

The fashion plate

Here comes the bride in traditional beauty

By RUSTLE SHAND

"Spring and summer is the biggest time for brides and you should look at bridal gowns at least three months in advance," said Bonwit Teller's New York bridal buyer, Janet Brown, as she introduced the bridal show.

Mothers and fathers, grandmothers, aunts and friends accompanied brides-to-be in the audience. Mrs. James Edwards and Mrs. Robert Haskitt, both of Birmingham, were there to help select a bridal gown for the June wedding of Mrs. Edwards' daughter, Pamela.

Selecting the bridal gown and reserving the church for the ceremony are the first two things on the wedding arrangements list.

The church is no problem for Pamela Edwards who will be married in the North Hills Christian Reformed Church on Adams Road. The church was designed by her uncle, Harold Van Dine.

Her bridal gown dilemma was solved after the show in Bonwit's bridal salon, where Mrs. Edwards ordered a beautifully soft ivory gown in chiffon and lace with an empire waist, high neck, long sleeved, beaded bodice and a long train.

"YOU NEVER realize how much there is to a wedding until you get started," said Mrs. Barbara Trevartan of Troy, previewing bridal fashions for her daughter, Linda. Accompanying Mrs. Trevartan was her mother, Mrs. Julia Meyer of Crystal Falls, who explained, "Linda will be the third generation to be married in the little church at Crystal Falls in the upper peninsula."

Wedding fashions today include fantasy looks, from the gypsy peasant to the romanticism of Scarlett O'Hara and Juliet, and are designed to reflect the life style of the bride.

"The traditional wedding is still the most popular," said Ms. Janet Brown, adding that "the evening wedding is the most formal."

"The very formal, beaded-lace gowns, however, are heavy and today's bride wants to be more comfortable—so you are seeing lace combined with chiffon and organza. Bare necklines and arms are appropriate for formal weddings today, particularly for spring and summer."

The influence of Yves Saint Laurent is felt in bridal collections too. We saw the gypsy look by Christos



in a bridal gown with a head scarf and maid's gowns with striped skirts and print blouses.

The traditional picture hat for afternoon weddings was shown as well as the newer lace cloche head covering.

The gowns are soft in Qiana, flowing in chiffon, or crisp in organza and many are designed with the festive wedding reception in mind.

"A girl can look very traditional going down the aisle and be covered up with a caplet which can be removed for the evening of fun at the reception," Ms. Brown stated. "Today's brides enjoy their weddings more than they used to. The reception is a very gay time with lots of dancing."

Bonwit likes to use young customers in the shows and I talked with three of them who were going out on the runway for the first time. Margo Burry of Bloomfield Hills and Shelly Ferguson and Katie Gillette of Birmingham.

And, although they said they were nervous and "didn't" know what to do on the runway, all three seemed to understand instinctively how to be lovely and demure.

Pam Starkweather of Franklin Village modeled in the show and also sketched the accompanying illustration of the Christos gown. Pam is a free-lance textile designer as well as a fashion model.

Volunteers

COMMON GROUND in Birmingham is looking for volunteers over 15 years of age to serve as Crisis-Intervention Counselors. They would provide services to young people to help them solve their problems within the context of their own life.

Thirty-two hours of training are provided. The time commitment is six hours per week for one year.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY in Southfield, needs volunteers to assist with their Breast Cancer Education Program. Speakers are needed to present programs to various groups.

Facilitators are also needed to transport and operate visual aid equipment and distribute teaching materials at these meetings.

TROY YOUTH ASSISTANCE needs volunteers for their PLUS program (People Listening, Understanding, and Sharing). PLUS provides young people from the Troy area with a relationship with a caring adult. A commitment of two hours per week for one year is preferred.

Workshops for teachers are on aging

Brother Francis J. Colgan will direct two workshops at Madonna College, Livonia, designed to acquaint various professionals with concepts on aging.

Brother Colgan earned a Ph.D. in education at the University of Michigan in 1976 upon completion of his dissertation "An Empirical Study on the Effectiveness of a Course in Gerontology as a Means of Causing a Shift in Attitudes toward the Older Adult."

The tuition-free workshops are funded by Title VII, Administration on Aging, Division of Manpower Resources, Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The workshop scheduled for the weekend of Feb. 18-20 is intended for teachers, to help them develop positive attitudes in elementary and secondary school students. The workshop scheduled for March 18-20 will develop understanding and awareness of problems of the elderly in other professional areas.

Brother Colgan, a member of the De La Salle Christian Brothers, earned three bachelor's degrees and two master's degrees.

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Women in arts Free DIT computer course aimed at metro area youth

Eight University of Michigan organizations will present "A Festival of Women in the Arts" during the week of Jan. 23-29 in the U-M Michigan Union. The festival is open to the public free of charge.

According to its coordinators, the festival has been designed "to bring together those who are developing, studying, and enjoying art by women."

A computer program at DIT Institute of Technology for talented grade and junior high school students in the Detroit area, has been funded for a second year through the contribution of \$2,150 from the Detroit Rotary Foundation.

The grant provides for two 11-week semesters at DIT, where highly-motivated nine to 13-year-olds, who might not otherwise have the opportunity, can study college level courses and learn to program and run computers on Saturday mornings. There is no cost to the student.

Fred W. Shadrick, DIT vice-president for academic affairs said that there are currently 18 youngsters enrolled in the experimental program, equally divided between girls and boys. While the current semester is well under way, Shadrick said he is eager for more parents of teachers in the metropolitan area to be aware of the potential of the program and its availability to more students in the future.

"There are children in the Detroit area with the intellectual gifts, but not the means, to excel as individuals. We at DIT believe these kids are just too good to go to waste," he added.

With the current semester ending Jan. 22, a new session will begin in late February.

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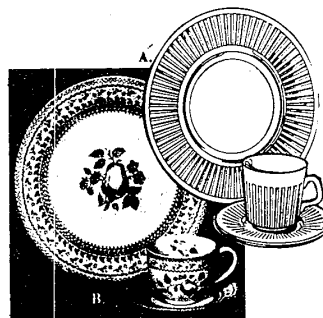
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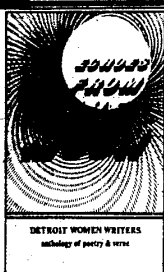
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