaks down into neutral, light, bright, gentle and muted shades.

Colorists for the California-based franchise do clarity tests to determine how bright an individual's colors should be.

"Wearing colors too bright or too soft can raise havoc with skin," said Bushaw, an art educator who hand selects client's colors from 700 shades. "People will be asking all day if you feel all right."

For many clients, color analysis is a way of simplifying the complicated shopping process. Life is just too busy and there are so many choices.

"We're all gals who don't enjoy shopping. We're always looking for ways to make it easier," said Janet Bonmarie, who attended a ColorRight session with her mother and sister-in-law.

"There's no doubt about it. When you're feeling good about what you're wearing you feel better."

"CLOTHES ARE SO expensive now that men and women are taking a look at what they're buying," added Bushaw. "They feel this will give them confidence in what they buy."

Men, as well as women, are taking color analysis seriously. "Men are really getting into it," said ColorRight's Gayle Martin, adding that the color of a tie can change a person's appearance.

"It works. It makes them feel better."

But occasionally someone doesn't like the results. Martin once informed a client she was a delicate spring — and found out that wasn't the right answer.

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CITY OF LIVONIA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Clarenceville School District of

Oakland and Wayne Counties

There will be a hearing on the proposed budget for the 1983-84 school year on May 26, 1983.

The meeting will be held in the Clarenceville Junior High School conference room, 3010 Middlebelt Road, Livonia, Michigan at 8 P.M.

Copies of the proposed budget will be available for public inspection at the Board of Education offices in the junior high school between the hours of 8 A.M.-4 P.M.,

Thursday, May 19 through 26.

LEE R. McDOWELL, Treasurer

Public May 19, 1983

19,000 Pounds (400 - 50 pound bags)

Fairway Fertilizer

Bids for the above shall be submitted to the City Clerk, 31855 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan, 48318 on or before the above date and time.

Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained by contacting the Purchasing Agent, (313) 474-4116, Ext. 295 during normal business hours.

The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids if the public interest is better served thereby.

FLOYD A. CAIRNS, City Clerk

Public May 19, 1983

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